

STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

OCTOBER 22ND, 2018

1. Call to Order

Present

- Nadav Konforty
- Julian Perricone
- Amanda Kim
- Jake Engelman
- Samantha Gordon
- Karthik Ravishankar
- Casey Codd
- Jack Fischman (late)
- Harry Dubke (late)
- Richard Court
- Ben Rhind
- Connie Lorente
- Robert Hallock (late)
- Nani Suzuki
- Luis Morales
- Geoffrey Ravenhall Meinke
- César Guerrero
- Gianni Hill
- Savannah Kelly
- Morgan Perry
- Huzefah Umer
- Diana Perez
- Jiin Jeong
- Bryce Febres
- Lóri Fejes
- Finlay Adamson
- Keir Adamson
- Nasheley Boursiquot
- Eric Kopp

Absent

- Penelope Hoopes

2. Public Comment Period

3. New Business

4. Old Business

Org Recognition Appeals

Positive Thinking Club



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- **Kelly Elugardo:** So I spoke to the other two mental health clubs, and I got the general message of “yes, it should be your own club.” They really liked the idea of it being its own club, just in really close collaboration with them. So I agreed I would go to their meetings every Monday at 4 just to kind of reiterate “this is what we’re doing,” and then have my own meeting because I really like the idea of having another set of people working on bringing positivity to this campus, but still in close collaboration. They did talk about doing post-it notes and I told them that I was thinking that too, and they said “oh, that’s even better, now we have more people doing it.” They also were talking about us focusing on other things that they would like to do but can’t, because that would be too many things on top of each other. So they were really happy.
- **Bryce Febres:** For me when we were doing org recognition, the main thing was that this seemed like something that’s already being done and it would be a branch of one of those organizations, which is why we gave the recommendation to meet with them. But given that you did and you’ve worked with them on this and they’ve agreed that you should be your own club, I personally don’t see an issue with it. If they see it as beneficial for you to be on your own but working with them, it’s pretty much the same thing as your own branch.

Committee decision to reject Positive Thinking Club proposal overturned.

Liver Lovers Club

- **Nadav Konforty:** So we had some confusion last week with Liver Lovers Club and Playstation Club. They’re allowed to send in their appeals and we talk about it at the meeting. They aren’t required to come to the meeting and as you can see, these two clubs aren’t at the meeting. So we have their appeal and we’d talk about it and then we’ll vote.
- **Julian Perricone:** We’ll start with the information they gave us on their proposal.
 - Organization mission statement/description: *Liver Lovers will strive to provide quality alternatives to the weekend party scene through organized group activities and events. We will focus on creating Friday and Saturday evening events and fostering relationships between those who share the desire to restrain from the party scene. Officers will be responsible for organizing events, making necessary reservations, distributing funds and determining group interest in subsequent activities.*
 - How will this new club benefit the Hamilton College community? *This club will provide another option of activities for students to partake in that doesn't involve the party scene on the weekends. It can be difficult to find people to spend time with on the weekend if you are not interested in the party scene on campus. Liver Lovers will provide ways to meet more students who enjoy playing board games, playing manhunt, playing mini-golf, going apple picking, and more fun activities.*
 - What does your organization plan to accomplish (events, activities, competitions, campaigns, fundraisers, etc.)? *Liver Lovers plans to have events on Friday and Saturday nights as well as some Saturday and Sunday day events. We plan to get people interested with all campus emails as well as posters around campus about*



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our goal and some of the events we plan to host. As far as events go, we are interested in small events such as playing board games or watching movies as well as bigger events such as apple picking, mini-golfing, and going to the trampoline park in New Hartford. As far as fundraising goes, we plan to apply for funding. If we don't have funding, we can start with events that don't require funding such as playing board games, watching a movie, or playing manhunt.

