

STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

10/4/21

1. Call to Order

Present:

Emily Boviero
Nickie Conlogue
Cicille Dan-Morton
Ashley Garcia
Nevaeh Gutierrez
Michelle Estrella
Jackson Harris
Abigail Hagan
Christian Hernandez
Emily Jiang
Jungwon Kim
Cole Kuczek

Excused:

Maxwell Lee
Dwayne Martin
Ryley McGovern
Raymond Ni
Subin Myong
Natalia Reboredo
Saphire Ruiz
Eric Santomauro-
Stenzel
Felix Tager

Isa Cardoso
Cole Kuczek
Wriley Nelson

2. Land Acknowledgement

Saphire Ruiz read a [land acknowledgement](#) created by the Shenandoah-Kirkland Initiative (SKI).

3. General Public Comment Period

There are no public comments.

4. New Business

- **Approval of Minutes 9/27**

The motion to approve the 9/27 minutes passes unanimously.

- **Guest: Francis (Frank) Coots, Director of Campus Safety**
 - Residential Life & Safety Committee updates on parking - Class President Jackson Harris '22

Frank Coots started by thanking everyone for inviting him and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to speak on parking and answer other questions. He mentioned that there have been a few minor complaints about parking which he finds imperative to speak on. Jackson and the Residential Life committee have met once this semester, and have talked quite often about issues



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like parking. He mentioned they have come up with several lots to alleviate the parking issues, though it will be hard to eliminate the issues completely. At the suggestion of a student who had a discussion with him after receiving a parking ticket, the student asked if the old tennis courts near the new field house could be used. He thought it was a good idea. Another place that came up in discussion was half of the Bon Appetit parking lot on the dark side (closest to Babbit), which included about 20 parking spots. He spoke to Bon Appetit and Bon Appetit was all for it, so that lot can start to be used after this meeting. He wanted SA's approval before he released it publicly. He can reposition some of the faculty/staff parking without interrupting adequate parking, by moving Bon Appetit parking and repositioning parking across campus. 56 extra spots struck on tennis courts, and 20 near Babbitt, exceeding the amount of spots taken away in root By the Glenview buildings. It is not the most convenient, but it is closer than the North parking lot. These two points have a lot of merit. It will go a long way to alleviate parking issues, and there are more suggestions from Residential Life in the making.

- Remarks regarding student parking and campus cannabis policy
- Questions
- Proposals on parking solutions from members

Emily Boviero asked if Frank had any ideas for next year, since there are lots of incoming sophomores who will drive due to over-admittance.

Frank Coots replied that the intent is to remove Glenview in the next fall semester. There are more long term plans, like connecting the two Root parking lots that may add 15-20 parking lots, without making a huge environmental impact. Cost and environmental impact are the biggest considerations for building these parking lots. He doesn't want to eliminate one problem and cause another. A company has been hired that looks at the overall campus acres, and asks if we need to increase parking spots to .. construction and environmental impact.

Jackson Harris asked when the old tennis courts will be active parking zones.

Frank Coots replied that it will once the SA gives them the approval. This is one of the first things that can be made to happen in this academic year.

Jackson Harris asked whether they were voting to motion to approve the new parking spaces and would that be available tomorrow to vote on



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Saphire Ruiz asked if there have been any conversations about down the hill parking.

Frank Coots said there have not been specific conversations, but there have been conversations about what to do, especially about the Bundy's. They will be trying to confront it but there are no simple solutions. They have been concentrating on the Dark Side to make up for Glenview, but going into the next academic year, improving parking across campus will be high on the priority list.

Christian Hernandez Barragan asked if there is anyone to release an up to date easy to read parking graphic.

Frank Coots replied that there is a list that has to be put together, and once he finalizes it tonight he can get it in and send it to SA to distribute.

Emily Boviero asked if all the faculty take up Dunham spots, since there are a lot of people who delegate spots for faculty and then delegate the rest of the spots for students.

Frank Coots replied that that suggestion has been considered before, since Dunham is one of the most popular faculty parking lots, and there are rarely extra lots open. There would be so few spots that would be available for students, and he is often called when students park there.

