

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**10/3/2022**

**1. Call to Order**

Muhammad Ahmad Rao  
Christopher Akuleme  
Corey Bravo Sloan  
Adan Corea  
Bethany Fell  
Max Ganem  
Ailis Hayden  
Gael Javier  
Emily Jiang  
Lena Klink  
Alexandra Kropaneva

Marvin Lopez  
Ryley McGovern  
Ting Mei  
Quentin Messer  
Raymond Ni  
Jacob Piazza  
Mason Schroeder  
Nicole Soret  
Felix Tager  
Prim Udomphan  
Joshua Zeledon

**Excused:**

Kiara Nelson  
Evelyn Molina  
Allison Sheehan

**Unexcused:**

Katrinah Tejada

**2. General Public Comment Period ([TIME: 05:24](#))**

**Estelle Khairallah '23 (she/her)** wrote:

“Hi, before COVID we used to have tissue boxes in every classroom and often times in hallways as well. I understand why they were removed during COVID (since it wouldn't make sense to have a masking requirement and allow students to blow their nose in the classroom), but the tissue boxes never came back. With cold season coming up fast, it's been annoying to have to blow my nose with bathroom paper towels, and I was wondering if you could do anything to get tissue boxes provided again in classrooms!”

**Isabella Roselli '23 (she/her)** commented:

“Please bring back the late night jitney.”

**Lauren Ferguson '23 (she/her)** wrote:

“We need to re-implement the late night jitney. This will provide a safer environment for students to get back up the hill after being downtown and prevent the possibility of students driving under the influence.”

**Greta Garschagen '23 (she/her)** commented:

“Late night jitney should return, like the pre-pandemic schedule. Don's Rok is still open, and it is dangerous for students to be walking up the hill or potentially driving under the influence.”

**Anna Sakamoto '23 (she/her)** wrote:

“Please bring back the late night jitney please”



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**Raf Osella '23** wrote:

“The concerns for the bon appetite staff and the climate crisis are very important and I have a suggestion as a potential solution to both. I propose something of a “food lottery” system. Essentially some percentage of Hamilton campus is informed that their meal swipes will not work on that given day. This will reduce the amount of food required to be produced by the bon appetite staff which will reduce the overworking issue while also reducing food waste produced by students. I believe that with student assembly’s guidance, this system could help everyone involved. Thank you”

**Felix Tager** responded to the comment stating that Student Assembly will not be pursuing this. Whether or not this was a joke, expecting people to go off-campus to get food is unrealistic and insensitive. There is a very real problem with people having to go off-campus to get food, and to make a joke out of that — as well as making a joke out of the expectation that everyone has enough money or the general access to go off-campus for food or order delivery— is unnecessary and insensitive.

**Philip Chivily '23** commented:

“Hi! I am commenting on how Google Maps is currently inaccessible with any hamilton.edu google account. It has been this way for a very long time now and I do not know why. Is there anyway for the school to restore access to Google Maps? I am sure the student body would really appreciate this! Thank you all for your time.”

**Emily Jiang** responded that Student Assembly can work on that.

**Bethany Fell** added that they know how to get around the Google Maps issue by calling LITS. LITS is able to provide step-by-step instructions on how to restore it.

**Jack Diligent '23 (he/him)** wrote:

“I am delivering this comment on behalf of the Hamilton College YDSA. We’re incredibly supportive of and sympathetic towards the Bon Appetit workers, and we want to ensure they have adequate working conditions. From our understanding, it seems Bon Appetit is suffering from a shortage of employees, due in part to the stressful nature of their work and insufficient support. We are hoping that a third-party investigation can shed light on these conditions and prompt real reform including increased wages and benefits, especially additional vacation days. For these reasons, we urge the Student Assembly to pass Resolution 22-2 and more importantly follow through to ensure Hamilton College takes action on the concerns of its student body.”

**Jack Jee '24 (he/him)** commented:

“Bring back the late night jitney”



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**Maeve Harrington '24 (she/her)** wrote:

“Bring back late night jitney!!! It is much safer for our Hamilton students than walking up the hill when we cannot find ubers!”