- If your organization is similar to one that already exists, please explain why you feel this new club should be recognized: *Our club is similar to the events put on by Late Nite. However, we will offer more frequent events as well as events that involve getting off campus. Late Nites are great alternatives to the Friday night party scene, however, they don't have the same atmosphere as a club. By making Liver Lovers, we will create a group of students interested in spending time together doing wholesome and fun events on weekends.*
- **Jake Engelman:** I will read our rationale for the rejection and then I'll read their appeal. So the basic premise was that what they want to do falls in line with what many other organizations on campus do. They want to do board games and we have Gaming Club for that. Late Nite is accessible to any student organization, even just a group of students if they are so motivated. You can reach out to Kaity Stewart and get funding for a Late Nite. And then they kind of threw out a couple options that we didn't think would actually work, like apple picking, mini golfing, and going to the trampoline park. We didn't think those were things that would necessarily work on a Saturday or Friday night. We don't know that those are accessible.
- **Jake Engelman:** Then their appeal reads: *We would like to appeal this decision. We believe that having other clubs with similar initiatives would not be a problem because there should be no limit to providing wholesome college activities to those seeking it. In addition, other clubs often use their funding to buy alcohol under a different expense name and I don't think those clubs should be funded if alternatives to drinking aren't. The presence of People Who Like to Do Fun Things and the Sadove Late Nites should not limit our pursuit of wholesome and fun activities. Everyone knows that not every Late Nite is for them and People Who Like to Do Fun Things does not host many events. We are hoping to host different varieties (Manhunt, crafts, stargazing, kayaking, trampolining, roller skating, bowling, etc.) which are not offered by these other clubs. We are also hoping to make these clubs open to the entire campus to provide quality opportunities to meet other people that aren't parties and revolve around fun activities that many people don't have access to here on campus. We would like to present our case at the Student Assembly. Even if we are not granted the funding we ask for we would like at least a reduced fund or recognition of the club without funding.*
- **Jake Engelman:** So a couple initial reactions to this: the claim that they make that other organizations use their funding to buy alcohol is completely unfounded. I go through every receipt and no alcohol is purchased, I can promise you that. And then again, they kind of list additional things that might not be realistic for a Late Nite, like kayaking or trampolining. We have a Bowling Club and then just right off the start, the belief that having other organizations with similar initiatives isn't a problem. The purpose of this



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club recognition process is that right now on this campus, we have about 230 organizations. For a campus of under 2,000, that's a lot. So in an effort to avoid segmenting the population even further, we wanted to cut down on redundancies. So again, this appeal kind of falls under the rationale of our decision.

- **Eric Kopp:** Does Late Nite fund off campus events?
 - **Jake Engelman:** I don't believe so.
- **Keir Adamson:** Does Late Nite ever turn people away because it's too popular?
 - **Jake Engelman:** Too popular?
 - **Connie Lorente:** Damn.
 - **Jake Engelman:** Wait. Okay, when I heard "too popular," I was thinking that the RAs this semester threw a mason jar painting event, which we know is usually extremely well-attended. So when I think "too popular," I think "too many people." Yes, we ran out of mason jars and we ran out of paint eventually, but I wouldn't say that that's typical.
- **Finlay Adamson:** I kind of understand what they're saying about size with events similar to what they're doing, but what's the difference between them and the People Who Like to Do Fun Things other than the fact that they say they're going to do more events? They could just do the same thing within that organization.
- **Huzefah Umer:** I get your point that there are already clubs like Bowling Club or Film Club that do events, but I think, for example, Film Club does a movie at 5pm on Saturdays and Bowling Club goes during the week. So they're not doing events at the time that parties are going on. I think all of these clubs that have similarities do not do things on Saturday night ever. So I think that Liver Lovers does have a point.
 - **Ben Rhind:** I think there's just way too many clubs and I think our mentality should not be "if one club doesn't not specifically do exactly what I want it to do, then just found another club." You can join another club that does the exact same thing and push them to have more events at different times. It's pretty simple.
- **Nani Suzuki:** My response is similar to what everyone else has been saying in that they're proposing similar things to what other clubs do. At the same time, one thing we can probably learn from their proposal and what they're saying is that we have so many events on campus at this point that we have no clue what's going on, and a lot of people want to do certain things but we have no idea what's going on because for one, there's so many emails, and two, it's also just chaos with events just happening all the time. So I think this should push us to figure out better way to organize our events. I think we can learn from this experience.
- **Savannah Kelly:** While I get that they made the claim that there are already other clubs like it, but were they instructed to reach out to those other clubs and see what they could do like Positive Thinking Club was?
 - **Jake Engelman:** We didn't tell them specifically, but we gave them our rationale as to why we were rejecting them, which is redundancies.
- **Sam Gordon:** Kind of to Nani's point, I think it might be a good thing to encourage all clubs to publicize when they're having e-board elections so if people want to get involved



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in the club, even if they're not actively on the listserv, they should send all-campus emails before e-board elections so people can get involved.

- **Bryce Febres:** If we uphold the decision, can they appeal again or is that it?
 - **Julian Perricone:** No, that's it.
 - **Bryce Febres:** Okay, because I was thinking about what Savannah said and it's true. We never did recommend to them to go talk to People Who Like to Do Fun Things.
 - **Julian Perricone:** I would probably just say – and I could be wrong about this – that it's not really the same thing. Even if they did approach Late Nite or People Who Like to Do Fun Things, I don't really see the capacity for them to do a joint venture. It's not really the same as Positive Thinking Club was. It's a good thought if people are supportive of that, we can go that route. Also, this may not be the right thing to say, but I feel like one of their e-board members could have maybe shown up tonight to make a bit more of a case. So if they were this passionate about it, I feel like they'd be here, but I don't know.
- **Geoffrey Ravenhall Meinke:** I have a question. If we were to give them more time, will they show up and will they go ask someone? Or will they just show up on our agenda every week?
 - **Nadav Konforty:** I can speak to that. So last week, they expected us to speak about it. They didn't intend to show up last week either and they knew and they were wondering why we didn't talk about it last week.
 - **Geoffrey Ravenhall Meinke:** Well, we've talked about it now.
 - **Julian Perricone:** Yeah, so they were told last week that we had that miscommunication, but we told them that it would be discussed at the next meeting and that they should feel free to come in if they could. They had the power to come in if they wanted to, assuming out of the four or five people on their e-board list, one of them had the availability.
- **Connie Lorente:** I feel like going to other clubs is just actually being part of that club and going to People Who Like to Do Fun Things and saying, "oh, let's go to a trampoline park," not just trying to create an organization that connects a lot of stuff and getting funded for that.

