1. Call to Order
   ● Attendance
     ■ Present
       ● Jon Stanhope
       ● Ramisa Tasnim
       ● Ryan Bloom
       ● Nani Suzuki
       ● Silvia Radulescu
       ● Kacy Hobbis
       ● Ilana Schwartz
       ● Aleta Brown
       ● Jeremy Cottle
       ● Danny Reyes
       ● Conor Craven
       ● Conor O’Shea
       ● Adam Markhoff
       ● Antonia Ng
       ● Zach Oscar
       ● Jack Martin
       ● Adrian Summers
       ● Harry Dubke
       ● Samantha Gordon
       ● Jonathan Kirshenbaum
       ● Jordan D’Addio
       ● Ben Katz
       ● Ishan Bhatia
       ● Cesar Guerrero
       ● Julian Perricone
       ● Eseosa Asiruwa
       ● Ram Franqui
     ■ Excused
       ● Mari Hiller
       ● Max Kohn
     ■ Absent

2. New Business
   ● Nadav Konforty nominated by Jordan D’Addio ‘20 as Freshman Class Representative.
     ○ Nadav Konforty: Hello, my name is Nadav Konforty and I am a Freshman. I am a potential Government Major, and am involved in
Ultimate Frisbee and Rainbow on campus. I am very happy and excited to be here, you all look like very nice people.

- **Nadav is confirmed with an SA vote as the new representative!**

**New Director of Campus Safety introducing himself to the Central Council.**

- **Frank Coots:** Hi, my name is Frank Coots and I am very excited to be a part of the Hamily. It is my job to serve you and to ensure the safety of all students, faculty and administration. My prior career was in law enforcement. I spent 33 years in the New York State Police. I am a retired troop commander from central NY. I was involved in many different things, and big events--I was privileged to be a member of the state police. This opportunity here at Hamilton was a new challenge for me and I wanted to be close to my family.
  - **Jeff Landry:** I just want to add that over the summer we almost always do a large scale drill, and we always have State Police involved. Frank has actually been a huge part of that for the last 9 years. He already knows many people on campus and is well known among the community.

- **Frank Coots:** Although I have not yet gotten to know a lot of the student body, you guys are all great role models as well as great team players. As Director of Campus Safety one of the biggest things for me is treating everyone with respect. That is how Campus Safety will be treating everyone on campus. Of course we are not perfect, as humans make mistakes, but we are here to hear your concerns and/or solve problems you may be having. You can all ask me whatever questions you want even if it is a dumb question. I promise it will be answered. We can't make things better if we don't know about the issues. If you are not comfortable in this forum I’m sure you know where the campus safety office is. I am very approachable and I want you to be able to bring things to my attentions. Jon Stanhope sent me a long email and told me about what SA has done in the past and the type of relationship he expects SA to continue to have with Campus Safety. However, sometimes we will disagree. Silvia asked about parking in certain lots, we looked at it and examined it and we came up with a compromise. We will work with you with your concerns and requests. I promised Silvia that we would examine the parking lot issue and now maybe we can expand it to other parking lots on campus. Miss Gilder at admissions asked if we could open the parking lot there in non school hours. I think that is a fair request especially when we have a lot of parking lots that are unoccupied for two thirds of the day. You will all be seeing an email soon about that issue. Unfortunately we also have bed bugs on campus and it is not concentrated in one area. There will be dogs trying to look across campus. So don't get alarmed, the dogs are just looking for bed
bugs. If you hear rumors about the dogs being here other reason, I assure you it’s just bedbugs. Again I just want to clarify for everyone that my biggest idea is treating others with respect.

- **Ilana Schwartz:** Welcome to the Hamily! This is the first time I’ve heard about this bed bug issue. What are you guys doing to fix the problem?
  - **Frank Coots:** The dogs will find the bed bugs and then we can get rid of them.
  - **Jeff Landry:** Physical Plant met with the first students affected and they are talking to them now. Clothing has been cleaned, some things have had to be thrown away, and rooms have been fumigated.
  - **Ilana Schwartz:** Do you think they will spread throughout campus?
  - **Jeff Landry:** Well it depends on what the students who had them were doing and where they went, but at this point it doesn't seem like a big outbreak.
  - **Frank Coots:** We can't really prevent it, but we can minimize it. The college is doing everything they can do about it.

