

VN College Council

COLLEGE COUNCIL
END OF YEAR REPORT

FALL 2013-SPRING 2014

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LETTER FROM YOUR 2013-2014 COLLEGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS

Williams:

Thank you. Thank you for believing in us. And thank you for allowing us to serve you this past year; it has been one of the greatest honors bestowed upon us.

This has been a challenging year for us all. When we began our tenure, we immediately had a financial crisis on our hands. We were very fortunate, though, for the students you elected in the spring, all of whom played a tremendous role in finding tangible ways to allow CC to continue to run and fund all of your amazing acapella performances, lectures, dances, and everyday group meetings. Today, CC's finances are strong. We focused a tremendous amount of time looking through every single budget for the last few fiscal years, forecasted where our finances would be throughout the year--and in future years--established a new method of seeking co-sponsorship funding, and ensured that the Council continued to keep its finances as a priority. Additionally, we decided to pay for every student organization's legacy debt, thus allowing everyone, for the first time in many years, to begin with a clean budget. We hope that this will allow student organizations to put on even more productions on campus throughout the year.

We also ensured we continued to listen to you and worked on the items you wanted us to focus on. The Council spent many meetings debating resolutions proposed by the student body, appointed students from many different backgrounds and experiences onto a plethora of new task forces and committees established this year, and ensured that we didn't forget who we were representing throughout the year.

It has been an amazing experience, one neither of us could have ever imagined when we decided to run last spring. We've seen Williams through many different lenses and we have all of you to thank for that. Thank you again for electing us one year ago, for keeping us on our feet, and for working hard on your end to ensure the Council did what it was supposed to do. We've learned a lot, were constantly reminded how great Williams was through the work we were able to do, and had a great time serving you during our time on College Council.

To all the graduating seniors, congratulations, we've (almost) made it. To the underclassmen, best of luck in your future years at Williams.

To never forgetting the joy of perusing through the amazing College Council bylaws,

Adrian Castro '14 & Max Heninger '14
Your Former CC Co-Presidents

YOUR 2013-2014 COLLEGE COUNCIL

Officers

Adrian Castro '14, Co-President
Max Heninger '14, Co-President
Matt McNaughton '16, Vice President for Operations
Emily Nuckols '15, Vice President for Community and Diversity
Kate Flanagan '14, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Erica Moszkowski '15, Vice President for Student Affairs, (Spring)
Emily Calkins '14, Vice President for Student Affairs, (Fall)
Teddy Onserio '14, Vice President for Student Organizations
Emily Dzieciatko '15, Treasurer

Spring 2013

Class of 2013 Representatives

Brandon Abasolo '13
Laura Calloway '13
David Michael '13
Sam Teng '13

Fall 2014

Class of 2014 Representatives

Jacob Butts '14
April Jenkins '14
Eric Liao '14
Ben Shuham '14

Class of 2014 Representatives

Ben Fischberg '14
April Jenkins '14
Stefan Lainovic '14
Gia Recco '14

Class of 2015 Representatives

Rani Mukherjee '15
Quinn Pitcher '15
Griffith Simon '15
Ali Tafreshi '15

Class of 2015 Representatives

Ryan Barry '15
Clyde Engle '15
Shannon Hsu '15
Rani Mukherjee '15

Class of 2016 Representatives

Jessica Bernheim '16
Jesus Espinoza '16
Ellen Finch '16
Alphayo Nyarera '16

Class of 2016 Representatives

Abigale Belcrest '16
Jessica Bernheim '16
Jesús Espinoza '16
Alphayo Nyarera '16

Class of 2017 Representatives

Andrew Chou '17 (Sage)
Lucas Elek '17 (Willy)
Olivia Jackson '17 (AP)
Victoria Onuzuruike '17 (MD)

Assistant Treasurer

Brian McNamara '15

Assistant Treasurer

Nicholas Zaza '16



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College Council

Committees

College Council oversees over twenty student-faculty committees and five internal committees: the Communications Team, the Great Ideas Committee, the Finance Committee, the Student Organizations Committee, and SuperFan. The following pages detail what these committees do.

College Council Communications Team

Chair: Matt McNaughton '16 (Vice President for Operations)

The College Council Communications Team (CCCT) was established in Spring 2012 to assist with all of Council's effort to reach more students on campus. In addition to updating the CC Facebook page, maintaining an updated page on WSO, and communicating to the student body via Daily Messages, the CCCT is responsible for advertising during elections, notifying the student body when important Council initiatives are underway, maintaining the College Council website, and, of course, producing the bi-weekly "You're In The Know" bathroom newsletters!

This year, there have been multiple changes originating from the College Council Communications team designed to improve communication with the student body. They include:

- * An increased Facebook presence for College Council, including the posting of meeting agendas before meetings in order to encourage interested students to attend.
- * A new section on "You're In The Know," which is focused on updating the campus about what College Council has recently discussed in meetings.
- * A College Council Instagram!
- * A redesign of the College Council website to make it more informative and user friendly.
- * Increased utilization of the SARC in Paresky to increase communication between College Council and the student body.

If you have any other suggestions of how College Council could better communicate with the student body, please let a member of the CCCT know. We'd love to hear them!

Great Ideas Committee

Chair: Jessica Bernheim '16 (Class of 2016 Representative)

The Great Ideas Committee is a College Council Committee that discusses and implements ideas that the committee has solicited from the student body. The Committee collected ideas through a Google Form on Facebook in the Fall and worked throughout the semester to make some of them possible. The Great Ideas Committee has met with Dining Services, the Williams Outing Club, Facilities, and other bodies to implement ideas such as healthier breakfast options in Paresky such as the addition of greek yogurt and smoothies, a water cooler in Mission, and iPhone chargers in the libraries (to borrow as one would a laptop).

The Committee is always looking for input, so send it their way!

Finance Committee

Chair: Emily Dzieciatko '15 (Treasurer)

Chaired by the College Council Treasurer, this committee aids CC in allocating the revenue generated from the Student Activities Tax and oversees the allocations to all student organizations as well as co-sponsoring all-campus and all-class events. The committee also makes recommendations for the use of the Benefits Fund, the Capital Investment Fund, and the Nationals Fund. Responsibilities include working closely with subgroup treasurers, attending all Finance Committee meetings, and attending Council meetings when your expertise is relevant to Council business. Only students who have served or are currently serving on FinCom are eligible to run for College Council Treasurer.