No motion to overturn committee decision to reject Liver Lovers.

PlayStation Club

- **Julian Perricone:** This is the PS4 Club or PlayStation 4 club. I'll read their responses to the questions we asked.
 - Organization mission statement/description: *PlayStation Club intends to provide students with a place to gather and bond over PlayStation games in a setting that actively promotes fun, friendship, and mutual respect.*
 - How will this new club benefit the Hamilton College community? *PlayStation Club wants to use the knowledge that video games are wonderful mediums through which intense fun can be had through their compelling storylines,*



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characters & gameplay and apply it. More particularly, it will benefit the campus community by providing another means of diversion and stress relief through the offering of video games. We wish to diversify the types of extracurricular activities on campus and exist as an option for any students who want more indoor-sy but fun things to do.

- What does your organization plan to accomplish (events, activities, competitions, campaigns, fundraisers, etc.)? *We plan to organize either semesterly or annual gaming tournaments where a prize will be awarded to the winner(s).*
- If your organization is similar to one that already exists, please explain why you feel this new club should be recognized: *Despite the presence of the League of Legends and Super Smash Bros clubs on campus, PlayStation Club intends to be a general video game club for the PlayStation console. We want to provide the campus community with some more variety in video games instead of a club that centers its operations around one.*
- **Jake Engelman:** So our rationale was that first, we were a little turned off by the fact that the only event they planned was just an event where they'd give out prizes, which is not what we try to fund generally. We also have Gaming Club so there's redundancies there. They could potentially join the Gaming Club and then if they potentially need a PS4 in Sadove, that sounds like something we could do. And then just kind of a quick note about the League and Smash clubs, I could see how those could be perceived as exceptions to this rule, but those function very, very similarly to teams, which I think is an important distinction. So I'll read their response, which was: *I'm reaching out on behalf of PlayStation Club to request an appeal for club approval. Essentially, we disagree with the reasoning that PlayStation Club's mission parallels those of other campus gaming clubs, and that, if recognized, will function very differently from them. Furthermore, the prize-based tournament event possibility was not an idea set in stone on our part. We are open to moving away from that type of activity should Student Assembly not support it.*
 - **Julian Perricone:** And just quickly to that appeal before we jump into conversation, they didn't give any alternative to the tournament idea. They just said "we don't have to do that," and that was it.
- **Ben Rhind:** Just in that appeal, they just said "we're not parallel to any of those organizations," but they didn't address why. I think it's pretty clear that it's pretty similar to other organizations like you said. Gaming Club could apply for a PS4 if they want one.
- **Karthik Ravishankar:** So I just want to say that I really like that they're pushing forward number one on the PlayStation, because it is the superior console on the market. Number two, I think it is nice to have an outlet where you can play a variety of games as opposed to strictly Smash Bros or League of Legends, as Jake as highlighted. That being said, I think they need to let the idea of this club marinate a little bit and really flesh out more what they're going to be doing with it, but I think there's great potential.
 - **Julian Perricone:** Again, this might not be the right thing to say, but again they're not here. Also, I would just add that one of the defining characteristics of a club in my opinion is the idea that they couldn't really do what they want to do



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without either a.) the organization being there or b.) our funding. And this club sounds like it could exist just in a common room or in a common space between a group of friends. I see very little reason why this needs to be a club. They did not explain why they need to be a club. If their tournaments don't happen then their clubness is kind of obsolete. That's why I might kind of push back against what you said, Karthik.

