

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**JANUARY 22, 2018**

**1. Call to Order**

Present:

- Nadav Konforty
- Julian Perricone
- Gillian Mak
- Jake Engelman
- Caitlin Purdy
- Penelope Hoopes
- Lilly Pieper
- Noam Barnhard
- Jonathan Stanhope
- Marquis Palmer
- Zach Oscar
- Ysabel Coss
- Karthik Ravishankar
- Casey Codd
- Ben Rhind
- Sam Gordon
- Giacomo Cabrera
- Ian Chen
- Rachel Sutor
- Ben Katz
- Jordan D'Addio
- Nani Suzuki
- Connie Lorente
- Keith Ruggles
- Gianni Hill
- Elizabeth Groubert
- Diana Perez
- Maria Valencia
- Amanda Kim
- Jiin Jeong
- Eseosa Asiruwa
- Gavin Meade

**2. Public Comment Period**

- **Late night Jitney stops**
  - Director of Campus Safety, Frank Coots, and Noelle Niznik
  - **Frank Coots:** Noelle and I wanted to announce the changing of the jitney bus stop for the late night jitney downtown. I think everyone received an email, I know it's crucial information for you all. But we did get some info from from Hale, about students on Saturday and Friday nights. On Friday



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night, he finished the route and dropped off students up the hill. When he went down the hill he noticed a lot of people were standing in front of the VT. I find it very difficult to find out that everyone does not read my emails.

- So, we just wanted to emphasize the fact that the stop has been moved. The man who owns the property where we actually moved the stop to has been extremely cooperative. We've put signs up, Subway is closed at 10 PM, and the real estate company across the parking lot is all set with it. We wanted to come in and answer any questions you had and ask for suggestions where you think we could be doing a little better. We will be putting signs inside the VT as well as Don's Rok to remind people that they will be moved down by the Subway. This is something we probably should have done this weekend, however, we recognize we made a mistake in not doing that. Any other suggestions, concerns, or like "it's a really bad idea"-- though, if you say that, you might find a parking ticket on your car tomorrow.
- **Zach Oscar:** Has there been any feedback from any of the workers on the Jitney as to how it has been riding?
  - **Noelle Niznik:** We had a pretty good semester, last go around. I think a lot of that had to do with Campus Safety who rode many nights with our student ride alongs when possible and I think that was helpful. Students respect someone in uniform. I think it has been going well. I hope that continues. Just to kind of give the additional details, I think the main concern when we had the stop in front of the VT was that students would run out into the street in front of the bus. This keeps everyone more safe in the lot down on the way to Don's Rock..
  - **Frank Coots:** This will be a permanent fixture, if you get negative if you get negative feedback, please let us know and we will reassess this. We really feel this will be safer and more convenient.

I wanted to comment quickly about the stats that I handed out. Please, if something comes up and you want me to comment on it, I will come back and we can discuss them. They're from the first semester. They are not perfect stats. We went to a new management system at the beginning of August, 2016. It took a little time for us to learn it. As time goes on, and we as a department get more comfortable using them, these numbers will become more accurate. Again, you'll see these numbers in front of you-- they are strictly numbers. They are not talking about anything that happened to anybody on campus in detail at all.

I did have a couple things I wanted to talk to you about regarding parking and the agreement we have about weekend parking in faculty lots. Last semester, we wrote a total of 52 tickets in those 3 lots just on Monday mornings. We towed a crapload of cars, that's a technical term. We didn't really tow that many, maybe 10-15 in those lots. Overall the department



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has written over thousands of parking tickets in the first semester alone which is a total just shy of \$43,000 in fines. I believe that the department is transparent, but by me sharing these stats, I want to prove that we are being transparent. If you have questions or concerns and feel like this is being unfair, I want you to let me know. I don't want you to feel like campo is a bunch of morons. I want you to feel like you have had a great experience. I want you to be able to say that "I addressed it with Frank Coots" and we worked it out.

- **Rachel Sutor:** How does the thousands of parking tickets last semester compare to previous semesters?
  - **Frank Coots:** I don't know the answer to that but will find out for you and will email it to you tomorrow and if you could share it with this body at the next SA meeting, I'd appreciate it. I didn't anticipate that question.
- **Noam Barnhard:** One thing I noticed at least in the big Minor lot is seems like it feels like there are fewer spots, but it's actually because cars aren't parking as well because they can't see the lines through the snow. I don't know what the solution would be, but it does seem like a lot of them are struggling to find a spot on the Darkside.
- **Frank Coots:** Yeah, parking is one of our great challenges, especially over on the Darkside. I can't agree with you more. It seems like more and more people are using limited spaces and then you throw snow in there and if we aren't uncovering the stripes it makes it that much more challenging. Tomorrow will be great because it will be 50s and the snow will melt and be easy. The next snowfall will cover it all up We work with Physical Plant, it is one of our concerns. I try to be understanding. I'm not forgiving on handicap or firelanes. I'm more forgiving about the lines or parking in the grass when there is snow. I guess I need feedback from the student body when this happens.

