

STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 26, 2018

1. Call to Order

Present

- Nadav Konforty
- Julian Perricone
- Gillian Mak
- Jake Engelman
- Jordan D'Addio
- Penelope Hoopes
- Lilly Pieper
- Jonathan Stanhope
- Marquis Palmer
- Ysabel Coss
- Casey Codd
- Ben Rhind
- Sam Gordon
- Rachel Sutor
- Ben Katz
- Alex Stetter
- Nani Suzuki
- Connie Lorente
- Keith Ruggles
- Gianni Hill
- Elizabeth Groubert
- Diana Perez
- Maria Valencia
- Jiin Jeong
- Eseosa Asiruwa
- Gavin Meade

Excused

- Zach Oscar
- Amanda Kim

Absent

- Noam Barnhard
- Karthik Ravishankar
- Ian Chen
- Giacomo Cabrera

2. Public Comment Period

- **Fred Pollevick and Sam Benevelli:**
 - **Sam Benevelli:** Hi, I'm Sam, I'm speaking on behalf of the Enquiry today. In the past couple weeks we've noticed that our publication missing on all the tables on the dining halls. We've added a date to the bottom, but



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they're usually gone within 24/48 hours from all the tables on Commons. I know this doesn't apply to us and we don't want to assume that students are throwing them away but maybe communicating to the people at BA about being more conscious.

- **Elizabeth Groubert:** I have a meeting with Derek next week, and I'll email him tonight or tomorrow.
- **Jon Stanhope:** Is there a "leave until date?"
 - **Sam Benevelli:** We put one on 3 weeks ago and they still keep disappearing. We figured they thought it was okay to throw away because it was old and our format always looks the same.
 - **Jon Stanhope:** Have you spoken of an editor of another publication about this?
 - **Fred Pollevick:** We found that most publications stay there until the date. We are hoping it's a mistake.
- **Julian Perricone:** Putting out a PSA about it would go a long way as well, which we can hopefully do with the minutes.
- **Ben Katz:** You should also probably go through media board.
 - **Sam Benevelli:** The Enquiry is not part of media board.
- **Sam Benevelli:** We've had problems in the past which are totally different, but we are not trying to accuse people of throwing them away because it seems kind of pointless and a huge amount of effort. We just want to clear up the miscommunication.

3. New Business

- **Confirmation of New Members**
 - **Jordan D'Addio '20 — Parliamentarian**
 - We are very thankful for Jordan for stepping up to fill this position.

Jordan D'Addio Confirmed as Parliamentarian.

- **Alex Stetter '20 — Class of 2020 Representative**
 - **Alex Stetter:** As a student representative for the class of 2020 I seek to increase awareness of mental health initiatives, support voices of diversity, and ensure that students at Hamilton have adequate access to social opportunities that balance the academic rigor of college. I currently am co-president of Minds For Change, and I am excited that my passions align with this year's focus of Student Assembly. I look forward to working to create enduring change on Hamilton College's campus.

Alex Stetter confirmed as Class of 2020 Representative.

- **NY6 Connections and "Slack" Online — Nadav Konforty '20**
- **Nadav Konforty:**
 - So I have recently been in contact with Alexandra Wagner of St. Lawrence University's Thelomathesian Society (Thelmo), which is their version of Student Assembly. SLU has been working closely with members of other NY6 colleges to try to set up a forum on the online Slack forum so that we can all better learn from each other as peer



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institutions. I will work on setting it up for us and report back to you all, but it would be great if we could set this up.

4. Old Business

○ **Mental Health Updates — Gavin Meade '20**

NOTE: Please see the mental health progress report attached in the minutes' email.