**Kate Bacigalupo '24 (she/her)** commented:

“I would like the late night jitney to come back as it would be a safe option for students at night.”

**Rachel Shornick '24 (she/her)** wrote:

“The late night jitney should be brought back to ensure safe transportation for all students. It will decrease drunk driving and will be an option for students who can't afford to take Ubers every weekend.”

**Luke O'Dowd '25 (he/him)** wrote:

“Bring back late night jitney from the Rok”

**Spencer Goldberg '25 (he/him)** commented:

“Bring back late night jitney from the rok”

**Seth Tobin '25 (he/him)** wrote:

“Bring back late night jitney from the Rok. I see too many drunk drivers.”

**Frank Kinlin '25 (he/him)** commented:

“Please bring the late night jitney back from the rok”

**Connor Griff '25 (he/him)** wrote:

“Bring back late night jitney from the rok”

**Nicolas Gritz '25 (he/him)** commented:

“Bring back late night jitney from the rok”

**Matt Lilley '25 (he/him)** wrote:

“Bring back late night jitney from the rok”

**Ashby Howard '25** commented:

“Please bring back the weekend night Jitney to Clinton and back”

**Ryley McGovern** added an anonymous comment about there being expired food and drink in Bundy Cafe — the anonymous commenter has seen expired milk and cinnamon desserts with expiration dates from 2021.



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**Jason Porter '26 (he/him)** wrote:

“Why aren't there more color printers on campus? I don't understand why the library has the only accessible color printer on campus. I think that there should be a color printer available in K-J so that students who live on the dark side don't need to walk as far in order to print in color.”

**Ting Mei** commented on the shortage of paper in printers in KJ, and noted that these issues seem connected.

**Ting Mei** also brought up feedback she received from Dark Side freshmen, specifically in Major and Keehn. These students expressed that they would like dorm vacuums provided by the college, because the carpets are hard to clean without a vacuum. Especially during the winter, when the windows are closed, if the carpets remain uncleaned, they could pose a health risk for students in these dorms.

**Quentin Messer** mentioned that he sent out a question box on Instagram about things people would like Student Assembly to take action on, and received a few responses.

**Sa Kay Da '26** wrote:

“There is no halal meat - Muslim students are not getting adequate amounts of protein”

**Sa Kay Da '26** wrote:

“My roommate got COVID, and she was not taken out of the room. This put me in a tough situation.”

**Matt McCormick '26** commented:

“Please clean Dunham bathrooms on the weekend.”

**Aiyana McDonell '26** wrote:

“Not enough Jitneys.”

**Iman Rahman '26** wrote:

“There is a lack of halal meat options for people on a halal diet.”

**Chloe Kefauver '26** wrote:

“Lack of accessibility structures (elevators, ramps) in residence halls”

**Ben White '26** wrote:

“The fly situation in dining halls”

**Caitlin Reith '26** wrote:

“Printers not working, because of a lack of paper, or not enough ink.”



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**Emily Jiang** commented that these are definitely issues they can bring up to David Wippman in their biweekly meetings and delegate them to the appropriate committees so that the issues are taken care of. They further mentioned that a frequently raised issue was food. Bundy Dining Hall for example has posed an issue for a long time now; this all relates to staffing issues at Bon Appétit.

**3. Old Business (TIME: 15:42)**

- **Minutes from 9/26**

**Felix Tager** made a correction to last week's minutes. Mason Schroeder stated that CAB's chair approved of the bylaw amendment which is not true.

*The motion to amend last week's minutes passes unanimously via voice vote.*

*The amended minutes from 9/26 pass unanimously via voice vote.*

**4. New Business (TIME: 16:50)**

- **Discretionary Budget Requests: Treasurer Prim Udomphan '26**

Organization	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Class of 2023	\$1,800	\$1,800

**Prim Udomphan** explained that last week, the Class of 2023 asked for a discretionary budget for Pub Nights, but this request will be postponed. This is because, according to what Prim has learned, there is no history of Student Assembly discretionary budget funding Pub Nights for the senior class. She mentioned needing more information and more sources to consider the request. Further, since alcoholic drinks will be a part of the Pub Nights, she will need special approval from Student Activities to approve the budget request.

