

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2018**

**1. Call to Order**

**Present**

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

**Excused**

- Nadav Konforty
- Karthik Ravishankar
- Richard Court

**2. Public Comment Period**

**3. New Business**

**Director of Community Standards Catherine Berryman – Introduction**

- Hi everyone, I'm Catherine Berryman and I'm the Director of Community Standards and I'm just here to introduce myself to you all. I may have met some of you before.



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My job is a new role here at the College. What it means is that I am the Title IX Coordinator. I oversee student conduct, though thankfully Jeff Landry is still doing a lot of work with that this semester. I oversee investigations run under our harassment and discrimination policy. So I am in the Dean of Students office, but some of my work certainly does entail doing investigations or dealing with issues involving faculty and staff as well. One thing that might be helpful for you to understand in terms of understanding what I do is that largely my role is to be a coordinator. I'm not conducting individual investigations. Typically we have trained external and internal investigators who do that. I'm also not the ultimate decision maker in a process. Instead, I'm overseeing and largely serving as a neutral role so that I can be a resource to our faculty and staff and students.

- Just to let you know a little bit about me, my background is that I'm a lawyer. I was trained as a lawyer. I was actually a public defender which means I represented people accused of crimes for about 11 years. I've represented people in all sorts of crimes and I'd be happy to tell war stories as allowed at some point. From there I transitioned to a private firm. A friend who had been on the opposite side as a prosecutor brought me to that firm and we conducted investigations for colleges and universities under Title IX, about a half dozen different universities. I did that for about three years. After doing that for a period of time I realized I was interested in really thinking in this area more broadly in terms of how we talk about these issues, how we address these issues, what happens after an investigation, and developing policy in this area. So that's what led me to come here. I'm really excited to be in this new role thinking differently about all of these sorts of issues, like how we address instances under Title IX or other sorts of conduct problems and move forward from there. I'm spending this first year getting to know the College really in its physical setup but also in the culture here. I really welcome the opportunity to speak with anyone who would be interested in talking with me. We can set up a meeting. I welcome feedback and I've already been meeting with students who want to share their opinions. I think it's important that moving forward that we're setting our community standards with, by, and for the community. I'm happy to answer any questions if you have any.

**Student Life Update – Dean Terry Martinez**

- I promised you last semester that I would come and give you updates on what was happening in my area so that's what I want to do tonight and give opportunity to ask some questions. There are three areas that I talked to you about last year that were part of my initial concern when I arrived on campus and I took the year to really start to assess, evaluate, do some analysis of data, and then come forward with some of the work we're going to do this semester.
- So those areas certainly include the launch of the Blue Ribbon Committee. If you recall last semester we had an external review on campus for our fraternity and sorority life. The external reviewers made some recommendations to us which was the formation of a Blue Ribbon Committee that would implement recommendations



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- that they've made to us. The report is available and I'm happy to share that with you so that you can post that online, and for the ISC to think about how you'd like to share that information with members of your community and others as well. The ISC hasn't been very active and I understand that this evening and last week you were very active. So I'm glad to hear that. And we'll continue to walk through this semester to take a look at those recommendations and prioritize them and implement them. So that is the work that is ahead of us.
- The second committee that is launched is the Alcohol Strategies Working Group. The charge to that committee is to really take a look at evidence-based practices that minimize dangerous drinking behaviors on campus. I shared with this body and trustees and faculty and staff the data on the drinking on this campus and I do have to say it's been quite alarming and consistent for some time. We are far above where our peer NESCAC group is. So we need to address that and we need to reduce the dangerous behaviors on campus. Now, I'm not foolish enough to think that we'll eliminate it, nor is that something that I'm interested in doing, but we do need to reduce the danger that's coming from the number of hospitalizations, sexual assaults, other behaviors that are detrimental to effective functioning of students on campus.
  - Then the third area is around the residential experience. You heard me talk about that last semester. We're launching a committee to take a look at that. If you take a look at the strategic plan you'll see that there are three things in particular that are highlighted in that plan. The first is around Digital Hamilton, the second is around Residential Hamilton, and the third is around experiential learning on campus. Obviously I've been charged with taking a look at the residential experience. And for me that's far beyond just what's happening in residence halls and how we shape that experience. We're a residential campus and so there's some other things that go into effect around that.
  - But with respect to residence life, I've been talking about developmental housing and what we do for first year students in particular and then how we transition into more independent living as students progress throughout their four years here. I'm certainly taking a look at the ultimate apartments for seniors but certainly first year students, traditional housing with double-loaded corridors, and programming that focuses on where students are so that they can learn about the resources, the community, and other members. Through your sophomore year you've made your group of friends and you have a smaller cluster and so we're going to take a look at smaller units for housing for sophomores and the option for juniors as well who aren't studying abroad and that looks at special interest housing and then we progress obviously to seniors and hopefully as much apartment housing as we can get. Part of the plan is how we might build additional housing for students and for our seniors so that we can move seniors into our independent living.
  - So in addition to Residential Life, we're looking at leadership development and this semester we joined the National Leadership Society and there were numerous sophomores who were recommended to me who we see as being leaders in the next



