Good News and Accomplishments

Admissions/Financial Aid

- The Class of 2019, comprised of 694 students, including 35 in the London program, was selected from more than 8,500 applications (second-highest total ever). 13% are international students (99) hailing from 32 countries and another 7% hold dual passports. 23% self-identify as domestic students of color and 14% are the first in their family to attend college.

- Skidmore has increased its financial aid budget from $15.1 million in 2003 to $42.4 million today. 41% of the College’s students receive some form of Skidmore grant. The average post-college debt for a Skidmore graduate is 22,887 (below the national average).

Students/Faculty

- Project VIS is a new initiative that will advance strategic, pedagogical, and liberal learning goals in the area of visual literacy and communication. This project incorporates an interdisciplinary center, The John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative, where stories of human life will be translated into documentary forms; a new interdisciplinary academic minor in Media & Film Studies; and faculty development in the areas of Media & Film Studies and Visualization Technologies.

- Sixty percent of Skidmore’s students study abroad. Last fall, 154 students studied in 28 different countries—including the 31 members of the Class of 2017 who spent their first semester in the London First-Year Experience Program. During the spring semester, 241 students studied abroad in 32 countries.

- Skidmore’s faculty is deeply committed to working collaboratively with students. Participation in the Faculty-Student Summer Research Program has surged from 7 students in 2005 to 84 in 2015. Faculty and students spend the summer conducting original scholarly research into a wide array of subjects ranging from malaria, diabetes, obesity, and fetal alcohol spectrum disorder to such timely issues as hydrofracking, Common Core, renewable energy, and immigration. These research experiences provide the intellectural research and skills that give our students an edge in applying for competitive graduate programs and job placements.

- During the 2014-15 academic year Skidmore’s athletes were successful both on and off the field. A total of 173 student-athletes were recognized as members of the Thoroughbred Society (3.67 GPA or higher). Six teams won Liberty League titles (men’s and women’s tennis, men’s and women’s basketball, men’s golf, and women’s field hockey).

- This year, 72 Skidmore students received funding for summer internships and experiential learning opportunities throughout the U.S. and abroad. Each year gifts from Skidmore alumni, parents, and friends, Skidmore’s student government, and the SEE-Beyond Awards program help to make this possible. Projects range from working at museums, financial institutions, hospitals, nonprofits, universities, and more.

Other

- Forbes.com, in its first-ever list of “America’s Most Entrepreneurial Colleges,” places Skidmore seventh, noting the popularity of its MB107, an introductory course requiring real-world case study and in-person presentations to executives. For its percentage of alumni entrepreneurs, Skidmore is one of 20 “startup colleges” on the Forbes list. In addition, online-accounting-degrees.net lists Skidmore ninth among its “Best Small-College Business Degree Programs.”

- Skidmore received some great press attention that included: Ranked #38 by U.S. News and World Report (the highest in the College’s history), named one of the schools most committed to ensuring socioeconomic opportunity by The New York Times, and described as one of the top liberal arts colleges for monetary return on investment by Money Magazine.

- In 2013, Skidmore received a NYSERDA grant to install a two megawatt solar array on Skidmore property—completed during the summer of 2014. The array, combined with the new micro-hydro project, produces 30% of Skidmore’s electricity needs. In addition, The College installed 5 solar thermal systems—each providing 20%-30% of the hot water needs for a particular building. 40% of Skidmore’s heating and cooling needs are met with geothermal energy.

- The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery has received a $1 million challenge grant from the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund. The one-to-one matching grant will help build the Tang’s endowment and support expansion of the Museum’s programming that serves Skidmore students and faculty, the Saratoga Springs community, and visitors to the Capital Region.

- 9,300 alumni, parents, and friends made gifts to Skidmore totaling $23 million during the 2014-15 fiscal year. This year’s Reunion giving totaled $3.2 million from more than 1,100 alumni which included six class records and three reunion records.

- Skidmore Fund gifts—$7 million last year—support every aspect of a Skidmore education including financial aid, learning in labs, classrooms, studios, and beyond; endowed gifts strengthen the College in perpetuity.

- Skidmore’s $1 million Scholarship Sprint was a success—3,067 donors (during the month of May) surpassed the donor goal and met the challenge. The prize: $1 million for student scholarships from an anonymous donor. The Class of 2015 singlehandedly unlocked $100,000 with their participation.

- 1,069 donors joined the Friends of the Presidents giving society in 2014-15, contributing $21.6 million.