Student Organizations Committee

Chair: Teddy Onserio '14 (Vice President for Student Organizations)

The Student Organizations Committee oversees the approval of all student organizations on campus. When a group applies, SOC will review their application, meet with the organization to better understand its purpose for being chartered, and provide a recommendation to Council for official recommendation. The committee was chaired by the Vice President for Student Organizations, Teddy Onserio '14.

SuperFan

Chair: Kate Kiernan '14

SuperFan's purpose on campus is twofold: both to support our athletic teams by increasing attendance and support for their games, and also to promote and facilitate campus-cohesion by attempting to deconstruct some of the walls that may make some students feel excluded from our athletic Eph adventures.

SuperFan has had quite a few transitions to get accustomed to this year. As you all are aware, SuperFan was made a College Council Committee towards the end of the 2012-2013 academic year. As none of us had a road map, this year was a learning year to work to define how SuperFan runs on our Williams campus. Our financial situation was most effected heading into the new year. For starters, we were no longer allowed to sell SuperFan gear. This drastically changed the model of SuperFan from what it has been previously. Secondly, we went through a much more formal process to get our budget approved that last year. Taking all that in stride, SuperFan dove into the 2013-2014 year ready to deck the gym, rink, fields, courts, and pool in purple.

We have been focusing our efforts on the latter of the goals of SuperFan, by partnering with other groups to increase the attendance of games by students who normally don't come. Our big efforts

have been with SAAC this winter to help them on their campaign to raise support, awareness, and money for Breast Cancer Research. Looking ahead to the spring, we are going to continue our efforts to partner with other group and clubs and to give our athletes a supportive, positive, and rowdy fan section.

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LARGER CAMPUS WIDE ISSUES

The following pages detail some larger campus issues that the Council worked on during the 2013-2014 session. Each issue that we mention is broken down as follows: **scope** refers to a brief summary of the problem being discussed; it should hopefully provide enough context to understand the item; **issues** provides a more detailed analysis of the problems at hand; **recommendations** provides some of our recommendations for the 2014-2015 Council as they work towards solving some of these issues.

Entertainment Co-Sponsorship Committee

Scope: The Entertainment Co-Sponsorship Committee (ECom) was created in Spring 2013, in collaboration with All-Campus Entertainment (ACE) to centralize as many student group funding sources as possible to assist with co-sponsorship on campus.

As stipulated in the Council bylaws, ECom is in its initial testing phase. For the next three years, the Council will allocate \$10,000, which, in addition to funding from the Office of Student Life, will comprise the entire fund. Any student or group on campus is allowed to put their names onto one of ECom's agendas and ask for money from the committee.

The Entertainment Co-Sponsorship Committee is composed of the following members: the ACE Treasurer (non-voting), the ACE General Entertainment Co-Chairs, the College Council Vice President for Student Affairs, 1 member of the Minority Coalition, and 2 students at-large. This committee meets on a biweekly basis.

Issues: The main issue we noticed this year was the lack of student solicitation of funds. While both ACE and College Council have incessantly advertised the existence of this fund, very few students have actually sought money from it.

Recommendation: We believe that this may be due to the fact that the fund is new and students are still getting acclimated to it. Thus, we recommend that the next Council continues onto year two, provide the same amount of funding, and conduct another review of the fund at the end of the current Council term. In addition, ACE and CC should work together this summer to come up with an advertising strategy for the fund so that students can utilize the money available right away. Should students not use this yet another year, the Council should re-evaluate the purpose of the fund, whether ACE or CC is more suited to handle co-sponsorship in its entirety, and whether or not the fund should be extended past its third year.

Club Sports at Williams

Scope: A necessary distinction between sports teams, and the organizations that oversee these groups throughout the year, exists at Williams. All varsity sports fall under the purview of the Athletics Department, overseen by the Athletics Director; club sports, on the other hand, fall under the jurisdiction of College Council. Consequently, there exist systematic differences in the way these groups receive funding, have access to facilities on campus, and are supported by the College. While this separation makes sense for many reasons (club sports value their independence, the Athletics Department is stretched too thin with its current load of thirty-three varsity sports, club sports and varsity sports have different leagues/regulations they need to meet), there are several apparent negative consequences that warrant a discussion:

- A divide on campus exists centered on the value of varsity sports versus club sports;
- Varsity athletes are privileged with certain resources unavailable to club sport athletes (access to a trainer, ample supply of safety equipment, access to transportation to games, priority to utilize campus facilities for practices);
- A lack of an organization solely focused on the needs of club sport athletes and their coaches similar to the Athletics Department (College Council serves more as a funding source than an umbrella organization solely focusing on the well-being of club sports at Williams).

The Council discussed this issue at length and declared it a priority for the 2013-2014 Council.

Recommendation: The 2014-2015 Council should continue working on this issue.

Though there are several issues that need to be discussed, one issue is particularly troubling to the Council and many students on campus: the safety of these students. At the moment, club sport athletes are not allowed to seek assistance from athletic trainers, do not have access to them during their practices or games, and are not granted access to preventative treatment like varsity athletes are. The 2013-14 Council has worked with the Administration to target specific areas that could be bolstered in order to assist club sports teams on campus. Both Dean Bolton and Vice President Klass have been very involved in these conversations and are two administrators that the Council should work with directly. In addition, the Committee on Priorities and Resources seems to believe that this issue is also important to tackle and therefore, is another great place for the Council to focus their attention. There is a lot of work that needs to be done and we hope CC continues working on this during the new term.

Sustaining College Council's SuperFan Program

Scope: The SuperFan program was originally designed during the 2010-2011 academic year as a way of bringing together non-athletes to athletic events in order to bridge the perceived gap between both groups. In its original iteration, SuperFan would hold barbecues at a minimum of one game per athletic team and provide t-shirts, pom-poms, and other such gear as well. At the end of Spring 2011, the Council decided to renew funding for the program for the following year.

The program seemed to die down during the following academic year and was brought back to life during the 2012-2013 program. At the end of this term, the Council decided to institutionalize the program as one of College Council's standing committees. The 2013-2014 Council re-evaluated the program since it had not been reviewed since its inception. Several members expressed dissatisfaction with the way the program was being run, focusing more on providing gear (and even selling gear) while forgetting the original purpose of the program. Other members believed that the program still did what it was originally designed to do--bring students on campus together--and wanted to continue to fund the program.