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- year or so. They were nominated so I invited them to join the National Leadership Society. So we'll be launching that this semester and there are some exciting speakers that are coming up as a part of that as well.
- Finally, an issue that's really important to me is wellness and the wellbeing of our students. So how are we doing that in a coordinated effort and way that is succinct and holistic as opposed to episodic and spread out across campus. So those are three areas under the residential experience that we're taking a look at.
  - And the things that are important to me as I think about what's missing on campus from a residential standpoint are three different neighborhoods. Some of you have already heard me say this, but on the north side of campus we have McEwen, which is a dining hall, KJ, which is a space for folks to gather, Opus, which is a coffee shop, and then we also have some academic resources on that side. The south side has a dining hall. It also has a cafe, academic resources, certainly a library, and gathering spaces for students. But when we look down the Hill, we don't have any of those resources. We have about 300 students that live down the Hill, and yet there's no functioning dining hall, there's no large gathering space, there are no academic resources, and those are the things I'm looking at trying to create for students down the Hill. They don't even have a printer unless you go to Bristol. I met with residents of Bundy last week. There are no vending machines in Bundy, not enough washers, no places for students to gather, and certainly no places for students to eat. So those are the kinds of things I'll be looking at this semester and again in regards to my conversation with residents of Bundy I want to thank Julian for helping set up these conversations last semester that allowed me really to walk through those spaces and see the reality of Bundy.
  - But one of the things I'd like to do is bring the dining hall up to use it as a social space in a more focused way, like a coffee shop where students can do some grab-and-go in the morning, have late night snacks and coffee down there, and really think about how we can dovetail that into the social space that it's currently used for for larger space parties. So we need to think about how we can configure the space that will allow us to do both, to make sure we serve the residents that are down the Hill and make sure that we continue to have social space there. Things like a TV, couches, snacks, food, all of those kinds of things are what we're looking at. I'm hoping to maybe pilot a brunch or two this semester. I'm in conversations with architects about that space and I think I have found the funding to renovate that space so that we can do that over the course of the summer and open that up as a coffee shop for next year.
  - So those are the things that we're taking a look at. And I certainly want to work with the Food Service Committee. I got some good feedback on some of the changes we made to the dining options, like keeping the dining hall open until midnight, unlimited dining, those are some good options. I think that there's more for us to do there. I know that students in the Commons are looking for perhaps some grab-and-go options there. I've heard that so I'm in conversations with our food service provider



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- about some additional things that we can do moving into next year. All of these things cost us money so I need to take a look at how we balance the budget and make it equitable for everyone. And when I think about the coffee shop in Bundy, I'm thinking about that as a swipe option for students instead of cash option. I would love to work with the members of the Food Service Committee so if you can have them get in touch with me, I want to make sure they're engaged in some of those conversations that might mean some renovations to the Commons, but I want to make sure we're all engaged in that conversation because it might mean a loss of space and we already know that's crowded in there so we have to figure all of that out. So that's some of the things I'm working on so I'm a little bit busy right now. But I want to open it up to any questions.
- **Natalie Rodriguez:** Besides the free substance and the wellness floor is there any other special housing?
    - **Terry Martinez:** Around special interest housing, that's not going to come from me, that's gonna come from students. We're going to make a process where students can propose that and students can evaluate that. We'll decide where they're going to be but students will decide what those special interest communities will be. And that's one of the things we're working on.
  - **César Guerrero:** Can you speak more about the metrics used to say that we drink more dangerously on average than our peers?
    - **Terry Martinez:** Yes, definitely. So this is from those surveys. You know how when you come in you get a bunch of surveys, throughout your four years you get surveys, and then on your way out you get surveys. We survey students periodically. We are in a consortium that does the same thing on their campuses and there's a central collection of that and analysis. It gets aggregated by schools and by peers and it gets sent out to each of the institutions. I'm happy to present that again if you're interested.
  - **Eric Kopp:** I just wanted to say that I live in Wally J so bringing those services down the Hill so I don't have to walk up the Hill for those things would be greatly appreciated.
    - **Terry Martinez:** Yes, I heard that last semester which is why we engaged in conversations with residents in Bundy. But I know it's not just about residents in Bundy. Like I said, there are about 300 students that are living down the Hill. And I know that in February, like for students down in Rogers Estate, it is difficult to come up that Hill. I know that you pack your bags and you leave early in the morning and you're uphill for the rest of the day. It would be great if you could grab a sandwich or a cup of coffee or a bagel or muffin or something like a piece of fruit before you head out. And then at the end of the day to have a place to go where you