Jackson Harris mentioned that he is excited about the tennis courts and Babbitt, and the extra lots will be a net positive effect. He further asked if afterwards students are still frustrated and problems still persist, especially in more localized areas like Dark Side or down the hill, is Frank Coots open to continuing to work on the problem and looking for more ideas like opening the elephant graveyard and Bundy Cafe lots.

Frank Coots replied that this is an ongoing issue and that there is a large first year class which translates to a large sophomore class. This will be further discussed to alleviate the issues as it is a long term project. Most people taking advantage of the tennis court are light siders but he is open to new suggestions but it is not immediate.

Abigail Hagan brought up that in the Slack, someone asked about parking in Bundy Cafe, specifically asking if the lot was staff parking.



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Frank Coots mentioned that there are at least 6-8 spots down in Bundy Cafe. The biggest issue is that vehicles that go in need to turn around and exit safely. Eventually the area becomes congested by the extra cars and Bundy Cafe needs to be used by the workers.

Abigail Hagan asked if the Bundy lot is used as a parking lot for the day and not for people eating there.

Frank Coots said it was his impression that it wasn't a full dining hall and nobody parked there to eat. He also added that both areas have a finite capacity, and students cannot start taking over Bon Appetit spots or other non-designated spots.

Jackson Harris clarified that once the specific information on which parking areas are available, there will be an infographic to make it clear to students where they can park.

The motion to approve the Campus Safety's plan to open Bon Appetit lot on the dark side and open the old tennis courts for parking passes unanimously.

- - **Resolution 21-4: Cannabis Legalization Response - Introduced: VP Eric Santomauro-Stenzel '24, Class President Jackson Harris '22**
 - Presentation

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel read out the resolution for 21-4 and the whereas clauses within the resolution. He mentioned that the third whereas clause is important because it says that Hamilton cannot allow cannabis on campus according to federal law or Hamilton would be at risk of losing federal money, which is a lot of money. It is technically illegal at a federal level for Hamilton to allow marijuana on college property. He also wants to emphasize that marijuana is safer by basically every metric than alcohol (video in footnotes), and the historic racism and mass incarceration tied to marijuana was addressed in the NY state bill, and they hope to address this in regards to previous marijuana policing on campus in the bill.

Jackson Harris further read through parts of the resolution. He mentioned that the central point is that it is straddling the line of being legal in the state but not federally. The idea of the resolution is not to legalize marijuana on campus. A greater priority is to decriminalize it and bring marijuana down to the way alcohol is used on campus. Previously, alcohol was just 1 disciplinary point which they want marijuana to be decreased to whereas it used to be 1-2 disciplinary points. It's important to recognize the long standing harm the criminalization of marijuana has caused in the country, specifically as to how it's been racialized, since these laws



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have intentionally targeted Black and Brown communities. It's important to use our campus as a microcosm to examine the way it's extended into our own community. He isn't sure what kind of data is kept about disciplinary records, but he imagines that for each individual case, it's recorded but nobody has gone through and organized the data, processed and categorized, so he suggests that if the SA is serious about finding the data and presenting it, they be given the access to that broad data so they can do the processing of it and see how these rules have played out in the Hamilton community, and see how effective this will not only as a change to the disciplinary system, but also the ways that the college's rules perpetuate racism on campus. That data will be important to see moving forward.

■ Questions

Jungwon Kim asked if the 1-2 disciplinary points for being caught with marijuana applied to all cases related to it including underage consumption. He further asked if the current rules for points include being caught for all marijuana paraphernalia.

Jackson Harris replied that paraphernalia is a separate sanction and is worth 2-4 points for owning paraphernalia. He is suggesting that discipline be eliminated entirely for owning it as it is disproportionate in terms of why someone would be punished for that in contrast to other things. Someone can go to the community standards office website for further information. The possession of consumption rules currently do not differentiate between underage and non underage people for the amount of points given.

Jungwon Kim asked if the presence of a scent is enough to warrant searching.

Frank Coots explained that Dean Martinez mentioned that there has to be a reason to search someone for marijuana so unless there is articulated reasons to search, someone cannot search. If he were to walk around the hallway or smell marijuana, for example, he would have the right to open investigation but not to search.