Though contentious, the 2013-2014 Council strongly believed in SuperFan and decided to provide full funding for each season. Instead of the program existing solely within College Council, it is now co-led by members of CC and members of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). The program, then, has returned to its original stead and continues to provide a platform to bring together athletic and non-athletic students.

Recommendation: The 2013-2014 Council recommends that future Council's continue to fund SuperFan, but ensure that it continues to do what it was originally designed to do. While the program does provide gear to students, it must remember that the gear is supplemental to the original mission (or bringing students together) and must remain free. SuperFan is a great program and we hope that it continues in the future.

Examining the Neighborhood System and Its Effectiveness

Scope: The 2013-2014 Council was uniquely positioned to re-evaluate the Neighborhood System as part of the Office of Student Life's (OSL) Undergraduate Residential Life Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee (URLAAC). This program was instituted in the latter half of the 2000s following a recommendation by the Committee on Undergraduate Life in 2001. The original purpose of the program was to provide a sense of a more closely knit residential community for all students within the larger Williams community.

The campus was split into four quadrants, where roughly one-quarter of the upperclass student body was divided amongst these neighborhoods (Wood, Spencer, Currier, and Dodd). Throughout the lifetime of the program, the method of designating which students belonged in each neighborhood fluctuated: in some years, students were pre-assigned; in others, they entered a lottery and had the opportunity to choose based on what was available when their number was called. The student body, however, was dissatisfied with the system and frequently asked the Office of Student Life to re-evaluate the purpose and effectiveness of the Neighborhood System.

In 2013, OSL established URLAAC and began by evaluating the Baxter Fellow system. After extensive debates on the merits of this program, the committee recommended that it change to an unpaid position with the title, "Housing Coordinator." In addition, several changes were made to the leadership teams and the system as a whole.

During Fall 2013, the Committee evaluated the Neighborhood System. It was apparent that students preferred a "free for all" system, whereby students are assigned a lottery number that is not tied to any neighborhood, thereby allowing students to select where they want to live based on what is available when their number is called. The Council debated this issue extensively and provided feedback to the committee throughout the semester. At the conclusion of the fall, the committee recommended to do away with the previous lottery system, implement the "free for all" system, and test how this new system works during the 2014 and 2015 lotteries.

Recommendation: The Council fully supports the change and is excited to witness the changes that will surely be made on campus with this new open system. The 2013-2014 Council recommends that the next Council continue to remain closely involved and solicit student opinion at the end of each lottery cycle to better understand which system works best for the current generation of Williams students. The Council commends the Office of Student Life for their hard work and for listening to what students on campus preferred for choosing their living arrangements.

Sanctions Committee

Scope: The Student Organizations' Sanctions Committee was designed during Fall 2013 as a way of combatting hazing on campus, specifically within College Council approved groups. In collaboration with the Dean's Office and the Office of Student Life, the Sanctions Committee hears cases brought forward regarding student organization issues. After meeting with student groups, the Committee then discusses the case and determines whether or not the student organization in question violated the College Council bylaws, Constitution, or other documents. If it is the case that a violation did indeed occur, the Committee then presents the case to Council with a recommendation regarding penalizing the group.

Student groups may face the following sanctions:

- **Case dismissal:** the Committee determined that no violation of any policies have been violated;
- **Formal warning:** the group is presented with a formal warning regarding their case and is reminded that any further sanctions in the next 18 months will result in an automatic suspension, pending College Council approval;
- **Censure:** the Committee determined that the violation was severe, thereby removing the student organization from the subgroup allocation process and faces any other penalties described under the censure clause in the bylaws. This remains in effect for several years.
- **Suspension:** the student organization is suspended and is no longer able to request funding, sponsor events, or utilize the name of the organization in any capacity.
- **Expulsion:** the student organization's charter is revoked and cannot be brought back. This is usually the case for very severe issues.

Should any student group face the above penalties, they are invited to appeal the decision. In these cases, the Council's vote cannot be changed once cast.

Recommendation: There are still many issues the Council needs to consider when deciding the scope of the committee. The largest issue that came up was whether or not the committee ought to hear non-hazing related questions and serve as a general sanctions committee for any offenses the Dean sees fit, or whether the committee should continue to focus solely on hazing problems. The next Council should tackle this issue and decide the jurisdiction of the committee, and ensure that student organizations understand the consequences they may face if they are in violation of Council or school policies.

Establishing a Rainy Day Fund

Scope:

The Rainy Day Fund (RDF) was established in Spring 2013 after it became apparent College Council would not have enough funds to support all its student groups for the remainder of the year. The 2013-2014 did not realize this was an issue until the Treasurer combed through all of the budgets and accounting spreadsheets and realized that the figures did not match up. After coordinating with the Finance Committee and the Controller's Office, the Council determined that it was in a dire fiscal crisis and needed to respond immediately.

To address this problem, the Council created this fund and infused it with \$20,000 to be used in emergency situations. When the Council draws from the RDF, it must replenish the fund within two years. The theory behind this fund is the following:

At the end of each fiscal year, the Council removes all funding left in each student organization's fund and puts it in a Rollover Fund, which isn't accessed until the fall. Thus, each fall Council has access to funds from the current fiscal year, as well as funding from the previous year. Since there is usually \$20,000 in excess (collected from these student group budgets), the Council believed that allowing this amount of money to be used for emergencies made sense. Essentially, a Council at any given moment does not have access to these rolled over funds until the following fiscal year. Our belief was that accessing these funds when an emergency arose would not impact future years because the funds being used were from the current year.

In Spring 2013, College Council borrowed \$12,500 from the RDF and is currently on track to replenish the fund in the required 2-year time frame.

Recommendation:

College Council must remain cautious about its use of the RDF and ensure it is never used as additional discretionary supplemental funding. In other words, Council should never allocate funds for something earlier in the year with the expectation that it will mean tapping into this fund. In addition, the Council should ensure that it always replenishes the fund within the two years in order to ensure that the fund remains replenished for future Council's that may need to access it. Should the Council establish a plan for spending this Rollover Fund, this Council recommends that this \$20,000 fund remain intact for emergency purposes.

Feasibility of a Student Store on Campus

Scope: After the closing of Ephporium at the top of Spring Street, current students are hard-pressed to find a place to purchase basic necessities (toothpaste, shampoo, sandwiches, snacks, etc) without leaving campus. This is problematic to all, but affects first-years, international students, and students without cars especially. The issue is compounded by other shortcomings students find with Spring Street businesses, namely the lack of reasonably priced team/College apparel (most items at Goff's priced around \$60). Ideally, students would have a central, student-run, campus space or "co-op" where reasonably priced hygiene basics, food items, and College apparel can be purchased.

