

Skidmore College

SKIDMORE COLLEGE

FACULTY HANDBOOK

2010-2011

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PREAMBLE

The Faculty Handbook describes the rights, rules and procedures that the Skidmore Faculty has adopted in order to govern itself fairly and effectively. These rights, rules and procedures have evolved over time in response to changing circumstances, and continue to do so. The function of this Handbook is to codify and clarify them in their current form.

The Handbook is divided into six parts:

Part One specifies faculty rights and responsibilities and has the force of contract.

Part Two describes the faculty governance system, including Faculty Meeting by-laws, the function and membership of faculty committees, and academic policies.

Part Three describes the All-College governance system, including information on All-College committees and the Skidmore College Honor Code.

Part Four describes benefits extended to the Faculty.

Part Five describes the College administration and is primarily informational in nature.

PART ONE

FACULTY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

I. THE FACULTY

The Faculty consists of all full- and part-time teaching and library personnel and those in shared appointments holding the ranks defined in Part One, Article V (Appointments to the Faculty), Sections A (Tenure-Track Appointments), D (Pre-Tenure-Track Appointments), and E (Non-Tenure-Track Appointments). The rights and privileges of faculty members vary according to type and status of appointment. These rights are defined in various parts of the Handbook. See in particular Part One, Articles V (Appointments to the Faculty), IX (Tenure), and XX (Faculty Governance); Part Two, Article I (Faculty Meeting By-Laws), sub-Article I (The Faculty Meeting), Section C (Eligibility to Vote); and Part Four (Benefits).

II. FACULTY STATUS

Faculty status and related matters, including appointments, reappointments, decisions not to reappoint, promotions, the granting of tenure, and dismissal, are primarily a faculty responsibility based upon the fact that its judgment is central to general educational policy. Determinations in these matters are first made by the Committee on Appointments, Promotions & Tenure (CAPT) through established procedures. Recommendations from the CAPT and the Vice President for Academic Affairs are made to the President, who makes final recommendations to the Board of Trustees, which makes final decisions. It is the expectation of the Faculty that the President and the Board of Trustees shall, on questions of faculty status, as in other matters where the Faculty has primary responsibility, concur with the faculty judgment except in rare and exceptional instances and for compelling reasons, which should be stated in detail. In all instances of disagreement, the President and the CAPT should have an opportunity for further discussion before reporting to the Board.

III. ACADEMIC FREEDOM¹

Skidmore College vigorously endorses the principle of academic freedom.

Faculty and other members of the academic community are entitled to full freedom in research and in publication of the results. The extent to which research activities may be pursued is subject to the adequate performance of other academic duties. Research, consultation, or additional employment for pecuniary return shall be based upon prior agreement with the Dean of the Faculty.

Faculty are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial issues which have no relation to their subject matter. Controversy that is directly related to a teacher's subject matter is recognized as an important part of intellectual inquiry, and it is not the intent of this statement to limit such controversy.

Faculty are members of the community, members of learned professions, and professional representatives of an educational institution. When they speak as members of the community, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes obligations. As persons of learning and as educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and the College by their utterances. Hence they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to

¹ This statement is Skidmore College's adaptation of the 1966 Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities by the American Association of University Professors as amended. Reprinted in AAUP Policy Documents & Reports, 10th Edition, 2006. Some changes in wording and emphasis have been introduced.

indicate that they are not institutional spokespersons. The College recognizes the right and the responsibility of faculty members to speak as members of the community on issues of public concern.

IV. ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND TENURE

The Committee on Academic Freedom and Rights (CAFR) and the CAPT have been recognized by the Board of Trustees, the President and the Faculty as representing the Faculty of Skidmore College in discussions with the President, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the corresponding committee of the Trustees on matters of common concern and responsibility. On questions of academic freedom and tenure, CAFR and CAPT represent the Faculty to the President, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and to the Trustees and make recommendations for their consideration. The confidential nature of these discussions is respected by all parties taking part.

V. APPOINTMENTS TO THE FACULTY

A. Tenure-Track Appointments

Initial appointments to all ranks are made by the Vice President for Academic Affairs in consultation with the Dean of the Faculty, the Department Chair and the department concerned and (where appropriate) Program Directors. In the case of appointment as Vice President for Academic Affairs or Dean of the Faculty, the President may appoint the Vice President for Academic Affairs as well as the Dean of the Faculty at the rank of Professor with tenure, according to procedures prescribed in the Faculty Handbook, Part One, Article IX (Tenure), Section C (Eligibility), number 5, and Section E (Procedures for Granting Tenure), number 11. Full-time and shared faculty appointments to all professorial ranks shall be made for a three-year period, the first year being a probationary one. Appointments to shared positions may be made for those whose areas of expertise are substantially interchangeable. Shared appointments to the Faculty are designed to enable the College to hire and retain gifted professionals who may wish to teach less than full-time on a permanent basis. In order to fulfill the College's needs, such appointments are made when two faculty members can fulfill the responsibilities of a single position or a fraction of two positions, while allowing for flexibility between them in assigning responsibilities.

1. The appointee's department may request the Dean of the Faculty on or before February 15th of the first year to terminate his or her contract at the end of the academic year. If the Dean of the Faculty grants the request and the request is approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of the Faculty shall notify the appointee of such termination in writing on or before March 1st of the first year of the appointee's contract. If the appointee begins his or her contract in mid-year (January), the date for the department's request to the Dean of the Faculty shall be May 31st, and the Dean of the Faculty must notify the appointee of termination in writing by June 15th.

2. An appointment that is not terminated during the first year shall remain in effect through the third year.

B. Fully Dedicated Tenure-Track Lines in ID Programs

In a case of demonstrated need, a full-time tenure-track appointment may be made to an interdisciplinary program. Appointments shall be made according to methods described in Article V (Appointments to the Faculty), Sections A (Tenure-Track Appointments) and D (Pre-Tenure-Track Appointments) as applicable.

Upon the award of a tenure-track line to an interdisciplinary (ID) program and before initiating a search, a Program Personnel Committee (PPC) shall be 05 3se 7(ei)JTJ237.479 0 TD.0009 Tc0545 Twing er be 05tmae

The ID PPC will consist of the ID Program Director and four to eight tenured and tenure-track faculty in at least the third year of consecutive full-time college service and at least the third year of participation in the ID Program. The Dean of the Faculty appoints members to the PPC in consultation with the Director and the ID Program Steering Committee. In cases where a Committee member vacates his/her position on the Committee, a replacement is appointed in the same manner. Normally the ID Program Director will chair the PPC. If the Director is a candidate, however, the Dean of the Faculty in consultation with the PPC shall appoint a tenured faculty member from the committee to serve as Chair. Once the committee is formed, PPC membership shall remain a fixed number of faculty through a candidate's tenure review. Appointments will be for one term of three years or for two or more consecutive terms with the latter recommended if feasible. Appointments should ensure that membership is representative of the disciplinary diversity and range in academic rank of faculty actively teaching in the ID program. The majority of committee faculty should be tenured, if possible, and should have prior experience in reappointment and tenure review.

Before initiating a search, the ID PPC shall establish internal procedures to evaluate candidates for reappointment, tenure, and promotion according to guidelines specified for Chairs and departments in Faculty Handbook, Part I, Articles VII (Rights, Obligations and Responsibilities of all Faculty), VIII (Reappointment), IX (Tenure), and XI (Promotion). In support and review of tenure-track faculty appointed to a program, the Director shall perform duties normally assumed by a Department Chair as specified in the Articles noted above and in Article XII (Leaves of Absence). Exception: If the Director is the tenure-track candidate, the Chair of the ID PPC shall perform the duties referred to above. (Also see Faculty Handbook, Part I, Article XVI, Section D [Obligations Pertaining to Program Directors] and Article XV, Section D [Obligations Pertaining to Program Directors].)

In some considerations for promotion, an ID PPC may need to be reconstituted. In such cases, before promotion consideration of a candidate appointed to an ID Program can begin, the program in consultation with the Dean of the Faculty shall form an ID Program Personnel Committee according to the procedures specified above.

C. Tenure-Track Lines Apportioned between Departments/Programs

It is expected that in most cases

D. Pre-Tenure-Track Appointments

Visiting Instructor: Appointments to the position of Visiting Instructor will be made with the understanding that appointees must receive their doctorates or the equivalent terminal degree by October 15th following their second year at Skidmore in order to move onto tenure-track lines. By May 1st in the second year of service, such appointees must show evidence that the degree is or will be completed by October 15th. If this condition is met, the department shall determine whether or not the appointee should be offered a tenure-track position. Neither professional accomplishment beyond the completion of the terminal degree nor community service shall be applied as criteria in this decision. Appointees who fail to complete the degree by October 15th following their second year shall receive contracts for a third and terminal year at the College. Exceptions to this date may be granted when the Dean of the Faculty and the Vice President for Academic Affairs judge there are procedural circumstances beyond the candidate's control.

E. Non-Tenure-Track Appointments

1. The Dean of the Faculty makes all appointments to non-tenure-track positions in consultation with the Chair of the department concerned and (where appropriate) Program Directors.

Full-time and shared appointments as Library Faculty, Artists- and Writers-in-Residence, and Teaching Associates will be made initially for three years, the first year being a probationary one. The appointee's department may request the Dean of the Faculty on or before February 15th of the first year to terminate his or her contract. If the Dean of the Faculty grants the request, and the request is approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of the Faculty shall notify the appointee of such termination in writing on or before March 1st of the first year of the appointee's contract. If the appointee begins his or her contract in mid-year (January), the date for the department's request to the Dean of the Faculty shall be May 31st, and the Dean of the Faculty must notify the appointee of the termination in writing by June 15th. An appointment that is not terminated during the first year shall remain in effect through the third year.

c. Visiting Artist- or Writer-in-Residence: A Visiting Artist- or Writer-in-Residence is a full-time teaching member of the Faculty appointed for fewer than three years.

d. Visiting Professor or Librarian: A Visiting Professor or Librarian is usually a full-time member of the Faculty appointed at one of the professorial or librarian ranks for a limited time. The title reflects the possession of appropriate academic credentials.

e. Trustee Visiting Scholar: A funded position identified by the Board of Trustees to enable the College to enhance the diversity of the Faculty. Appointment to this full-time non-tenure track position is for one year and is renewable for an additional year. Trustee Visiting Scholars may be appointed in any department with preference given to those departments and programs with the greatest need for additional staff and/or curricular enhancement. Additional Trustee Visiting Scholars may be appointed as sabbatical replacements.

f. Lecturer: A Lecturer is a full- or part-time member of the teaching or library faculty needed in a department or program. Lecturers may be practicing professionals qualified by the possession of

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VI. EVALUATIVE CRITERIA FOR CONTI

practice in applied fields, and work that reorganizes existing information in creative ways or interprets it for students and non-specialists, be they colleagues or laypersons. Evidence indicative of significant achievement might include not only books, monographs, and articles published in recognized scholarly journals, but also unpublished manuscripts, drafts, and work in progress. Evaluations of scholarly achievement in departments in which professional activities peculiar to a discipline complement or nurture scholarship will be made on the basis of clear written agreements between these departments, the Dean of

standards of the Library profession; facilitating access to information resources beyond the Library walls; and interpreting the Library's collections and wider information universe through reference service, printed guides, and bibliographic instruction. This mission requires that Library faculty be both educators/scholars and administrators.