■ Discussion and Motions

Jackson Harris asked about the 7th point regarding expungement.

Frank Coots maintains records for everything for seven years with the exception of transcripts which remain in the system forever. He does not want to say specifically what



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is in the seven year disciplinary record but Catherine Berryman or someone in Dean Martinez's office could better answer that question.

Emily Boviero asked why Eric Santomauro-Stenzel created the motion originally to place the voting and amendment process to committees.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that the committees have more dedicated time which they can use to investigate the issue more and propose amendments. While he believes the resolution is good as it is, he believes the rest of the assembly could carve more ideas about where the resolution can go.

Abigail Hagan asked how the resolution will affect the federal funding for Hamilton.

Jackson Harris replied that there's no way to be sure except for the 1989 federal law about the legality of marijuana on college/university campuses. This resolution is not calling for the legalization of weed, but rather the reduction of disciplinary punishment, to straddle the line between state and federal laws, so it shouldn't affect federal funding in any way. They can effectively decriminalize marijuana on campus without making it legal.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel emphasized that the language in the law says "up to or including expulsion" for potential punishments for using drugs on campus. Under the resolution, he could still get expelled for using marijuana after a great amount of time which Hamilton College may differ on that opinion. The purpose of this resolution is to reduce punishment for students on campus, so students can still face expulsion but it would just be harder.

Abigail Hagan asked if students can be criminalized now or get in trouble for smoking weed off campus such as during break. She further asked what the word paraphernalia meant.

Saphire Ruiz replied that students can be if they are under 21 years old.

Jackson Harris replied that paraphernalia is the tool being used to take the drug.

Jungwon Kim asked what they were waiting for if they weren't going to vote on the resolution at the moment.



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Saphire Ruiz replied that they wanted to have some discussion before introducing Eric Santomauro-Stenzel's motion to commit further discussion to committees.

Jackson Harris mentioned that whatever committee takes the resolution on, he hopes he gets the feedback from that committee before the next meeting on Monday so he has the opportunity to talk with community standards. He thinks that it is best to integrate whatever feedback the assigned committee has into the conversation he would have in the future with the administrators.

Saphire Ruiz reiterated that in the instance that the motion passes to a particular committee, assembly members can direct their questions regarding the resolution to Jackson Harris, Eric Santomauro-Stenzel, or the committee in charge of the resolution.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that if there is interest in committing to a specific committee now, they can motion to amend the motion to delegate to a particular committee. If not, the President and Vice President have the authority to delegate this resolution to a particular committee.

Jackson Harris mentioned that if the college were to ignore the resolution, this is an issue that has plagued SA for many years. His philosophy towards SA resolutions and how admin respond/take them seriously, he believes that if they just hand it over, nothing's going to happen. The best way to invoke change is to formalize the assembly's stance and position what the resolution is), then to enter into a conversation with relevant administrators, and move things forward from there. Admin can and probably will ignore SA resolutions, but there are things SA can do like having conversations with admin that gives the assembly a chance at making real change.

- Motion to commit resolution to committee for review and amendment, and then to final debate, amendment, and vote at Monday, 10/11 general meeting - Introduced: VP Eric Santomauro-Stenzel '24

The motion to commit resolution to committee for review and amendment, and then to final debate, amendment, and vote at Monday, 10/11 general meeting passes unanimously.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel feels that Justice and Equity might be a good committee.



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Christian Hernandez Barragan mentioned that there needs to be more time to initiate the process of review for committees.

Jackson Harris mentioned that committees do not need to commit much work. The process involves reading through the resolution and correcting any phrases that might not appeal to administration along with easing the resolution into them. Any committees that want to take it on can reach out to Eric Santamauro-Stenzel or him about any questions or ideas.

Abigail Hagan asked if she could make suggestions if she is not part of the Justice and Equity committee.

Jackson Harris asked her what committee she was a part of to which she answered Health.

Saphire Ruiz mentioned that they would like to recommend a motion to lead this conversation into Slack or email in which they can figure it out within the next 48 hours.

