

**INSTITUTIONAL POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 31, 2020**

**PRESENT:** Mary Lou Bates; Cerri Banks; Joerg Bibow; Grace Burton, Vice Chair; Abby Ciccarone '22; Greg Gerbi; Philip A. Glotzbach, Chair; Michelle Hubbs; Stephen Ives, Carolyn Lundy; Martin Mbugua; Jennifer Mueller; Kendrah Murphy; Donna Ng; Michael Orr; Joe Porter; David Robakidze '20; Levi Rogers; Joseph Stankovich; Dwane Sterling, Amy Tweedy, and Joshua C. Woodfork.

**ABSENT:** Sean Campbell.

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 a.m. by Chair President Glotzbach.

**1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the December 13, 2019 Meeting**

With no proposed changes, the minutes from the December 13, 2019 meeting were approved. We did well in Early Decision (ED) I – admitting slightly more students than last year (with a larger commitment to financial aid). Numbers for ED II are up slightly as well, and we also are slightly ahead of last year's application numbers for international students.

- b) We are seeing a decline in the overall number of applicants – relative to last year – for the first time in quite a few years. This will still be the third largest applicant pool in the history of the College. But we are down 7% from last year. Moreover, we are hearing that some other comparable schools are seeing declines as well.
- c) We, like our peers, are beginning to see the effects of a demographic shift that has been evident since 2010 of fewer domestic traditional college age students. Specifically, in 2010, 18.1 million undergraduate

### 3. Response to Athletic Facilities Petition

President Glotzbach thanked IPPC, the Skidmore community, and the authors of the petition for speaking up. The authors of the petition stated that they “are not opposed to the construction of new athletics facilities.” But they also stated their belief that the project could be improved if the Administration would “take their concerns seriously and act on them.” Furthermore they “bring forth this petition in the spirit of collegiality and look forward to opportunities to collaborate moving forward.” President Glotzbach affirmed that this project is indeed important for the future of the College and that we need to reframe this moment as one of collaboration and not conflict. He suggested that we are at our best when we collaborate and work together and reminded the committee that we have tried to create this reality with IPPC and in the community at large. President Glotzbach spoke to each of the issues regarding the athletics facilities petition submitted to IPPC:

#### a) Greenberg Child Care Center

President Glotzbach noted that it is clear from comments in the IPPC, in the community meetings, and in the petition brought forth that the Greenberg Child Care Center (GCCC) represents an important value for a substantial portion of our community. He recognized that the potential disruption during the Athletics facilities construction has raised concerns. President Glotzbach stated that the President’s Cabinet is willing to work with IPPC and the Greenberg Center staff – with whom they have been in conversation – to explore the possibility of moving the Center to another location on campus. The Center is a benefit, and in this time of significant budgetary challenges, we need to examine all our benefits carefully to determine which are most important and how they should be funded. We do need to understand that if we make the decision to relocate the Center, there will be costs. We are working now to explore possibilities and understand better the costs involved. We also need to understand that the GCCC operates at a deficit – approximately \$200K per year – and we will need to consider whether there are ways to reduce that cost.

#### b) Athletic Facilities Pw [do (he)-116e0 Td{A}4 (th))-4 (et)-6-u0 Tw -32.44 -1.153j0.002 Tc -0.00C BT11 (





IPPC members noted the substantial time commitment this engagement with CHP will take and the need to balance this with other agenda items and Spring semester work.

**5. Call for Agenda Items**

- a) Oracle Update (bumped from our 12/13/19 meeting agenda);
- b) Religious Observance Policy (returning from 12/13/19 meeting)

**6. Other Business**

No other business was brought forward.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.