- **Ilana Schwartz:** Something I heard from students is confusion about Campus Safety policies for driving students late at night. I think there has been some confusion in the past so I’m wondering if we can clarify just so everyone knows the rules.
  - **Frank Coots:** We will escort anybody anytime, of course, for reasonable requests. If you want to get from point A to point B and don’t feel comfortable walking then yes absolutely you should call. We would rather you call us, because the majority of times we will say yes, although sometimes we might say no.
  - **Jeff Landry:** Also it might not be an instant pickup, if there are just a couple of officers on patrol or one is at an EMT call then it could take 10 minutes or so.
  - **Ilana Schwartz:** Last semester there was a car driving around campus saying rude things, so a lot of people are being cautious now.
  - **Frank Coots:** We will do what we can do to make sure you are comfortable and safe.

- **Harry Dubke:** The Health and Safety committee has been talking about opening a dialogue between officers and students, maybe a round table discussion.
  - **Frank Coots:** I talked to administrator about how we can shorten the space between students and officers. In the summer, with the RAs for example, we could have more interaction that is informal. We try to break down those walls. It’s also important to have labor management, we are part of your learning experience, if you feel like it’s an adversarial relationship there won't be learning going on. I definitely encourage that. I don't know the particular processes but I will definitely be a part of it. You will see a little bit of a change, we are hiring a
couple new campus officers. There will be two new female officers in the midnight shift. We are a diverse group.

- **Ben Katz**: Is there an unmarked campus safety car?
  - **Frank Coots**: Yes, we have two unmarked cars. The director has one and the campus investigator has one.
  - **Wayne Gentile**: Sometimes on the weekend you will see the unmarked one because a lot of times we take that off campus for conferences and travels, so it would make sense to have that unmarked. It's not a secret spy mobile.

- **Zach Oscar**: I was wondering if there's anything you noticed that you personally want to look into and change as the director?
  - **Frank Coots**: The amount of alcohol consumption on this campus scares me. I am a parent and it's frightening. Alcohol consumption is much less than it was when I was in college. It's a short amount of time where it seems like alcohol is the most important thing on campus. It does concern me. But am I going to be the alcohol police? No. But I’m going to make sure that students who come here freshmen year leave senior year healthy. Whatever I can do to ensure that I will do. There are going to be times where you will have too much alcohol, I get that, but it's important for me to make sure that you all are safe.

- **Jack Martin**: In regards to what we talked about before this meeting, access to classrooms after midnight, did anything happen?
  - **Frank Coots**: I don't think it's an unreasonable thing. Most classrooms are opened until midnight, if there is a specific room that you need access to then I will make sure that we open it up and that you're there for the right reason. We might have to talk to faculty about that also.
  - **Wayne Gentile**: We discussed this a while ago. There are some concerns about after hours, for example if there is a fire, there's no way to tell who is there. Also, if someone was to get hurt, who would know? We discussed maybe leaving one of the entrances open, or having something there signing people out just to make sure we know where students are.
  - **Frank Coots**: As long as we know who is the building it could work. We want to make sure the faculty members also know.

- **Aleta Brown**: Along the same vein as your concern about alcohol consumption, I work on campus with sexual assault policy and am wondering if you would be open to collaborating with groups like that on campus?
Frank Coots: Of course. I am on the Oneida County Anti Domestic Violence task force. I spend much of my career working with sexual assault and domestic violence. I also have other resources that I could bring to the conversation.

Frank Coots: Also, if you are not comfortable with this forum then please email me, call me 315-264-0043 or come see me in my office.

3. Committee Reports and Meeting Times

- Constitution:
- Cultural Affairs: Wednesday 9pm
  - We had a meeting with Jayla Greene last week in regards to Sadove basement remodeling
  - On behalf of the Student Diversity C, we created a survey to hear ideas for the Remodelling of the Sadove Basement. Currently, we have received 164 responses.
  - Hamilton Rainbow Alliance is hosting author Terri Cook on Tuesday, April 4 at 7pm in the Chapel
  - Monday, April 3 - Friday, April 7 BLSU presents: The first ever Queer People of Color Week! Look out for events every day this week, BLSU sent out an email on Sunday with the full list of events.
  - Thursday, April 6th Feminists of Color Collective presents: SpeakEasy 7pm in Sadove Living Room
- Facilities:
  - Laundry cheat sheets will be redesigned, submitted for funding.
  - Physical Plant would like to display their equipment and capabilities on a weekly basis - advertisement will be created for this and submitted for funding.
  - Inquiring further about feminine products in bathrooms
  - Inquiring about additional power sources in both KJ and Library
    - Weekly display of physical plant equipment and capabilities - Wednesday 12:00PM - 2:00PM
      - Cesar Guerrero: I also received an email from Brown about the feminine products idea, if anyone has a recommendation please email me.
      - Ilana Schwartz: I think Physical Plant idea is a good idea and we should do some publicity for that. They play a really big role on campus.
Aleta Brown: My best friend goes to University of Rochester, and she participated in essay contest and it was about providing feminine products in bathrooms and she won, so I could share that with you.

