

**Amherst College faculty governance notes**  
**April Bernard**

Historical dominance of faculty in governance structure—a traditional fact there, somewhat challenged

### 3. The Standing Committees are:

\* Faculty Affairs Committee (our FEC) oversees the general welfare of the faculty, runs election and makes appointments to standing and/or ad hoc committees and task forces. President of the Faculty is on the committee.

\* Faculty Personnel Committee (our CAPT). President and Dean are members of the Committee. If a committee member is from the same department as a candidate, she recuses herself but is replaced with a former member of the committee from the same discipline. The replacement does not participate in discussions and does not vote but serves as a resource person.

\* Education and Curriculum Committee (somewhat our Curriculum Committee).

\* Faculty Curriculum and Planning Committee (our CEPP). Membership: Dean, Assoc. Dean, and elected faculty members of Education and Curriculum Committee.

\* College Council (our IPPC) formulates non-curricular policies.

\* Faculty Judiciary Committee for faculty discipline issues.

#### Other Committees:

Budget Committee

Faculty Grants Comm. embersFa k(t)-6(s)-5( )JTJ 0.002te1(tj EMLTJ -3t)-6(8CID 18 >>BDC -0.91 cs

formed by the BOT constitute the “Joint Conference Committee,” e t





*or larger community, or to society directly is considered as an extension of professional responsibility to the conditions and consequences of teaching and learning and may be taken into account as it pertains to the purposes and program of the College.*

--excerpted from the Swarthmore Faculty Handbook

## **Williams College faculty governance notes**

### **Paul Sattler**

#### Faculty Meetings

- Meetings are held one WEDNESDAY each month at 4:00.
- Agenda is set by the President and the Faculty Steering Committee (like our FEC).
- At each Faculty meeting there is an open Q&A period.

#### Elections

- Elections for the faculty positions on several standing committees — the CAP (like our CAPT), CEP (like our CEPP), Faculty Steering Committee (like our FEC), Faculty Compensation Committee, and Faculty Review Panel (like our TRB)— take place at faculty meetings.
- Balloting for nominations occurs during a Faculty meeting.
- The election then occurs at the following month's meeting.
- Voting ballots are cast and counted (and results announced) during the meeting.

#### Committees

- There are two types of committees at Williams College: standing and non-standing.
- Standing committees are permanent committees created by a vote of the Faculty, and change in composition requires Faculty approval.
- Non-standing committees are not permanent and can be created without a vote of the Faculty.
- Each Spring, Faculty are asked to indicate their preferences for assignments to committees.
- Term for most committees is two years (except CAP, which is three years).

#### Faculty Steering Committee

- The FSC is most broadly and directly responsible for representing Faculty concerns.
- The FSC sets the Faculty meeting agenda with the President.
- The President consults with the FSC on appointments of the DoF, Provost, Dean of College, and other administrative positions.
- The FSC meets periodically with the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

A list of Williams' many permanent committees:

note: the numbers indicate (# of Faculty – # of Administration/Staff – # of Students):

#### Committees Dealing with Faculty Appointments and Promotions

Committee on Appointments and Promotions (CAP) (3-3-0)

Faculty Interviewing Panel (6-0-0) This group weighs in on every Faculty hire. No administrators.

Faculty Review Panel (12-0-0)

Committees Dealing with Faculty Governance

Faculty Steering Committee (FSC) (6-0-0)

Committees Dealing with Intellectual Life and the Curriculum

Advisory Committee for Jewish Cultural & Academic Events Chapin Library Committee  
(3-2-0)

Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) (7-4-6)

Committee for Human Sexuality and Diversity Faculty Lecture Series Committee(3-0-0)

Honorary Degrees Committee (3-2-4 and Trustees)

Information Technology Committee (ITC) (4-5-3)

Lecture Committee (4-0-4)

Library Committee (3-4-3)

Winter Study Program Committee (5-1-4)

Committees Dealing with Institutional Policy and Resources

Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility (ACSR) (2-2-2 and Alumni)

Calendar and Schedule Committee (3-2-3)

Campus Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) (4-3-6)

College and Community Advisory Committee (3-5-3)

Committee on Admission and Financial Aid (CAFA) (4-10-0) Committee on Diversity and Community (CDC) (8-2-8)

Committee on Priorities and Resources (CPR) (4-4-3)

Faculty Compensation Committee (FCC)

First, as noted, three members of Senior Staff — Dean of the Faculty, Provost, and Dean of the College — are appointed from the faculty after consultation by the President with the Faculty Steering Committee and then normally return to the faculty ranks after the completion of their terms (typically three to six years). While the resulting frequency of turnover entails some drawbacks, the arrangement improves communication and understanding between the administration and the faculty, not least because the people appointed to those three senior administrative positions remain members of the faculty and already have considerable experience working with their colleagues in a variety of ways. As a result, there is much less of a perception of separation between faculty and administration at Williams than at other colleges and universities (Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) *Faculty Survey* for 2004-2005, pp. 25-6, in Team Room), which in turn enhances their ability to work collaboratively. This arrangement for filling senior administrative positions also benefits the College by creating a pool of experienced faculty leaders who can continue to serve their departments and the College as a whole after the completion of their administrative terms. Indeed, the significant number of former deans and provosts from Williams who over the past few decades have become presidents of liberal arts colleges attests to the effectiveness of this system of developing faculty leadership.

By providing multiple venues for collaborative work and the sharing of views between faculty members and administrators, this committee structure ensures that the faculty has extensive input into the formulation and implementation of policies in all areas of College life and that it plays an important role in the management and oversight of