Student Assembly Minutes  
April 29, 2013

1. Call to Order—9:00
2. Old Business
   • Sidney Wertimer Teaching Awards and Student Campus Service Awards will be presented on Class & Charter Day

3. New Business
   • Travis Hill, Assistant Dean of Students for Residential Life, and Meredith Bonham, Senior Associate Dean of Students for Strategic Initiatives, on housing changes
     o Committee on First-Year Experience (which included Anthony Jackson ’15 and Isaac Handley-Miner ’14) formed in fall 2011 to talk about how to enrich the first year at Hamilton
     o Did discuss housing, it’s nice to live around other first-years who have things in common, are going through the same things
       ▪ Create class unity, concentrate programming on first-years
       ▪ Demand for REAL program has increased, could be expanded to South and Wertimer
       ▪ Lessen alcohol culture
     o Visited SA in fall to provide overview but questions about housing have since arisen, and plans have evolved
       ▪ Major, not Root, is becoming part of the first-year housing
     o Architects have created plans, budgets have been allocated, feedback is still welcome but changes are final
     o First-year beds in fall 2014: about 475 students, need 494 for flexibility
       ▪ Dunham basement, 1st floor, 2nd floor: 176
       ▪ Major: 68  
       ▪ Keehn: 54  
       ▪ Carnegie 3rd and 4th floor: 46
       ▪ Carnegie 1st and 2nd floor (study abroad/Jans): 33
       ▪ South: 126
       ▪ Wertimer: 45
     o Tried to minimize disruption to housing (as well as renovation), preserve singles for upperclassmen. First-years will not be housed in singles (they never have been).
     o Attempt to spread first-years across campus
Carnegie provides a good option for people studying abroad in the spring—leaves open beds for Jan admits.

Fac apps will be renovated to first-year housing.

North is not an option for first-year housing, singles cannot be renovated into doubles. Will be upperclassmen residence hall.

Minor Theater will be converted into upperclass apartments in fall 2015, but no other housing plans are set in stone for 2015.

Most quads will be eliminated for upperclass students, but it comes down to numbers for first-year housing and study abroad/Jans, and not everyone can be made happy.

- Quads don’t really facilitate first-year interaction but ResLife is stuck with trying to manipulate what they have, not building new
- Student brought up that quads create a lot of opportunity for conflict among 4 strangers

Student brought up that taking Carnegie away from upperclassmen disrupts housing culture while not helping first-year alcohol culture.

Dunham was considered as all first-year, but the numbers did not work.

We currently have 670 singles, 373 doubles, 21 triples, 80 quads, 2 5-pulls, 4 6-pulls

- Will lose less than 83 singles

Substance free areas may have to shift, numbers are based on expected demand.

Discussed value of living with first-year vs. value of living with experienced upperclassmen

- Report outlines reason for new system, our peers have systems like this, survey data supports it

There seems to students to have been limited discussion on the issue of the new plan

- There was opportunity for discussion which students did not take earlier in the process
- Feedback has been contradictory, limited

Rogers is sub-free because there is an increased demand for sub-free, there have been issues with mistreatment of Rogers at parties

- The intention was to explicitly outline the changes in the sub-free email, but there was a mistake and that was not sent out, it was updated in the Guidebook
Student thinks isolating first-years makes drinking more dangerous, not less so
  ▪ No one there who has experience, can mentor
  ▪ Idea of separate mentor (in addition to RA) addressed, but that is the RA’s job
ResLife said Carnegie’s current environment had no effect on the decision to switch it to first-year housing
Students complain of problems with variety for upperclass students
THESE ARE THE FINAL HOUSING PLANS. Students’ opinions are appreciated, but the project is moving forward. First-year programming is still flexible.

4. Committee Reports
   • Elections
     o Elections for representatives begin tonight, end Thursday. Congratulations to last week’s winners: Felipe Garcia ’14, Isaac Handley-Miner ’14, Jose Vazquez ’15, Teresa Viteri ’15, TC Topp ’16, and Ryan Ong ’16.
     o Write-ins encouraged, especially in class years where fewer than 5 are running
   • Social Traditions
     o Selling t-shirts for Class & Charter concert soon
   • Food
     o Greek yogurt is coming back
     o Crunchy peanut butter is also coming back
   • Technology
     o Meeting Thursday 4:15 in the Beinecke fireplace lounge
   • Facilities
     o Emailed ResLife about updating online floor plans
     o Working with Physical Plant, Campus Safety, and the Dean of Students Office to discuss bikes; discussion continued next semester. Bike Path being installed over the summer. Sending an all-campus email.
     o Meeting Sunday at 5 in Sadove
   • Cultural Affairs
     o New York City Day Trip was a success! Visited the MET and 9/11 memorial, even had some Chipotle for dinner
     o International Food & Culture Festival will be May 7th, 5-6 p.m. in Sadove, cultural organizations have been contacted in terms of participation
     o Meeting tomorrow in Sadove 3rd floor, 8 p.m.
• Alcohol and Controlled Substances
  o Last week was Alcohol Awareness Week, was successful, had drunk goggles event
  o Got all-campus email
  o Meetings Thursdays 6:30 in Sadove sunporch
• Philanthropy
  o $230 raised for Make-A-Wish Foundation for their car wash
  o Thanks to all who participated in the AIDS Hike for Life
  o Philanthropy Committee has six main charities to decide upon and is brainstorming goals, vision, and projects for the 2013-2014 academic year. Lots of exciting activities are in store.
  o Presenting check to ABC House next week

5. Funding

No funding this week, next week is the last week for funding
We are still accepting rollbacks
Current balance is $146.99

6. Announcements
• Thank you to all the guests at tonight’s meeting!
• Thanks to Anthony for his email about the Housing Lottery
• Final IMF concert of the year this Saturday
• Class & Charter Weekend schedule
  o Concert Friday at 6 p.m., regular class schedule
  o Class & Charter awards on Monday, regular class schedule
• Social spaces survey is out, responses needed: https://hamilton.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_brZg4q9xC5jTiF7