Some other obstacles that came up were:

- "Succession Planning" – finding a 'next generation' of students to maintain enthusiasm in the early stages, and man the store in the later ones
- Diversity of visions for the store – some students want a renewable, green, local store, while others want basic hygiene items, and others are looking to see an annex of Goodrich Coffee bar. Coming together to determine which idea is best/most feasible will be work for next Council
- Lack of clear location – Steve Klass suggested the former Ephporium location may work, so that would be a great jumping off point

Recommendation: We believe the next Council should move forward on this project. This project seems feasible, and with more research, might be a great addition for our students.

Lighting Up our Campus

Scope:

Due to Williams College's rural setting, many areas on campus are poorly lit. As a result, students have voiced public safety concerns at night. Some of the most problematic areas are as follow:

- Paths crossing Greylock, Science, and Currier Quads;
- Route 7 between the roundabout and Agard House;
- Park Street between Williams Hall and the Tyler House driveway;
- Walkway from West House to Paresky, adjacent to the President's House;
- Walkway from Route 2 near the Congregational Church to Paresky; and
- Paths leading to the Route 2 crosswalk between Griffin Hall and WCMA/Currier Quad.

Students on Council contacted Executive Director of Facilities Management Bob Wright and discussed this issue extensively. He greeted our concern with open arms and connected these students with Energy Conservation Project Manager Todd R. Holland. Both Mr. Wright and Mr. Holland solicited opinions from the Council, which submitted the list above. The next Council must maintain contact with Mr. Wright and Mr. Holland to ensure that Facilities remains conscious of the fact that this is an important issue for the student body.

One obstacle that could arise is opposition from the Department of Astronomy, especially in lighting up Science Quad because it can conflict with their night sky viewings, but this could be mitigated by looking at special lights that are dim enough to not impact these viewings.

Recommendation: The next Council should definitely focus on this issue and find ways to brighten the campus. The current relationship with Facilities has allowed for easy conversation with them to make this a possibility, and we hope that the next Council can continue working on making this a possibility.

Renovating the Student Activities Resource Center

Scope: The Student Activities Resource Center (SARC) is a student designated space on the second floor of Paresky that provides students with a space to utilize school computers, printers, and other such items inside the student center. The space has been managed by College Council since Paresky opened and believed it was an issue that needed to be discussed and taken care of as soon as possible.

Issue: The space is being incredibly underutilized. We have this amazing space in the student center that has so much potential, yet is very unwelcoming. Many times, the computers aren't working, the printer is broken, and the space is trashed by trays and food left behind. The space, then, is not utilized as planned and is prime real estate that has potential to provide students with tons of great resources.

Recommendations: The 2013-2014 Council recommends that the space be managed by the College Council Communications Team (CCCT), which should focus on rebuilding the space as a student-friendly area. Some renovations include a bulletin board showcasing College Council items (representatives, You're In The Know newsletters), procuring a printer that has less downtime than the current one, hire students to keep the space clean, encourage student organizations to utilize some of the offices in the space, and re-evaluate the current furniture and whether or not it is serving its needs.

V College Council

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STUDENT-FACULTY COMMITTEE

Mid-Year Updates

The Council bylaws mandate that each committee present to Council an update as to the committees' work throughout the year. Similar to the fall, we believe it's important for the campus as a whole to have access to this information, and if interested, have the opportunity to contact members of each committee with any questions they may have. Since this is simply a mid-year update, many of the items described below will be ongoing projects whose end result is still in the works. Contact anyone listed if you're interested in learning more about the committee.

Advisory Committee on College Communications

Student Chair: Cooper Nassary '15, (Cooper.A.Nassary@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Suzanne Silitch (Suzanne.Silitch@williams.edu)

The ACC is a new committee comprised of students and staff members from the College's Office of Communications. The committee reviews the college's communications policies, including PR, logistics and web operations. We also help to promote and coordinate the College's campus-wide public events (eg. Daring Change; Arts at Williams Day; TEDx Williams).

Fall 2013

We met occasionally during the fall to plan for TEDx Williams, which took place during Winter Study.

Spring 2014

In the spring, we will wrap up work on TEDx Williams and focus on brainstorming new ideas for the next academic year (2014-2015).

Students on the Committee

Cooper Nassery '15 (Student Chair), Rachel Ji '16, Gloria Joo '15, Conor Mercadante '14, Paige Wilkinson '16

Campus Environmental Advisory Committee

Student Chair: Caroline White-Nockleby, (Caroline.C.White-Nockleby@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Lara Shore-Sheppard (Lara.D.Shore-Sheppard@williams.edu)

Overview: The Campus Environmental Advisory Committee acts as a forum for communication among students, faculty, staff, and administrators on environmental matters; advises and works to develop policy on matters of environmental stewardship in the operation of the College; assists in developing relevant environmental resources and strategies for Williams; and fosters a sense of shared environmental responsibility among various constituencies and individuals on campus.

Issues Discussed: The Committee began by examining the Sustainability at Williams document, which was created by the CEAC committee in 2011 and contains plans for increased sustainability in the areas of energy, resource use, waste, and the built environment. This year, our goal is to take these recommendations and begin to implement them in a practical way. This semester, we divided into three working groups to address three of the main environmental issues on campus: Waste Reduction, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction, and Sustainable Food. Each group spent the semester analyzing the ways that the school currently functions in these areas, and making a plan with concrete, attainable goals for how different parts school can make improvements in each of these areas. Each group then began taking steps to accomplish these goals, which are outlined below.

Spring 2014: This semester, each of the three working groups will continue to work towards the goals they set for the year. Many of these goals are still in the process of being formed and/or accomplished, and so the specifics should not be shared with the Williams community at this time.

The Waste Reduction group's goals are to decrease total waste, and increase the percentage of waste that is recycled (currently 23%) by 2% per year. To increase recycling, Bob Wright, the head of Facilities and member of CEAC, is looking into implementing single stream recycling for next year. The Waste group will also increase signage and information about recycling. To reduce waste, the Waste reduction group will look into expanding reusable options at Grab and Go and with the Dining Hall's to-go coffee mugs, and also conduct a poster publicity campaign to raise awareness about the amount of waste produced by each member of the Williams community each year (about 647 lbs).