The following criteria encompass both the scholarly and administrative nature of librarianship and provide the basis for the evaluation of candidates for reappointment and promotion.

Library faculty must demonstrate mastery, creativity and initiative in all of the following areas which apply to their assigned responsibilities: (1) developing library collections to support Skidmore's educational mission; (2) organizing and analyzing library collections to provide ease of both intellectual and physical access; (3) identifying and meeting users' needs by applying knowledge of information retrieval techniques, research strategies and subject disciplines; (4) collaborating with students and faculty to support their educational and research activities; (5) promoting effective use of information through individual and classroom instruction; and (6) planning, implementing and managing services and programs which support the library's mission.

2. Artists- and Writers-in-Residence

Decisions to reappoint or promote Artists- and Writers-in-Residence are based on their credentials in three areas: performance as teachers, achievement as artists/scholars, and contributions to the welfare of the college community beyond the classroom.

3. Teaching Associates

The criteria for reappointment and for promotion are: (1) excellence in teaching; (2) professional growth that maintains currency and enhances effectiveness in the classroom, studio, or laboratory; and (3) service to the department/program and College.

VII. RIGHTS, OBLIGATIONS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL FACULTY

A. Rights of Members of the Faculty

Rights of members of the Faculty include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. All members of the Faculty, regardless of status or rank, are entitled to the Academic Freedoms described previously (Part One, Article IV [Academic Freedom and Tenure]). Faculty members who believe there have been violations of their academic freedom and rights may bring such grievance to the CAFR.
2. All faculty members have the right to receive from their Department Chairs written evaluations of their performance: annually if non-tenured; every three years if tenured, or if Library faculty in more than their sixth consecutive year of continuing service; or more frequently and informally at the individual's request (see Part One [Faculty Rights and Responsibilities], Article XV [Appointment and Review of Department Chairs], Section D [Obligations Pertaining to Department Chairs], number 3). These written evaluations are intended to be for guidance and used for self-improvement only, and not for use as part of a candidate's file for reappointment, promotion or tenure.
3. Faculty members have a right to representation by legal counsel provided by the College if legal action results from execution of their academic duties as determined by the President.
4. Because student evaluations are used in several decision-making processes, faculty members have a right to receive fair and honest evaluations. A faculty member who feels this right has been violated

VIII. REAPPOINTMENT

A. Reappointment of Full-Time Tenure-Track and Library Faculty in Professorial Ranks

Each department in the College shall follow its established procedures to evaluate candidates for reappointment. If candidates have taught in an interdisciplinary program, or in a department other than the one in which they hold an appointment, the procedures must ensure a mechanism for obtaining information about their performance in this other department or program. The Chair will file these procedures with the Dean of the Faculty and make them available to the candidate well in advance of the evaluation. These procedures must be in accordance with the principles of academic freedom and must ensure that the standards for continued service are considered.

1. Second Year

- a. At the end of the appointee's second year, the department shall determine whether or not it regards the appointee as a candidate for reappointment according to departmental procedures and the evaluative criteria set forth in Part One, Article VI, Section A, with particular emphasis on teaching effectiveness. The Department shall inform the Dean of the Faculty of its decision on or before May 31st of that year. In the case of proportional appointments (see Part One, Article V, Section C), each program and/or department involved shall inform the Dean of the Faculty of its decision on or before May 31st of that year.
- b. By June 15th of the appointee's second year, the Dean of the Faculty shall remind appointees not

department must submit its recommendation, positive or negative, with supporting evidence to the Dean of the Faculty on or before January 15th of the appointee's third year. This evidence must include a cover letter from the Chair and letters from full-time faculty and those holding shared appointments in the department concerned (in the ranks defined in Part One, Article V [Appointments to the Faculty], Sections A [Tenure-Track Appointments] and E [Non-Tenure-Track Appointments], 2b. [Artist- or Writer-in-Residence]) who are in at least their third year of full-time service at Skidmore, and (where appropriate) Program Directors.

The department must present clear and decisive evidence concerning the individual's professional quality and the department's need for the candidate's particular abilities in its projected programs.

For tenure-track faculty appointments that are 100 percent in ID programs, supporting evidence sent to the Dean of the Faculty

may, at his or her option, assume a full-time faculty position at the end of the other partner's terminal year. Should he or she choose not to do so, the position will no longer be tenure-track.

h. Candidates for reappointment shall have access to all written materials immediately following notification of the Vice President for Academic Affairs' decision. These materials may not be photocopied.

i. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall convey the result of a review to the candidate on or before May 1st.

B. Reappointment of Librarians

During the second and third year of service, Library faculty will be evaluated according to the same principles and procedures described herein for tenure-track faculty. In the sixth year, the evaluation process will include at least one faculty member from another department who indicates his or her willingness to serve, chosen by the Vice President for Academic Affairs in consultation with the CAPT. For contracts beyond the sixth year, the reappointment procedure is that of the third year, with the department making a recommendation to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. In the case of a disagreement between the department and the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the CAPT will provide an additional recommendation for the President's consideration. If the candidate is denied reappointment, he or she may appeal if she or he receives the support of two-thirds of the faculty who participated in the initial review (including the candidate) or of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Appeals in the sixth year will be referred to the CAPT for an additional recommendation to the President.

After the initial six years, Library faculty who are reappointed will receive contracts of alternating lengths of four and three years with reviews in the penultimate year of each contract. If the review is negative, the faculty member will be given a probationary contract, the minimal length of which will be one year. The length of the probationary contract can be extended by a recommendation of the Chair to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for a period not to exceed three years. Those on probationary contracts exceeding one year will receive annual reviews by the Chair and a full departmental review in the fall of the final year of the contract. Those on single year probationary contracts will be reviewed by the department in the fall of their probationary year. If the departmental recommendation concurs and the Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs, the department member receives a terminal year. If the department and the Vice President for Academic Affairs disagree, the case is sent to the CAPT for a third recommendation to the President.

C. Reappointment of Artists- and Writers-in-Residence

During the second and third years (third year only in the case of shared appointments) of service, Artists-in-Residence and Writers-in-Residence will be evaluated according to the principles and procedures described in the Faculty Handbook, Part One, Article VIII (Reappointment), Section A (Reappointment of Full-Time Tenure-Track and Library Faculty to Professorial Ranks), except as noted below. In this process, each department shall follow its established procedures to evaluate candidates for reappointment. The Chair will file these procedures with the Dean of the Faculty and make them available to the candidate well in advance of the evaluation. These procedures must be in accordance with the principles of academic freedom and must ensure that the standards for continued service are considered.

After the initial three years, Artists-in-Residence and Writers-in-Residence who are reappointed will receive an additional contract of three years, renewable, with a review in the third year. If the review is negative and the Dean of the Faculty concurs, the department member receives a terminal contract for a fourth year. In the case of a disagreement between the department and the Dean of the Faculty, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall convene an ad hoc group of three current Department Chairs (excluding the Chair of the candidate's department), which shall

Academic Affairs' decision is negative, the department member receives a terminal contract for a fourth year.

In the sixth year, the evaluation process shall be broadened to include references from outside the department. For contracts beyond the sixth year, the reappointment procedure is that of the third year, with the department making a recommendation to the Dean of the Faculty. In the case of a disagreement between the department and the Dean of the Faculty, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall convene an ad hoc group of three current Department Chairs (excluding the Chair of the candidate's department), which shall provide a third recommendation. The Vice President for Academic Affairs makes the final reappointment decision. If the Vice President for Academic Affairs' decision is negative, the department member receives a terminal contract for a final year.

After the initial six years, Artists-in-Residence and Writers-in-Residence who are reappointed will receive contracts of alternating lengths of four and three years with reviews in the penultimate year of each contract, except for those on shared appointments who will be reviewed every three years. If the review is negative, the faculty member will be given a probationary contract of one year and will be reviewed by the department for contract renewal by February 15th of that year. (In the case of those on shared appointments who teach only in the spring, the date shall be April 15th.) If the departmental review is negative, and the Dean of the Faculty concurs, the faculty member will be informed by March 1st that he or she will receive a terminal, one-year contract. In the case of a disagreement between the department and the Dean of the Faculty, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall convene an ad hoc group of three current Department Chairs (excluding the Chair of the candidate's department) who shall provide a third recommendation. The Vice President for Academic Affairs makes the final reappointment decision. If the Vice President for Academic Affairs' decision is negative, the department member receives a terminal one-year contract.

D. Reappointment of Teaching Associates

During the second and third year of service, Teaching Associates will be evaluated. Each department shall follow its established procedures for evaluating candidates for reappointment and promotion. The Chair will file these procedures with the Dean of the Faculty and make them available to the candidate well in advance of the evaluation. These procedures must be in accordance with the principles of academic freedom and must ensure that the standards for continued service are considered.

1. Second Year

- a. At the end of the appointee's second year, the department shall determine whether or not it regards the appointee as a candidate for reappointment according to department procedures and shall inform the Dean of the Faculty of its decision on or before May 31st of that year.
- b. By June 15th of the appointee's second year, the Dean of the Faculty shall remind appointees not regarded as candidates for reappointment that their service terminates at the end of their third academic year.
- c. Reviews
 - i. If the appointee believes that the decision against reappointment was made in violation of academic freedom and rights or was procedura

iii. In either (i) or (ii), the result of a finding in favor of the appointee will be to return to the department for reconsideration.

2. Third Year

a. An appointee considered by the department to be candidate for reappointment at the end of the second year will be evaluated in the third year according to department procedures. The department must submit its recommendation, positive or negative, with supporting evidence to the Dean of the Faculty on or before January 15th of the appointee's third year. The evidence must include a cover letter from the Chair and letters from full-time faculty and those holding shared appointments in the department concerned who are in at least their third year of full-time service at Skidmore, and (where appropriate) Program Directors.

b. The department must present clear and decisive evidence concerning the individual's professional quality and the department's need for the candidate's particular abilities in its projected programs.

c. If the department and the Dean of the Faculty differ, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will convene an ad hoc group, consisting of the Chairs of other departments with teaching associates, who will provide an additional perspective. The Vice President for Academic Affairs makes the final decision.

d. If the Vice President for Academic Affairs' decision is negative, the Vice President for Academic Affairs on or by March 1st shall remind those appointees in the final year of their contracts that their contracts terminate at the end of that academic year.

e. After the initial three years, Teaching Associates who are reappointed will receive an additional contract of three years, renewable, with a review in the third year.