Adrian Summers: The Womxn’s Center and BLSU, if I recall from our previous conversation in KJ during the day when Womxn’s Center was doing the cards for women on campus, agreed to help you with this. If you could send me an email regarding your project, I will forward it ask other organizations and you should follow up with the Womxn’s Center.

Cesar Guerrero: Should we leave this starting next semester? Because I don't know if there is time for this semester?

Everyone: Let's do it now.

Harry Dubke: If we assign people to talk about it with those who will be here next year, they will do it next year.

Food: Open hours with committee: Thursday at 12 in McEwen

- We have submitted the kitchen supplies list and are in the process of ordering equipment
- Participating in FYE cheese tasting event this Friday at 2:30 in McEwen
  - Talk to Freshmen about how they reach out to Bon Appetit about food needs
- Next meeting we will be begin planning for the Food Fair, tentatively taking place in early May

Adrian Summers: Have you had a chance to ask Bon Appetit about the policy for charging people that set up meal exchange programs?

Aleta Brown: Sometimes people take Hill Card numbers without telling those students who come to the meals, so some people are unaware about that. So there tends to be a lack of communication, I don't know the specifics but Reuben Haag should get back to me soon.

Silvia Radulescu: Does this include those on the 21 meal plan or just 14?

Aleta Brown: It includes everyone. I should have a list of that charge once I get the information.

Health and Safety: 12pm Sunday in Sadove
The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**APRIL 3, 2017**

- Met with the new Head of Campus Safety, Francis Coots, to discuss student access to academic buildings late at night as well as other pertinent issues. Invited Mr. Coots to meeting tonight.
- Free STD testing will be happening again, so we will look to promote this. (Students need to pre-register.)
- Will be creating 'Drink Water' Posters to be posted during C&C day.
- Free STD Clinic will be held in the Hamilton Student Health Center on April 13, 2017 from 2:30-6:30pm
  - **Jon Stanhope:** For the posters can we make other ones that are not just about drinking water, but also about helping your friends, etc.?
  - **Jack Martin:** Yes, we can make many designs.

**LITS:**
- New Student Planning website is available for students to schedule classes for future semesters, register for classes, view major requirements and progress, etc. It can be accessed in Webadvisor under Academic Planning section
- Muhammad brought back the idea of having printers in dorms. We plan on discussing it further
- Wifi updates
  - New movies on the Movie Channel (movies.hamilton.edu)
  - Student Planning website demo on April 6th at 4pm in the library // April 4th at 4pm - Tinker Tuesday 3D Pens
    - **Aleta Brown:** Regarding the printers, the primary roadblock was there was not a lot for people who were lab inspectors. If they did not have enough staff to check the printers then it is challenging to implement it.
    - **Jon Kirshenbaum:** Is this new planning website for this semester?
    - **Eseosa Asiruwa:** Well, it could be. But you can also use WebAdvisor. With the new website you can plan your future classes and talk to your advisors.

**Philanthropy:** Thursdays 7pm, Sadove 3rd floor
- Application deadline for Young Civic Leaders Scholarship approaching, we will begin reviewing them in the next couple weeks
- Silent Auction Gala: the afternoon of Sunday, April 16 in Sadove. proceeds benefiting our scholarship.

**Publicity:** 8:30 pm Sadove
- Discussing the designs for the Laundry Sheet that we are making in cooperation with the Facilities Committee.
Please send Nani pictures of your committee so she can post them on Instagram!

- Adrian Summers: Can you work with facilities and get the common charges from Physical Plant and post it on the website for students organizations?
- Jon Kirshenbaum: Yes.

