

The Institutional Policy & Planning Committee advises the President with regard to strategic planning, taking a comprehensive view of significant issues affecting the College. In doing so, it serves as the central deliberative body for all-college governance. More specifically, IPPC advises the President on all policy areas, with primary responsibility for those areas beyond the purview of faculty governance (such as budget and financial planning, benefits, environmental issues, admissions and financial aid, student affairs, and advancement).

During the 2013-2014 academic year IPPC met 15 times. IPPC's subcommittees met regularly to consider specific matters and bring them to the full committee. Full minutes for IPPC meetings are available on the IPPC website: <http://cms.skidmore.edu/IPPC/index.cfm>. Please refer to these minutes for greater detail of the matters summarized below. Parenthetical dates refer to the meetings when the items were discussed by the full IPPC.

## **1. Budget & Finance**

### ***A. FY 2015 Operating Budget***

IPPC engaged in several discussions of the FY 2015 operating budget to be submitted to the Board of Trustees, which included:

A 3.5% Comprehensive Fee increase

A 3.0% General Salary Adjustment

\$250,00 for the Compensation and Market Equity Pool

### ***B. FY 2015 Capital Budget***

IPPC endorsed the FY 2015 capital budget of \$8, 225,000 to be submitted to the Board of Trustees.

### ***C. Bond Rating***

reaffirmed an A1 rating to Skidmore

### ***D. Real Estate Opportunity Fund***

The fund is established in order to purchase real estate that is of strategic interest to the College in Saratoga Springs and the surrounding area. The fund will be built by sequestering up to \$250,000 from the unspent budgeted contingency



campus and schematic designs of the new building. IPPC also considered the proposed cost estimates and timelines for completion (November 1).

In response to a petition to the Board of Trustees signed by approximately 500 students, President Glotzbach created a task force to consider the various complexities and implications related to divesting from fossil fuel related equities in the College's endowment portfolio. The task force was charged with exploring the meaning of 'divestment' in order to better understand what the call for divestment seeks to accomplish. It was also charged with examining how other colleges and universities have addressed the issue. The task force will analyze the consequences of divestment for our endowment, annual budget, financial aid, etc. The task force comprises representatives from the student body, the faculty, the administration, and the Board of Trustees. Upon the completion of the work, the task force will offer recommendations to the Board of Trustees and to the Skidmore community. Given that the Board of Trustees has ultimate fiduciary responsibility to managing the College's financial affairs, the task force's recommendations will not be binding. (December 6, January 31, April 4).

The co-chair of CIGU presented a report on campus climate along with numerous recommendations to IPPC. The report on campus climate was compiled by analyzing several surveys, exit interviews, and reports. While CIGU recognizes the College's efforts to welcome members of the community who have felt marginalized, it also sees the need for continual work in this area. CIGU considered the ways in which students experience a sense of exclusion both in and outside of the classroom and has made recommendations for both instances, including teaching pedagogies and greater institutional support for administrative positions (May2).

In addition to these on-going discussions, IPPC also considered a number of policies.

IPPIC discussed the policy proposed by the Political Activity Working Group to encourage students' political participation while being mindful of the College's

The Subcommittee on Student Affairs drafted a new policy on hazing. IPPC reviewed the draft and discussed suggested revisions to the document. Work on the policy will continue, and the proposed policy will be presented to various other groups on campus in the fall for wider discussion (February 28, May 2).

IPPC reconsidered the College's inclement weather policy in order to be attentive to the various circumstances of all employees. IPPC discussed ways in which the College could allow for greater flexibility for its workers on those days that the weather makes it difficult to travel and schools are closed (April 18).

IPPC discussed and answered questions related to the policy, particularly on the clarity of Part A - Copyright. IPPC endorsed the policy with the understanding that this section would be revised. The policy went to the Faculty for its consideration the Board of Trustees for approval in May (April 18).

On behalf of the full IPPC, the co-chairs would like to thank Jeanne Sisson and Joshua Woodfork for their excellent work on behalf of the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Harper, Management & Business, Faculty Representative  
Kathy Kinnin, Information Technology, Admin/Prof Representative

Chair Philip A. Glotzbach, President  
Vice Chair Natalie Taylor, Government, Faculty Representative

Members by Position

Mary Lou Bates, Vice President and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid  
Addison Bennett, '16 SGA President  
Beau Breslin, Dean of the Faculty & Vice President for Academic Affairs  
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