

DATE: July 2001

TO: Skidmore Community

FROM: Lorraine Bittel, Chair

SUBJECT: Benefits Committee 2000-2001 Annual Report

First, please accept my apologies for the lateness in getting this report out to you - I'm afraid time rather got away from me! This was a relatively quiet year for the Benefits Committee; we met seven times during the academic year and addressed the following items:

**Healthcare Plans:** While prescription and medical costs continue to climb nationally, the 2001 benefits under all three Skidmore healthcare plans were able to remain unchanged. This was achieved in part by the increase in the brand name drug co-payments a year ago, and the belief that the number of large medical claims which occurred in calendar year 2000 would decrease in 2001. The Committee is very conscious of the desire to continue to provide the same level of coverage to our Community, and we continue to investigate different ways to continue to achieve this in the face of continuously rising costs.

**Committee Training:** Kathy Carter continued to hold mini informational training and updating sessions for the Committee in various areas, so that members could become more familiar with benefits as a whole, thereby being able to answer questions from members of the College community.

**Constituency Questions:** The Committee addressed several issues brought to us by members of the Community, some which fell under our umbrella, and some which did not:

**Affordable Child Care**

The question of childcare that was affordable to all members of the College community at the Greenberg

of our medical copayments has not risen. The use of the Healthcare Reimbursement Account to help defray

Faculty:

Denise Smith (2002) voting

James Kennelly (2003) (Chairperson) voting

Patricia Colby (2004) (on leave Fall '01 - replacement TBA) voting

Support Staff:

Lorraine Bittel (2002) voting

Anne Petruzzelli (2003) voting

Janis Petroski (2004) voting