

FEC's Report of the 2005-06 meetings of the Committee of Committees
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May 17, 2006

A second difficulty is in the ongoing disagreement between the administrators of the HEOP program, on one hand, and the Dean of the Faculty and the Director of the FYE, on the other. HEOP is delivering a program now that had depended for its success on a summer preparation course for LS1. The replacement of the LS curriculum with the FYE meant that HEOP would be facing a need to adapt to the new program; FYE cannot sustain a cluster of "Human Dilemmas" sections of First Year Seminars in the long term. We urge the VPAA to resolve this persistent difficulty as soon as possible.

Third, the office of Special Programs is now under Academic Affairs, but the relation between Special Programs and the Office of International Programs, as well as the general question of what the role of Special Programs is in academic affairs, including its relations with faculty committees like CEPP and Curriculum Committee, need to be worked out. We recognize that the new Dean of Special Programs has had to assess the program's strengths and weaknesses before determining its future direction. But we hope that the Dean of Special Programs will work closely with relevant faculty committees in the coming year. We note that the recently advertised director-level position in the Office of Special Programs was not vetted by CAPT, nor by IPPC prior to recent deliberations on the budget.

Fourth, while IPPC members gratefully noted a vast improvement in the timely delivery of materials to its members, difficulties remain. The late distribution of documents still hinders substantive discussion by faculty. In addition, IPPC is a large, somewhat unwieldy committee, whose meetings—with the recent notable exception of the budget deliberations—have consequently been more informational than deliberative. Members of the President's cabinet, moreover, come to meetings already familiar with, and knowledgeable about, the items on the agenda. Finally, the committee needs to clarify in its operating code the level(s) of confidentiality of the committee's business, and ensure that the levels are not so restrictive as to impede effective faculty representation on the committee.

Finally, FEC has enjoyed excellent relations with the Deans and the VPAA, and has formalized the vetting of Board of Trustee Observer notes by the President and agreed to providing an advance copy of this very C of C report to the President. But FEC has noted

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