E. Other Non-Tenure Track Appointments (Visiting Artist- or Writer-in-Residence, Trustee Visiting Scholar, Lecturer, Visiting Teaching Associate, Research Associate, Department Assistant)

On or before March 1st of the second year or any subsequent year, the Dean of the Faculty shall remind those appointees in the final year of their contracts that their contracts terminate at the end of that academic year.

IX. TENURE

A. Preamble

Though no precise weights can be attached to the three criteria upon which the awarding of tenure is based, teaching of high quality and significant growth and achievement in scholarly, creative or professional work are of central importance, high-quality teaching being the principal criterion. Evidence of significant contributions to the community's collective affairs at the departmental and All-College levels will also be

1. For faculty members, the service year coincides with the academic year. The academic year begins at the start of the fall term and ends with the close of the spring term. For each academic year that a faculty member holds a full-time appointment, that person will be considered to have given a year of service. Other than those Visiting Instructors described above, faculty members who move from "visiting" to "tenure-track" status may choose, in consultation with the Dean of the Faculty and the CAPT, to have or not to have the "visiting" years count toward tenure; the decision must be specified in the letter of appointment to the tenure-track position.
2. A faculty member whose initial appointment begins in the middle of the academic year has the option of having the first semester of service count as one full service year or not count at all. This option must be decided upon at least one year before the faculty member can be considered for tenure. The chosen option must be specified by the faculty member to the Dean of the Faculty in writing.
3. In the case where a faculty member is granted a leave of absence without pay, whether the leave is for a full year or one semester, the faculty member may choose to have the year count as a year of service or not count at all. This option must be decided upon at the time the leave is granted, and must be specified in the letter granting the leave. (See also Part One [Faculty Rights and Responsibilities], Article XII [Leaves of Absence].)
4. Regular, full-time and shared position untenured faculty members with one or more years of service may request an *extension of the tenure clock* for:
 - Childbirth or adoption, or
 - Personal hardship.
 This option is available whether or not any type of leave is involved.

The maximum number of tenure clock extensions permitted per faculty member is two one-year extensions, regardless of the circumstances, during the probationary period.

Childbirth or adoption:

An eligible untenured faculty member may elect to have the tenure clock delayed for one year for a birth or adoption of a child occurring within the probationary period. The request must be made in writing to the Dean of the Faculty within one calendar year of the time of the birth or adoption event and in any case no later than May 15th prior to the semester in which the tenure review is scheduled to occur. Upon receipt of the written request, the Dean of the Faculty will automatically grant the extension.

Personal hardship:

An eligible untenured faculty member may request to have the tenure clock delayed for one year when a personal hardship such as excessive responsibilities for elder or dependent care, personal illness or injury, or some other critical life situation significantly impedes the faculty member's progress toward achieving tenure. Requests for delay of tenure consideration of this type shall be submitted in writing to the Dean of the Faculty through the department chair and are granted at the discretion of the Dean of the Faculty. The request should be made near the time of the critical event and in any case no later than May 15th prior to the semester in which the tenure review is scheduled to occur.

Untenured faculty granted a lengthened probationary period for reasons of childbirth, adoption, or personal hardship will not be expected to have attained a higher level of professional accomplishment and/or to have performed more service than faculty with standard probationary periods.

E. Procedures for Granting Tenure

1. The decision to grant tenure rests with the Board of Trustees. The Board acts upon the recommendation of the President who in turn acts in consultation with the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

2. The CAPT shall annually disseminate its calendar, its operating code, and the operating codes of the Tenure Appeal Committee to all faculty.

3. The CAPT has the responsibility of securing information with respect to the candidate's teaching competence, professional accomplishment, and service to the academic community. Sources of this information include:

a. Full-time faculty and those holding shared appointments in the department concerned (in the ranks defined in Part One [Faculty Rights and Responsibilities], Article V [Appointments to the Faculty], Sections A [Tenure-Track Appointments] and E [Non-Tenure-Track Appointments], number 2b [Artist- or Writer-in-Residence]) who are in at least their third year of full-time service at Skidmore;

b. Department Chair;

c. Program Directors (where appropriate);

d. For tenure-track faculty appointments that are 100 percent in ID programs, the CAPT will secure information concerning a candidate in an ID program from all members of the ID Program Personnel Committee. The Program Director (or PPC Chair if the Director is the candidate) will represent the Program position with regard to tenure.

e. For proportional tenure-track faculty appointments that are shared between two departments, a department and an ID program or two ID programs, the CAPT will secure information concerning a candidate from all members of the ID Program Personnel Committee(s) and from all faculty in the department(s) involved. The Department Chair will represent the department's position and the Program Director(s) (or PPC Chair if the Director is the candidate) will represent the Program(s) position.

f. Sources suggested by the candidate under consideration including Administrative Officers, the Coordinator, or Director of a program or Chair of a department in case the candidate has taught in an interdisciplinary program or department other than the one in which he or she holds an appointment;

g. Materials related to teaching effectiveness, professional accomplishment, and College service submitted by the candidate under consideration;

h. Teaching evaluations. The Department Chair shall bring to the attention of the CAPT student and faculty opinion concerning the faculty member as a teacher and shall indicate the procedures

Office (or the CAPT Reading Room) as required by law. Within seven days of the date stipulated by the annual CAPT calendar for receipt of all letters, the Chair of the CAPT will give the candidate a list of names of those who have written unsolicited letters about the candidate.

5. The following procedures should be observed:

- a. The Chair shall inform the candidate well in advance of the tenure consideration what procedures will be employed in reaching a departmental decision.
 - b. The Chair will advise the candidate in creating a file of materials documenting the candidate's qualifications for tenure.
 - c. Individuals writing letters of evaluation for the candidate shall clearly state whether they do or do not recommend tenure, and why, according to the criteria for continued service (as found in Part One [Faculty Rights and Responsibilities], Article VI [Evaluative Criteria for Continued Service and Advancement in Rank], Section A [Tenure-Track Faculty]).
 - d. The Chair, in the letter of evaluation for the candidate, shall clearly state the procedures employed in reaching a departmental recommendation. The Chair shall clearly state whether the department does or does not recommend for tenure, and why, according to the criteria for continued service. Furthermore, the Chair shall clearly state the extent to which a candidate's particular abilities will continue to be needed, as far as the department's future can be projected.
6. After conducting its deliberations, the CAPT reports its recommendations to the President, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the Dean of the Faculty. The Vice President for Academic Affairs then consults with the Dean of the Faculty. In the event of a disagreement between the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the CAPT, the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Dean of the Faculty meet with the CAPT to offer detailed and compelling reasons for such disagreement. The Vice President for Academic Affairs then makes a recommendation to the President, and notifies the CAPT of his or her recommendation. In the rare instance in which the President does not concur with the recommendations of the CAPT, the President meets with the CAPT to offer detailed and compelling reasons for such disagreement. Finally, the President's recommendations are reported to the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) of the Board of Trustees, and the CAPT informs the AAC of the recommendations it made to the President.

11. A candidate for either the Vice President for Academic Affairs or for the Dean of the Faculty may be evaluated for an immediate award of tenure by the following procedure. The President will present the credentials of the candidate for Vice President for Academic Affairs and evidence for both appointment as Professor and awarding of tenure to the academic department(s) appropriate to the candidate's professional field. At the same time, the President will also furnish the candidate's credentials and evidence to the CAPT. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will do the same in the case of a candidate for Dean of the Faculty. The qualifications for tenure are those stipulated in the Faculty Handbook, Part One (Faculty Rights and Responsibilities), Article VI (Evaluative Criteria for Continued Service and Advancement in Rank), Section A (Tenure-Track Faculty), and Article IX (Tenure), Section C (Eligibility). The Chair of the academic department to which the Vice President for Academic Affairs or the Dean of the Faculty will be appointed forwards a written departmental recommendation to the CAPT. Simultaneously, the CAPT solicits individual written recommendations

G. Appeal of Negative Tenure Decisions

1. If the Tenure Review Board determines that a tenure case requires reconsideration, the three

XI. PROMOTION

A. Professorial Ranks

1. Procedures for Promotion

a. Promotions are granted by the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of the President, who consults as necessary with the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of the Faculty, the CAPT, and the Chair of the department concerned. Except in the case of the Library faculty, the CAPT role in promotion is limited to full-time and shared tenure-track appointments to professorial ranks.

b. Consideration for promotion may be initiated by the Department Chair in consultation with the Dean of the Faculty or the CAPT. The Dean of the Faculty in consultation with the Vice President for Academic Affairs may also decide to nominate a candidate for promotion consideration. In such a case, the department is obliged to consider the candidate's credentials and

In the case of a promotion candidate appointed to an ID Program, the ID Program Director shall perform those functions normally assumed by a Department Chair, and faculty on the ID PPC shall be consulted and shall write letters. All these letters shall be forwarded to the CAPT.

h. Promotion files shall include the following:

i. an updated CV, which makes clear what has been achieved since the last promotion.

ii. all scholarly, creative or professional materials produced since the last promotion; candidates may add some earlier materials for purposes of context or to show continued growth. Candidates may wish to seek letters from Skidmore colleagues outside their department qualified to speak to their professional accomplishment. Candidates may also wish to include a statement about achievements and works in progress.

iii. the ten most recent consecutive semesters of teaching evaluations. For purposes of context, the candidate may wish to include other evaluations. The candidate shall also add copies of syllabi, and may include assignments and handouts. The candidate may also wish to append a statement about teaching goals and philosophy. The file may include peer evaluations of teaching.

iv. a cover sheet showing courses taught, sabbatical leaves, and any course releases over the previous six years.

v. service credentials presented within the context of the broad statements about service in Part One (Faculty Rights and Responsibilities), Article VI (Evaluative Criteria for Continued Service and Advancement in Rank), Section A (Tenure Track Faculty, COMMUNITY SERVICE). The candidate may wish to provide relevant documents and seek letters from committee Chairs or members who can speak about the quality and extent of service.

i. Candidates for promotion may solicit letters on their behalf from reviewers familiar with their credentials from outside the College. Such letters may come directly to the CAPT, or go to the Department Chair and then to the CAPT as part of the candidate's dossier. Letters mandated by the department must also be transmitted to the CAPT.

j. After conducting its deliberations, the CAPT reports its recommendations to the President, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the Dean of the Faculty. The Vice President for Academic Affairs then consults with the Dean of the Faculty. In the event of a disagreement between the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the CAPT, the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Dean of the Faculty meet with the CAPT to offer detailed and compelling reasons for such disagreement. The Vice President for Academic Affairs then makes a recommendation to the President, and notifies the CAPT of his or her recommendation. In the rare instance in which the President does not concur with the recommendations of the CAPT, the President meets with the CAPT to offer detailed and compelling reasons for such disagreement. Finally, the President's recommendations are reported to the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) of the Board of Trustees, and the CAPT informs the AAC of the recommendations it made to the President.

k. In the event that the CAPT forwards a negative recommendation to the Vice President for Academic Affairs in a promotion case, the CAPT will also notify the Dean of the Faculty of the reasons for the recommendation. The Dean of the Faculty will present the reasons for a negative recommendation to the candidate. In the event that the Vice President for Academic Affairs or the President forward a negative recommendation, the Dean of the Faculty and the CAPT will be notified of the reasons for the recommendation. The Dean of the Faculty will present the reasons for a negative recommendation to the candidate.