- **Karthik Ravishankar:** I respect that.
- **Huzefah Umer:** What consoles does Gaming Club use and what are other similarities between Gaming Club and PlayStation Club?
 - **Jake Engelman:** Right now, Gaming Club is just board games.
 - **Huzefah Umer:** How is that similar to PlayStation Club?
 - **Jake Engelman:** Well, the idea is that they are a gaming club and they could expand to play all sorts of games. That's our rationale. I guess it's not to say that Gaming Club should have the responsibility of absorbing this, but if we were to approve a PS4 club, then what's to stop us from then approving an Xbox, Wii, etc.?
- **Huzefah Umer:** I just have a quick follow-up. Julian, you said that you could see this club functioning as a common room thing with friends, but Gaming Club could also do that.
 - **Julian Perricone:** Yes. So Gaming Club has, in the past few years, requested very niche games, and in that time they've kind of amassed a very interesting collection of games. PlayStations are a very common console, and maybe the games that you have on it are a little more niche, but I think the Gaming Club itself has managed to have very successful meetings with a wide variety of people from a wide variety of pockets from campus. That's not to say that this club can't do that. I think just kind of going back to what Jake was saying, kind of like how Gaming Club doesn't have video games. I think part of our frustration with this one was that it was very specific to just PlayStation. If they tried to maybe do like a "Video Game Club" and maybe tried to do a wider swath of what they could do with it, that would be something I would be more supportive of. But it's kind of just a difficult club.
 - **Jake Engelman:** I just kind of quickly want to also respond to that. You're making some fantastic points. So the last thing I'll say is that the hardest part of this process is separating what has been approved from what should be approved. I think that we're really making an effort to kind of define a new standard here. So while it's valuable to look at what we've done in the past, it's also really hard to go against that, and that's a little bit of what's happening here I suppose. But that's part of what we're trying to do here.
 - **Huzefah Umer:** I have another follow-up. Are we reviewing past organizations as well?
 - **Jake Engelman:** That's not what we were chartered to do.
 - **Nadav Konforty:** I would personally feel wrong with reviewing clubs that already exist and then starting to say, "you can't exist anymore." I would



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personally feel bad about that. Some other entity before us approved them, and until the club fades away and doesn't renew itself, fine, but I would feel bad going to another club that does exist and does do things and say, "we're shutting you down."

- **Jake Engelman:** Just to counter that quickly, I do think that there is some room for going back and consolidating. First thing that comes to mind is Robotics and Competitive Robotics. And I know that I always pick on them but they're just a good case for a lot of different things. But that should be one club. They were approved in the past, but that should be one club. That would be a much larger and different discussion.
- **Julian Perricone:** There is a renewal process that happens at the end of spring semester and clubs have to submit similar things to what they had to submit here for new club recognition, like mission statement and roster. So those do get looked at. This past year was the first year we did it so they were all just approved. I don't know if there will be some sort of judicial process on that, but yeah. I don't know, we'll see.

No motion to overturn committee decision to reject PlayStation Club.

- **Welcome Packets & Manuals pt. 2 — group sessions**

5. Acknowledgements

- **Thank you to Karthik Ravishankar '19, Richard Court '19 and the rest of the Community Affairs Committee for their amazing work this past week!!!**
- **Congratulations to the Men's Rugby team on making the league championship game!!**

6. Committee Reports

Executive Committees:

- **Publicity – Morgan Perry:** We're going to be holding a photo contest this week going into Parents Weekend to try and spread our social media presence, it's going to be across platforms with some catchy hashtag to be determined. We'll probably be giving out some prizes for that. We also are going to be putting up a bulletin board right outside of the mail center. We want bios from every one of you so we can put that out as soon as possible.
- **Constitution – Sam Gordon:** We are meeting later this week to do the attendance policy and finalize the changes I've been mentioning. There will be a big voting thing coming up near the end of the semester, so get ready friends.
- **Funding – Jake Engelman:** Thanks for all your rollbacks.

Student Life Committees:

- **Cultural Affairs – Jiin Jeong:** We have a lot going on. On November 2, we are having our Student Diversity Council meeting. We're expecting around 15 student organization leaders. On November 5-9, we met with Dean Martinez to



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talk about the flag raising event. They're planning on putting the flags of all the international students in Commons. We're planning on making that week International Week. We've talked with Trivia Night to make an International Trivia Night. We're going to be having a multilingual day on Friday that we're personally hosting; I'll be presenting on Korean, Lóri will be presenting on Hungarian, and there are a bunch more, like Spanish, Greek, Arabic, and a lot of languages you don't really hear in daily life which is really cool. We'll be giving you like five minute short intros to every language, so you'll come out being octolingual. So it's going to be cool. Finally, Thanksgiving programming! If you're on campus for Thanksgiving, I'll make this the best Thanksgiving you ever have. We're going to talk to the men's hockey coach and he's going to be giving a Hockey 101 for everyone, including faculty and staff. We're going to be having community lunches, I talked with Frank Coots, we're going to be eating with Campus Safety, LITS, off-campus study, so it's going to be fun! It's going to be community meals, hockey, more hockey.

