

FACULTY MEETING
April 27, 2012

changes proposed above aim to encourage faculty input in the shaping of the agenda, to ensure more time to prepare for the meetings, and to make room for discussion as a regular part of faculty meetings. These changes, combined, should make the meetings feel less merely informational and more deliberative and meaningful.

Some background:

This motion and its rationale are informed by our discussions with various members of the community. In fall 2011, we began with a survey of the faculty to gauge faculty sentiment on the matter. We also met with the Dean of Faculty and the Vice President for Academic Affairs (who spoke on behalf of the President as well). We reviewed the history of past attempts (by FEC and CFG) to rethink structure and vetted a few proposals submitted to us that aimed to modify the meeting structure. This semester, we hosted a faculty-only forum on the subject of faculty meetings; we invited Professor Susan Walzer to speak to FEC about faculty culture at Skidmore, and we conferred again with the VPAA and the DOF. We have also run our work by the college's Parliamentarian. This motion—coupled with the attached report, which outlines recommendations that do not change our by-

--The Office of the DOF/VPAA (or the appropriate committee chair or member of the faculty or administration) will send out documents pertinent to the agenda on Wednesday before the Faculty Meeting. This should give those attending more time to prepare for thoughtful, informed deliberation.

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