1. An individual denied recommendation for promotion may ask for a hearing before CAFR provided such hearing is based on an alleged violation of academic freedom and/or rights; or may file a complaint following the procedures set forth in Part Six, Article VII [Procedures for Resolving Complaints of Harassment or Discrimination against Faculty Members], provided such a complaint is based on alleged harassment or discrimination in violation of the College's policies as outlined in Part Six.

2. Guidelines for Advancement in Rank

Promotion at Skidmore is based upon merit and is not guaranteed by years of service.

a. For the rank of Assistant Professor, the appropriate terminal degree (or its professional equivalent) normally is required. The absence of the appropriate terminal degree is not an absolute deterrent to advancement to any rank. Other qualifications, however, shall be closely scrutinized

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D. Teaching Associates

Promotion to Senior Teaching Associate is granted by the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of the Dean of the Faculty after consultation with the department. The Department Chair shall indicate the consultation procedures employed within the department when recommending a promotion. Promotion is based upon merit and not guaranteed by years of service.

XII. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

A. Sabbatical Leaves of Absence

1. Purpose

Sabbatical leaves of absence are granted by the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of the Vice President for Academic Affairs to members of the Faculty to provide professional experience that cannot be secured during the academic recesses. Sabbatical leaves may be granted for the purpose of advanced study, work on research and creative projects, and for improvement of teaching skills (and for improvement of skills related to librarianship), with the expectation that in each case the College will benefit.

2. Eligibility

All tenured full-time members of the Faculty (and Library faculty and Artists-in-Residence who have been reappointed) who have served Skidmore College full-time for six consecutive years are eligible to apply.

a. The required service time may include up to one year's leave without pay, if so stated in the letter(s) granting such leave(s). If a faculty member serves full time for more than six consecutive years, the additional time will shorten the required service time for later sabbatical leaves if the delay in taking a sabbatical leave is requested by the Dean of the Faculty for administrative reasons and is so stipulated in writing.

b. Full-time members of the Faculty who are in their sixth year and are candidates for tenure (and full-time members of the Library faculty and Artists-in-Residence who are in their sixth year and are candidates for reappointment) may apply for sabbatical leave. However, final approval of the sabbatical leave request is contingent upon the granting of tenure or, in the case of Library faculty and Artists-in-Residence, reappointment.

3. Procedures

a. Application

i. Application should be made in triplicate on forms available through the Dean of the Faculty.

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iv. Applications must be received by the Dean of the Faculty no later than January 15th of the academic year preceding the desired leave. The Dean of the Faculty's Office will transmit one copy to the Chair of the Faculty Development Committee.

b. Consideration

i. On or before January 15th of the year preceding the intended leave, the applicant's Chair should submit to the Dean of the Faculty in triplicate an evaluation of the project together with an explanation of departmental arrangements for the applicant's absence. The Dean of the Faculty's Office will transmit one copy to the Chair of the Faculty Development Committee.

ii. Applications will be considered jointly by the Dean of the Faculty and the Faculty Development Committee. The Vice President for Academic Affairs makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

iii. Applicants and their departmental Chairs will be notified by March 1st of the academic year preceding the leave.

c. Reporting

i. Major changes in objectives after the leave has been granted must be reported and may be made only by agreement with the Dean of the Faculty. Petition for such change must be made in writing.

ii. Upon completion of the leave, a final report shall be sent to the Dean of the Faculty, and the Chair of the department, not later than April 15th in the case of first-semester leaves and November 15th in the case of second-semester or full-year leaves.

iii. Failure to file a satisfactory sabbatical report will affect eligibility for future sabbatical leaves.

4. Criteria for Evaluating Proposals

In evaluating applications, the following will be considered:

- a. the worth of the project;
- b. length of service without leave;
- c. ease of departmental arrangements;
- d. financial condition of the College;
- e. benefit to the individual and the College;
- f. the individual's fulfillment of obligations regarding any previous sabbaticals as outlined in paragraph 3, c, iii above.

5. Sabbatical Salaries

The stipend for sabbatical salaries is one-half the annual salary for a leave of one academic year, or full salary for a leave of one semester.

XV. APPOINTMENT AND REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

A. Criteria for Appointment

1. The appointee shall normally hold the rank of Associate or full Professor.
2. The appointee should have extensive and successful teaching experience.
3. The appointee should have qualities of personal and professional leadership and should have demonstrated evidence of administrative skill.

B. Procedures for Appointment

1. Appointment of a Department Chair is made by the Dean of the Faculty, in consultation with the members of the department concerned.
2. Appointments to the Chair are for one year and are renewable; four to eight years is the normal length of service. A Chair (tenured or untenured) may not be removed as Chair during the course of an academic year except for cause.

C. Procedures for Review

1. Department Chairs shall be reviewed once every four years. In the event of an intervening sabbatical or leave of absence, the review will take place in the fifth year. More frequent reviews may take place at the request of the Chair or the Dean of the Faculty. Untenured faculty serving as Chairs at the time of review for reappointment or for tenure shall be reviewed separately as Department Chairs.
2. The review of a Department Chair shall be conducted by the Dean of the Faculty. Each member of the department shall be requested to present a written evaluation to the Dean of the Faculty. All such statements shall be confidential.
3. Student majors in the department shall also be involved in the review of Chairs, each department determining its method of student involvement.

D. Obligations Pertaining to Department Chairs

1. Leadership: The Chair is responsible to the College, to the department, and to the Administration for the effective leadership of the department; the Chair is responsible to the department for the effective and accurate representation of its interests and concerns to the Administration. Chairs should strive to recruit and maintain faculty who demonstrate excellence both in teaching and professional accomplishment. They should coordinate and stimulate participation in departmental affairs by all faculty and, where appropriate, students, and strive to keep departmental morale high. They should, moreover, maintain sensitivity to the world outside their disciplines and the College, and continually attempt to keep their departments aware of and respons

3. Personnel: The Chair is responsible for seeking out highly qualified candidates for vacancies in the department. An important factor in their selection should be their competence and willingness to teach according to the specified needs of the department and the College. The Chair establishes search and selection procedures in consultation with the Dean of the Faculty, the Assistant Director for Equal Employment Opportunity and Workforce Diversity, Program Directors (where appropriate), and members of the department. The Chair makes recommendations on appointments (Part One, Article V), reappointments (Part One, Article VIII), promotions (Part One, Article XI), tenure (Part One, Article IX), sabbaticals and leaves (Part One, Article XII), and salary increments to the Dean of the Faculty, the Faculty Development Committee (where appropriate) and the CAPT (where required).

The Chair is responsible for coordinating and making equitable the teaching loads of the members of the department according to standards (including those governing course releases) administered by the Dean of the Faculty; the Chair's personal teaching load is reduced in proportion to his/her administrative responsibilities. The Chair renders guidance and assistance to faculty in every way possible. The Chair keeps untenured faculty apprised of their progress through the tenure system through annual letters of evaluation. Each year, non-tenured faculty meet with their respective Chairs to discuss the contents of their annual letters of evaluation. Continuing part-time faculty shall also receive annual letters of evaluation. Tenured members of the department shall normally be evaluated every three years on a schedule determined by the Chair and coordinated with the individual's and the department's sabbatical cycle. The Dean of the Faculty shall keep a record of tenured faculty members' evaluation cycles, and remind Department Chairs when evaluations are due. The annual letters of evaluation shall be transmitted to the individuals concerned and a copy will be sent to the Dean of the Faculty's office no later than August 31st following that academic year. These evaluations are to be kept on file in the individual's department and in the Dean of the Faculty's office. Only the individual, the Chair, and the Dean of the Faculty may have access to these evaluations.

In the case of a proportional appointment shared between two departments or between a department and a program, the Department Chair communicates with the other Department Chair or Program Director at least once a semester in order to coordinate the shared faculty member's teaching and service assignments and to perform all other personnel duties of a Chair or Program Director, including periodic letters of evaluation.

4. Communication: The Chair should foster effective intra- and inter-departmental communications among all students, faculty and administrators, making clear to these constituencies the nature of all departmental policies and procedures. Departmental meetings should be held regularly, and department members should be informed of discussions at Academic Staff meetings. The Chair is responsible for keeping the catalogue description of the department current and accurate, and is responsible for the annual departmental report to the President and the Dean of the Faculty.

3. The appointee should have qualities of personal and professional leadership and should demonstrate evidence of administrative skill.

B. Procedures for Appointment

1. Appointment of a Program Director is made by the Dean of the Faculty in consultation with the teaching faculty in the program and (when applicable) the appropriate Department Chair.

2. A Director (tenured or untenured) may not be removed as Director during the course of an academic year except for cause.

C. Procedures for Review

1. Program Directors shall be reviewed by the Dean of the Faculty once every four years. In the event of an intervening sabbatical or leave of absence, the review will take place in the fifth year. More frequent reviews may take place at the request of the Dean of the Faculty. Untenured faculty serving as Directors at the time of review for reappointment or for tenure shall be reviewed separately as Program Directors.

2. The review of a Program Director shall be conducted by the Dean of the Faculty. Each active member of the program shall be requested to present a written evaluation to the Dean of the Faculty. All such statements shall be confidential.

3. Students in the program shall also be involved in the review of Directors, each program determining its method of student involvement.

D. Obligations Pertaining to Program Directors

1. Leadership: The Director is responsible to the College, to the program, and to the Administration for

A. A proposal to establish or eliminate a department shall be made first to the Committee on Educational Policies and Planning (CEPP) by members of the faculty, student body, or administration. The proposal shall be accompanied by a complete rationale based on academic concerns. CEPP shall report the existence of such a proposal to the faculty at the next Faculty Meeting.

B. CEPP shall consider the proposal and rationale in the context of all the issues that are relevant to the College's long-range educational goals, and shall explore alternative strategies. During its study, CEPP shall work closely with the administration, the Curriculum Committee, and (in the case of elimination) the department in question, and may be aided by study groups drawn from the College community. In order to allow sufficient time for study, neither CEPP nor the initiators of the proposal may introduce the proposal at a Faculty Meeting until a date upon which they have agreed previously, but not later than twelve months from the time it was first brought to CEPP.

C. The proposal may be introduced at a Faculty Meeting by CEPP or by those originating the proposal. If either CEPP or the President disapproves of the proposal, this shall be brought to the attention of the faculty with a full explanation, and so recorded in the faculty minutes.

D. During the interim between the introduction of the proposal at a Faculty Meeting and the faculty vote, CEPP shall arrange for at least one faculty information meeting.