- **César Guerrero:** Is Puerto Rico included in the international languages?
- **Jiin Jeong:** We have three Spanish speakers and a Portuguese speaker who wanted to present. We have people from Argentina, Brazil, and Puerto Rico.
- **César Guerrero:** I mean, I'm not international, but still.
- **Connie Lorente:** Cry me a river.
- **Jiin Jeong:** Oh yeah, Connie is doing it as well!
- **Nadav Konforty:** Jiin, if you need Hebrew, I'm here. Hebrew's not my first language, but shalom.
- **FSH Affairs (Facilities, Safety & Health) – Connie Lorente & Gianni Hill**
 - **Connie Lorente:** I just got a reply from Mr. Wakeman. So I'll text the Groupme. Let's get lit.
 - **Gianni Hill:** For the health part of it, we emailed Barb Fluty asking if there was anything Student Assembly could do and we haven't gotten a response yet. But in the meantime I'm thinking of ideas to create some posters to spread awareness of what the services will be when the new health center opens.
 - **Nadav Konforty:** All the outside construction I'm told is supposed to be done by Friday because the trustees are coming on Friday.
 - **Connie Lorente:** Reminder, if you want to come to the Governance meeting with me at 7:30am, you are totally invited.
- **Community Affairs (Student Affairs & Food) – Karthik Ravishankar:** Ladies and gentlemen of the Assembly, we had a phenomenal meeting with Derek Roy, Irene Cornish, Dean Martinez, Karen Leach, and some Bon Appétit individuals. The first thing was going through standard concerns we wanted to address. First was late night options. We thought there were salads in Commons that we couldn't find, but we clarified that it was that we do have them, they're made to order, and you need to ask for them. But from our own personal tests as well as



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with other people, it seemed there weren't any signs there and there wasn't anyone staffed there, so going forward they're going to implement that change. So please keep your eyes peeled for that. The next is the cereals. It's come to our attention that cereals are stocked in Commons or McEwen without really consulting with students. Sometimes there are cereals that are sitting there for a while because no one's eating them and there's some that are just flying off, flying out of the dining halls. And the idea was discussed and they would love to see a student poll of what cereals students would like to have. They can start doing this virtually immediately. So that's big news. But here's the biggest news. So coming up – the exact timeline I believe was next year, actually – for the dining options and meal plans, everyone is going to be on an unlimited meal plan. This is a change that was brought up to us and they wanted student feedback and input on how we can improve this. This is something they do plan on rolling out, so they'd like to feedback from the student body. It's not a serious pushback, like a “nope, this is not happening” kind of thing, it's kind of a process that is going to be worked on going forward. So let me just read to you some of the perks that are included in this. Your semester break, all your meals are covered. Now you don't need to go through additional loopholes. That's number one. As it is already being seen today, the revamping of the unlimited plan where you can go into any dining hall and swipe. The late night Diner, we still do bonus swipes, and that would still be continued on with the new unlimited plan. They're going to create grab and go operations in Commons on Monday through Saturday. In the back room of Commons, you know by the back entrance, that little room there, they're going to create grab-and-go stations with packed lunches for people to come and take and go. That was a big change. Next one is that they will have dining dollars. Everyone will be given \$50 per semester to be spent on any campus food. That means Opus, Euphoria, etc. So on top of having these great things, we'd all be on the unlimited plan. Now, there is a caveat in that Co-op, Morris House, and G-Road Apartments would have the option of being on the 100-block plan, which is 100 meals a semester. That's roughly 6.3 meals per week. The argument for that is because they have a lot of residents and they have the suites also. But looking at the data breakdown – I'll bring it out and discuss it with the committee and send it out once we've discussed it – the number of people in the suites that are cooking is not that high statistically, so that's something we brought up relative to Morris, Co-op, and G-Road. The last thing is that we do plan on sharing this with the larger student body as well and input from you guys on how you guys think we should disseminate this information. The cereal poll will be a part of this so we'll get all the answers done in one poll. Dean Martinez has also expressed interest in discussing this with us further. I don't have all the information and all the details. This is all I have right now, but we can definitely arrange a time with her to discuss it.

- **Julian Perricone:** Just quickly responding to that, in terms of how you can get feedback on the idea, I would propose reviving the Zach Oscar



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Task Force. It's worked really well in the past. The Zachary Oscar Task Force is little groups of three or four people that would go out from Student Assembly to dining halls during dinner time or lunch time and walk around tables with a clipboard and paper and pen and ask people questions. They can be specifically geared toward the topic of food on campus or stuff like that. It's a great way to get feedback pretty quickly from a large variety of people. That would be my advice.