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can grab some coffee, do some studying, or watch some TV. I get that and that's the goal.

- **Jake Engelman:** I know that you met with residents of G Road on Sunday. Can you share what you guys talked about and what you learned?
  - **Terry Martinez:** Yes. So one of the things I talked about was where I'd like to move for seniors knowing that they've had an experience and when you think about G Road I know that that's really the kind of apartment that I know seniors like so we talked about that. We talked a little bit about off-campus housing. We talked about what kind of things seniors are looking for in their experience. We talked about if we were to build what would that look like and where that would be so that students don't feel like they're living on campus under the eyes of me, I suppose, or the administration. And so we talked about independent living, services, and options for seniors. Then I shared with them that I was being asked to go for a community board for Griffin Road residents that wanted to share some complaints about the students on Griffin Road so I asked them what are some of the things I might hear at that meeting and they shared that with me. And then I enlisted their support. Because if I'm going to advance housing, in particular with apartments for seniors, I need their help with getting that through. And that has to do with if you want to be treated like adults act like adults. So be good neighbors and think about what that means for people who have children or live next door, knowing that this is a college community as well. So how do we balance both of those things? So they're going to clean up after themselves, they're going to think about noise during the week, and they're going to be college students on the weekend. So we had a really good conversation.
- **Paola Tabet:** I was wondering if you could elaborate a little about what the Blue Ribbon Committee is planning to do?
  - **Terry Martinez:** Yes. So the Blue Ribbon Committee has been given the report from the external review. This is about creating a baseline of standards for our Greek Life organizations on campus that quite frankly Hamilton hasn't had. When you take a look at fraternity or sorority functions across the nation – not many of our peers have fraternities and sororities – but you look at like institutions or unlike institutions, there are standards that are set. There are some common guidelines and common practices that are recommended by national organizations and we don't meet even some of the minimum things that are there. These things are created as risk management and community building tools so when I think about health and safety, these are things that we have to look at and make sure we meet some of those minimum standards.
  - **Paola Tabet:** So what changes are you planning on making?



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- **Terry Martinez:** I shared these things with the committee. It's some basic things as making sure that we're meeting national best practices, so thinking about local chapters versus national chapters, for our sororities in particular. Also we want to be thinking about certificates of insurance, chapter advisors, pledge period, recruitment period, the rush period, education around hazing, thinking about requirements that we set, evaluating those and making those public, and thinking about how the ISC or Greek Judicial Board sets standards and holds each other accountable.
- **Harry Dubke:** In terms of the Blue Ribbon Committee and their suggestions, I know you're going to have the Blue Ribbon Committee post that online. How will the students then be able to follow up and see which recommendations that the administration plans on implementing and the progress on those?
  - **Terry Martinez:** That's going to be the work of the committee. They need to take a look and prioritize, like which ones we're going to implement first. For me the ones that are most important are the ones that immediately address risk management issues that we don't have in place and then we can move to the educational ones. We talked very briefly in our first meeting I asked folks to think about how we're going to go back and share information with constituents, with community, and alumni.
  - **Harry Dubke:** Okay. So just a really quick follow-up question – how is the membership of the committee going to be comprised?
  - **Terry Martinez:** That's already been selected. I asked for representation from members of the ISC, this organization, last year's two co-chairs from the ISC are on there, I have an alum on there and a trustee on there.
- **Terry Martinez:** This is something we're going to have to work on together. We may not like everything that's in front of us but it is my responsibility. I am tasked with this campus community. You're not the ones that get phone calls from parents, trustees, alumni, and the press. You're not the ones who lose sleep at night because there are things that are happening on this campus and you all know it. And I know it. And we have to fix it. You have to hold each other accountable and I have to hold you accountable. So we need to work together to create those things.
- **Casey Codd:** Going back to your comments about residential options, you've talked a lot about differentiating between seniors, juniors, and sophomores with housing options. Are you suggesting that we get rid of the pulling system where you can pull someone from another year?
  - **Terry Martinez:** I don't know what that's going to look like. That's the work of the committee. One of the things I'm most interested in first is taking look at our First Year Experience and how we develop programming for that. How do we move our first-year students into double loaded corridors where you have to leave your room for just about everything and you're only there for sleeping and studying? We know that sophomores have smaller groups so they want to live with their friends or