E. The President shall report the faculty action to

D. The President shall report proposals receiving Faculty approval to the Board of Trustees for its action.

E. Favorable action by the Board of Trustees, either to establish or eliminate a major, must be reported by the College Registrar to the New York State Education Department. A new major must be approved by and registered with the New York State Education Department. A discontinued major must be removed from the register.

XX. FACULTY GOVERNANCE

Faculty governance is carried out through decisions made at Faculty Meetings and through a system of committees of the Faculty as described in Part Two. Faculty Meetings, presided over by the President, are generally held on the first Friday of each month. All the faculty as herein defined are expected to attend Faculty Meetings and are eligible to vote: all full-time members of the Faculty (including those on phased employment) and faculty holding shared appointments at the rank of Assistant Professor or above, Visiting Instructors, Librarians, Artists-in-Residence, Writers-in-Residence, and full-year full-time Lecturers, full-year full-time Teaching Associates, the President, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of the Faculty, the Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, the Associate Dean of the Faculty, the Dean of Student Affairs, the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising, the Dean of Special Programs, the Registrar and Director of Institutional Research, the Senior Associate Director of Admissions, the Director of University Without Walls, the Director of Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program, the Director of Summer Sessions and Summer Special Programs, the Dayton Director of the Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery, the Malloy Curator of the Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery, and such other administrative officers as may be appointed to the Faculty by the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the President after consultation with the CAPT and with the concurrence of the Faculty.

XXI. PROCEDURES FOR HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS

A. Proposals for substantive amendments to the Handbook may be initiated by the Faculty, Administration or Trustees.

B. These proposals should be brought to the FEC, which will refer them to the appropriate faculty committee, e.g., the CAPT and/or the CAFR (Part One, Articles I through IX, XIV through XVI, and XVIII); CEPP (Part One, Article XVII and Part Two, Article III); Curriculum Committee (Part One, Article XIX); Faculty Development Committee (Part One, Article XII and XIII); Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (Part Four). FEC will deal with proposals to Part One, Articles XX and XXI and Parts Two (except as noted above), Three, Five and Six. The relevant committees then study the proposal, make necessary modifications, and refer the revised proposal to the FEC for presentation to and action by the Faculty.

C. If the FEC declines to bring a proposal for Handbook revision to the Faculty, the initiator of the proposal may then introduce it directly to the Faculty.

D. If the Faculty approves a revision to Part Two of the Handbook, the revision will then be adopted. If the Faculty approves a revision to Part One or Part Four, the revision will be forwarded to the President, and by the President to the Board of Trustees with a recommendation for final action. The revision will then be adopted if both the President and the Trustees give approval. Revisions to Parts Five and Six will be adopted once the office being described and the FEC have agreed upon the revision. Revisions to Part Three should be agreed upon by Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC), the Student Government Association (SGA), and the FEC. Once such agreement is obtained, the revision is adopted. FEC asks that this motion be brought to IPPC and to the SGA Senate for deliberation and subsequent vote.

B. Minutes

1. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall appoint a note-taker for the Faculty Meeting.
2. The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for distributing minutes of all official meetings to all members no later than one week in advance of every meeting.
3. Approval of the minutes shall normally be the first item on the agenda.

Article IV. Quorum

A. A quorum shall be necessary for

1. votes on matters of policy (see Article VII, A);
2. votes to suspend the rules;
3. votes to go into executive session (see Article VII, B);
4. votes to amend the by-laws.

B. The quorum shall be 75 members.

Article V. The Right to Speak

A. At Faculty Meetings

1. The Chairperson shall not speak to a motion while occupying the chair.
2. Other persons may speak only when recognized by the Chair.
3. The speaker should address the Chair.
4. The speaker should limit the length of remarks to a reasonable length (observing the guideline of two minutes).
5. A person may speak once on a motion and may speak a second time only after all other persons wishing to speak have spoken once. The only exception is that the maker of the motion has the privilege to be the final speaker before the vote.
6. The speaker should have the floor, but should not assume the chair.
7. The speaker shall not be interrupted except for the following:
 - a. Point of order -- raised to question any proceeding or motion that a member believes is in violation of the rules. The Chair rules on the validity of the point and the ruling may be appealed. An appeal must have a second. The decision of the Chair is sustained by a majority or tie vote.
 - b. Point of personal privilege -- raised concerning the rights, reputation, comfort, safety or conduct of a member.
 - c. Point of information -- a request of the Chair for an answer concerning the background or content of a motion vote.

- d. Parliamentary Inquiry -- a request of the Chair for information concerning parliamentary law. The Chair may refer this to the parliamentarian.
 - e. Permission to withdraw a motion.
 - f. Call for a division of the assembly to retake a vote.
8. When a motion is presented, it is customary that there be a period of questions and answers to clarify the motion before it is more formally debated. Explanatory comments and clarification at this time are not considered speaking to a motion. At any time, the Faculty may entertain a motion to consider a motion, subject, or problem informally (see V.C.1).
- B. Committee of the Whole. This device enables the Faculty Meeting to discuss an issue under the less stringent rules of a committee.
1. The Faculty Meeting may entertain a motion to form a Committee of the Whole.
 2. The Chairperson of the Faculty Meeting shall appoint the Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole.
 3. The Faculty Meeting will set a time limit on discussion (e.g., twenty minutes).
 4. The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole may speak to the subject at hand.
 5. Other persons may speak only when recognized by the Chair.
 6. A person may speak more than once before all others wishing to speak have done so, if recognized by the Chair.

Article VI. Taking Votes

A. The Faculty Meeting shall vote by ballot on any motion to change the curriculum or Part One of the Faculty Handbook if at least one voting member makes such a request. On all other motions, the Faculty Meeting shall take a vote on a motion for a ballot vote.

B. The Faculty Meeting shall otherwise vote by ayes and nays. Any member, however, can demand a rising vote (standing vote or a division of the assembly). This vote must be counted. In the case of a tie vote (ballot) the Chair *may* vote with either side. If the Chair chooses not to vote, lacking a majority, the motion is defeated.

C. The members of the Faculty Executive Committee shall tally all votes taken by a show of hands or by ballot, except in cases wh

Addendum: Summary Table of Rules Relating to Motions

Notes:

1. Every motion in this column has the effect of suspending some rule or established right of deliberative assemblies and therefore requires a two-thirds vote, unless a special rule to the contrary is adopted.
2. Undebatable if made when another question is before the assembly.
3. An Amendment may be either 1. By "adding"; or 2. By "striking out" words or paragraphs; or 3. By "striking out certain words and inserting others"; or 4. By "substituting" a different motion on the same subject; or 5. By "dividing the question" into two or more questions, as specified by the mover, so as to get a separate vote on any particular point or points.

II. COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY

A. Voting Rights and Eligibility: Only full-time members of the teaching or library faculty (including those on phased employment) eligible to vote at Faculty Meetings (see Part One [Faculty Rights and Responsibilities], Article XX [Faculty Governance]) may vote for, or serve as, faculty representatives on elective or appointed committees; administrators with faculty status are not eligible. Voting members of the Faculty who are on leave of absence may vote in faculty committee elections, but are not expected to serve on committees while on leave. It is understood that ballots for committee elections will be distributed only through normal College channels and that deadlines for return of ballots will not be extended for faculty on leave. The faculty members of the following comm

FEC is responsible for coordinating faculty committee work and for furthering democratic representation and committee efficiency. FEC is responsible for ensuring the proper constitution of faculty committees: it solicits nominations for, conducts elections for, and makes appointments to faculty and all-College committees; it provides advice and oversight of procedures regarding faculty appointments to search committees for senior administrative positions; and it maintains a list of all

CEPP also shall sit on the IPPC. The CEPP meets annually, and whenever necessary in the pursuit of its functions, with the appropriate committee of the Board of Trustees.

Membership: Six faculty members, two of whom must be tenured, each from a different department, elected to serve three-year terms; the Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/her designated

Membership: Four faculty members with tenure, one each from the areas of the humanities, the natural sciences, the pre-professional programs, and the social sciences, each member to be elected for a three-year term; a representative of the Office of the Dean of the Faculty, non-voting.

7. TENURE REVIEW BOARD — Elected

Function: To review a negative tenure recommendation at the request of the candidate. In the event that the Tenure Review Board determines that a tenure case requires reconsideration, the three members of the TRB will sit together with the six members of the CAPT, as the Tenure Appeal Committee, to reconsider the case.

Membership: Three tenured faculty members, each elected to serve a three-year term, at least one of whom has previously served on the CAPT. All members of the Board must have been tenured for at least two years. No two members may be from the same department. Faculty currently serving on the CAPT, CAFR or the FAB are not eligible. No member of the Tenure Review Board may sit for the review of a candidate in his/her department. The FEC will provide replacements for such reviews as needed.

8. TENURE APPEAL COMMITTEE

Function: To review a negative tenure recommendation at the request of the Tenure Review Board.

Membership: The six members of CAPT plus the three members of the Tenure Review Board. No member of the Tenure Appeal Committee may sit for the review of a candidate in his/her department. The FEC will provide replacements for such reviews as needed.

9. HONORS FORUM COUNCIL — Elected

Function: The ongoing responsibilities of the Honors Forum Council include reviewing applications for membership and inducting new members, monitoring the eligibility standards for current members, planning and sponsoring academic and co-curricular events, developing a sufficient number of courses and co-curricular events for inclusion among the "honors" resources, communicating with the wider community of students and faculty regarding Forum opportunities and the achievements of honors (and other) students, and assessing the effectiveness of the Honors Forum in achieving its goals.

Membership: Four faculty, three elected for three-year terms and one who chairs the Council and serves as Director of the Honors Forum for a four-year term; the Associate Dean of Student Affairs; the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising; the Associate Dean of the Faculty; the President or a designated representative of the Periclean Honor Society; two other students appointed from members of the Forum; one student selected by SGA.

10. UNIVERSITY WITHOUT WALLS COMMITTEE — Elected

Function: To participate in all aspects of the UWW by determining academic policies and procedures, admitting and dismissing students, approving degree plans and fi

on an initial willingness-to-serve pool, the vote of the faculty, and, when necessary, the need for appointing a representative FAB. Members of the FAB may not serve concurrently on the CAFR, the CAPT or the TRB.

15. ADVISORY PANEL (AP) – Appointed

3. The dates of the final examination periods are announced early in the semester. No student should make arrangements to leave the College before checking the examination schedule. All examinations must be taken within the examination period except in case of emergency, which must be reported to the Registrar and Department concerned.
4. Self-scheduled examinations are to be picked up at and returned to the place previously arranged with the instructor of the course.
5. Written final examinations may not be given in whole or in part prior to the scheduled examination period.

B. Class Attendance

1. Instructors will make known to their classes their policy concerning the effect of absence on the student's grade. Students are not automatically entitled to a certain number of absences.
2. Instructors may bar from a final examination any student whose absence they consider excessive or whose class work is not deserving of credit. Any student who misses more than a third of the sessions may expect to be barred from final examination. In such cases, the course grade will be recorded as F.
3. Instructors who observe frequent absence or tardiness of a student in their classes should report this to the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising.