- Social Traditions:
  - Getting started on Class and Charter Day
  - We are selling t-shirts for Class and Charter Day
- Student Affairs: Mondays 8:45 Sadove Lobby
  - In discussion with Walter Barleycorn (Education Manager at NYTimes) about how to maximize use of paper/electronic subscriptions
  - Working to get an NYTimes rep to campus later in the spring/next fall to spread info/pass out swag/etc.
  - Look for an all-campus email to come out shortly with information/details
- Conor O’Shea: I think it would be helpful if the online information for the NYT subscriptions was setup like what we have WebPrint and how to setup your WiFi, with links and instructions.
- Noelle Niznik: Not many students are currently using the digital passes for the NYTimes (we have 100 per day) but people have been taking the paper copies.

### 4. Funding
Total Available in General Fund: $6,144.61

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Items/Services Requested</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
<th>Amount Recommended</th>
<th>Resubmit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AfriCons</td>
<td>Speaker fee (collab with BLSU)</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned Parenthood Generation Action</td>
<td>Movie rights (Hamilton would keep copy)</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Week Committee</td>
<td>Subsidizing Senior Week (hold)</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special K
Travel costs for invitational (April 8th)
$297.57

Novelists’ Support Group
Speaker fee: How to publish novel
$500

Woollcott Cooperative
Larger dinner (35 people)
$280

Student Assembly Discretionary
Bowdoin conference registration/food/travel/hotel for 3 people
$931

Amount requested: $1,627.57 (general fund) + $30,000 (senior week hold) + $931 (discretionary fund)
Amount recommended: $1,130 (general fund) + $30,000 (senior week hold) + $931 (discretionary fund)
Amount remaining if funding passes: $5,094.61 (general fund) + $2589.20 (discretionary)

Funding passes for Africans and Planned Parenthood
Funding passes for Senior Week Committee
Funding Passes for novelists support groups and CO-OP

- **Adrian Summers**: Is there any way to make an exception for Special K. Sometimes things just come up unexpectedly and then give a warning.
  - **Ilana Schwartz**: The past couple of meetings we talked about setting precedents. Obviously it is not ideal but we have constitution for a reason. Important to set precedent, we can't just forgo rules because it is a fun event. Because it could happen repeatedly in the future.
  - **Ben Katz**: Based on the condition are we allowed to waive the rule?
  - **Conor O Shea**: You would have to move to waive the rules--that means all the rules. It's a significant procedural thing to do… although it is possible.
  - **Ryan Bloom**: We could fund this from the discretionary fund-- that doesn't follow the rules of general fund. Although, as Ilana said, I don't recommend this because it does not set a good precedent and we haven’t done this for other groups.

Funding passess as recommended for Special K

- **Conor O Shea**: Can you give more information about the Conference?
The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING
APRIL 3, 2017

○ Jon Stanhope- This is a NESCAC event, and because most NESCAC schools are very similar we thought getting many students together to talk about the problems and solutions on College Campus would be helpful. There are six schools confirmed. The idea is that it will rotate through college campuses in future years.

○ Aleta Brown- I went my freshman year and it was at Bates, so there is precedent. There was a NY 6 conference in the past also. It was an incredibly valuable experience.

○ Ben Katz: How much would that leave in discretionary fund?

○ Ryan Bloom: $2589.20

Funing passess as recommended

4. Public Comment Period

NOTE: Rather than separate Public Comment Period from the Central Council’s discussion, in this specific meeting the decision was made to combine the two. For all of the following discussion everyone is seated around the same table and talking order is open to anyone present—SA representatives or not. In addition, everyone has agreed to abide by four basic ground rules. 1) One person, one mic; 2) Attack the idea, not the person; 3) Interpret everything in good faith; 4) Stoicism! No eye rolling or mumbled comments.

5. Conversation about how SA promotes and encourages diversity and inclusion:

- Florence Turiaf: I am here tonight because I heard that this meeting was about how Student Assembly can encourage and include people of color. That included me and my friends, so I decided to attend.

- Zach Oscar: Just so everyone is aware, this meeting was spurred in part when a member of the freshman class resigned and sent an email essentially saying the reasons why she resigned, one of them being she needed time for her academics and the other being that SA does not incorporate voices that needs to be heard. I am focusing my comments right now about that email. The first thing is that I appreciate her expressing her ideas, especially in a resignation email. One aspect that she brought up was the way students are represented on campus, specifically regarding the DMC walkway. She added that our job should not be to evaluate student concerns but simply to bring the concerns to the administration. To me, it seems that point was directed at the conversation we had with Steve Bellona, an administrator who would directly oversee the production of the walkway, who did come to a meeting to discuss the feasibility of building the walkway. A big part of our job as Student Assembly is to evaluate the feasibility of these projects.
and see if we can really accomplish things, so I thought that portion of the email was a misguided criticism.