- **Jake Engelman:** This sounds fantastic, especially since I eat a lot. But for those that don't, I'm wondering what the increased cost will look like. Everything that sounds fantastic. The one thing I'm hesitant about is the meals covered over break, because that kind of sounds like lots of people subsidizing the costs of food for probably not that many people. So do you have any stats on how many people are actually not on the 21 meal plan?
- **Karthik Ravishankar:** It was between 5 and 7% of the student body.
- **Jake Engelman:** Okay, but those 5 and 7 percent make a difference. And if you have any data on what the new plan will cost, I think we'd all appreciate that.
- **Geoffrey Ravenhall Meinke:** One question I had – which might be better addressed in a smaller setting, let me know – I was cool with everything else and it sounded amazing, but the one question I had was that \$50 of credit, is it going to put \$50 on my tuition bill to get \$50 on my Hill Card because I don't really see the point of that.
- **Karthik Ravishankar:** That's a really good question.
- **Jake Engelman:** It definitely will, in some way or another.
- **Geoffrey Ravenhall Meinke:** I don't get that.
- **César Guerrero:** We need to stimulate the local economy. Support local businesses!
- **Ben Rhind:** Kind of what everyone else said, all these changes are awesome but I'd just say that if G-Road and MoHo are going to be able to be on that other meal plan, students in the suites should have the same option. That wouldn't make sense to say that they can't have it.
- **Karthik Ravishankar:** I also have something to say that's a little unrelated. I've also been speaking to students, especially about the Late Night options, and I spoke to Bon Appétit about this, but they're hiring student workers. If there are students who are looking for work, Bon Appétit is more than happy to do it, and they're very much open to the idea. Everyone present at this meeting was open to it as well. So if students are looking for work, this is outside of the work study program, so Bon Appétit is kind of doing it on their own. You can reach out to Derek Roy. You can email him at derek.roy@cafebonappetit.com. Feel free to email him if you or any of your friends are interested.
- **César Guerrero:** Just for the minutes, late night Commons has been exceptional and great.



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- **Julian Perricone:** Karthik, one more thing. I just want to know that the grab-and-go table wouldn't make things overly crowded.
- **Karthik Ravishankar:** I agree and I raised this concern with them too. They said that the number of people in Commons that would otherwise participate in the grab-and-go options are right now sitting down and otherwise they might've just taken packed options. So they said that's not a huge concern.

Associative Committees:

- **LITS – Minh To:** N/A
- **Philanthropy – Richard Court:** I got the lowdown from them and what they're doing this semester and next semester. So far what they've done is they did a bake sale and donated to support hurricane relief, I believe for Hurricane Florence. Right now they're in the middle of planning a candy gram sale. That's specifically going to fund Karthik's proposal about computers, which is for refugees. So Professor Balkan had brought that to us. They're also in the middle of planning other fundraisers similar to that like bake sales because often they donate in the fall semester to the ABC Host, which is something I didn't really know the College did. It's located on Campus Road, it's a really cool initiative they have. It houses 10 high school students from the local community that weren't in a good situation and weren't getting good academic opportunities but showed great leadership potential. So it's housed there and it's supervised by Travis Hill, who works in the Dean of Students office. If you haven't met him, he's awesome. And they go to Clinton High School. So it's kind of a mentor program. They live with mentors there. I'm not really sure who the mentors are exactly but it's a really great thing. So they're donating to that They're also doing trust treat in Sadove. That's like the Halloween thing. Next semester, the big cause that they'll fundraise for is the Young Civic Leader Scholarship, which goes to a student in the Utica area that applies to university or college. It's on the basis of leadership and commitment to service. Priority is given to first-generation college students. So once they have proof of matriculation they give them the scholarship, and in the past they've raised about \$2,000-\$4,000. So they're doing a lot of cool stuff.
- **Mental Wellness Collective – Diana Perez:** On Wednesday we had a meeting. The Mental Wellness Collective is working on coming up with a first newsletter this month, which is going to be awesome. It's going to cover a lot of information about mental health on campus and topics that students have shared during conversation that they think is valuable for students. They're also working on coming up with a first community dinner surrounding those mental health discussions, where they actually do need a lot of student input on what topics people want to discuss. It'll be super interesting. We also talked about the Positive Thinking Club and they were super on board so thank you guys for passing that.
- **Traditions – Casey Codd:** N/A



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7. Funding

Amount Remaining: **\$10,554.07**

Organization	Items/Services Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Amount Funded
Powder Club	Advanced Funding for Killington Trip, Weekly Trips	\$12,699.70 (max. \$8,960)	\$6,314.80	\$8,476.40

Amount Requested: \$8,960

Amount Recommended: \$6,314.80

Amount Remaining if Funding Passes: \$10,554.07

(Funding will be taken from Spring '19 Strategic Budget)