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students who have similar interests. I think the Co-Op is a wonderful example of that so I want us to identify other spaces. We need to grow that gradually. And that's not to say that everyone's going to live in those spaces but I want to create some more options for students. Also, what I'm most interested in is making sure we move to online room selection. We talked about that last year. I saw what was happening around that on this campus. For one, it's not a healthy experience for students. I've never heard a student say, "oh my god, that was a great experience." And I don't think I've heard any staff members say, "that was just really a lot of fun and a good use of my time." So we're going to look at what we can do to make sure that we have an online system in place soon and that we have outlined the criteria so we can make sure that happens. Right now we're looking into vendors that can do that for us and if we can afford to do it this year. And we also want to make sure we can take into account for spaces we'll pull for special interest communities, how we re-configure spaces for our first-year students, and what I'd like to eventually do is take a look at some lounges. There's no lounges in a lot of these spaces. Those were taken away. So I'd like to decongest some of those spaces to make some additional rooms for folks. I want to think about community spaces and gathering spaces. That's not all going to be done in one year. But I've heard student concerns. I mean, you can buy an airline ticket on your phone so why can't you pick your room by your phone? So that's what we'll be taking a look at.

- **Sarah Pickup:** I was just wondering you were talking about all these different committees that are launched right now, is it possible for us as a community to get incremental updates every two weeks about what's being discussed in all aspects of the campus? I think there's a lot of really exciting things going on and also a lot of controversial and touchy subjects like you said and so I think it'd be beneficial for the entire community to be aware of what exactly is going on, what committees you're spearheading, and what progress is looking like as you're leading those meetings.
  - **Terry Martinez:** Yes, I want to think about where and how we can have conversations like this in other forums and how we can sit down and have those conversations. I've spoken with the editor of the newspaper probably three weeks ago and asked if I can have some space in the newspaper to do periodic updates. And for some of the committee members, like the students and alums, I've said that they are there as a representative of a constituent group. So they need to think about how they go back to their constituent groups to make sure that information is shared. I don't like the rumor mill and I don't function through rumor mills so I want to think about the most effective mechanisms we currently have in place to get information out and what are the gaps and how we fill those gaps. So yes Sarah, that's something I'm really thinking about. And





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I don't know if it's going to be two weeks because different committees meet at different times but there is a lot happening right now. And we're moving into our strategic plan as an institution and we're about to launch a capital campaign. There's just a lot of exciting stuff that's happening.

- **Charlotte Saltzman:** I just wanted to say that a lot of us from sororities were just updated about the Blue Ribbon official plans like an hour ago, so we were planning to come back with a more cohesive and coherent statement in the following weeks to SA and we'll keep in touch with you about that.
  - **Terry Martinez:** Great, I'd like to set up some time to talk with you about that. Last semester I went up to talk with the ISC, and when I talk with the members of that committee it is painful because no one speaks up or speaks out or vocalizes concerns, and that's where you're supposed to be vocalizing those. I understand that that's what happened tonight and I understand that was heated.
  - **Charlotte Saltzman:** We know that stuff is going around to the student body so we're hoping to share that with the entire Assembly in the following weeks.
  - **Terry Martinez:** Great, I look forward to having that conversation.
- **Terry Martinez:** I look forward to working with you all. I hope we have a great year. Fall is coming, wash your hands, take care of yourself, and take care of each other. Thank you.