The sustainable food group's main goal is to increase the amount of local, sustainably grown food in the dining halls. They are in the process of evaluating the dining halls current food production, and looking at practical, cost-effective ways to replace specific current foods, such as beef, with more sustainably grown varieties.

The greenhouse gas emission group is focusing on determining what a new greenhouse gas emissions goal should be. That process involves assessing possible goals along the lines of feasibility

and potential cost, and it also involves determining a realistic time frame for any proposed goal. They have also been working on figuring out what William's greenhouse gas emissions profile looks like in the areas that are not as well tracked (i.e. emissions sources that are not heating/central plant and electricity).

Students on the Committee

Caroline White-Nockleby '16 (Student Chair), Eiran Cohen '15 (Fall), Claire Swingle '16, Henry Schmidt '14 (Spring)

Campus Safety and Security Committee

Student Chair: Emma Rouse '14, (Emma.V.Rouse@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: David Boyer (David.J.Boyer@williams.edu)

Overview: This committee discusses concerns around campus that include security, health, and safety concerns, among many others. The members of the committee represent a vast array of departments and facilities around campus, and so we have a great diversity of participants who bring great many concerns to the meeting that we attempt to address. However, most of the concerns have the overarching theme of safety, which is within the responsibility of Campus Safety and Security. Because of the diverse group of participants on the committee, many of the tasks required to address the problems and concerns we discuss are spread out amongst many of the participants, depending on their department and/or area of expertise.

Issues discussed:

Additional AEDs: Joe Moran addressed the issue of additional AEDs and their placement in areas such as the 62' Center, athletic facilities, and CSS. The protocol needs to be the same for the entire Campus. There was a discussion concerning the funding of training provision and AED maintenance, which includes expensive batteries and regular check-ups.

Joe Moran discussed the wording for the AED training requirements being changed to appropriate number of (instead of "all") people in each area should be trained. There will be a budget request to replace older units. After 2015 the older units will no longer be usable.

It was stated that Dean Sneed had spoken of funding for the AEDs last year (minutes from 3-8-13, courtesy of Debra Decelles: Dean Sneed stated that the cost of purchasing, training and maintenance could be build into a contingency budget).

Sidewalk to "nowhere": There have been complaints about the new sidewalk leading to the construction site (the new Stetson Library) behind Thompson Chapel. Many people are still walking in the road, which creates safety issues. Jo Moran stated he would look at the final layout. It was decided that a temporary cut-through will be built, but that the final layout will include a sufficient walkway and path.

Solar power lights at the crosswalks on Rt. 2: Director Boyer stated that the Williamstown Manager has said he will not support solar-powered crosswalk lights being installed onto Rt. 2. It would have to be brought to the Williamstown Select Board for approval. There was discussion about the lights flashing all of the time and people becoming desensitized to the flashing. United that were activated by pushing a button before crossing might be a better option. It was suggested that a project manager present the idea to the Williamstown Select Board.

Student roof access: The Campus Safety Committee has discussed ways to prevent students from accessing roofs. These methods include signage, larger fines, and increased education about the dangers and serious criminal activity associated with accessing roofs.

Emergency Response Plan: Joe Moran brought up concerns for the Emergency Response Plan and funding for it. He states that it has many holes in it.

Emergency blue lights: There was a discussion for more emergency blue lights in the area of Mission Park and Tyler Drive. Bob Wright will do a CRI and copy Aaron Gordon.

Crowd control: Director Boyer spoke about the safety issues regarding crowd control and the equipment improvement needed for Crowd Control at main entrance for Goodrich, Greylock and Paresky. There is hope of extending the railings at Goodrich and installing hooks and eyes, cabling, and removal bollards necessary for other buildings.

Falling snow and ice: Signs should be placed in areas that are known to be problematic in this area. There are 14 extra signs in the cage if needed. Communication will be sent to students reminding them of the dangers of falling snow and ice.

Plowing lots during breaks: Concerns were expressed about plowing parking lots during holiday break and students cars being plowed in. It was stated that there are shovels available and that custodians would know where to locate them.

Greylock parking garage: The 2nd level will be closed, a work order for a sign stating the ground level will be 2-way traffic will be submitted.

Refusal of ambulance transport: Director Boyer spoke about the students who refuse an ambulance transport because they are worried about the cost of the transport. Ruth Harrison stated that, under the College's insurance, there is only a \$100.00 deductible.

Student rights with CSS: Connor (student) spoke about students' rights and Campus Safety & Security rights to operate. It is believed that there is no formal document and it needs to be defined for everyone. It was stated that in the student handbook Security has the right to search a student's room. Students are required to cooperate. All safety inspections are announced.

CSS Department Review: Will begin in January and students will be on that committee.

Project items for next semester's agenda: There are no official project items on the agenda, to my knowledge. Topics that may be covered include continuations of previously discussed topics, particularly AEDs, solar-power crosswalk lights, student roof access, the Emergency Response

Plan, emergency blue lights, crowd control, ambulance transport, and student rights when interacting with CSS.

Students on the Committee

Emma Rouse '14 (Student Chair), Quinn Pitcher '15, Connor Mook '16

Committee on Educational Policy

Student Chair: Melinda Wang, (Melinda.B.Wang@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Lee Park (Lee.Y.Park@williams.edu)

Overview: In addition to reviewing general academic programming at Williams College, the CEP approves the course catalog, contract majors, and proposed changes to the academic curriculum at large and major requirements. The committee therefore reviews all departments which have recently undergone external reviews in order to better understand the nature of each discipline, its needs, and its projections, which informs our consideration of staffing requests. Each year, the CEP also discusses larger thematic questions about the Williams liberal arts education as it relates to students, faculty, and staff. Among its responsibilities, the CEP also receives all tenure track staffing requests from departments and programs and provides recommendations on those requests to the CAP (Committee on Appointments and Promotions, the committee that has final responsibility for allocating staffing lines).

Fall 2013

1. The CEP has spent a lot of its efforts this year focusing on how students engage with the liberal arts education at Williams. More specifically, we are considering the rise in double majors (and concentrations), how students are choosing which courses to take before graduation, as well as trends in enrollment and majors across departments over time. To understand aspects of this large question, the CEP has had open discussions with College Council, various student groups, and faculty. The CEP used information from these discussions to create focused surveys to be administered to the student body, and will publicize our findings by the end of the year. We are also looking at data collected in surveys that the college regularly administers such as the senior exit survey (administered to all graduating seniors at the end of their time at Williams). During Winter Study, the CEP will also be meeting with student focus groups to better discuss nuanced questions with students and how they choose their coursework at Williams. We hope to gain a better grasp about student engagement in academia, but this process will extend past this year's CEP.
2. The CEP's conversations with student and faculty groups have demonstrated the need for a stronger advising system around student academic decisions. We have discussed how advising is important to making curricular decisions and expressed the need to review and strengthen this system to the appropriate avenues.
3. By the urging of the Library and OIT committee, the CEP has agreed to invite representatives of the Library and OIT to CEP meetings when appropriate so that they can get a sense of what the CEP does and how they can contribute to (and prepare for) curricular developments at the College before they are established.

