

INSTITUTIONAL POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 15, 2013

PRESENT: Erica Bastress-Dukehart, Vice Chair; Michael Arnush, Mary Lou Bates, Barbara Black, Beau Breslin, Paul Calhoun, Rochelle Calhoun, Gail Cummings-Danson, Donald Duff, David Karp, Wendy Kercull, Jackie Murray, Denise Smith, Joe Stankovich, Natalie Taylor, and Mike West; Jeanne Sisson (Secretary).

ABSENT: President Philip A. Glotzbach, Chair; Michael Casey, Bill Duffy, Riley Neugebauer, Matt Walsh.

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the February 1, 2013 meeting were approved as distributed.

2. Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 – Follow-Up

VP of Finance and Administration Mike West offered to answer any questions following the budget discussion at the February 1 meeting. He noted that he is still awaiting the public release of financial figures from peer institutions. He also noted that the Board of Trustees will review the major budget parameters at its meeting next week and will discuss with the Administration any possible challenges they foresee in the next Fiscal Year.

Mr. West noted the new White House “scorecard” which allows one to find out more about a college’s affordability and value so one can make more informed decisions about which college to attend. (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/education/higher-education/college-score-card>)

Mr. West noted that Skidmore’s data (noted below) is favorable compared with its peers, although the data for the last bullet, once released, may be less so.

- The average net price for undergraduate students is \$21,829 per year.
- 84.4% of full-time students received their bachelor’s degree within 6 years.
- 1.4% of borrowers defaulted on their Federal student loans within three years of entering repayment.
- Families typically borrow \$19,500 in Federal loans for a student’s undergraduate study. The Federal loan payment over 10 years for this amount is approximately \$224.41 per month.
- The U.S. Department of Education is working to provide information about the average earnings of former undergraduate students at Skidmore College who borrowed Federal student loans.

3. Discussion on Next Strategic Plan

Vice Chair Erica Bastress-Dukehart opened the discussion about the next Strategic Plan. She offered three questions for the Committee to discuss.

How do we engage different constituencies in the process of the next Plan?

Committee members asked about the timeline for the next Plan and which constituencies need to endorse the Plan before bringing it forward for approval by the Board of Trustees.

In a follow-up review with President Glotzbach, he suggested:

Engagement, Writing, and Revisions – Present to Spring 2015

First Draft – October 2014

Review and Feedback – Spring 2015

To Faculty and Board of Trustees for Endorsement – May 2015

Launch Plan – September 2015

- Concern that for the

- Plan should focus on the relationships at a small liberal arts college, particularly student-faculty relationships
- The length of the next Plan – should it be a 10-year plan or consider other timeframes (5 year? 7 year?); consider pros and cons of a shorter plan

What does the world need from a Skidmore student?

- Literacies; intercultural literacies
- Nimbleness; great adapters; mental agility
- Discernment
- Engaged citizen
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