

## Brothers, Sheila

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**From:** Bird-Pollan, Jennifer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 6:28 PM  
**To:** Bailey, Ernest F; Osterhage, Jennifer; Brothers, Sheila  
**Subject:** Re: Mid Point Review of Schnatter Institute / ISFE - September 2019

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**From:** Bailey, Ernest F <[ebailey@email.uky.edu](mailto:ebailey@email.uky.edu)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 18:05  
**To:** Bird-Pollan, Jennifer  
**Subject:** RE: Mid Point Review of Schnatter Institute / ISFE - September 2019

Hi Jennifer,

It was nice talking with you today.

The main point of our conversation was how to move forward with the 2019 review of the Schnatter/Free-Enterprise Institute based on the vote from the Senate when the MDRC was approved. I was the chair of SAOSC at the time and my committee recommended approval of the MDRC.

This MDRC proposal was controversial because support from the Koch foundation to other universities for similar activities had come with strings that violated academic freedom. Based on our investigation, we did not discern any aspect of the proposal that would violate academic freedom. Specifically, the hiring of faculty and the operation of the institute was designed to precisely follow standard university procedures. However, the Senate chose to proceed with due caution and asked for review in 2019.

The main point of the review would be for us to interview the department chairs and faculty that intersect with the MDRC (not just members) and assess the extent to which the program is driven by the faculty and identify the extent and nature of influence by the outside advisory group. As part of the process we would want to allow faculty members to provide comments in confidence, if requested. We would be particularly interested in learning about the procedures used when hiring the new faculty identified as being members of the MDRC.

Best wishes -Ernie