Spring 2014

Next semester, among other agenda points, the CEP plans to focus on the following

1. Collating and understanding student navigation of the curriculum from the data we have collected thus far
2. Reviewing the course catalog '14-'15, new courses that may be added for '14-'15, and any major/concentration/program requirements
3. Reviewing select departmental academic programming
4. Reviewing contract majors
5. Continue discussions with departments and programs that have recently undergone external reviews.
6. Reviewing faculty line requests to recommend a prioritized list of faculty line requests
7. Consider an anticipated proposal from the TEC committee on on-line courses
8. Consider an anticipated proposal/report from the EDI committee
9. Consider an anticipated proposal from the WSP committee on other course models

Students on the Committee

Melinda Wang '14 (Student Chair), Jacob Butts '14, Andrew Udall '16, Jacob Addelson '14, Allison Wu '16

Committee on Undergraduate Life

Student Chair: Emily Calkins, (Emily.N.Calkins@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Joseph Cruz (Joseph.L.Cruz@williams.edu)

The Committee addresses all non-academic issues that affect student life. It discusses issues that pertain to housing, diversity, and extracurricular life. In the past, the committee has also discussed mental health. The purpose of a student-faculty committee is to hear the perspectives of both faculty members and students when discussing issues pertaining to undergraduate life. The committee also has a small fund, which is earmarked for events that unite faculty members and students over activities, as well as a larger fund that provides money to professors to enjoy meals in a dining hall alongside students.

Issues Discussed:

1. Residential Sector Planning – discussion about construction of new residential buildings
2. Quiet Housing – concern about moving students to Tyler given feeling about its distant and ostracizing location
3. Diversity Sensitivity among Professors – ie. that they be more sensitive to all the different experiences that exist in their classroom
4. President Falk came to discuss large projects for the next fundraising program – we discussed a more robust internship program for underclassmen and a stronger career center and fellowship program, more mental health professionals in the health center and maybe making the health center more central to campus or making it easier for students to get to the health center when they are sick, among other things
5. Provost Dudley came to discuss uniting Financial Aid and Admissions into the same building in a more central location

Students on the Committee

Emily Calkins '14 (Student Chair), Jessica Bernheim '16, Mariah Widman '14, Chanel Zhan '16, Tendai Chisowa '16, Maddie Epsten '16, Brian McGrail '14

Dining Services Committee

Student Chair: Tyler Sparks, Fall, (Tyler.J.Sparks@williams.edu)

Abigale Belcrest, Spring, (Abigale.L.Belcrest@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Bob Volpi (Robert.P.Volpi@williams.edu)

Overview: Students on this committee advise the Director of Dining Services on all food matters, including the dining hall system, the quality and availability of food, and offerings in Paresky. The Student Dining Services Committee is an essential part of the success of campus dining. The committee meets with the managers and chefs from each dining area to discuss the menu, food quality, and service. The Office of Dining Services relies on the DSC's input for all food related decision making. Our goal is to be the best Dining Services in the nation: one that is recognized for healthy/nutritious meals, sustainable practices, and a professional team providing consistent service.

Issues this semester: Many small issues I can provide upon request (also available in meeting minutes posted on Dining website). Bigger issues included organizing around the loss of Chris, promoting the 82 Grille as a bar, and changing Paresky Brunch on Sunday to Paresky lunch

Projected issues: Further work on Paresky lunch (working with Bob to fit into budget and make it the best it can be); continue working on 82 Grille promotion. Also looking into meal plan re-structuring, which will be a main project next year.

Students on the Committee

Tyler Sparks '15 (Student Chair, Fall), Abigale Belcrest '16 (Student Chair, Spring), Caroline White-Nockleby '16, Henry Drewyer '14, Logan Lawson '16, Trust Mandevhana '14, Alison Smith '15, Erica Lansberg '14, Hadley Boltres '16

Information and Technology Committee

Student Chair: Rebecca Lewis (Rebecca.Lewis@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Henry Art (Henry.Art@williams.edu)

Overview: This committee's past activities have included investigating the possibility of providing computers for all students at Williams, ensuring that there is equal access to the network and all computer hardware, evaluating new purchases, and examining the role of Jesup in campus life.

Issues: This semester, the committee's main project involved determining whether or not to transition our email and calendar system to the Cloud and choosing which provider, Microsoft or Google, to use. The Committee eventually went with Google, using the experiences of other schools' who made the transition as well as our own pilot as a guide. The transition to cloud-based email should begin sometime in 2014.

Students on the Committee

Rebecca Lewis '16 (Student Chair), Ryan Buchanan '14

Lecture Committee

Student Chair: Will Edwards-Mizel (William.J.Edwards-Mizel@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Mike Glier (Michael.A.Glier@williams.edu)

Overview: The Lecture Committee is responsible for approving requests for funding from the Lecture Fund. We are also responsible for determining the nature and content of the Class of 1971 Forum, a biannual event endowed for the discussion of national or global importance.

Issues: This past semester, the Committee approved several requests for spring and fall for this academic year. These programs were selected for their level of organization and ability to appeal to a wide population of the College community. The Committee also made significant progress on the Class of '71 Forum, which will occur during the 2013-2014 academic year. At the moment, the Committee is in talks with our desired speakers to finalize the program.

Spring 2014: In the coming semester, the Committee intends to confirm the Class of '71 Forum speakers and schedule. At some point thereafter, the Committee will publicize the forum and work to hand over the organizing responsibilities to those who will run it next year.

Students on the Committee

Will Edwards-Mizel '14 (Student Chair), Teddy Cohan '16, Catherine Gerkis '14, Katherine Preston '16

Library Committee

Student Chair: Logan Lawson (Logan.D.Lawson@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Stephen Sheppard (Stephen.C.Sheppard@williams.edu)

Overview: The Library Committee has met to discuss the logistics behind opening of the new library on campus, the closing of Sawyer Library, and the development of the land, library acquisitions and allocations, and various nuances of the library from the possibility of introducing “open access” journals to the library collection, to general budgets of the respective libraries.