Jackson Harris motioned to put this discussion online and mentioned that there should be an ad-hoc committee for members that are interested in reviewing the resolution

Neveah Gutierrez suggested that the committee should be based on people with special interest in the resolution.

The motion to create a temporary ad-hoc committee to review the resolution passes via voice vote.

- Voting (if previous motion fails)
- **Honor Court Confirmations**
 - Nominees
 - Sophia Katz '25
 - Faith Hollyer '25
 - Discussion

Abigail Hagan asked why the discussion for Honor Court appointees is not a closed discussion.



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Eric Santomauro-Stenzel replied that there was not any real reason, and that honor court confirmations have always been like this. He also emphasized that anybody at any point has the option to make a motion to enter a closed session.

- Voting

The motion to confirm Sophia Katz and Faith Hollyer to the Honor Court passes unanimously.

- **Appeals Board Confirmations**
 - Nominees
 - Lucy Hamann '22
 - Emilio Vicioso '23
 - Discussion
 - Voting

The motion to confirm Lucy Hamann and Emilio Vicioso to the Appeals Board passes unanimously.

5. Funding

Total Starting General Fund: \$ **151,423**

Amount Remaining: \$ --- for Fall semester

Amount Remaining Strategic: \$

Amount Remaining Non-Strategic: **\$14,910.77**

Amount Remaining Discretionary (with Rollbacks): \$ ---

Starting Strategic Budget: \$ ---

Strategic Budget (including advanced funding): \$ ----

Please note that all budgets this semester must be approved by the full Assembly, after being submitted by the Funding Committee. The budgets below will be voted on during this meeting, and representatives from organizations are allowed to come to answer questions about their budgets.

Non-Strategic

Club Name	Requested Budget	Recommended Budget	Approved Budget
Slow Food	\$1,392	\$1,392	\$1,392
Dance Team	\$93	\$0	\$0
French Club	\$1,210	\$1,210	\$1,210



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Powder Club	\$6,000	\$6,000	Postponed
Hamilton Society of Physics Students	\$XXXX	\$535	Resubmit

Discretionary

Sponsors	Requested Budget	Recommended Budget	Approved Budget
P/VP	\$27.30	\$27.30	\$0

Felix Tager recommended that the assembly skip the Society of Physics Students this week since we're still waiting on their updated budget. The metric for funding SA has left is inaccurate and he is waiting on Katie to confirm the updated one, but he can confirm there is enough funding to approve everything on this list.

The motion to vote on all the non-strategic budgets all at once passes via voice vote.

Jungwon Kim mentioned that the assembly shouldn't be voting on everything because of the Physics Society situation.

The motion to divide the question on funding passes via voice vote.

Jackson Harris asked to elaborate on why Powder Club is planning trips for next sem this sem, why the Physics has Xs, and why the Dance Team is recommended \$0.

Felix Tager mentioned that the dance team has been a debate, he mentioned that the trip itself exceeds what SA can provide, and he wants it to be accessible to all students. Powder Club has always gotten funding because it lies between two semesters (technically before the start of next semester) and is early enough that SA should be funding it, so historically they have been funded. However, in regards to how much is funded, it is up to debate. The Powder Club were able to get it down to the 8% cap. The reason Physics Students is an XXXX is because the assembly doesn't have their requested number since last week's provided number was inaccurate, and haven't provided an update. Dance team is requesting money (\$93), and the reason the recommendation is \$0 is because embroidery is cosmetic. They have a separate fund they get donations for and



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they have the ability to fund it themselves. Ethically if the assembly were to fund one cosmetic, they are obligated to fund others like the Boffers's patches.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel asks about the \$6,000 for Powder Club's one trip during January 14, but the rest of the requirements are in the spring semester. He asked if the funding request was just for the January 14 trip or if it is also for the other trip.

Felix Tager said that Powder Club only requested for the spring, and the request should be different. If there are some for next semester, he asked to postpone the vote so he can check with them and restructure the recommendation with the Treasury.

Ashley Garcia mentioned the possibility of the club planning ahead of time to save money. She asked if they will be funded from another fund if they aren't funded from the strategic fund.

