Student Assembly Meeting
December 1, 2014

1. Call to Order

2. Old Business
   ● Snaps for:
     ○ Sexual Assault Prevention Committee for putting on a successful Campus Conversation Week!
       ■ Over 70 people took video clips for the sexual assault campaign video
     ○ Daniela Manzi for being an awesome SA Secretary!

3. New Business
   ● Steve Orvis: Committee on Academic Policy’s potential ideas
     ○ Here to comment on a potential course on diversity and inclusion in response to last years discussions
     ○ Creating a menu/list of all conceivable options for solutions to these issues
     ○ Student Assembly’s Comments:
       ■ Give students a selection of courses instead of requiring one specific course
       ■ Many courses in Women’s studies and Africana Studies are interdisciplinary in there approach and include diversity and inclusion
       ■ 3/4 of last years graduating class took a course that dealt with diversity in some way
       ■ Hobart and William smith colleges have a required courses, but they are a very broad menu of courses and are slightly watered down
       ■ The option was “Capstone public presentation”, there was not a lot of support form that from the CAB
       ■ The movement has come out with another constitution this week
       ■ A required curriculum courses have been brought up before but the social justice initiative five years ago
       ■ The option of taking half and quarter credit courses can benefit freshman
       ■ Wheaton college has diversity housing that anyone can apply to live in, adding themed housing is another option
       ■ The faculty are looking for student petitions, attendance at faculty meetings and other active participation in making change.
       ■ Theme housing might not apply because we are attempting to target students that are not taking steps to educate themselves
       ■ Another option, something on the transcript like “Diversity Distinction” that acts as an incentive for students to participate in these courses.
       ■ The idea behind a required course is that there would be one offered in each major
       ■ Dean’s list type of recognition for students that have achieved diversity achievements
       ■ Requirement would be better because ALL students must take this class
       ■ Requirement may be too overbearing and it should be students choice
Diversity is a lived expense that effects people more directly than subjects like environmental studies, so it is doubtful that they will add a list of requirements if we have one diversity requirement.

Guaranteeing registration for diversity courses like women’s studies because it is currently difficult to secure a spot in these classes.

Creating diversity requirement will take away from the schools open curriculum.

One course can have a huge effect on your life, and as long as that possibility exists there should be course.

It is Hamilton’s responsibility to teach students about these issues because it’s in their mission statement.

Students that do not want to take these classes but are required to will become hostile.

Creating a diversity section to club leader training or other more immediate impact.

Diversity liaisons from Greek life and athletic teams that attended a training at the Days-Massolo center.

Diversity discussion during orientation is not mandatory, there was low attendance this year.

The method the faculty want to use to educate students is most relevant right now.

- Hunter Sobczak: Discretionary Fund Language
  - Motion to suspend the rules is possible if there is an urgent need for funding
  - Unanimously passed

- Conversation on Yik Yak
  - Moved to next week

4. Committee Reports

- Constitution
  - Drafted language about the discretionary fund to present tonight (see above)

- Cultural Affairs
  - LV doing the last Cultural Food Truck of the semester

- Food
  - Last meeting of the semester next Friday

- LITS
  - Card swipe reader for the coffee machine is now live
  - Google Apps Roll-out: Youtube, Blogger, G+, Maps, and Picasa can now be enabled for you Hamilton account! Opt-in here
  - Is there a student need for non-academic color printing?
  - Ask Us 24/7 Service: Reminder that online chat with a reference librarian is now available at whatever time of day or night you need it

- Philanthropy
  - Last event “FIFA for philanthropy” this Saturday at 2:00PM in Sadove
    - in collaboration with Delta Phi and Men’s Soccer Team
  - Thank you to everyone who donated clothes to our Coat Drive and benefits the First Presbyterian Church in Utica
  - Thank you to everyone who donated food for our Thanksgiving Food Drive
    - benefits the Loaves and Fishes soup kitchen in Rome, NY

- Sexual Assault Prevention
  - Successful “It’s On Us” Week of Action before break
May set up another date for people to take part in the video campaign; will look into reaching out to faculty

- Social Traditions
  - Nothing new to report

5. Liaison Reports
   - Health and Safety
     - Nothing new to report
   - Facilities
     - Nothing new to report
   - Student Interests
     - Holiday lights on the bridge

6. Funding
   - Amount remaining prior to Student Assembly meeting 12/1: $10,286.20
   - Rollbacks: $142 from Mock Trial, $144.20 from NY Times, $10,000 from IMF
   - No requests from the General Fund this week
   - Funding from the Discretionary fund for SA sweatshirt logos is passed; $1,738.55 remaining in the Discretionary Fund
   - Reimbursement envelopes are due the last day of the semester!

7. Announcements
   - Presidential Elections are around the corner!
     - Important Dates:
       - 200 word platform due Tuesday 12/2 @12pm
       - Elections Mandatory Rule Meeting is on Tuesday 12/2 @4pm
       - 75 Signatures are due Friday 12/5 @ 4pm
       - Elections will be held from 12am Wed 12/10 to 11:59pm Thursday 12/11
   - Next meeting is our LAST meeting of the semester!