The new library will be open for the Fall Semester (2014), but for this to be possible, the students and faculty will not have access to the current Sawyer library after Reunion that takes place at the end of the Spring Semester. The online databases will be accessible through the transition, and any physical text that may be wanted can be obtained through interlibrary loan. Sawyer Library that stands today will be deconstructed, but the school is ensuring that each and every part of the building that is salvaged will be properly recycled. Once the library has been demolished, there will be an open green where students can find more space to relax and study.

With regards to the new library, the tour during the Committee’s first meeting went well, and it seems like it will definitely be a great place to study in the future. The only aspect of the library that was a bit troubling, or up for more discussion was the café that will be present within the atrium; Dining Services and the library faculty/administrators concluded that the café will be self-service, meaning there will be a room with vending machines for the students during library hours. The possibility of having dining hall staff run a café is slim; dining services does not have the budget to extend their staff, so this was the best compromise.

The imposition of open access journals to accompany the current journals within the libraries’ collection was presented, and the meaning of open access and what it entails was discussed. With open access, students and professors would be able to reference many more academic resources than currently possible. Open access allows researchers to publish more often than the traditional journal packages. Williams College has acknowledged that they support the Berlin Declaration of on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and the Humanities along with Oberlin group liberal arts college libraries. Resources from open access journals do not have copyright or licensing along with being free and easily available on the web. Ultimately, the decision on publishing with an open access journal is completely up to the respective faculty members, but it allows for work to be shared and recognized at a much faster pace than the conventional way of journal publications, which is a plus for students and faculty that are a part of cutting-edge research. There are links on the library’s page on the Williams website that aid in finding open access publications.

Spring 2014: For the upcoming semester, the discussion of open access and how it will impact the way we do research in general will definitely be a hot topic. In addition, we will continue to brainstorm ideas on ways in which the community will be instructed on the closing dates of Sawyer library and the procedure of obtaining materials for anyone that would need them to conduct research. We were also thinking about how the last few days of the Sawyer Library building will be handled. Perhaps there will be decade-themed games (representing the time Sawyer has been a part of the campus), or maybe a larger party? The timing for these events is also not known, because there definitely will be students filling the library during the last week of the semester in preparation for finals. General budgeting and acquisitions of the new library materials will also continue to be a part of meeting discussion.

Students on the Committee

Logan Lawson '16 (Student Chair), Benjamin Nathan '15, Adam Wiener '14, David Gaines '15

Williams Reads

Student Chair: Ben Shuham (Benjamin.A.Shuham@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Dean Bolton (Sarah.R.Bolton@williams.edu)

Leslie Brown (Leslie.Brown@williams.edu)

Overview: The Williams Reads Committee is the main logistical force behind the Williams Reads program. We organize the selection process for the Williams Reads book, as well as plan events and speakers throughout the year in accordance with the themes of the selected book to promote campus-wide discussion.

Issues: This past fall, the Committee finalized and executed the program schedule for 'Crescent'-the 2013-2014 Williams Reads book . We have worked with various students groups (e.g. Speak-Free), academic departments, the Dean's Office, Dining Services, Images Cinema, WCMA, etc. to plan events dealing with the themes of the book. Of note was a new collaboration between Williams Reads and WCMA for the 'WCMA At Night Event' (schedule also attached). In Committee, we have discussed ways to boost the program's popularity on campus, increase attendance for events, and involve more students groups/academic departments in programming efforts.

Spring 2014: Over the next few months, the Committee will finalize plans for Claiming Williams Day- the last event in the 'Crescent' cycle. We will then beginning brainstorming and programming for the 2014-2015 Williams Reads book, and begin the process of selecting the 2015-2016 book. Ongoing discussions in committee will focus on the format of the Williams Reads Program and the Williams Reads Committee, and how both can potentially be improved.

Students on the Committee

Ben Shuham '14 (Student Chair), Sophia Chen '14, Salmaan Karim '15, Sarah Vukelich '15, Aseel Abulhab '15, Ali Tafreshi '15

Winter Study Committee

Student Chair: Emily Dzieciatko (Emily.Dzieciatko@williams.edu)

Faculty Chair: Gerard Caprio (Gerard.Caprio@williams.edu)

Overview: This committee recommends and administers policy on the Winter Study program, including reviews of all faculty and student projects for approval and allocation of funding. The committee also approves 99s and the travel course proposals, and develops ways to streamline the 99 and travel course timetable.

Students on the Committee

Emily Dzieciatko '15 (Student Chair), Jennifer Chan '14, Austin Nguyen '15, Marissa Shieh '15



6

RESOLUTIONS

The following pages list each resolution that the 2013-2014 Council passed while in session.

Resolution 01-1314

A Resolution to Request Funds from the College Council Cumulative Rollover Fund

WHEREAS College Council “receives Student Activities Tax (SAT) funds from each student to promote student activities,” as stated in the Council Constitution;

WHEREAS College Council increased its subgroup allocation allotments in the fall by 33% to meet more student organization demands and needs;

WHEREAS College Council created the Rainy Day Fund (RDF) to assist Council during financial emergencies as defined by Article IV. Section 16 of the CC bylaws;

WHEREAS College Council is no longer able to fulfill its annual obligations as a funding source for these activities at this point in the year, given its current fiscal situation;

WHEREAS College Council is currently in a financial emergency as assessed by the Council Treasurer, pursuant to the same section of the bylaws;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Williams College Council:

1. Shall allocate \$10,000 from the Rainy Day Fund, pursuant to all stipulations listed in Section IV. Article 16 of the College Council bylaws, to the College Council General Fund.
2. Shall allocate \$2,500 from the Rainy Day Fund, pursuant to all stipulations listed in Section IV. Article 16 of the College Council bylaws, to the College Council Co- Sponsorship Fund.

