

**INSTITUTIONAL POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 4, 2007**

PRESENT: President Philip Glotzbach, Chair; Professor Mark Huibregtse, Vice Chair; Susan Kress, Muriel Poston, Jeff Segrave, Michael West, Michael Casey, Mary Lou Bates, Pat Oles, Ann Henderson, Dan Moran, Beau Breslin, Mehmet Odekon, William Lewis, John Chaplin, Barbara McDonough; Sue Van Hook (regular guest); and Barbara Krause (Secretary).

ABSENT: Kelly Carr and Justin Sipher (regular guest).

1. Review of Minutes

Minutes of the April 20, 2007, meeting were **approved** with the correction of one minor error.

2. Sexual Assault Report

6. Dashboard

Vice President West distributed the current draft of a “dashboard” instrument comprising key indicators of institutional performance. The document will be distributed to Trustees at the upcoming meeting later this month. Mr. West stated that the document reflects various judgments, both in terms of the data points selected and in the colors used to reflect the status of various indicators. Comments from IPPC members included the following:

Some members of FEC would like to look at the growth of the administration compared to the growth of the faculty. Mr. West indicated that he anticipates a layer of additional indicators for each area, below the primary dashboard, that would provide more detail.

President Glotzbach suggested that the status of various indicators should be measured in relation to strategic goals. For example, if the College has a strategic objective of improving students’ academic performance, and if one accepts that GPA reflects honest grading, then an increase in GPA is not a matter of concern.

It was suggested that some Trustees may draw a connection between GPA and the number of students going to graduate school.

A member suggested that, while not a conversation for the dashboard, it might be interesting to look at the difference between numbers of students going on to graduate school vs. those going on to professional school. Especially with Skidmore’s historical strength in music and the arts, it is perhaps not surprising that the College has relatively fewer students who go on to graduate school.

A member asked if the dashboard should include an indicator for ordinal ranking of endowment per student.

It was urged that while the dashboard is a useful tool, numbers cannot fully represent Skidmore’s qualitative strengths in areas such as curriculum and quality of the faculty. Vice President Kress will suggest a brief statement along these lines for possible inclusion on the dashboard document.

7. Campus Plan

Vice President West distributed copies of “The 2007 Campus Plan: A Vision for the Future” (Lo-Yi Chan and Alfredo DiMauro, April 2007). This report will be presented to the Board of Trustees at its May meeting.

Mr. West also announced with regret that Mr. DiMauro has accepted the position of Associate Vice President for Facilities at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Members of IPPC expressed their thanks to Mr. DiMauro for his many years of work on behalf of the College.

8. Strategic Action Agenda 2007-08

President Glotzbach reminded members of IPPC that the Cabinet would meet in June to develop the Strategic Action Agenda for 2007-08. In preparation for that work, he invited members of IPPC to share their thoughts on possible major themes for the coming year. Following that discussion, he invited suggestions of specific action items. The following is a summary of the IPPC discussion:

Thoughts on major themes

General sense that there was support for and progress on all three themes from last year: community, diversity, and leadership.

Academic standards of excellence: establishing clear expectations for faculty members regarding individual workload, distribution of workload across departments or programs, expectations to achieve tenure, “job description” of what it means to be a faculty member, pedagogical series. This could be done in conjunction with comprehensive revision of *Faculty Handbook*.

The Review Process sets forth a role for both the Student Affairs Subcommittee of IPPC and, in some situations, for the IPPC itself. For that reason, the IPPC determined that it was appropriate for it to consider a formal vote on the documents. The IPPC **voted unanimously to endorse** establishment of the Inte

President Glotzbach thanked members for their comments. He will consider this input, as

14. Farewells to Outgoing Members

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
STUDENT AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE
REGARDING CASE CENTER
(Spring 2007)**

Recommendations

The subcommittee recommends the College maximize the use of space in Case Center by closing one or two of the food service programs and reallocating the space to programs that will enhance the student center function of Case Center. The committee appreciates the unique function of each of these dining programs, and we would ideally like to sustain each function, but not in separate spaces.

The subcommittee recommends that the College develop a system of food service programs on the east side of campus (Case Center or the Library) that better complements the actual use of the Dining Hall in the evening. The size and scale of the dining programs on the east side of campus must complement the dining hall program and the *actual* use of the dining hall especially night.

The subcommittee will support any number of efforts – mandatory meal programs for students in the apartments, at-the-door price reductions for students in the apartments, discounted meal programs for employees –that will plausibly increase use of the dining hall by students who live in apartments and employees and respond to concerns about meals and substantial snacks after 5:30 PM.

The committee's work this year was prompted by complaints about one aspect of the Case Center program and to an extent was limited by the understandable focus on those complaints. The subcommittee believes changes in campus culture prompted by closing Moore Hall and renovating the dining hall are exciting and far reaching. These changes should prompt a fuller discussion of the CaTm[re5(mpe5(mpe5(mpe)3(ull)-w9ut6re)320(c)4(losi)-4(n)a6rbTf1 0 0 1 72Tf1(hm000Dh5