C. Grading

1. These policies are printed in the College Bulletin and may change only by vote of the Faculty.
2. Grades should be submitted to the Registrar according to a schedule set by the Registrar. Faculty members are asked to record grades on official form

the request. Ideally, the student and faculty member should then meet to discuss the final grade in question. If the communication between the instructor and student results in the instructor requesting to change a grade, then the instructor must submit a petition to change the grade to the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising and the petition must be brought before the Committee on Academic Standing

consultation with the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising and the department chair or program director, may recommend to the faculty member changing the grade to Satisfactory.

If the faculty member rejects the recommendation of the Dean of the Faculty, Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising, and the appropriate department chair or program director, to change the final failing grade to a passing grade or to Satisfactory, the Dean of the Faculty, with the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising, may submit a petition to change the grade to the CAS for consideration. Only the faculty representatives on CAS have the authority to change the final failing grade to Satisfactory, and only following a vote where the majority of those faculty representatives on CAS approves the change.

A student's failure to meet time limits will result in denial of the student's appeal. If the faculty member, department chair, program director or dean fails to meet a deadline, the appeal will move to the next level.

E. Peer Evaluations of Teaching

Each department shall establish a timetable and procedures for visiting classes taught by untenured departmental colleagues and discussing with them observations derived from visitations.

F. Student Evaluations

1. All-College Student Evaluations

a. All members of the Faculty will have their courses evaluated each term by students enrolled in their courses. The evaluation shall be administered in a uniform manner which protects confidentiality. The Dean of the Faculty will provide the forms to each department.

b. Each term, Department Chairs shall return the completed evaluations to the Dean of the Faculty, who shall be responsible for processing the evaluations. The Dean of the Faculty shall return the summaries to the Department Chairs for retention in department files.

c. Summaries shall be made available each term to the faculty being evaluated.

d. The evaluations shall be available to the Dean of the Faculty, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and to the President for their examination during consideration of reappointment, tenure, promotions, or salary advancement. In addition, the evaluations shall be available to CAPT for its examination during consideration for reappointment, promotions, or tenure.

e. Faculty members have a right to receive fair and honest evaluations. A faculty member who feels this right has been violated may pursue the matter through any of several channels (Department Chair, Dean of the Faculty, CAFR, etc.) that seem appropriate to the particular case.

2. Departmental Student Evaluations

Student evaluations administered by departments or programs are required for all lecture, discussion, laboratory, and studio courses. At the discretion of the instructor, departmental evaluation forms may also be used to evaluate independent studies, internships, and thesis or individual research courses. These evaluations should be administered in such a way as to ensure validity, responsibility, and, where possible, confidentiality.

a. Validity shall mean that the methods each department may devise for its own needs be likely to produce nearly complete returns from each class.

b. Responsibility shall mean that students sign the essay evaluation forms they fill out, and that no anonymous evaluation essay be accepted. Although signatures must be separated from the completed forms

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PART THREE

ALL-COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

Membership: For academic integrity cases, two faculty members appointed by FEC on a case-by-case basis, drawn from the pool of faculty who serve on the Integrity Board but who have not heard the case in question; the Dean of the Faculty as Chair; and two students serving on the Integrity Board who were not party to the initial hearing. For social integrity cases, one faculty member appointed by

II. STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES

A. Preamble

The Student Government Association (SGA) was established in 1990 "to establish and maintain conditions of student life conducive to good scholarship, intelligent citizenship, benevolent service and individual growth." (Preamble, SGA Constitution.) Full-time matriculated and full-time non-matriculated students

I have not witnessed any wrongdoing nor have I personally violated any conditions of the Skidmore College Honor Code while taking this examination.

Students should hand-write this statement on their exam booklets or papers and sign the statement if it is true. Failure on the part of the student to write the statement or to sign it indicates that the faculty member responsible should speak to the student about possible Honor Code violations.

4. It is essential that there be mutual confidence and understanding between faculty and students. Faculty members can help students by discussing with them desirable forms of cooperation and assistance among students and by showing them the difference, for example, between mere copying from sources and legitimate use of reference material. Any problems or questions which arise relating to the application of the honor system should be discussed with the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising.

B. Violations of the Honor Contract

1. In case an academic infraction of the honor system comes to the attention of a member of the Faculty, the situation should be dealt with in one of the following ways:

a. The matter may be handled directly with the individual concerned if the faculty member believes that the best results can be achieved in this way, that any recurrence of the offense is unlikely, and the student acknowledges responsibility. The faculty member's response should be shaped by the sections of the Academic Information Guide and the Student Handbook on "Academic Integrity: Definitions and Guidelines for Penalties."

i. A confidential report must be made to the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising of any case handled personally by a faculty member.

ii. If more than one honor code violation is reported for a particular student, the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising may take further disciplinary action or refer the case to the Integrity Board or request an administrative hearing.

b. The matter may be referred to the Integrity Board by the faculty member.

2. In case of a violation of the social honor code, the faculty member may follow the procedure described in 1.a. above or consult with the Associate Dean of Student Affairs/Judicial Counsel to the Integrity Board on possible action before the Integrity Board.

C. Administrative Discipline

The Dean of Student Affairs may call an administrative hearing if it is deemed appropriate and may impose disciplinary sanctions. Pending action on the charges, in most cases the status of students shall not be altered, nor their rights to be present on the campus to attend classes suspended. However, in cases when student conduct might affect the safety or well-being

Faculty seeking parental leave should file a Disability Reporting Form with Human Resources, available online at:

http://cms.skidmore.edu/hr/forms/upload/STD_Form.pdf

IV. TUITION BENEFITS

The College offers a number of tuition programs to full-time faculty, to include:

- Matriculated Students at Skidmore College
- Non-Matriculated Students at Skidmore College
- Students at Other Colleges (for employee's children who are dependents under the IRS code)
- Students in University Without Walls

A complete description of the tuition programs offered, including eligibility and waiting periods, if any, can be found in the Skidmore College Employee Benefit Plans summary, which is available in Human Resources. Visit the following web addresses for further information:

Skidmore College Employee Benefit Plans Summary:

<http://cms.skidmore.edu/hr/benefits/index.cfm>

Tuition Benefit Frequently Asked Questions and The Tuition Exchange Program:

<http://cms.skidmore.edu/hr/benefits/tuition-exchange-program.cfm>

V. RETIREMENT

A. Definition

A full-time faculty member who has attained a minimum age of 55, with at least 15 years of continuous full-time service and who leaves the employ of the College, is considered to be retired from the College.

All full-time faculty who retire are accorded emeritus status and are invited to attend and participate in official activities of the College, to use the Scribner Library, Computer Services, and laboratory facilities, when available, and the College's fitness and recreational facilities.

B. Basic Retirement Plan

Faculty who teach at least nine credit hours in an academic year are eligible for the Basic Retirement Plan after one year of employment. The College will recognize time spent previously employed at a postsecondary degree granting institution, or a qualified research organization which is considered tax-exempt under code 501c(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, toward the one-year waiting period as long as the employee has participated in his or her previous employer's 401(a), 403(a) or 403(b) basic retirement plan and has been employed for at least one consecutive year. The previous employer must confirm participation in one of the above mentioned basic retirement plans and certify the term of such employment to the College.

Please refer to the *Retirement Plan Overview* for full plan details. The *Overview* can be obtained from Human Resources and at the following web address:

<http://cms.skidmore.edu/hr/benefits/retirement.cfm>

C. Early Retirement

The Skidmore College Supplemental Retirement Plan is available to those eligible employees who were in the College's employ on November 15, 1990. All such employees were vested in the plan's basic benefit after five full years of service to the College. Employees between the ages of 55 and 63, with 12 or more years of service, may elect to retire and receive a supplemental benefit in addition to their basic retirement benefit.

For full plan details, please refer to the *Early Retirement Plan Summary Plan*, which can be obtained from Human Resources.

D. Phased Employment

The Phased Employment Program was designed for faculty who, through a pre-retirement reduction of their full-time teaching commitment, can gradually phase into retirement over a period of years. Participation in the program is not an entitlement. The program is voluntary for both the employee and College, and all terms or arrangements will be mutually agreed upon and documented.

Participants must be in active status or on an approved leave of absence to apply for this benefit. The employee's age and length of service must combine to equal not less than 70, with a minimum age of 50 and a minimum of 15 years of employment. All participants must retire at the completion of the agreed upon period.

Faculty who are full-time for the entire academic year and who meet the above criteria are eligible to apply for this program. Further details may be obtained from Human Resources or at the following web address:

<http://cms.skidmore.edu/hr/policies/upload/PhasedEmploymentProgram1-2007.pdf>

E. Post-Retirement Health Benefits

Different levels of health care benefits are provided to those employees who are considered retirees of the College. A full description of these benefits may be obtained from Human Resources or at the following web address:

III. THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVANCEMENT

The Vice President for Advancement is elected by the Board upon the nomination of the President and is the chief officer under the President for Development, Communications, and Alumni Affairs. The Vice President for Advancement is responsible for all duties assigned by the President which, typically, include development of institutional support and resources, oversight of the College's communications and marketing efforts, and the coordination of programming for alumni.

IV. THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

A. The Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

The Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA) is appointed by the Board of Trustees upon the nomination of the President and serves as the College's Chief Academic Officer. In this capacity, the VPAA advises the President on all issues that fall within the wide purview of academic matters with regard to personnel, budget, and curriculum. The VPAA has administrative responsibility for addressing such issues. Additional matters may be assigned by the President. The VPAA represents the President to both internal and external constituencies at the behest of the President and normally serves as the Acting President in the President's absence.

The Dean of the Faculty and the Dean of Special Programs report directly to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Both deans sit on a six-member VPAA Senior Staff. Four other staff members report directly to the VPAA: the Registrar and Director of Institutional Research, the Director of the Tang Teaching Museum, the Chief Technology Officer, and the College Librarian.

The VPAA works closely with and considers recommendations from the CAPT regarding faculty tenure and promotion candidacies. The VPAA presents to the President his or her decisions with regard to each candidate's case. The VPAA also works with the CAPT and the President in determining appointments to the College's endowed chairs. More broadly, the VPAA works with the CAPT and the Dean of the Faculty on other matters of concern to the Faculty and may consult with the CAPT on issues pertinent to faculty personnel issues. The VPAA is the College's chief assessment officer; works closely with the Faculty Executive Committee in annually updating the Faculty Handbook; chairs all searches for deans and directors who report to the VPAA; and reports on academic issues at the monthly Faculty Meeting. The VPAA also works closely with the Dean of Special Programs in overseeing the many initiatives of that office and representing the Office of Special Programs and the College at an array of summer programs, institutes, workshops and performances.