Powder Club

- **Jake Engelman:** Powder Club's budget is always fun. They submitted a budget for about 13 grand. They met with me first, it's not a misunderstanding or anything. I asked them to submit for the whole cost for all the trips and they did that, which is great. It took a little bit of time to figure out exactly what we were recommending which is why it's not on the agenda but in total the Funding Committee is recommending \$6,314.80. They requested two weekend trips to McCauley Mountain, each costing a little over a thousand dollars and each taking 20 people. One weekend trip to Gore Mountain for 20 people which costs around \$2,200, and then their Killington trip, which is an overnight ski trip to Killington Mountain. They're going to take 26 people before the semester starts, on the 17th. That's what they requested. Our recommendation is to fund in full for the two McCauley trips. The Gore Mountain trip is twice as expensive as the McCauley trip so instead we're recommending a McCauley trip for that. So that brings the 2 grand down to 1 grand. And then kind of this balancing act of the Killington trip of cost per student versus what we're actually funding. Looking back, I believe last year the precedent we set was around \$170 per student. So this year, I budgeted for a cost of \$160 per student. That would leave a cost of exactly \$160 for Student Assembly to fund per student, which cuts the cost of the trip in terms of what we're recommending down from \$8,300 to \$4,100. So almost exactly in half. That's what we've recommended and Powder Club is here to talk with us about their budget.
- **Linds Cadwell '20:** With that Gore trip we had planned, Gore is an overall better mountain for skiing in general. It's a bit further out of the way but we wanted to throw one mountain in there for more advanced skiers that wanted to go on a trip to more desirable mountain, so to speak. We understand that with that it's a bit more expensive, so if the expense is too much, we were thinking we could cut it into two McCauley trips, which I'm okay with as well but it kind of hurts for people who want to go ski somewhere else besides McCauley. So the Gore trip is the main thing.



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- **Connie Lorente:** If we do two McCauley trips, this one with more advanced mountain stuff, and then we cut the Killington and make them pay \$160, and then we pay \$160, what's that?
 - **Jake Engelman:** That would up what we're recommending by a grand. So it would go up to \$7,395.60.
 - **Connie Lorente:** And the maximum we can give is \$8,960?
 - **Jake Engelman:** Yes. And I should add the rationale for the absolute total that we got to. Obviously organizations are entitled to the full 8%, which is \$8,960. Trying to be a little bit conservative here given the budget we experienced this semester, we definitely didn't give any organizations that much. We approached that for a couple, so I didn't want to full on go with the \$8,960 because that would incentivize advanced funding so that you can have early access to that bigger pot. So that was my rationale for that initial \$6,314.80.
- **Eric Kopp:** How exactly do people sign up for these trips?
 - **Linds Cadwell '20:** We send out a form and it's first come, first served except for the Killington trip. We may have to fudge around with the Killington trip just based off if people need financial aid, which we can help support. Or if there's too many people with rentals, we can't bring 26 people who all need rentals.
 - **Annie Canning '19:** With that being said, we've been very good in the past about meeting full financial aid. Usually for every trip, students don't have to pay that much in general. Especially for Killington last year, we were able to meet 100% financial aid and bounce that out while still making the trip \$140 lower than the year before. We really try to make sure everyone can come regardless. So we don't expect the financial aid aspect to be a factor. Usually we try to be very impartial to first come first served to give as many people the opportunity to ski as possible.
- **Natalie Rodriguez '22:** What's the average amount of people you can take per trip?
 - **Linds Cadwell '20:** We settled on 20 because with the jitneys you can fit 10 per jitney and then you can put ski equipment on them as well. We don't want to go further than that. We do get a lot of sign-ups. Last semester, although we didn't have funding, I still helped get sign-ups and everything for that. We'd get about 60 sign-ups per trip. So there are numbers of people that want to go and we do have to decline people just because we can't get 60 people on a trip.
 - **Annie Canning '19:** We do encourage people to come if they have a car and they want to come. McCauley is a fairly affordable mountain, especially for experienced skiers. So if we have a lot of people that can come and a lot of them have rentals, we try to balance it out to allow people to come if they are willing to drive. We welcome them to come join us always.
 - **Natalie Rodriguez '22:** Is it always first come first served, or if they already went on a trip, do you give other people chances to go?
 - **Linds Cadwell '20:** It's pretty much always first come first served.
 - **Annie Canning '19:** But I think that is something we do try to be mindful of though. We do try to keep it fair and even. And we'll send sign-ups out at



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different times to make them more accessible as well. Also for the Killington trip, we're estimating about 26 people that would be able to go. We're decreasing it from the 40 but we're trying to get as many people as we can.