Felix Tager mentioned that it was difficult because many clubs want to go on trips. There is another advanced option where they can request funding earlier. The funding would then come out next semester. It can be one rolling system if the assembly wants it to be, but currently funding has to be semester to semester.

Ashley Garcia asked if the Powder Club is aware of advanced funding options.

Felix Tager responded that he believes they are since they were briefed on it, but he can check.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that the total amount requested for the trip would well surpass \$6000 so he asked whether the \$6000 is what was recommended for the individual trip by the treasury department.

Felix Tager responded that the whole thing of the department is financial accessibility, and since the remainder will be paid by students, he wants to fund whatever is eligible before that cut off - just Killington.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel clarified that the \$6000 is just for the trip during break

Felix Tager responded in the affirmative.



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Jackson Harris suggested postponing the Powder Club request for a resubmission and more discussion since the budget request was still unclear and the assembly still had questions regarding their funding request.

The motion to divide the question on Powder Club passes.

Felix Tager clarified that Slow Food and French Club are technically considered strategic - though they're seen as nonstrategic since they were after the deadline, they will be considered strategic.

The motion to approve the funding request for Slow Food, Dance Team, French Club as recommended passes via voice vote.

Jackson Harris asked if SA could ask Powder Club to come to the meeting next week.

The motion to ask Powder Club to come to the SA meeting to respond to questions about their budget next week before SA votes on it passes via voice vote.

Jackson Harris asked if SA can solicit student-designed SA logos for community engagement and to get some cool designs.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel asked if this was a request to change the official SA logo.

Jackson Harris replied that it was not. It was just for the SA logo on the buttons.

Emily Boviero asked if this was for an on-call scenario.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel clarified that you don't have to wear the button, but if you choose to be available for students who want to come up, wearing the button can be a way to show you're available for conversation.

Jungwon Kim disagrees with Jackson Harris's request. He mentioned that the majority of students on campus will already be confused about the buttons, but if they do participate in making a new design and the logo is different, it might cause confusion. Putting it out to the public may make it more visible, but it will be more confusing.



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Christian Hernandez Barragan agreed with Jungwon Kim. He mentioned that the buttons will not be as effective as the chair makes it appear. Asking for class flag designs were already difficult, so the majority of the Student body wouldn't submit anything, and he felt that the buttons would be ineffective.

Jackson Harris asks if SA could consider pins and not buttons. He clarified the difference between buttons and pins, complete with pantomime and noise effects.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel explained that more discretionary budget requests can be submitted, however there has been no other ideas that have been brought up. He clarified that the buttons were the topic of discussion specifically.

The motion to return to the previous question fails to pass.

Emily Boviero mentioned that the way to show support for the buttons is to vote for or against the button budget.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that they just voted against that.

The motion to pass the discretionary budget request as recommended fails to pass.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that SA has historically purchased merchandise and if that is something that the assembly does not want to do this year, that is fine. He mentioned that he does not intend to submit another discretionary budget request given how this one went.

Abigail Hagan mentioned that she believed the problem is that the assembly wants something to better show that they are part of SA than a button, such as a sweatshirt. The problem is not that SA does not want merchandise.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel clarified that previously that has been what has happened, but the cost has been above \$1k, and the discretionary budget is about \$4-5k.

Ashley Garcia says that she has worked with the shirts before, and says she will happily work with SA if they want to find a cheaper company to buy clothing from.

Felix Tager mentioned it is likely they can work with cheaper companies.



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6. Announcements

- New Student Organization Applications are open starting Monday, October 4th. Applications will go live at this [link](#). Contact the Director of Organization Relations, Natalia (Nat) Reboledo '24 (she/her) (saorgs@hamilton.edu) for further information.
- Eli Kanfer '23 has been nominated for confirmation by the Assembly to the Judicial Board. Students may submit comments on these nominees to sa@hamilton.edu. Comments will only be distributed to members of the Assembly.
- Resolution 21-4 regarding Cannabis Legalization Response is going to be committed to an ad hoc committee for review before being passed.
- The Treasury Department will start doing office hours starting on Monday Oct 11 from 3 PM to 4:30 PM which will continue meeting every other week at the same time in the Sadove Org Resource Room.