### 3. New Business

- **Introductions: Nadav and Julian**
- **Nadav Konforty:**

Welcome, we are happy y'all are here. For starters, I can't say enough how much Julian and I want SA to succeed. When any one of us succeeds, we celebrate that win. We want to continue getting wins for SA, because it means we are getting wins for the student body. With that, I want to create a space where in this room we can get the best work done we can in the time that we have. And with that I have two main themes: respect and time.

Respect-- I'll just say flat out, disrespect does not sit well with me and I do not tolerate it. We had this conversation as an Assembly last spring and I know that we've gotten better at it. However, I still want to reiterate that this is not the place to talk to someone like they don't deserve to be here just as much as you do. It doesn't just matter. Respect is everything. We all want the best for the student



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body and that's what we are here to do. With that, I hope you all hold yourself accountable for the things you do here. I also hope that everyone here commits to not only holding me accountable for my words and actions, but also for that of each other's and our peers.

Time-- we are here to work. If you are here, you should be here to work-- of that's an issue, that's fine, let me know. I want people who want to be here and want to make the student body better. It's vital. There are so many reasons each one of us wants to be here, but you need to be ready to work. If you're not trying to make the student body better, get out. I will promise you today that I will not waste your time when you are here. I know most of you and know that everyone in this room not only cares about this community but is also devoted enough to put in the work to make it a better place.

I know why I'm here. I was once told by someone that I looked up to, to leave the community that you're in a better place than which you found it. And I intend to do that, in one way or another. And I hope you feel similarly and ask yourselves why y'all are here.

I know Connie will be working on the menstrual hygiene project. That's big. Connie's got that, but has also has the support of all of us. We are also working on funding reform, mosaic, etc. I worked Irina, Jalael, and the artist in Boston over. I will ask someone in this group to take this project over.

Finally, we do still want to address sexual assault and misconduct on campus which is frankly a disease on this campus and do what we can to fight it in the circles we are in and work on it as best we can.

### ○ **New Positions and Confirmations**

#### ■ **Executive Committee**

- Gillian Mak '18 — Secretary
- Jake Engelman '19 — Treasurer
- Caitlin Purdy '20 — Parliamentarian
- Penelope Hoopes '20 — Director of Publicity

*Executive Committee Appointments Pass Unanimously.*

#### ■ **Sophomore Class (2020)**

- Connie Lorente — Class Representative
- Nani Suzuki — Class Representative

*Sophomore Class Representative Appointments Pass Unanimously.*

#### ■ **Junior Class (2019)**

- Karthik Ravishankar — Class President
- Samantha Gordon — Class Representative
- Ian Chen — Class Representative
- Giacomo Cabrera — Class Representative
- Ben Rhind — Class Representative

*Junior Class President and Representative Appointments Pass Unanimously.*

#### ■ **Senior Class (2018)**

- Jonathan Stanhope — Class Representative



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- **Ben Katz:** I'm just really happy he's still here.

***Senior Class Representative Appointment Passes Unanimously.***

■ **Liaisons**

- We are instituting a new position! Gavin Meade '20 — Mental Health Liaison

- **Gavin Meade:** Hey everyone thanks a lot for having me here. This is my first time addressing SA, though I read the minutes every week, so bear with me if I'm a little nervous.

My name is Gavin Meade and I'm a sophomore from Fort Myers, FL. I'm planning on majoring in Neuroscience and eventually becoming a psychiatrist. Since the summer before my freshman year I've been involved with a company in Fort Myers called Elite DNA Therapy. When I first started my work with DNA I filed medical records and typed memos. In the years since then we've gone from one office and one provider to a multimillion-dollar business. My tenure with DNA is a bit of a strange one. I work directly with the owner and founder on any project she throws my way, and as the years have gone on they've gotten bigger in scope.

Some of the most notable projects I've worked on are the design and implementation of a new patient intake system, collaboration with local providers, strategic networking with the state of Florida to garner federal funding, helping oversee the creation of an Assisted Living Facility, and multiple side projects ranging from newsletters to designing and distributing patient resources (by this I mean packets of information pertaining to an individual that can be given in conjunction with a diagnosis/therapy). Most recently I created a Risk Assessment Protocol that DNA uses. This system quantitatively assigns a percent risk to a new patient at DNA and suggests a battery of subsequent drivers (ASQ/PHQ-9/NIDA Quick Screen/GAD-7 etc) to get a cursory idea of where a patient is standing. In addition to designing this system I analyze the data using my own metrics and maintain the systems of use (as well as training new providers on it).