The VPAA works directly with the Vice President for Advancement in matters of fundraising, donor relations, alumni, and the stewardship of endowed chairs. He or she also works directly with the Vice President for Finance and Administration in representing Academic Affairs and preparing all budgetary matters. The VPAA works closely with the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees in preparing agendas and discussing pertinent issues of personnel, budget, and curriculum with the Committee.

B. Academic Staff

Academic Staff consists of Department Chairs, single-discipline and interdisciplinary Program Directors, the Associate Dean of the Faculty, the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising, the Registrar and Director of Institutional Research — that is, all those reporting directly to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and to the Dean of the Faculty — as well as others whose work is directly in support of academic programming, such as the Director of Academic Technologies, the Director of the UWW Program, and the Director of the MALS Program. In monthly meetings, information of direct relevance to

academic programs is shared. Academic Staff serves to advise the Vice President for Academic Affairs regarding programs and policies in or pertaining to academic affairs at the College.

V. THE DEAN OF THE FACULTY

The Dean of the Faculty (DOF) is appointed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs and is responsible for all matters assigned by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, which generally include the following: enhancing the quality of the Faculty and, in consultation with Department Chairs, making new appointments to the Faculty (subject to the approval of the VPAA), conferring with the Faculty

arts for pre-professional, professional, community and non-residential students. The Dean is charged with enriching and strengthening the intellectual life of the College, and works across age and community cohorts to bring to the College innovation and experimentation, entrepreneurship and service to its academic enterprise, and is responsible for ensuring that such programs are planned and executed in pursuit of the College's mission. The Dean of Special Programs leads policy and program development for Special Programs and cultivates the College's relationship to surrounding communities and regions through educational programming. During the summer months, the Dean of Special Programs supervises a broad range of innovative programs as well as the use of academic and residential facilities.

The Dean of Special Programs appoints the Director of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program and the Director of the University Without Walls Program. Each is responsible for all operations under his/her auspices. The Dean of Special Programs appoints the Director of Summer Conferences and Community Education, who is responsible for partnership and hosting relationships, including the use of residential facilities during the summer; the Director of Summer Sessions and Summer Special Programs, who is responsible for pre-college and college-level credit-bearing programs; and the Director of Development for the Office of the Dean of Special Programs, who is responsible for resource mobilization across Special Programs. The Dean of Special Programs appoints all Program and Institute Directors, as well as faculty for summer programs.

VII. THE DEAN OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Dean of Student Affairs is responsible for all matters assigned by the President, which include all student life programs at the College. Together with his/her staff, the Dean of Student Affairs is responsible for athletics; residential life policies and programs; counseling and health services; student participation in College governance; social, recreational, and cultural programming; career planning; religious life programs; international and ALANA student concerns.

The Dean and his/her staff work with the Dean of the Faculty to create effective programs for student and faculty orientation and academic support services.

The Dean of Student Affairs appoints the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Director of the Office of Student Academic Services. He/she is responsible for all matters assigned by the Dean of Student Affairs, including the HEOP/AOP programs and academic support services. He/she works with faculty, the DOS, the Director of FYE, the Registrar, and other administrative offices to promote academic success.

The Dean of Student Affairs appoints the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Director of Residential Life. He/she is responsible for all matters regarding student life assigned by the Dean of Student Affairs, which typically include Residential Life and the Social Integrity Board. The Associate Dean also works with the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising, Director of FYE, Campus Safety, Facilities, Health Services, the Counseling Center, and Dining Services to promote student health, safety, engagement, and satisfaction.

The Dean of Student Affairs appoints the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Director of Campus Life. He/she is responsible for all matters regarding student life assigned by the Dean of Student Affairs, which typically include Leadership Activities, Religious Life, volunteer and Community Service, the Intercultural Center, and ALANA Student Affairs. The Associate Dean also works with the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Academic Advising, Director of FYE, and the Honors Forum in the pursuit of academic excellence.

VIII. THE DEAN OF ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID

The Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid is appointed by the President and sits on the President's Cabinet. He/She holds broad responsibility for managing the recruitment, admission, enrollment and retention of a talented and diverse student body. The Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid also oversees

those publications and communications efforts of the College which shape its image in the eyes of its key external constituencies. The Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid works closely with the President's Staff to assure maximum coordination among the many areas in which the College presents itself to the broader

3. After reading the letters of evaluation and before writing the summary report, the review committee will meet separately with the officer under review and the President.
4. The summary report will be given to the officer under review no later than April 1st. A discussion of the report with the committee shall be scheduled for the officer being reviewed shortly thereafter, but in any case no later than May 1st.
5. The President and the Chairperson of the Review Committee will meet with the CAPT to provide an oral report summarizing the results of the review. The members of the CAPT shall be bound by its rules of confidentiality in not discussing the report with any individuals outside the CAPT, or disseminating its contents in any manner.
6. The CAPT will have the responsibility of monitoring the review process.

Confidentiality

It is extremely important that the rights of both the Officer being reviewed and those providing comments be protected. Strict rules of confidentiality are, therefore, necessary.

1. All proceedings of the Review Committee will be held in the strictest confidence. Members of the committee will be asked to accept the same code of confidentiality that is adopted by the members of CAPT and CAFR.

PART SIX

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY, AND ANTI-HARASSMENT:
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

I. INTRODUCTION

Part Six communicates the philosophy and perspective of Skidmore College regarding issues of equal employment opportunity, diversity, and anti-harassment. It also presents the College's policies, objectives, and plans for maintaining its status as an equal opportunity employer and educator and for supporting its goal of extending the diversity of our community. While some of the policies outlined in Part Six are required for legal compliance, others are internally motivated and reflect our commitment to an inclusive and hospitable working and learning environment.

Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations prohibit discrimination against employees or applicants for employment based on race, color, religion, gender, age, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state, or local laws. The College fully supports these prohibitions and has adopted policies reflecting its commitment to non-discrimination and equal opportunity in its employment and educational practices.⁷

For more information on Equal Employment Opportunity laws, please visit these sites:

<http://www.eeoc.gov/policy/laws.html>

<http://www.eeoc.gov/>

Skidmore College's equal opportunity and diversity policies further apply to the recruitment and admission of its students, to the administration of its educational policies and programs, and to the recruitment and retention of its faculty and staff. They apply, in addition, to all individuals and organizations associated with, or doing business with or for, Skidmore College.

Part Six of this Handbook is subject to periodic review, evaluation, and modification (see Article IV, A). The policies and philosophy, however, constitute a firm commitment to the principles of equal opportunity for all members of the college.

II. ACADEMIC FREEDOM

In the context of the policies outlined in Part Six, the College reaffirms its commitment to its long tradition of supporting the academic and personal freedom of all members of the community. In particular, the policy against harassment shall not be applied in a manner that contradicts the principle of academic freedom: faculty and other members of the community are entitled to freedom in research, and faculty members are entitled to freedom in the classroom to pursue controversial matters related to their disciplines. However, this right to teach controversial material entails the responsibility that it be carried out in a way that would be judged by peers as not violating the College's anti-harassment policy. (For the College's complete statement on Academic Freedom, see Part One, Article III of this Handbook.)

⁷ Gender identity and expression, while protected under Skidmore College policy, are not currently protected under federal, state, or local laws.

III. SUMMARY STATEMENTS OF POLICY

A. Policy on Equal Employment Opportunity

Skidmore College affirms that its community members have the right to be free from acts of unlawful discrimination. The following statement of policy on equal employment opportunity affirms Skidmore College's commitment to the principle of equal employment opportunity in education and employment:

Equal Employment Opportunity Policy

Skidmore College is committed to being an inclusive campus community and an Equal Opportunity Employer. The College therefore prohibits discrimination against any individual or group of its students, prospective students, employees, or candidates for employment on the basis of race, color, religion, age, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression,⁸ or any other category protected by applicable federal, state, or local laws.

B. Policy on Diversity

The principal mission of Skidmore College is the education of predominantly full-time undergraduates – a diverse population of talented students who are eager to engage actively in the learning process (*Skidmore College Mission Statement*). Fulfillment of this mission entails building an academic community based upon mutual respect and openness to ideas, one in which individuals value differences in perspective. Fostering such a community requires the active recruitment and retention of students, faculty, and staff members of diverse backgrounds and cultural heritages.

To read the *Skidmore College Mission Statement* in its entirety please visit:

<http://www.skidmore.edu/planning/index.htm>

Appreciation of diversity is fundamental to a liberal arts education that aims to foster the growth of the whole person in an environment of respect and understanding for different experiences and backgrounds. A diverse community provides each of us with the opportunity to learn from the experiences of others and to submit our own values and assumptions to critical examination. We learn to understand others and ourselves better in an environment that encourages deepened appreciation of other cultures, perspectives, and lived experiences.

The following statement of diversity policy affirms the College's commitment to increasing the diversity within the various groups that constitute our academic community:

Diversity Policy

Skidmore College's learning and working communities are strengthened by the diversity of their members. Accordingly, the College is committed to acting affirmatively to enhance the diversity of every population within the campus community: students, faculty, and staff.

To place the commitment to diversity within the context of the College's strategic goals and objectives, and as a further guide to hiring practices, please see the statement on Diversity in Hiring: Strategic Considerations:

<http://cms.skidmore.edu/hr/upload/DiversityinHiringStatement.pdf>

⁸ Gender identity and expression, while protected under Skidmore College policy, are not currently protected under federal, state, or local laws.

based on their individual accomplishments. All empl

V. PROCEDURES REGARDING EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND DIVERSITY

This article establishes procedures for implementing the policies regarding Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity at Skidmore College.

A. Scope

1. Educational Environment

In accordance with its policy on equal opportunity, Skidmore College prohibits discrimination against any students on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression,¹⁰ or

personal and/or professional contacts in an effort to broaden the diversity of candidate pools for all positions. Such outreach should occur on a regular basis, even in the absence of an immediate position vacancy.

f. All applicants for academic and nonacademic position vacancies will receive an acknowledgment of their interest in employment at Skidmore through a postcard, e-mail, or letter. Those applicants who file their applications online will receive a confirmation number as well as an on-screen acknowledgment.

g. Before any candidate in an academic search is invited for an interview (whether on or off campus), the office or department responsible for hiring will contact the ADEWD and the DOF, DSP, or VPAA, as appropriate, to review the applicant pool. If the pool is not sufficiently inclusive, the DOF, DSP, or VPAA and the ADEWD may recommend further steps.

h. At the conclusion of the interviewing phase, the office or department responsible for hiring will contact the ADEWD and the appropriate Dean or Vice President to discuss the candidates interviewed. No oral or written commitment may be made to a candidate until the ADEWD, and, in the case of academic searches, the DOF, DSP, or VPAA have agreed that appropriate equal employment opportunity procedures have been followed. If such policies and procedures have been violated, the search may be deferred.

B. Administration: Roles and Responsibilities

1. Members of President's Cabinet are responsible for the coordination of institutional efforts and resources to advance the strategic goals of increasing and retaining a diverse faculty and staff and of fostering an inclusive campus climate.

