


**Report to the**  
**Faculty, Administration, Trustees, Students**  
**of**  
**SKIDMORE COLLEGE**  
**Saratoga Springs, NY 12866**

**By**

**An Evaluation Team representing the**  
**Middle States Commission on Higher Education**

Prepared after study of the institution's self study report  
And a visit to the campus on March 6-9, 2016

**The Members of the Team:**

Chair: Janet Morgan Riggs, President, Gettysburg College,  
300 North 

**AT THE TIME OF THE VISIT**

**President:**

Dr. Philip A. Glotzbach

**Chief Academic Officer:**

Dr. Beau Breslin, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty

**Chair of the Board of Trustees:**

Linda G. Toohey

Former Executive Vice President,  
Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce  
Saratoga Springs, New York

**I. Content and Nature of the Visit**

Skidmore College is a



**Non binding suggestions for improvement:**

The visiting team suggests:

- ◁ A new "considering difference" requirement (to replace the former culture centered

- ◁ The Alumni Learning Census (ALC) is a notable assessment tool for graduates, and the College should be especially proud of graduates' perceptions regarding the importance of writing and the enhancement

**Non binding suggestions for improvement:**

The visiting team suggests:

- ◁ Conducting a space utilization study and developing a campus wide plan that focuses on spaces that will promote and facilitate integrative learning and provide faculty and staff with opportunities to explore new pedagogies and technologies.
- ◁ A continued focus on prioritizing the financing and construction of the Center for Integrated Sciences and communicating progress on this important initiative regularly to the College community.
- ◁ Renovations to the Tisch Learning Center to address faculty and student needs for flexible space, the use of technology, and collaboration.

**Chapter IV**  
**Diversity and Inclusion**

**Summary of evidence and findings:**

- ◁ The faculty and staff at Skidmore recognize that diversity and inclusion are important aspects of their Goals for Student Learning and Development and are critically important in advancing integrative learning. In exploring these areas in the curriculum and in the co curriculum, students will not only learn about difference, multiple/intersectional identities and social justice, but they can also strengthen their critical thinking and writing abilities, their verbal communication skills, and their knowledge of ethical perspectives. These aspects of academic learning and skill building are vital to active participation in a global society and to addressing real world problems.
- ◁ Despite their successful efforts to further diversify the population of students, facc22950TIn Student E20030TD.5

**Non binding suggestions for improvement:**

The visiting team suggests:

- < Centralizing and coordinating the various diversity and inclusion efforts across campus. The new Chief Diversity Officer position should be helpful in providing such centralization and coordination.
- < Addressing the need to increase the percentages of ALANA students and faculty on campus, with attention to both recruitment and retention.
- < Continued consideration of alternative pathways to diversifying the faculty, including opportunity hires and hiring faculty at advanced rank.
- < Consideration of the development of an Africana Studies Program, which would not only provide a strong addition to the curriculum, but could also assist in the recruitment







