

INSTITUTIONAL POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

April 1 , 2016

10:30 am.

PRESENT: Mary Lou Bates; Addison Bennett; Beau Breslin; Paul Calhoun; Gail Cummings; Danson; Philip A. Glotzbach; Tim Harper, Vice Chair; Chair; James Kennelly; Kathy Kinnin; Kris Leggiero; Ela Lepkowska; White; Eric Morser; Kelly Sheppard; Denise Smith; Joseph Stankovich; Charles Tetelman; Debra Townsend; Peter von Allmen; Mike West; Joshua C. Woodfork.

ABSENT: Michael Casey; Bill Duffy; Levi Rogers.

1. Approval of Committee Minutes

IPPC approved the Minutes from the March, 2016 meeting.

2. President's Update

President Glotzbach began the meeting by paying tribute to community members Willem "Will" Golden '19, who passed away on March 19, 2016 and President Emeritus David H. Porter, who passed away on March 26, 2016. President Glotzbach acknowledged this sad moment on campus and asked for a moment of silence. President Glotzbach, Gail Cummings Danson, Janet Casey, and Parker Diggory and two bus loads of students attended Will Golden's funeral in Massachusetts and the College held a campus gathering and candlelight vigil for Will on March 22. It was noted that a memorial service for President Emeritus Porter will be held on Friday, April 8, at 3:00 p.m. in the Zankel Music Center.

President Glotzbach also noted the sentencing of Thomas Gorman, the driver in a senseless tragedy that killed Michael Hedges and seriously injured Toby Freeman '19 and Oban Galbraith '19 on October 31, 2016. Mr. Gorman received a sentence of five-to-15 years in prison for vehicular manslaughter and two-to-six years for vehicular assault, to be served concurrently. He will not be eligible for early release, and Judge Mumpford recommended that he serve the entire sentence.

3. Committee on Intercultural and Global Understanding (CIGU)

Committee on Intercultural and Global Understanding (CIGU) Chair Ela Lepkowska White and Joshua Woodfork presented the Recommendations and supporting documents dated March 29, 2016. CIGU representative Margo Theobald, Dean Mendes, and Cindy Evans joined the meeting for this discussion.

Ela and Joshua reminded IPPC of the Spring 2014 CIGU Campus Climate Comprehensive Report and Recommendations, which included five themes and twenty recommendations. Discussion of this document led IPPC to ask CIGU to prioritize the recommendations and return

to the Committee for discussion during the 2014-15 academic year. CIGU did so and brought forth one recommendation: the creation of a Chief Diversity Officer (which the President implemented). Ela and Joshua explained that CIGU's work this year has included reviewing prior recommendations and reports beginning with the Intercultural and Global Understanding Task force (IGUTF), various surveys, and interviews of students and staffs throughout the last few years. CIGU has again clarified in coordination with the goals of the newly adopted *Strategic Plan: Creating Pathways to Excellence*, and presented the top four recommendations today. These recommendations which were included in our Middle States-Self Study are:

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group of persons from key committees in order to avoid issues related to workload and the need for additional committee assignments.

5. Enrollment Management Group's Report on Standardized Testing

As a follow up to the discussion at the March 4, 2016 IPPC meeting, email communications announcing this proposal, and an open forum to discuss this in person, Mary Lou Lobrigo backed the Enrollment Management Group's Standardized Testing Policy Report for endorsement of this Policy change to move to standardized testing optional, though submission of test scores for a few populations would still be required. The Committee discussed the motion, and Mary Lou reported that she received only one communication from someone who is opposed to the recommendation of the College moving to standardized testing optional, but overall, she has received positive feedback from the campus community.

Joe Stankovich noted that the Report detailed how standardized testing is redundant under our current admissions practices which review multiple components of prospective students' academic achievements. Resident Glotzbach suggested that standardized tests offer little predictive value given all the other information that Admissions collects and uses.

Upon a motion being made and seconded, IPPC approved the Policy that Skidmore College adopt a test optional policy beginning with the Class of 2021 and institute additional pathways to admission that allow students to emphasize their creativity.

Mary Lou expressed her appreciation to Sue Layden, Joe Stankovich, and Corey Freeman Gallant for their efforts throughout this process and for writing the Report with input from the Enrollment Management Group.

6. Title IX Coordinator Update

During the February 19, 2016 IPP