- **Silvia Radulescu:** I would like to address the last paragraph in the email. This individual said that she would prefer to do protests and sit-ins rather than work closely with the administration. She writes “I personally do not see how we can make any real, impactful change on campus if we work with the system that works against underrepresented students.” This point stood out to me, because the way Student Assembly gets things done is by working with members of the administration. We rely on our constitution and we have a systematic approach to solving problems. Members of the administration do respect us. We write resolutions (or at least, we used to a few years ago), and resolutions make us look at the problem more thoroughly and come up with various solutions. Writing and presenting a resolution to the assembly requires looking closely at the issue, gathering ALL necessary information, and thinking through the arguments of dissenting opinions. We have to be able to ask ourselves, and each other, both the basic and nit-picky questions, because those are the same questions members of the administration will ask when we take the next steps to solve the issue(s). Furthermore, we have to be able to filter the issues we want to take to the administration. If we go to them for every little grievance we have, not only will we lose credibility in their eyes, but bigger issues will be drowned out. And the way we filter the issues is by asking the questions, and writing the resolutions. If we can’t put down the issues and solutions on a piece of paper coherently, then how do we expect to convince administrators to change x or y?

- **Aleta Brown:** I have been on Student Assembly for a long time. I am a class representative AND an activist, so I don't think those things are mutually exclusive. I understand why the individual said what she said. Feeling like you don't have someone to support you on SA is an awful and intimidating feeling. I think we all need to remember why we are here: according to the Student Assembly website, “Student Assembly also acts as a liaison between students, faculty, and the administration. We always seek to address student concerns at our weekly meetings and often host students and administrators as guest speakers in order to best address these concerns. Student Assembly's singular role as a voice for all students means that we consistently catch the ear of Hamilton's administration. We are proud of the results of our cooperation…” We are the voice of the student body. The way we interact with the groups that are approach SA is a direct reflection on us as student leaders. We have to listen, our job is to listen to the Student Body. You don’t have to agree with everyone but you do have to show them the respect and consideration you would want someone to show you. I just want the members of SA to reflect and ask themselves why they are here.
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- **Conor O’Shea:** To Aleta’s point about directing concerns in meetings, I think we need to engage with outside voices and commit to being upfront about this. The minutes do get published, everyone reads the minutes here at Hamilton. Respect, active listening, and empathy are all paramount. But we do need to have a pragmatic mindset and ask questions of, and share concerns about, any proposals. I would rather the details get fleshed out here rather than during meetings with a Dean or the President, where if the details aren’t figured out then Jon or whoever looks unprepared. I do try to understand the comment made about the domination of voices shutting out that of others, but at the same time, if you want your voice heard you need to raise your hand and speak up in meetings. Also, run for elections. Some candidates have won with only getting 4 write-in votes. The fact that we have non-competitive elections is really sad, because student government matters.

- **Jack Martin:** Cultural groups do not feel adequately represented by Student Assembly. Instead of defending ourselves we need to make amends. Members of cultural organizations who do come in here feel like Student Assembly does not listen and it's typically because of our body language during meetings. Cultural groups feel unheard as a result. To change this we need to write more resolutions that reflect cultural organizations’ demands.

- **Adrian Summers:** First, thank you to every single person who accepted my invitation tonight and came to this meeting. I believe a lot of people are here because I personally worked hard to get their voices in the meeting, not because Student Assembly sent out an email. Next, I don't think it is safe to evaluate the merit of something, specifically an issue about marginalized or underrepresented people, if they're not here. A lot of people don't come to the public comment, and because of the fact that they are not here to evaluate for their concerns, we miss their argument. In terms of the SA environment, people do not feel comfortable here, and I want us to think about why that this, and why the representative who resigned did not feel comfortable enough to voice what seems to be a long list of concerns. Our environment is not always welcoming because there are people who have side conversations, roll their eyes, interrupt people, and someone brave enough to come to a meeting who sees that might not come back. I would also like to respond to Conor O’Shea’s point that people with this concerns need to “speak up” and “run for elections” if they want to be heard. As I said, the environment here is very toxic, and we need to unpack why it is that people do not feel comfortable speaking. Lastly, In terms of me, I know that am super confident, yet sometimes even I feel uncomfortable with the toxicity of room and hesitate or refrain from speaking. I can’t imagine how someone who is less confident might feel in this environment.
• **Areej Haroon:** This is my second meeting. At the last meeting, I saw students acting disrespectful to my fellow classmates of color. They were far too comfortable and familiar in doing this when certain people spoke. To then ask students of color to speak and run for elections in such settings, does not address the problem. We can go through the email and pick out things to agree and disagree with, but I want to ask the Assembly -- can you say that this Assembly is a safe place for students of color? Because students of color do not feel like this is a safe space. So we as an Assembly and a Student Body have to ask what can we do about this. We have been having conversation for regarding these matters for far too long and it is time to turn it into action.

