Student Assembly Minutes  
May 6, 2013

1. Call to Order—9:04
2. Old Business
   • Housing debrief with Nancy Thompson and Meredith Bonham
      o Since the last SA meeting, there have been meetings with Travis, Meredith, and members of the student body, and there are new proposals
      o Keep Carnegie and South as is, give North and Wallace Johnson to first-years (if North can be renovated)
         ▪ Having Wally J and Wertimer together could create a sense of community
      o Student proposal from 2nd Housing Forum: move students from 1s floors of Keehn (and 4 students from Keehn fac app) and Major into a floor of Minor/other Dark Side residence halls; to be discussed further with ResLife
      o Board of Trustees has to approve construction documents in June to move forward on budgeting and planning
3. New Business
   • Nancy Thompson and Meredith Bonham on Committee on Greek Recruitment's recent decision
      o Meeting prior to SA with heads of Greek societies and Nancy
      o Report suggests moving rushing/bids to spring semester, pledging to fall semester and reducing time of pledging to 5 weeks
         ▪ Allowances made for transfers
      o Mandatory meeting for all pledges, have each organization submit annual report including pledging activities, student activities fair for Jans, pledging activities can only take place or 3 hours or less a day, conclude before 1 a.m. on weekdays, 3 a.m. on weekends
      o Complaints at prior meeting included communication of plan, transition year without pledging, segregation of first-years, small societies could be hurt (especially by year without pledging)
      o People on sports teams play a lot more sophomore year than first-year, pledging could detrimentally affect them
         ▪ All athletes get first year as student and athlete without pledging
         ▪ Hopefully Greek organizations will structure pledging accordingly
      o Dean of Admissions Monica Inzer doubted that this decision would affect accepted students' feelings, she has very few questions about pledging, so a transitional year does not make much sense
         ▪ If it improves the community, why wait a year?
         ▪ Pledging can help first-years meet upperclassmen, create community at Hamilton
      o The College and Nancy Thompson, and this Committee did not consider getting rid of Greek life, focused only on timing
         ▪ Tangible benefits to this schedule seen at other schools
      o Why suspend sophomore pledging during a transitional year?
         ▪ Committee felt that the strongest transition was this one, it is a one semester delay of pledging
         ▪ What about rising sophomores who hope to pledge next year and go abroad in their junior year?
         ▪ Greek members of the Committee most strongly supported the clean break
• Very few upperclassmen pledge, didn’t make sense to base the policy on the exception and not the rule
  • It is hard for sophomores to pledge already, this makes it even harder
  o Abolishing residential Greek societies in 1995 led to an increase in participation, not an end
  o Committee was very small, discussions were closed
  o Small societies could be hurt by this plan
  o Concern that this would drive pledging underground in rebellion
  o Break between rushing and pledging is very long, could be detrimental
  o There are several big changes in this report, concern that it could damage confidence of organizations comprising large percentage of student body
    • Committee members, including Greek members, put aside personal considerations to work for good of system as a whole, strengthen Greek system and campus
  o Pledging can help integrate Jans into campus as a whole
  o Many alums are shocked at how long pledging lasts (it used to be a week)
  o Meredith and Dean Thompson have to work within confines of laws
  o The administration is not looking for an alternate proposal, the college has to make and uphold certain decisions and this is one
  • The housing issue was not the norm
  o Many students still do not understand how this will strengthen Greek organizations, releasing some of the survey data or more information about the decision making process might help
    • There were other factors to consider as well as the data
  o Students are encouraged to send Anthony any major concerns they have that they would like the Board to consider in making their final decision
    (axjackso)
  • Nominations for the Honor Court
    o Changes to the Constitution include applications, not elections, confirmed by Student Assembly
      • Ben Anderson ’14
      • Hillary Kolodner ’14 for fall/Kim Wang ’14 for spring
      • Deanna Cho ’15
      • Will Robbins ’15
      • Benjamin Wesley ’16
      • Katherine Getman ’16
      • Ben Ligas ’14 as chair in the spring semester
      • No oppositions
  • Budget discussion
    o Hold for SA (odd to apply to ourselves for funding)
    o We do have some holds
    o Issue is not that we do not have enough money, but that if we have left over from the holds we do have, they go to general fund instead of our being able to use them
    o Tabled for fall semester
  • Goals for the fall semester
    o Gathering exec committee members ahead of time to set goals
    o Better communication from SA to students (SA page, Beinecke wall, etc.)
    o Actively recruiting candidates for election, better publication of platforms
    o With any other suggestions, email Anthony
4. Committee Reports