#### 4. Old Business

##### Parking update

- **Gianni Hill:** I did meet with Frank Coots on Friday. He talked about how Rogers residents have 10 spaces put aside in the Root faculty lot. He printed out an aerial map. They know where to park during business hours in that lot, I believe between 9 and 4.
- **Connie Lorente:** Did he give you any updates on the weekend parking situation?
  - **Gianni Hill:** Yeah, so to my understanding the lot behind KTSA, that was never a lot to park on during weekends anyway but Campus Safety has been more lenient in the past because it wasn't a concern. But when visitors come to Wellin or KTSA, directors from those spaces have reached out to Campus Safety and that's when they started enforcing the policy. So it wasn't something they chose to enforce until it was brought to their attention. So it really only is the three lots.
  - **Connie Lorente:** Would you remind him to send out campus email? A clear one.
  - **Gianni Hill:** Sure.
- **Geoffrey Ravenhall Meinke:** When Margaret came in last week she acknowledged that KTSA was never a lot to park in so that was her mistake, but she brought up the



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fact that this year an email was sent out that weekend parking was cancelled in all lots. In your meeting, did Frank Coots say it was back?

- **Gianni Hill:** To my understanding and I think to Frank's understanding, faculty parking is on the weekends is open for three faculty lots.
- **Geoffrey Ravenhall Meinke:** They sent an email that expressly said we couldn't.
- **Julian Perricone:** That's something you'll want to clear up. Maybe just discuss that more explicitly. There might just be confusion in their department.

### NesGov – Gianni Hill '21 and Penelope Hoopes '20

- **Gianni Hill:** Unfortunately, Penelope and I had to cancel NesGov this weekend. Three schools responded and one dropped so we didn't think it would be a very productive weekend for us.
- **Jake Engelman:** How many schools did you invite?
  - **Penelope Hoopes:** 15.
- **Gianni Hill:** The problem was that of those schools, only a few of them had come to previous conferences in the past. The rest were new invites and other schools hadn't had the chance to participate before. We had the chance of no centralized means of reaching out to these organizations since NesGov hasn't had a place to find the contact information. So Penelope and I had to do a lot of digging to find contacts and texting people we knew to text other people at schools. So we're working with Colby to really nail down who we're going to invite and how we're going to invite them, maybe moving to one conference a year. We're learning a lot from this process.
- **Julian Perricone:** Thank you guys for the hard work. It's unfortunate it fell through but a testament to the other school's lack of organization and you guys did everything right.

### 5. Acknowledgements

- Shoutout to our very own Jiin Jeong '21 for her very fun and informative email on Chuseok for the Assembly! 즐거운 추석 보내세요 (Jul-geo-un chuseok bo-ne-se-yo!)

### 6. Committee Reports

#### Executive Committees:

- **Executive (Executive & Publicity):**
- **Constitution:** Mondays 12-1 in McEwen
- **Funding:** N/A

#### Student Life Committees:

- **Cultural Affairs:** Fridays 3:30PM in McEwen
- **FSH Affairs (Facilities, Safety & Health):** 8:00PM Mondays in Sadove



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- **Connie Lorente:** I'm not sure how relevant this is now that it's getting colder but we did talk to Bill Huggins about the flies in Commons and they said they were working on it.
- **Julian Perricone:** To people watching at home the fly situation is always a thing but typically it goes away pretty quickly. We will still look into it.
- **Community Affairs (Student Affairs & Food):** In progress

**Associative Committees:**

- **LITS:** N/A
- **Mental Health & Wellness Collective:** N/A
- **Philanthropy:** In progress
- **Traditions:** Mondays at 9AM in Commons

**7. Funding**

Amount Remaining: **\$17,485.01**

| Organization         | Items/Services Requested | Amount Requested | Amount Recommended | Amount Approved |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Beekeeping           | Full-Body Suits          | \$275.52         | \$275.52           | \$275.52        |
| Competitive Robotics | Shipping Costs           | \$292.51         | \$292.51           | \$292.51        |

Amount Requested: \$568.03

Amount Recommended: \$568.03

Amount Remaining if Funding Passes: \$16,741.98

**Beekeeping and Competitive Robotics**

**Jake Engelman:** Beekeeping is asking for four beekeeping suits. This is so they don't get stung by bees. We're recommending funding in full. Rob asked a good question which is how many we funded in the past but I'll find out. In the meantime I think it's a reasonable thing to give, especially considering that they have more than four members. As for Robotics, it's for necessary shipping costs for the things we already funded which they neglected to put on the budget. Still seems like a good opportunity for the school. Total sum is \$568.03, still leaves us with 16 grand.

***Funding for Beekeeping and Competitive Robotics passes as recommended.***

**8. Announcements**

- **MEETING CHANGE:** We will not be having a meeting on Monday, October 15th due to the Great Names event. The new meeting time will be Tuesday, October 16th, at 8:30 in the Sadove Conference Room



The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

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- **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!