• **Zach Oscar:** Picking out things in the email is beside the point. This demonstrates even you being here, demonstrates lessens the complaint from the email. To say I see all of these problems but I am not going to be the one to address them, this is the excellent example of SA doing something about it. This shows a commitment to creating change. I think Adrian raises a good point. The personal pull of inviting people to contribute to the conversation. Before break, Adrian and I talked about the disrespectful behavior he was receiving. Adrian as a new member has been very vocal, Areej is completely correct. If we are going to have an Assembly meeting, why are we going to have side convos when people are speaking? Part of getting people to run is going up people and telling them these are issues we are talking about and inviting people to come to the meetings. I believe the Task Force I created has the potential to do that. That will help make it not seem like every Monday night behind double doors we are having our own secret meeting. We need to entertain not just inside opinions but other opinions from members of the student body, too.

• **Harry Dubke:** I have a question for the people not on SA that showed up tonight: What do you think we can do to specifically change this?
  - **Shaina Coronel:** What are the repercussions when someone makes a snide comment or has a side conversation?
  - **Jon Stanhope:** There haven’t been any formal repercussions. We’ve talked as an Assembly about the need for people to behave professionally in meetings, and it seems like since then the prevalence of the side comments and inappropriate facial expressions has gone way down.
  - **Ben Katz:** I felt that the discussion in which we had the biggest body language problem was not about the DMC pathway, but about funding the Powder Club budget. I think treating people with respect is a wider issue not just specific to people of color.
Peggy Horne: During my time, the toxic environment did affect my well-being and was a factor in my decision to step down. However, to speak to something that has been done well tonight, I love that we have brought this back table into the circle, making us back here feel like a part of the conversation. In the past, I have felt that the table in the back shoves people in the back. While you are our elected representatives, putting us around the table makes us feel like we are equal and peers rather than less than. Speaking to the topic of body language and eye rolls, when I noticed body language in past meetings, it has been the little things when people have been talking. It has been consistent throughout the meetings in addition to larger instances of it, too.

Shaina Coronel: From the two meetings that I have been in we keep talking about “this person” being unfairly treated, and it's Adrian, the only black male. Just pointing out that there has been inappropriate behavior. I hope we get real repercussions. I think there needs to be more than vocal consequences.

Conor Craven: I wanted to clarify a few things. The statement in the email that the “vast number of SA members” are white, cis, straight, upper class men, is false. If you look at the diversity of the student body and compare that to the diversity on SA, we do a pretty good job representing all students on campus (Note: at the time of the email’s writing 11/30 SA members were white males of potentially varying sexuality and socioeconomic status). Second, I found the statement that “the fact that they take up this space from people of color” to be problematic because the phrase “taking up space” is a bit strong. We have a pretty open system of how anyone can talk. I understand the complaints of people not feeling welcome, but everyone has the right to speak. I don't remember this individual speaking a single time about issues concerning students of color. We did bring the crosswalk and he made it clear that he had no desire to do so because of safety reasons.

Peggy Horne: I would like to respond to this since the person who wrote this email is not here to defend themselves. To portray their feelings of their time on the Assembly, think back to when you were in elementary or middle school, and you would offer an answer to a question that ended up being wrong. Instead of feeling proud for offering a solution or accomplished for participating, your teacher made you feel dejected and put down for giving a wrong answer. That’s how this room has felt for some people, and this is possibly why this person did not choose to participate as much as other members.