2. The ADEWD, in consultation with the DOF, the VPAA, and others as appropriate, is charged with providing leadership in recommending and implementing strategies to secure and maintain a diverse campus community of faculty and staff; coordinating institution-wide equal opportunity and diversity employment efforts, including equal employment opportunity strategies and activity on all searches; planning and initiating all education for faculty and staff on matters of equal employment opportunity, unlawful discrimination, and harassment; and coordinating this activity with related student education provided by Student Affairs staff. The ADEWD is responsible for coordinating and disseminating to

disability, veteran status, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression¹¹, or any other category protected by applicable federal, state, or local laws. These policies apply to all persons affiliated with the College including administrators, faculty members, staff members, and students.

A. Harassment Defined

Harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression¹¹, or any other category protected by federal, state, or local laws occurs when

- an individual or group of individuals is targeted with oral, written, visual, or physical insults based on that person's or group's protected status; and
- such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an employee's or student's work,

- submission to the conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic advancement (*quid pro quo* harassment);
- submission to, or rejection of, the conduct is used as the basis for employment or academic decisions affecting the individual (*quid pro quo* harassment); or
- the conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an employee's or student's work, professional or educational performance, productivity, physical security, participation in living arrangements, extracurricular activities, academic or career opportunities, services or benefits—or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or learning environment.

This definition includes verbal, non-verbal, and physical harassment. The following examples of sexual harassment are intended to be instructive but not inclusive:

- Verbal harassment may take oral or written form and may include profanity, sexual jokes or teasing, threats, whistling, cat calls, or repeated unwelcome requests for a date.
- Non-verbal harassment may include staring, blowing kisses, winking, or displaying sexually suggestive material in the work area, in the classroom, in lockers, or as screen savers on one's computer.
- Physical harassment may include touching, bumping, grabbing, cornering, or blocking passages.

Whether the alleged conduct constitutes harassment will be determined on a case-by-case basis, taking into account relevant factors, such as the nature of the conduct and the context in which the alleged incidents occurred.

Sexual harassment may occur on or off campus, including, but not limited to, the classroom (student to student, faculty to student, student to faculty) and the work setting (supervisor to employee, employee to supervisor, employee to employee, faculty to faculty, student to faculty or employee). Skidmore's policy applies to all employees and students of the College whenever they are interacting with one another. Off-campus violations may occur at campus-sponsored events or programs, such as athletic events, internship arrangements, and professional meetings, or at private events such as a party. In addition, a faculty member, staff member, administrator, or student may experience sexual harassment from a salesperson or vendor, the parent of a student, an alumna/us, visitor, or any other member of the extended College community who has contact with Skidmore faculty, staff, or student populations. Sexual harassment may take place in person, by phone, or by means of print or electronic media.

The fact that someone did not intend to sexually harass another individual may not constitute an adequate defense in response to a complaint of sexual harassment. Regardless of intent, the characteristics and effect of the behavior that determine whether the behavior constitutes sexual harassment.

C. Third-Party Sexual Harassment

It is important to recognize that sexual harassment may be injurious to a third party when that person is negatively affected by unwelcome or welcome sexual conduct between other individuals in that third party's work space or classroom – or any other setting that requires a Skidmore College employee or student to be present for purposes of work or learning.

VII. PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING COMPLAINTS OF HARASSMENT OR DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FACULTY MEMBERS

Faculty members, staff, and students should report any instances they believe to constitute harassment or discrimination. Disclosing such incidents provides the parties an opportunity for consultation with appropriate College personnel and the opportunity to resolve complaints promptly and effectively.

The procedures outlined in Article VII apply to all situations where a faculty member is accused of harassment or discrimination. Allegations against students (including part-time and full-time students who are also employees) will be resolved according to procedures outlined in the Student Handbook. Allegations against staff members (including administrators) will be resolved according to procedures outlined in the Employee Handbook.

Using the procedures outlined below, any faculty member, staff member or student who believes he or she is the victim of harassment by a member of the faculty should report the matter to one of the individuals specified in B of Article VII, all of whom are able to assist those having a harassment concern. These individuals are available to provide information about the College's harassment policy, the resolution process that the College has adopted, and appropriate actions that might be taken.

A. Definition of Terms

In the process that follows, the following terms are used:

- Complainant: the individual filing an informal or formal complaint of discrimination or harassment.
- Respondent: the individual alleged to be responsible

a. Complainant's Rights

The complainant will have the right to

- have a representative (not an attorney) present as an observer during the complaint process;
- be granted confidentiality throughout the process (as described in B above);
-

- be granted confidentiality throughout the process (as described in Section B above);
- respond to the complaint;
- review and sign his/her own statement and receive a copy;
- request mediation;
- have a meeting with the ADEWD after the informal inquiry; and to
- review a copy of the final summary of the complaint in the presence of the appropriate official.

The respondent will not have the right to

- have an attorney present;
- use any mechanical device to record the proceedings (in case of disability, the representative may be delegated to take notes);
- ask questions of the complainant or witness(es);
- review the complete complaint file and all associated documents (e.g., witnesses' statements); nor to
- receive a copy of the complete complaint file.

Any discussion during the initial interviews with the complainant or the respondent will be documented and signed by the individual making the statement and the ADEWD. The individual making the statement will be given a copy of the signed document, and the ADEWD will enter the original in the complaint file.

3. Consultation with CAFR

Any complaint involving a faculty member will be brought to the attention of the DOF by the ADEWD; any complaint involving an academic advisor in the external degree programs or an instructor in Special Programs will be brought to the attention of the DSP by the ADEWD. At that time, the DOF or DSP will confer with the Chair of CAFR to ascertain whether the complaint has to do with academic freedom and therefore should be handled by CAFR or whether the complaint has to do with harassment or discrimination, in which case the College will follow the process outlined in Part Six, Article VII of this Handbook. In making this determination, the ADEWD, the DOF or DSP, and the Chair of CAFR will consider the signed complaint and the signed response to the complaint. If there is a disagreement between the DOF or DSP and the Chair of CAFR, the VPAA will decide on the process to be followed.

D. Informal Complaint Resolution

All concerns or complaints directed to the ADEWD will be processed initially using the informal (inquiry) complaint procedure. During this stage, the ADEWD will meet separately with the complainant, the respondent, and any witnesses who may have relevant information.

1. Witnesses' Rights.

Witnesses to the complaint (other than the complainant or respondent) will have the right to

- have a representative (not an attorney) present as an observer during the complaint process;
- be granted confidentiality throughout the process (as described in B above); and to
- review and sign their own statements and receive copies.

Witnesses to the complaint (other than the complainant or respondent) will not have the right to

- have an attorney present;
- use any mechanical device to record the proceedings (in case of disability, the representative may be delegated to take notes);
- ask questions of the complainant or respondent;
- review the complete complaint file and all associated documents; nor to
- receive a copy of the complete complaint file.

Depending on the nature of the complaint, mediation may be offered. If the complainant accepts this approach, the respondent will be encouraged to participate in the mediation process. If the parties agree to a resolution, it will be documented in an agreement. Both parties will be given a copy of the agreement, and a copy will be retained with the complaint file by the ADEWD.

E. Formal Complaint Procedures

The ADEWD will notify the complainant and the respondent in writing when the informal process is concluded. If no resolution/agreement is reached during the informal stage of the complaint as outlined above, the complainant will have the right to submit a formal written complaint within 10 days to the ADEWD. The formal complaint must be signed and should be delivered (return receipt requested) to: Human Resources, Barrett Center, Skidmore College, Attn: ADEWD, 815 North Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

The formal complaint must include the following:

1. The complainant's name, address, telephone number(s), and e-mail address.
2. A complete description of all the alleged incident(s) or actions leading to the complaint.
3. Names of witnesses and information they can offer relative to the complaint.
4. Witness contact information (phone numbers, e-mail addresses).
5. All documents and other tangible evidence available to support the allegations.
6. Identification of a representative (if there is to be one) and his/her relationship to the complainant.
7. The complainant's signature and date.

F. Advisory Panel (AP)

When a faculty member is formally accused of harassment or discrimination, the College's procedures establish opportunities for other faculty members to provide advice and recommendations. Such faculty advice and recommendations will be provided through the Advisory Panel (AP) as described more fully below and in Section F.

After receiving the formal complaint against a faculty member, the ADEWD will convene the Advisory Panel.

In the case of complaints by faculty members or students against faculty members, the AP will consist of two faculty members selected by the ADEWD from the Faculty Advisory Board (FAB). The Faculty Advisory Board, which is constituted (1) by a general election and (2) by subsequent appointment by the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) in consultation with the VPAA, consists largely of tenured faculty members who will be trained in issues relating to discrimination and harassment.

In the case of complaints by staff against faculty members, the AP will consist of two tenured faculty members selected by the ADEWD from the FAB and two staff members selected by the ADEWD from a Staff Advisory Board (SAB). The Staff Advisory Board, established by the Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration and Director of Human Resources, consists of staff members trained in issues relating to discrimination and harassment.

Faculty or staff members from the same department or office as either the complainant or the respondent may not serve on the AP. Any panelist with a conflict of interest may not serve. In addition, the complainant and the respondent each may request that one of the chosen panelists be removed. A request for removal must be made in writing to the ADEWD within 10 business days of the selection of the panelists.

H. Legal Review

Upon completion of the investigation, the Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration and

The President will provide his or her decision in writing to the appellant, the other party to the original complaint as appropriate, the ADEWD, and the appropriate official. If the President reverses or modifies the recommendation(s), then the President will provide written reasons for the action. The President will make the decision within ten (10) work days of the President's receipt of the appeal.

VIII. ADDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS

A. Cooperation with Investigations and Hearings

All members of the Skidmore community (students, faculty, administrators, and staff) are expected to cooperate fully with inquiries and investigations pertaining to alleged incidents of harassment or discrimination. Expected cooperation includes providing full and honest disclosure of known facts, providing oral or written testimony, and providing letters, e-mails, voice messages, notebooks, gifts or other evidence in any such proceeding. Finally, cooperation includes the expectation that all parties to a complaint, inquiry, or investigation will maintain the confidentiality of the process and not attempt to influence any other party to the process.

B. Extension of Time Periods.

If circumstances warrant, the College reserves the right to extend any time periods identified in this policy.

C. Retaliatory Actions

Applicable law and College policy prohibit retaliation against any person reporting or thought to have reported harassment or discrimination. Retaliation is also prohibited against any person who is a witness or otherwise involved in a harassment or discrimination proceeding. Retaliation against any person shall be

D. False Allegations

The College will not tolerate false allegations of harassment. Complaints made in good faith that are found not to constitute harassment or discrimination will not be considered false allegations. However, any individual who knowingly, maliciously, or frivolously makes a false allegation of harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including separation from the College or, in the case of a students, to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.

E. For Additional Information or Assistance

Inquiries concerning the preceding policies and procedures or requests for assistance should be directed to

The Assistant Director for EEO and Workforce Diversity
Skidmore College

PART SEVEN

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