Resolution 02-1314

A Resolution in Support of the Real Food Challenge

WHEREAS 13.1 percent of the current resources Dining Services purchases for the dining halls falls within the realm of “real food”;

WHEREAS “Real food” is defined as “food which truly nourishes producers, consumers, communities and the earth...that fundamentally respects human dignity and health, animal welfare, social justice and environmental sustainability” based on the four pillars of “real food”: local community-based, fair, ecologically sound, and humane”;

WHEREAS Purchasing socially responsible food is a means of fulfilling the College’s Board of Trustees stated mission of nurturing in students’ “civic virtues...[that] include commitment to engage both the broad public realm and community life, and the skills to do so effectively,” and is reflective of the College’s socially conscious student body;

WHEREAS College Council recognizes the importance of supporting the community surrounding Williams College by thinking critically about how purchasing “real food” fits into regional, national, and international food systems;

WHEREAS Individual students have specifically requested from College Council a commitment to increasing the amount of sustainable and local food in the dining halls;

WHEREAS A specific effort to increase local food at Williams in the short term, and this long term strategy to reform Williams’ food purchasing in line with all of the aforementioned values, are not mutually exclusive;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Williams College Council respectfully:

1. Asks the administration to sign the Real Food Campus Commitment.

Resolution 03-1314

A Resolution in Support of Dining Services' Expansion of Local Food Options

WHEREAS 14.6 percent of the current resources Dining Services purchases for the dining halls come from local sources;

WHEREAS Purchasing socially responsible food is a means of fulfilling the College's Board of Trustees stated mission of nurturing in students' "civic virtues...[that] include commitment to engage both the broad public realm and community life, and the skills to do so effectively," and is reflective of the College's socially conscious student body;

WHEREAS College Council recognizes the importance of supporting the community surrounding Williams College;

WHEREAS Individual students have specifically requested from College Council a commitment to increasing the amount of sustainable and local food in the dining halls;

WHEREAS Dining Services currently does not have an efficient system to source and purchase local foods directly from farmers;

WHEREAS An efficient system for purchasing local foods has been proposed and is in the process of being developed;

WHEREAS This specific effort to increase local food at Williams in the short term, and a long term overhaul of Williams' food purchasing in line with all of the aforementioned values, are not mutually exclusive;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Williams College Council respectfully:

1. Supports Dining Services' pursuit of expanding local food options at Williams.
2. Recommends that, in order to achieve this goal, Dining Services support the creation of a web application that enables the College to source and purchase local foods more efficiently.

Resolution 04-1314

A Resolution on the Election Protocol of Student Representatives to the Honor Committee

WHEREAS College Council affirms the importance of an integral student presence on the Williams College Honor & Discipline Committee, and recognizes that the documented increase in alleged honor code violations places significant burden on all members of the Committee – particularly the Faculty and Student Chairs;

WHEREAS College Council has, through conversation with the leadership of the 2012-2013 Honor & Discipline Committee, determined that the Committee and our community at large would benefit from structural changes to the election protocol of student representatives to the Honor & Discipline Committee;

WHEREAS College Council oversees the election of student representatives to the Honor & Discipline Committee, and has historically held such elections in the fall semester, to allow for the election of incoming first- year representatives;

WHEREAS College Council and the leadership of the 2012-2013 Honor & Discipline Committee have identified clear and tangible benefits to electing rising senior representatives to the Committee, including:

- a. the selection of the incoming Student Chair by the end of the spring semester, affording the Student Chair valuable time to confer with the outgoing Student Chair, prepare for the next year's work, and be accountable to the Committee over the course of the summer
- b. increased programming around the honor code and anti-plagiarism education during First Days, as facilitated by the senior representatives;
- c. enable senior representatives to assist in the reassembly of the Committee at the start of each academic year;
- d. promote consistency in leadership, preserve institutional memory, and encourage long-term planning between the Faculty and Student Chair;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Williams College Council:

1. Will conduct the elections for rising senior student representatives of the Williams College Honor & Discipline Committee in April of the spring semester, while continuing to elect all other representatives at the start of the fall semester;
 - a. Newly elected representatives from the rising senior class shall not take office until after the outgoing senior representatives have graduated;
2. Will, in the coming year, continue conversations with the leadership of the Honor & Discipline Committee to consider increasing student representation on the Committee as needed.

Resolution 05-1314

A Resolution to End the Direct Investment of the Williams Endowment in Coal

WHEREAS A scientific consensus now recognizes the unequivocal ecological damage and public health consequences of coal production and consumption;

WHEREAS The coal divestment movement has gained traction at over 100 other colleges and universities throughout the United States;

WHEREAS The Williams College Mission Statement recognizes that the College's resources and distinction constitute a "privilege that creates opportunities to serve society at large, and imposes the responsibility to do so";

WHEREAS Williams has found divestment to be a useful tool both symbolically and pragmatically in issues of international importance;

WHEREAS The Williams College Investment Office maintains direct control over 3% of the College's endowment, with the remaining 97% controlled by Investment Managers;

WHEREAS The Investment Office does not know or control which companies these Managers choose to invest in, but can make specific decisions regarding the 3% it controls for direct investment;

WHEREAS As of March 31, 2013, the Investment Office does not currently have any direct investments in any of the 100 coal companies named in the proposal at hand;

WHEREAS The Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility advises the Board of Trustees on the ethical implications of how Williams invests its endowment;

WHEREAS The College Council Constitution states that Council is "the voice of the Student Body to the Administration and in this capacity, the Council may lobby for change in College...policy on behalf of the student body;

WHEREAS Williams students have mobilized behind divestment of the Williams endowment in coal companies;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Williams College Council:

1. Supports the proposal before the Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility and the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees on Coal Divestment.

Resolution 06-1314

A Resolution to Prevent Conflicts of Interest in College Council

WHEREAS College Council members are elected to serve the student body and ought to remember whose voice they shall represent in Council meetings;

WHEREAS The College Council Constitution states in the Preamble that the Council “must uphold its responsibilities to the community and to one another”;

WHEREAS The Council is committed to increasing transparency and ensuring that all decisions made are fiscally responsible;

WHEREAS No decisions made in Council shall be based solely on self-interest, but instead, on what is most beneficial for the student body;

WHEREAS Conflicts of interest violating our Council principles have arisen in the past;

WHEREAS Council is committed to ensuring all financial decisions are made without any prejudices or biases;

WHEREAS No financial decision made in Council should uniquely benefit any current serving representative;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Williams College Council:

1. Supports amending the Rules of Order to mandate that Council members disclose their affiliation with the party of discussion - be it an organization, committee, or such similar body - prior to either vocally participating in the discussion, proposing a motion, and/or voting on an item relevant to the party of discussion.
2. Supports amending the Rules of Order to mandate that council members abstain from voting on a budget when they:
 - a. Are currently serving in a leadership position of the organization presenting the budget to Council;
 - b. Could uniquely financially benefit from the outcome of the vote.