Conor O’Shea: We are losing sight of the fact that these complaints about disrespect and not being heard are coming from real people. When side conversations are happening, or
when people are rolling their eyes, there is at least one SA member sitting next to that person who isn’t engaged in that side conversation. There needs to be more representative-to-representative accountability during meetings. That's something I can try to be better at, that we all can. It's not just Jon’s job. This person-to-person approach is not effective in isolation. I think we should create formal repercussions for repeated disrespect during meetings – something like a strike system. As it stands now, the only formal reasons that I can think of that cause you to lose your spot as a rep are (1) being late/absent to too many meetings, and (2) bribing someone during an election. Being disrespectful to other reps and students should join that list.

- **Cesar Domenech:** As a person of who is not from this country, I want to say that I’ve never felt oppressed, or faced great discrimination in SA. In my experience as someone who fits the stereotypes of a minority, I feel like I have been given an open and fair forum, so when I see these conversations, I can’t really relate. I have said stupid things and we have all laughed, but I have made some contributions and people acknowledge that here. I respect the student body and the people here because they care about the students. There is a sentiment that we are lazy students who don't do anything, but we do a lot.

- **Jordan D’Addio:** First of all there are things I agree and disagree with in the email, but I just want to say that it's not the macro aggressions that people are talking about. There’s a word for the things we keep bringing up like the eye-rolling and the side conversations, and that word is microaggressions, which aren’t acceptable behavior and need to be addressed.
  - **Cesar Domenech:** This is human nature, as a student leader you should be able to go past these aggressions.

- **Leslie Campos:** This is just my second SA meeting and I am a SENIOR. What I personally believe and what I have gotten is that Hamilton has a generational problem. If nothing changes here or out there this convo will continue to happen in the future. No one in my group of peers has ever told me that this is a place where we can get things done. I don't know about you guys but I didn't know half of you when I walked in here. In my experience, Student Assembly has been a laughing stock, and thats embarrassing to me because this is my school. The truth is things are getting done without you guys, you can have the people, the numbers, but what do you guys want? Do you really want to serve the Hamilton campus?

- **Aleta Brown:** Cesar, I’m glad you had a great experience, but we shouldn't negate the fact that just because you had a good experience that another person has had a bad one. I am going to offer some resolutions. We need better forms of feedback. Perhaps we can
have an anonymous link of what people want to say in the weekly all campus emails so they can freely voice their concerns. That are important. If you are privileged, do your homework, and if you don't know what a microaggression is then learn about these things. Third, listen to understand not just to react. Listen to people to understand what they are saying. Before you disagree, listen and genuinely try to understand. Don't immediately dismiss but ask questions before you judge and offer up alternatives. Last, remember why we are here, we are here to serve all the students of Hamilton College to the best of our ability, not just ourselves. My freshmen year there was a huge blowup about race on campus. If you go on SA facebook page there is a photo album for our “know thyself” campaign and it shows pictures about my project, to get concerns of students out there. It's one thing to say you're gonna listen, it's another to act. Don't take this position lightly.

- **Adrian Summers**: I’m gonna follow Aleta’s train of thought, going back to the representative who resigned point about certain people “taking up space.” Maybe the issue is that the same people talk more than others. This might also work for Zach’s earlier point about 8-10 people talking consecutively and all the time. Sometimes, people may not feel comfortable speaking or voicing their opinion because most of the room has made it perfectly clear that they disagree. Even if they get on the talking order, they may pass their spot or second guess themselves. As I’ve said, I’ve hesitated to speak because of this. I had an idea that we bring up a topic where people make 2-3 comments in support of it, and then whoever is taking talking order can see if there anyone with an opposing opinion so everyone gets a chance to talk. We can pause the conversation to see if anyone has differing opinions, and if there are none and the room is in agreement, then we can move on and vote. I encourage all of you to think about solutions.

- **Areej Haroon**: I recommend Peggy McIntosh's *White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack*. I can tell you that you will never understand, but you can try. Because to me it seems as though time and again we come in here saying “black lives matter” and your arguments back only tell us “yes, but all lives matter.” I can give you an example from just earlier, when we were moving the tables to make space for everyone to come together -- and there were two individuals specifically who got especially upset. Do we have to call people out in the minutes to make them respect? We are not in high school, we are adults, students at one of the most elite liberal arts institutions in the country, we should not be behaving like this.

