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 Chairs.

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.

Adopted by Council on: April 10, 2013
Ayes: 23
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0
Vote: Passed 23 – 0 – 0