**Emily Jiang** restated that the budget proposal will be postponed to next week.

- **Resolution 22-2 Proposal & Vote: Marge's Bill, on Unfair Treatment of Bon Appétit Management Company's Employees, by Class President Felix Tager '23 and Class Representative Mason Schroeder '23 (TIME: 18:42)**
  - Presentation, discussion, and voting

**Felix Tager and Mason Schroeder** read the resolution aloud.



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**Felix Tager** noted that he built strong relationships with Bon Appétit staff. He used to talk a lot with dining staff particularly during the height of COVID when there was also a significant loss of staff. He described how, by the end of the year after the fall of 2020 and spring of 2021, nearly all of the dining staff had left. Everyone was gone by the end of the school year, in part because working conditions were difficult. This was in part due to management. This year, these conditions have gotten a lot worse, which directly impacts students' health and access to good, healthy food. It has also resulted in the loss of Marge on campus. Felix noted that he created this bill with Mason after they heard about Marge's two weeks notice from her, and they got her support and endorsement for this bill. Felix mentioned also speaking to three other Bon Appétit employees that work in McEwen, Commons, and The Pub. They all expressed the same traumas and experiences that Marge had experienced. They all noted the pressure to not use their vacation days, especially for mental health reasons, due to low staffing on campus. Felix added that, if the workers do not use their vacation days within a certain time frame, they do not get to use them, nor do they get compensated for these unused vacation days that they were pressured to not use. He added that they are trying to create a bill that will make the College take action and bring awareness to an issue that is often overlooked because Bon Appétit employees are not under Hamilton College contracts, and are not technically Hamilton employees.

**Mason Schroeder** added that Felix summed it up pretty well, and further added that Marge wanted to be able to see us grow in her time being here, but she was not able to work in these conditions with her disabilities. He further added that Marge said that if conditions were as they were before COVID, when she was able to sit down and talk to students and swipe their Hill Cards, and the other things she was able to do pre-COVID, Marge would have been able to stay. Sadly, because of the complications around vacation days and the overall conditions for Bon Appétit workers at Hamilton, she had to step down.

**Felix Tager** further noted that Marge does not only have mobility issues but also is hard of hearing and has Cochlear implants. Marge shared with Felix that Commons is very loud and overwhelming, and she and other workers are not allowed to take a breather, nor are they allowed to sit or take breaks, mainly because Bon Appétit does not have the staffing to allow for it.

**Ting Mei** shared her experience talking to Steve in Commons. She sees him every day, and by the end of the week he seems exhausted and overworked. He also confirmed those sentiments to her.

**Quentin Messer** asked why Hamilton cannot hire new workers or retain their workers.

**Felix Tager** answered that people can find better benefits at other places for the same wages, especially considering the labor shortage across the country — people do not need to work for Bon Appétit, where they will not get fair benefits, when they can work for the same wages somewhere else and get treated fairly.



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**Jacob Piazza** asked how they collect the information to write these bills, and questioned if there was any way that the Student Assembly could receive all this data before the bill is brought to the table to vote on, as it would be both illuminating for the bill and cool to see.

**Felix Tager** answered that they had to gather information off the record because they did not want people's jobs to be at risk. Normally, as seen in the divestment bill, there are citations in the footnotes. However, with this bill specifically, Felix and Mason do not want people's livelihoods to be at risk by being directly brought to the table.

**Bethany Fell** commented that she has read about Syracuse Union truck drivers, and how they are being treated badly and have trouble getting food due to supply chain shortages. She questioned how to support their strike or source food from local grocery stores. They were wondering how support for the truck drivers could be incorporated without jeopardizing the College's ability to obtain food.

***Resolution 22-2 Marge's Bill passed unanimously via placard vote.***

**Emily Jiang** noted that the resolution will be sent to the people it was submitted to in the resolution and the student body along with the minutes.

