



- There was a conversation about whether external reviewers might be able to help the College see things about our operations that we are not able to see ourselves. It was noted that the NY Six Liberal Arts Consortium may provide an opportunity in that regard, as well as the next Middle States review that will occur in five years. It was further suggested, however, that while the College might gain helpful insights from external reviewers, it is also helpful if Skidmore people go to other campuses or confer with colleagues at conferences to understand different approaches on different campuses.
- In response to a question about how the external Town Hall Meetings fit with the on-campus feedback, President Glotzbach reported that transitions were a major theme at the off-campus meetings as well. He also noted that there was considerable affirmation for what the College does, as well as

There was some discussion about Question Four of the charge, which asked the Synthesis Group to identify possible misperceptions reflected in the raw data. Professor Zuerner explained that the Synthesis Group had come to recognize that it did not have the expertise necessary to identify all misperceptions. The Synthesis Group, therefore, believes that Cabinet members are in a better position to review the raw data and decide if there are misperceptions that need to be addressed. It was agreed that it would be best not to list any misperceptions under Question Four, but instead, to explain that such items would be referred to Cabinet.

IPPC and the Synthesis Group agreed on the following as next steps:

1. The Synthesis Group will revise the Preliminary Report based on feedback received from IPPC.
- 2.

Vice President for Finance and Administration Michael West reported that some colleges are beginning to announce their comprehensive fee increases . He also reported that Skidmore Trustees attending the Budget Workshop on January 28 supported the current planning directions. Most importantly, Trustees supported the adminis a non- Subcommittee held a special meeting to review budget planning parameters. That group will have one more meeting and then will bring formal recommendations to the full IPPC. He anticipates that the recommended percentage increase in the comprehensive fee will be lower than projected last year. President Glotzbach, noting that budgets are a series of compromises among moving parts, confirmed that at this point, we continue to project no GSA for FY . At this point, the budget planning has placed a premium on trying to move Skidmore out of the top 15 s list (although he noted that moving down on that list is not totally ). The Board of Trustees will approve the major budget parameters at its February meeting and give final approval to the College budget in May.

#### **5. Scribner Village Replacement Update**

Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun reported that program planning for the proposed Scribner Village replacement continues. As previously reported, the conceptual plans have moved from one large building to serve as the replacement to one traditional dorm with singles, doubles and quads, plus a smaller number of Scribner Village-like townhouses. This concept would allow the College to develop multi- 100 additional students back to campus. The architects are developing an approach to a health and wellness facility which could be presented as an add-on, although Dean Calhoun expressed her hope that it could be incorporated in the design and building of the initial new residence hall. The planning group has received very preliminary cost estimates from the architects, and those figures will be refined in the coming weeks. The College also has asked the architect for an explicit articulation of the sustainability elements incorporated in the design.

Dean Calhoun noted that this is not only an exciting building project, but a key to the on campus are anticipated in the

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