In addition to the things I've just listed I have a lot of non-tangible knowledge and acumen from my time with DNA. I've worked with every kind of mental health professional and am intimately familiar with the workings of a clinic, competent with state and federal mental health legislature, and very comfortable talking about mental health.

I share this information with you all to prove that, despite my relative youth and the fact that I'm just a sophomore, my experience in the world of mental health is by no means that of a novice. Work experience outside Hamilton aside, I have a personal commitment to mental health on campus. Thus far I've worked with HAAND, Minds for Change, and the new Mental Health Taskforce in addition to writing about stigma and the



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conversation on mental health in the Spectator (of which I am the Op-Ed editor).

My goals for reform and change on campus are numerous. In no way do I mean to take away from the work that the administration, SA, any club, or the Counseling Center has done. This being said, I think that I can bring a fresh energy, focus, and initiative to the discourse and polity around mental health on Hamilton's campus.

I feel very lucky to be allowed the opportunity to work with you and all of the Hamilton student body, as well as the administration, as a whole. One of the things I'm most passionate about are increasing the systems of self-screening on campus. I also would like to see more of an open dialogue on how providers are selected for the Counseling Center. For more on my thoughts on this issue specifically check out the Continental, I co-authored a piece that discussed the new Health Center and the current machinations of care. I would like to bring Health Minds (a driver that has been used at Hamilton before and comes from the University of Michigan) to campus to get information on the mental health of the student body. I'd want to ensure that I get the raw data from this report as well as the report generated. I also want to continue my work with Minds and the Task Force as I think the students in those organizations are uniquely motivated. I think that if I were able to delegate some work to students in those organizations it'd allow me to be much more productive (as I'm taking a full course load in addition to the Spec and the clubs I'm in).

The final issue I'd like to bring up is that of the Peer Counselors and general issues of fragmentation. I'll speak more about that at a more opportune time.

Above all I want to reiterate my appreciation for Nadav and all of SA for allowing me this opportunity. Together I think we can affect real and positive change on campus.

- **Nadav Konforty:** I think when it comes to mental health, there is no one better on this campus that does what Gavin does. He has his foot in everything mental health related on this campus and is undoubtedly an asset to Student Assembly. He's a wonderful person. With that, I will say that his position does not require you all to vote on it for it to be created, so he's here. If anyone has any questions or comments for Gavin right now, you are more than welcome to ask them.
- **Sam Gordon:** You mentioned the self screening thing, how exactly do you see that fitting into the treatment programs. Assuming that's not a replacement for treatment. What is the goal? How accurate? Why do we want students to do it?



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- **Gavin Meade:** That's a great question. Ideally, in my perfect world, there would be a plugin to the Hamilton Counseling Center website that has a battery of self screening options available. It would run similarly to the site I built for DNA (though obviously less clinical and I'd show it all you). Someone could get onto the site or portal or whatever and have a way to to be assured that their needs are valued and met by the Counseling Center, and have a way to take charge of their own mental health. These tests would not be diagnostic, rather they'd improve the efficacy of students to take control of their own mental health. Obviously that's difficult to get done but that I think it can be adapted. I had a preliminary conversation with David Walden about it and that's how we got talking about Healthy Minds. Once they come and I get that information, I don't think there will be any argument that there's a need for a change in the machinations of care. The portal or site or resource center is for students who want help, are not critical, and are told that they need to wait 4-5 weeks. You'd be able to get an idea of your suicidality, substance abuse standing, or anxiety without having to get an appointment directly.
- **Noam Barnhard:** I know it's early to be thinking about this, but eventually you'll go abroad or graduate. Will this eventually be taken over by the admin, or will there always be this position?
- **Gavin Meade:** I'm not going abroad, but I certainly hope to graduate. I want this to be a position that will be held by a student. It's important to have that direct linkage between the student body and the administration. There is a lot of fragmentation on campus-- lots of people care a lot, but there is no cohesive space that ties all it together. Once it is all tied together, it will be much easier for someone else to fill this role.
- **Julian Perricone:** Our goal is to keep it going. I know this is an emergent issue, but it's always an issue. It's not simply ad-hoc.

#### 4. Old Business

- **Community Mosaic**

- A message from Irina Rojas '18:

- Thank you Student Assembly and Student Activities for providing funding for the Community Mosaic Mural project. The 6' 6" x 9' 5" mosaic will be built in the 3rd floor of Sadove all semester long, with a goal of installing it on the wall outside darkside opus patio area. Six students – Jaleel Davis, Gillian Mak, Ella MacVeagh, Ellison Sherrill (alum), and Monika Rybak -- contributed to the final design! We have all the materials and are ready to launch a few hour long training workshops to teach students how to use the



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tile cutters, and follow the design. After attending a single training workshop, students who know how to handle the mosaic tools are welcome to use the space 24/7 to continue building the mosaic, and teach their friends how to do it. We hope everyone on campus will place a handful of tiles on it by the end. This is YOUR project to enjoy and work on!