- Elections
  - Please congratulate the following new representatives!
    - Class of 2014: Sam Wagner, Marla Marquez, Tara Huggins, Nile Berry, Alexandra Rudow
    - Class of 2015: Catie Cooper, Brady Sprague, Gipper Gailor, Mercy Corredor, Mark Parker-Magyar
    - Class of 2016: Emily Rivera, Lia Parker-Belfer, Jose Olivares, Pheobe Greenwald, Jordan Zeng

- Social Traditions
  - discussed plans to sell C&C shirts this week, shirts are on sale in Beinecke from 11-2 Monday-Thursday this week and are $10 (cash only)
  - Macklemore and Ryan Lewis would not let Hamilton put their names on the t-shirts, although Social Traditions wanted to
  - If the concert is indoors due to weather, it will be in the Fieldhouse, not the Annex
  - New this year: mandatory bracelets for concert entry, guests must be registered by midnight Tuesday (only Hamilton students and their +1 can come to this free concert)
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  - New this year: mandatory bracelets for concert entry, guests must be registered by midnight Tuesday (only Hamilton students and their +1 can come to this free concert)
  - Register guests at: [https://docs.google.com/a/hamilton.edu/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHhrY2RRQzlXOWRRdTBobGR0UmxvSHc6MQ#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/a/hamilton.edu/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHhrY2RRQzlXOWRRdTBobGR0UmxvSHc6MQ#gid=0)

- Food
  - Thanks for a great semester!
  - If anyone is interested in Food Committee for fall semester 2013, contact fgarcia, next year will be even bigger and better!

- Student Interests
  - Will begin to evaluate our umbrella program this weekend, will begin the process of placing a hold for 200 umbrellas each semester if the program deemed a success
    - Would love input from the student body in whether or not we should continue investing in the umbrellas
  - Remember to take advantage of the ice coffee every Sunday from 2-3 in Sadove
  - In the process of planning our capture the flag game (first-years and seniors vs. sophomores and juniors) for next fall

- Technology
  - Discussed movies for the last few weeks of classes
  - Reached out to Jesse Thomas and hope to meet with him next week
  - Final meeting of the semester will be this Thursday at 4:15 p.m.

- Facilities
  - Online dorm floor plans will be updated this summer
  - Bike plan will be launched next year as a joint effort between SA, Campus Safety, and Dean Thompson
  - Looking for more projects for next semester

- Cultural Affairs
  - International Food Festival tomorrow, Tuesday May 7, from 5-6 p.m. outside of Sadove
There will be guacamole, empanadas, Vietnamese spring rolls, dumplings, and sushi!

- Alcohol and Controlled Substances
  - Thanks to those that got involved in Alcohol & Awareness Week, special thanks to BLSU
  - No meeting this week

- Philanthropy
  - Discussed goals for next semester and plans to present the ABC House check at the Student Assembly dinner

5. Funding

Allocations for Fall 2013

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<th>Organization</th>
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<td>HAVOC</td>
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**Bolds=holds**

*We would like to recommend that these funds come out of this year’s remaining budget if that is possible.

** There will be an updated budget proposal form for Fall 2013.

Funding passes in full

ANNOUNCEMENT:
Reimbursement envelopes are due by **THURSDAY, MAY 9TH AT 12 P.M.** in the Student Activities Office.

6. Announcements

- SA dinner at 6 p.m.
- Thanks to the seniors and good luck to everyone with finals!