

Student Assembly Meeting

April 7, 2014

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Old Business

- Wertimer Teaching Award
 - Collecting nominations from all students
- Health & Safety Committee: Class & Charter Day Suggestions
 - How to make C&C day safe; fewer EMT calls and transportations
- Elizabeth Aries discussion on race was earlier today
 - Very successful discussion
 - Students spoke up about personal issues they have faced and general race issues on campus
 - A mix of faculty and students in attendance

3. Funding

Amount remaining prior to Student Assembly meeting 4/7: \$805.28

Rollbacks:

\$115.80 from NY Times

\$163.69 from SLU

\$15 from Finance Club

*See funding attachment

Total requested from Spring 2014 budget (excluding holds): \$996.32

Total recommended from Spring 2014 budget (excluding holds): \$792.32

Amount remaining if recommended funding passes 4/7: \$12.96

Funding for IMF passes.

Funding for LiNK passes.

Please email satreas@hamilton.edu if your organization has any money it can roll back!

4. Committee Reports

- Constitution
 - See below
- Cultural Affairs
 - Elizabeth Aries spoke earlier today
 - Last week's Cultural Food Truck event hosted by Hillel had a big turnout
 - French Club will be hosting this week's Cultural Food Truck event in Sadove at 6:00pm; there will be crepes
- Facilities
 - Staff Appreciation Day is next Wednesday (April 16th); thank you cards from the print shop if future funding passes; breakfast will be provided for staff
- Food
 - Survey being sent on allergies and diet restrictions this week
- Health and Safety
 - Reviewing survey results regarding reviews of the Health Center and Campus Safety

- Working on ideas of how to make C&C day more safe
- Meeting Wednesday at 7:00pm in KJ 250
- LITS
 - Still considering new furniture for the 1st floor
 - Poetry event in the library on Wednesday from 7:00-8:30pm
- Philanthropy
 - Raised \$250 from Super Smash Bros. Melee Tournament, benefitting the ABC House.
 - Meetings Thursdays at 7:00 pm on the 3rd floor of Sadove
 - Co-sponsoring the HAVOC dodgeball event April 19th
- Social Traditions
 - Waiting to hear back from Bon Appetit about costs for tailgate
- Student Interests
 - Next meeting Monday at 4:00pm on the 1st floor of Sadove
 - Student Interests Coffee Hour this Sunday 1:00-2:00pm outside Euphoria
 - Progress on having chargers made available to borrow in the library; will likely apply for funding next week
 - Meeting with Lisa this week to discuss Slip-'n'-Slide and TED talk ideas
 - Brainstorming ideas for promoting the Little Pub

5. New Business

- Discussion on Current Government Structure
 - 61% of elections have been uncontested in the last 3 years
 - Proposal of having 3 representatives per class delegation instead of 5; reduction of 8 SA positions
 - Goal of improving efficiency
 - Each member would only need to serve on one committee; goal of increasing commitment to committees; presidents would have to serve on Executive Committee as well; secretary/treasurers would have to serve on Funding Committee as well
 - The Elections Committee would be dissolved and elections duties would be given to VP
 - Senior Week Committee and Student Interests Committees would become project groups
 - Health and Safety, LITS, and Facilities would merge to become a Student Resources Committee
 - More competition for available positions will attract people who really want to put in a lot of effort when they run competitive campaigns
 - Comments:
 - Other NESAC schools have smaller governments than we currently do
 - E-board would be proportionally large compared to elected members
 - Currently a wide diversity of opinions
 - Senior Week Committee is a lot of work, and possibly the most productive committee; should remain a committee rather than a project group; good to phase seniors out of committees
 - Fewer members means less democratic assembly
 - Consider a reduction of 5 representatives to 4
 - Health and Safety should remain an independent committee so that students have a way to review on-campus services
 - The Student Resources Committee would still have a point-person for each of the 3 categories that fall under its umbrella
 - Worse to be understaffed than overstaffed
 - People could run for committee chairs rather than class representatives
 - SA members could vote for representatives who wish to return
 - Opportunity to change Hamilton College culture far into the future when they see 3 representatives as the norm; create a culture of competitiveness and student engagement
 - Fewer positions means that positions are more prestigious and coveted

- Student Interests Committee has worked hard this semester to improve the committee so that it remains viable; consider making it a Student Affairs Committee
- Eliminating positions means that each person has more accountability and responsibility
- Many members don't attend their committees
- Fewer representatives does not mean less diversity; it means that they will represent more people and more diverse opinions
- If SA increased efforts to reach out, there would still be a diversity of opinions and students will still be represented

6. Announcements

- NY6 Conference this Saturday
- Class President and Secretary/Treasurer elections coming up