- **Jake Engelman:** I had cut the Gore mountain trip in half because it was so expensive and I put in an extra McCauley trip. Are people inclined to do what Connie proposed which is give two McCauley trips and add a grand of change to this?
 - **Linds Cadwell '20:** Personally, I'd prefer just a Gore trip just because it's more fun. But that would be one option. And another option would be two McCauley trips.
 - **Annie Canning '19:** Both have benefits. The two McCauley trips would also provide more opportunities for people to come on trips so that would be great too. Gore is a great option but the two McCauley trips is definitely also a good one.
- **Nadav Konforty:** So the one with Gore is \$7,395? Which one is the \$7,395?
 - **Jake Engelman:** That would be if we did an extra two McCauley trips and got rid of Gore. If we funded Gore in full, it would be \$7,458. It's a very marginal difference given the one big expensive trip or the two less expensive trips.
- **Ben Rhind:** I'm personally partial to funding more trips even if it's lower quality skiing. I think we're giving so much of the budget so we should be making an effort to give that to as many students as possible. That's why I support that.
- **Jake Engelman:** Sorry, there was a bit of a snafu with the Excel sheet. So if we did the two McCauley trips, it would be \$8,476.40.
 - **Annie Canning '19:** I also did forget about the technical issue with not showing some of the trips, so we'd be supportive of having more trips out there. We're still thinking of two McCauley trips and one Gore because that's what we were talking about before this, but we'd definitely more in favor of four McCauley trips and no Gore. That's definitely our preference.
 - **Jake Engelman:** So that would be four McCauley trips and the Killington trip and no Gore, where Killington trip is funded at a cost of \$160 per person. Those four trips and the extended overnight would be \$8,476.40.
- **Sam Gordon:** I know big budgets this semester received an overall 3% cut. Are we still imposing that on this?
 - **Jake Engelman:** Importantly, this is from next semester's budget. This is advanced funding. So the amount remaining doesn't change here. We still have 10 grand for this semester. The 3% came because we had a stacked budget this semester. That's what I was trying to keep in mind when I came in with a \$6,300 recommendation. Realistically, we were kind of lucky that Model UN had to apply for extra money because we were able to impose that 3% difference. But retroactively we weren't able to remove funding. So if we're making the decision to fund the four trips and the extended trip for \$8,476.40 that's where it'll be. If next semester we have to make those kinds of sweeping cuts in the strategic round, I know this is kind of a way to get around it.
- **Geoffrey Ravenhall Meinke:** I know it's impossible to gaze into the future, but this semester I remember it seemed like we had a lot of big, hefty budgets that we promised



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we were only going to have to fund once. So will we expect having to make general cuts next semester or can we go ahead with this thinking we probably won't have to make a general cut?

- **Jake Engelman:** So the only budget that comes to mind immediately for that big upfront expense is Competitive Robotics, which was a huge upfront expense. I think it was like 6 grand. They're not going to expect that next semester. But I'm also thinking about the fact that we approved like 12 organizations, one of them being Aquaponics, which I know is going to be a similar upfront cost. So I think it's going to look very similar next semester.
- **Ben Rhind:** I also have a question that kind of asks you to gaze into the future, but right now we have about \$10,000 remaining. It does roll over so how much are you expecting to roll over?
 - **Jake Engelman:** I'll say that it probably looks like we're more up than we are because we did a big round of rollbacks and got thousands of dollars back. That's what's responsible for the amount remaining we have now. That usually happens at the end of the semester. So although we don't see it at the middle of this semester, we still kind of get those leftover couple grand rolling into next semester. So we could be up a couple grand, it's possible. I don't think that's a satisfying answer.
 - **Ben Rhind:** I'm satisfied.
- **César Guerrero:** In defense of Powder Club, even though it's a lot of money, it's only once a year. Most organizations are twice a year. So we could think of this \$8,476.40 as like \$4,000 a semester so it's kind of less.
 - **Linds Cadwell '20:** Just adding on to César's comment, for the Killington trip, it's 3 days of skiing going on for that. So it's not one day of skiing or two days or just an overnight visit, it's actually a lot of skiing to get done. I just wanted to have that out there.
- **Jack Fischman:** Something that's cool about this club as compared to other clubs with pretty large budgets is how many more people it touches. So many more people have the opportunity to take advantage of this than other clubs that are pretty exclusive or only take 10 people on their trips. So I think that's something pretty important to keep in your mind when you vote.

Advanced funding of \$8,476.40 for Powder Club passes.

8. Announcements

- **From the Feminists of Color Collective:** Hosted in Collaboration with Womxn's Center, BLSU, QSU, and Sadove Programming, the SpeakEasy open mic and spoken word lounge is an established program that has become a tradition for students on our campus with a turnout of over 100 students, faculty, and staff, at each previous event. The FCC is committed to staging performances that challenge dominant political ideologies and by sponsoring The SpeakEasy that will feature an international artist as well as students from our campus



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community, we will be able to accomplish this goal. The atmosphere of The SpeakEasy is a comfortable space that welcomes and embraces students from all walks of life from the Hamilton Campus, which is another part of our mission. The FCC is excited about collaborating with Dr. Endsley for this program to demonstrate the ways in which art can be used as an instrument to send an effective social message. It is happening Thursday Nov. 1st @ 7pm in the Sadove Living Room!

- **The Men's Rugby Team** made the league championship game! The game will be a home game this Saturday on Minor Field at 2pm. Please go and show your support!
- **Mental Wellness Collective:** Meets on Mondays 4-5 on the third floor of the Chapel. There's lots of faculty and administration there and they're actually making tangible change. It is open to the entire student body so please come!
- **Because Hamilton — Halftime Celebration:** During halftime of the Hamilton vs. Williams game on Fallcoming / Family Weekend, we'll say THANK YOU to the many alumni, parents, and friends for their ongoing philanthropic support for students through their gifts to scholarships and other programs. Plus, everyone who participates will get a free, limited-edition Because Hamilton long-sleeve tee!