**5. Committees**

○ **New Expectations**

- **Julian Perricone:** The first change we've done is add a Staff/Administrative Liaison to each committee. The liaison will meet with the committees on a regular basis to offer guidance from the administrative side, give history on topics and issues that you want to discuss. Our plan is that biweekly meetings internally, and the off weeks spent with the administrative liaison to relay the work you have done internally the previous week. I had that structure for my food committee last semester, and it worked really well.
- Writing and archiving reports: I know we've had issues in the past with committees not submitting consistent reports. Nadav and I will have a low tolerance for that. The best thing you can do on the Assembly is work for your committee. That is where you shine. We want reports of committees' work each week as well as a wholesale report by the end of the semester. I will be sending out a Google doc for each committee where you will write notes from your meetings, making it easier for Gillian, and so the reports can be archived and passed onto the next semester's chair.
- **New Committees:**
  - Mental Health now forming with Gavin as the liaison.
- **Nadav Konforty:** Of the committees are spread too thin, I'm going to assign them. Committees are fun if the work gets done.

○ **Committee Assignments**

**6. Funding**

Amount Remaining Strategic: **\$111,261.28**

Amount Remaining Non-Strategic: **\$27,815.32**

Organization	Items/Services Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Amount Approved
Chabad	Shabbat Dinner, Tu B'shvat	\$703.76	\$423.76	\$423.76
Shenandoah-Kirkland Initiative	Social Dance and Rap Performance	\$1,582.96	\$1,462.96	\$1,582.96





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Mock Trial	Tournament Meal (x3)	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$99.00
Mental Health Task Force	Mosaic Project	\$487.03	\$487.03	\$487.03

Amount Requested: \$2,872.85

Amount Recommended: \$2,472.75

Amount Remaining if Funding Passes (Non-Strategic): \$25,342.57

- **Jake Engelman:** First of all, our government is no longer shut down! Now to funding! We have four things to fund. First, a budget for Chabad, which is asking for a dinner and food for a Tu B'shvat celebration. The discrepancy is twofold: they've already held one event, which we won't retroactively fund, and we lowered the amount for the second dinner as per our \$8/head policy for a meal.
- **Shenandoah-Kirkland Initiative:**
  - **Lilly Pieper:** We are having a social dance and rap performance this weekend. We are working on rebuilding the relationship between Hamilton and the Oneida Nation that was formed by the founding of the college and the friendship between Chief Shenandoah and Samuel Kirkland. . This event is catered by Taj because you traditionally have food at these events as they take place during dinner
  - **Jake Engelman:** The discrepancy is because the event is is not food centric.
    - **Ben Katz:** I feel like this could actually be food centric if it is traditional to eat during it.
    - **Lilly Pieper:** I agree. I understand if you want to stick solely to the funding codes.
    - **Marquis Palmer:** when is this event?
    - **Lilly Pieper:** It is from 5-7 on Saturday.
    - **Marquis Palmer:** Since it's during dinnertime, it makes sense.
  - Strawpoll: Votes to change recommendation to fund as requested.
- **Mock Trial:** We funded this event last semester, but they're bring 3 more people so they need 3 more meals.
- **Mental Health Task Force:** Asking for \$487.03 of supplies for the mosaic project.

***Chabad, Shenandoah- Kirkland Initiative, Mock Trial, the Mental Health Task Force pass as recommended.***

- **Zach Oscar: Just two quick notes,** First, next week is the funding committee meeting. Know that it will be long. You will be tired. It will take a lot of time. Understand this is a key part of your your job and don't complain. Second, know what you are getting into with the committees that you decide to join.

**7. Announcements**

- **Next week (1/29) is our funding meeting!**



The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

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- Strategic budgets must be submitted [using this link](#) by Saturday, January 27th by noon (No exceptions!). Email [jengelma@hamilton.edu](mailto:jengelma@hamilton.edu) if you have any questions.
- **Coming Up for Air: Essential Skills for the Stress of College (1/24)**
  - Come this Wednesday at 7pm to the Fillius Events Barn for a talk from Brian Like Seaward, Ph.D.
  - We hope to see you there!
- **Welcome back! A special welcome to our Jans and our new transfer students. We are so happy you're here!**
- **Jake Engelman:** Tomorrow in Sadove Conference room from 4:30-6 is Club Leader Basic Training. If you are a new club, a new president, or a new treasurer, you're required to attend. You get a \$50 credit to spend on whatever you want except alcohol.