**Felix Tager** added that he will deliver a physical copy to the Board of Trustees meeting.

- **Resolution 22-3 Proposal & Vote: Climate Crisis and Divestment, by Class President Felix Tager '23 and Class Representative Mason Schroeder '23 (TIME: 32:53)**
  - Presentation, discussion, and voting

**Felix Tager** explained the timing of the resolution, stating that the Board of Trustees is meeting Friday. Princeton, which is a large and well-known school, just divested, so they want to pass it before the Board meeting. Students are not allowed to be involved in investment committee meetings, and this is the closest they can do to contribute to the decision.

**Mason Schroeder** and **Felix Tager** read the resolution aloud.

**Mason Schroeder** further explained the bill. Considering not only Princeton's divestment hitting the news last Thursday, but also the senior class's experience in their freshman year with the Sunrise Movement's protests towards divestment and recent climate crises such as Hurricane Ian, which affected Mason's house and many others, Hamilton should reconsider its investment in fossil fuels. Taking action on climate change has to happen now, and bringing this to the front of the administration's mind through a resolution is the best way for Student Assembly to make



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change. Mason expressed concern for his and other students' futures due to climate change, and expressed that this bill is a way for Hamilton to reconsider its involvement and investment in fossil fuels.

**Raymond Ni** noted that the College did not act on the divestment resolution in the previous year, and asked how they will make sure that they act on the divestment proposal this time.

**Felix Tager** responded that one thing that is different now is that there are now student representatives on the Board of Trustees, a few of whom are on Student Assembly. In the past, there was not a conscious target on the Board of Trustees, but this time, the student representatives will be bringing printed versions of the resolution to the upcoming meeting. Furthermore, the resolution was passed in the spring of 2021 and most colleges began divesting in the summer to fall, so the resolution did not have the backing of other institutions, in particular Hamilton's peer institutions, divesting. With larger institutions including Princeton being able to divest with much bigger amounts of funds, Hamilton can no longer say that the endowment will take a hit. All other institutions currently divesting are risking more money than Hamilton but have continued to do fine.

**Mason Schroeder** added that the creation of the committee will add to making sure that it will not be pushed back and instead brought up until divestment occurs.

**Bethany Fell** illuminated what happened in the Board of Trustee meetings during their freshman year. They said that, according to friends who were at the meeting, the Board claimed they can divest but it will result in the loss of need-blind admissions, as fossil fuel investments are how they currently fund need-blind admissions. She suggested adding something to the resolution to talk about the specifics of fund allocation post-divestment.

**Felix Tager** remarked that that is unequivocally false.

**Bethany Fell** said that it is something the Board will be bringing up regardless, and suggested altering the language to consider that. She also added that, based on the Williams divestment proposal, it's important to document that this resolution must target all investments in fossil fuels, not just a theoretical 2% of direct investments.

**Quentin Messer** asked if there was a possibility of having someone on the Board come in and talk to Student Assembly, so that Student Assembly members can learn more about the process.





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**Felix Tager** answered that Student Assembly could have Karen Leach come in to discuss it, but to threaten financial aid when they are talking about a crisis that is impacting millions (as over 30 million people have been impacted by the floods in Pakistan) likely will not happen again, and that it would be inappropriate if it did.

**Quentin Messer** clarified that having someone come in would not help, then.

**Felix Tager** agreed and further added that Student Assembly must fight fire with facts in this situation.

***Resolution 22-3 Climate Change and Divestment passed unanimously via placard vote.***

**Felix Tager** shared that the ResLife and Safety committee is currently working on a new resolution to address the housing crisis on campus. Specifically, this resolution will address forced doubles in single rooms, the continued existence and renewal of Glenview without a new dorm being built to address the over-admission and the people currently living in Glenview, as well as the overall overcrowding of dorms on campus.

**Marvin Lopez** shared an election update. On November 16th, six weeks from now, there will be Presidential/Vice Presidential elections. He will be releasing more information this week. He also shared that people have expressed interest in having resolution and bill-writing, and that more information on those will be coming out soon.

**Emily Jiang** asked people to run for President and Vice President and encouraged anyone who is interested to talk to them and Marvin as they can offer support, guide anyone interested through the process, and answer any questions.

**5. Announcements ([TIME: 47:25](#))**

- All SA Central Council members, please check the SA Slack for clarification on the Late/Absence policy.

**6. Adjournment**