- **Jon Kirshenbaum**: We need to be weary of the perception that we are assigning different weights to different forms of diversity. We cannot can’t assume that coming from one group or another is in any way more important or legitimate. I think this
conversation feels to some as though it has become an issue of persons of color against Student Assembly, or against the privileged people on Student Assembly and vice versa. Of course, the concerns that have been raised by SA reps, and our present guests are legitimate and demanding of discussion, however, the disrespect that has been mentioned (e.g. eye-rolling, expressions of exasperation) should not be misunderstood as a one-way, potentially race motivated flow as has been suggested. Let me be clear, individuals have been disrespectful and it certainly needs to stop, but it flows both ways; many of the same individuals concerned with said disrespect are guilty of the same behavior. I am seeing it right now, in this very moment, from some of those persons across the room. I think it’s dangerous to turn this issue into one of weighing one individual’s differences against another’s when the particular issue at hand is purely one of individual behavior. Finally, per Aleta’s point about offering potential resolutions, Yassine and I were approached by a student on the Spectator writing a piece about SA’s prior pathway discussion, and asked to write opposing viewpoints on the issue. I am tremendously aware of the possible perception that arguing in opposition of the issue may appear to be arguing in opposition of the principle, which I personally do not. I sincerely hope people do not interpret it that way, but I do believe that it is always, always, always important to have the discussion, and I hope that Yassine and I are able to do that in a meaningful fashion.

● **Silvia Radulescu:** I agree with Kirsh that our rude comments/body language are not limited to the privileged/POC discussion we are having. Part of the problem is at the individual level. There have been times when we have been rude or condescending to each other, not because of race or class or gender, but because of [maybe] a rough week or a personal tiff. This conversation is absolutely appropriate and has been very constructive tonight, but we should also acknowledge how we treat people on an individual level, in order to make progress. I think one short-term solution could be getting to know each other beyond these weekly 9:00-10:30 meetings. When you get to know someone as a person, instead of “the annoying kid who always complains about the jitney,” for example, you’re more likely to understand where he/she is coming from, and you are less likely to discount their points as soon as they raise their hand to speak. Student Assembly is political and social and the interaction we have with each other during these meetings DO influence the work we get done and goals we achieve. Making an effort to get to know other members on the Central Council on a personal level might be a good starting point to address the eye-rolling and body language.

● **Florence Turiaf:** I think this conversation has been interesting. I have been observing everyone and their body language, and I’ve seen disrespect come from a diverse array of people. I try to control my body language and see the humanity of everyone and I
challenge SA to do the same. I would challenge you to check yourself before having a reaction when talking to someone. Other people are a reflection on yourself, it doesn't say anything about the other person it says something about you. I challenge everyone if you are getting triggered by someone to think first.

- **Julian Perricone:** I’d like to detach Student Assembly as an institution from the people who makeup SA. I think as a group we might sometimes struggle, and it may be true that we don’t get everything accomplished, but there are people here who do outstanding work every week. I think it comes down to the individual. I think our challenge should come down to who we are individually, and walk away with what we can all do.

- **Jack Martin:** You may remember when last semester I gave a very negative speech regarding the apathy of SA when running for President. First, I want to apologize about that. Everyone works hard here. Yet, I find it bizarre that we think that's enough. Cultural groups are not attacking us tonight. Rather, they are challenging us. They have bravely entered a toxic environment tonight, one defined by the fact that a former, marginalized member of SA felt so silenced that they resigned via email. We do a good job but I don't see the harm in saying we can do better.

- **Muhammed Najib:** Thank you everyone for coming here and speaking. First I want to convey the idea that everyone’s good at heart and we should be ready to give each other the benefit of the doubt. It's human nature to be judgemental; we tend to pass judgements. For the issues that exist, there's always room for improvement. This discussion is a step towards progress. We respect and understand everyone's opinion who came today. Although it is possible for underrepresented groups to become a part of the Student Assembly, we understand that it can be challenging. We totally understand the obstacles facing marginalized groups on campus to have their voice heard in the Student Assembly and to address these issues, we are going to keep on talking.

- **Jon Stanhope:** I also want to thank everyone that showed up to this meeting tonight and contributed to this discussion. I am very delighted with how smoothly the whole meeting went and how much was said. I’m going to stick around here for about a half hour if anyone wants to come and talk to me about anything mentioned tonight. You can also reach me at email at jstanhop@hamilton.edu. I hope we will be able to continue this discussion and hone in on what exactly the problems are so that we can then turn this discussion into concrete action. Also, I encourage everyone here to come to future meetings and to run for a position for the next school year!

### 6. Announcements
The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**APRIL 3, 2017**

- Class and Charter Day Awards survey was sent out today. Please submit your nominations this week!
  - Submissions will all be anonymous. Please include the student name in your recommendation.