- **Lilly Pieper:** I think required reading is a really great idea. I think it sets the stage. I also want to say, about the coaches in the off season, my coach loves teaching the fitness courses. I think other ways would be great, but wouldn't discount those classes.
- **Gavin Meade:** Quick plug for Gorilla and the Bird about a NYS public defender. I think it would be a great thing for people to rally around.
- **Julian Perricone:** Can you list your sticker locations?
 - **Gavin Meade:** Counseling center, dean's office, 3rd floor of the chapel, and health center.
 - **Noelle Niznik:** Can we add them to Sadove?
 - **Gavin Meade:** Yes
- **Gavin Meade:** One of the big things that I'm taking on is how common social spaces are treated on campus. When you look at the Bundy basement, for example, it is really a shame that a space like that is not utilized. For students who do not want to drink or go to parties on the weekends, their options are limited. Additionally, the pool tables and common rooms in South and Wertimer etc. are in disarray. Students pay a lot of money for room and board, what if anything goes into the maintenance of these spaces? Can we get a pool table in the Bundy basement (at least one of them)?
- **Gavin Meade:** Additionally, my other big initiative right now is the advising system. I've worked with members of the Mental Health Taskforce to try and examine/change how the advising system works. If someone is assigned an advisor who only signs their forms twice a semester than they really aren't a good advisor are they? Why is it that when you get an academic warning your advisor doesn't reach out to you and see what's going on? For freshman who are coming in and may be paired with a professor who isn't even remotely connected to their potential concentration the combination of a lack of knowledge about subject matter and detachment due to dissimilar interests is a potentially very bad situation for them to be in.
- **Julian Perricone:** I mentioned this last semester. I suggested that in addition to an academic advisor, students would have a personal advisor with whom they could speak about personal issues, so I fully endorse revamping the advisory system. As far as social spaces go, as a bundy RA, I know how difficult it is not having a place for the community to gather. I suggest talking to Giacomo who is working very closely with the Res Life



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office and can relay and remind them of that concern. Also, right now the only way to give feedback on advising is when you no longer have them as an advisor.

- **Connie Lorente:** I think that to have an advising group, you have to enjoy the advisor you were given. Related to the class you were taking. My advisor was my Italian professor, so I didn't have a whole lot in common with the other advisees in my group.
- **Jake Engelman:** How did the gatekeeper training go?
 - **Gavin Meade:** Thank you to everyone who was there. I really encourage those of you who weren't to make sure you attend.. Huge shoutout for the informative workshop. Make sure you do that!
 - **Noelle Niznik:** Just so you know, faculty and staff are also being trained. I sat in on training that David Walden provided. We were charged with the task of training staff, faculty, and other admin in our respective areas.
 - **Connie Lorente:** I want to echo Gavin's point that as representatives of the student body, we should be getting trained.
- **Alex Stetter:** If you are interested in talking to David Walden, minds for Change tomorrow at 7:30 in KJ 203.
- **Meetings with President Wippman and Dean Martinez Updates — Nadav Konforty '20 and Julian Perricone '20**
 - Julian, Jake, and I met with David Wippman today.
 - **Jake Engelman:** Basically I told him some of the concerns around academic team funding-- four organizations take nearly 20% of our budget. I'm going to write a proposal for him and update you after that.
 - **Nadav Konforty:** we also talked about President Wippman and I wanted to relay the message that high school students will not be penalized in admissions if they are expressing themselves respectfully and peacefully. He was very enthusiastic about that and it meant a lot to him. We meet with Dean Martinez tomorrow.
 - **Elizabeth Groubert:** Update on the 7 meal plan.
 - **Gavin Meade:** She's the reason I put it together. Can you ask her about feedback for the list?
 - **Rachel Sutor:** When she came in last semester, she talked about improving the housing lotto. Is there an update on that?
 - Nadav: I know Giacomo is working on it right now.
 - Noelle: Ashley Place is looking at software. I suspect we will hear about it soon. That makes me think that it wouldn't be for this year.
 - **Ben Katz:** I know that last year, I'm curious what she's gained from that last semester.



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- **Julian Perricone:** In general she's had a lot on her plate besides dealing with issues of binge drinking on campus. That being said, she's expressed interest in coming back here to give an update on the work she's done, and she may have things to say about the drinking culture.
- **Jake Engelman:** The Babbitt RA's are doing a dinner with her on Wednesday. That program is still going on!
- **Town Hall:**
 - **Penelope Hoopes:** We've made great progress with our town hall initiative. It is set for April 2nd and we have the support of President Wippman and Dean Martinez. We're really excited for this to be an opportunity for the entire community to come together. Please stay tuned for updates and come talk to me or anyone else on the committee if you'd like to know more!
 - **Chidera Onyeozi:** We reached out to Mark Mullin to help us with the logo design and we are planning on having Nadav send out the survey tomorrow. The theme for the event is "checking our pulses." earlier I talked to Professor Margo Okazawa-Rey who suggested we market it as a moment of reflection. Instead of having it focused on one specific theme, it should be more reflective and opened up. We've lost members of our community, we've debated free speech, etc, can we come together to be a community? The administration has been very open and excited. We are working on figuring out ways to get students excited about it. There will be a grassroots publicity campaign that will reach out to clubs individually, send out posters, etc.
 - **Ben Katz:** Is this instead of our meeting?
 - **Nadav Konforty:** We will let you know.

5. Acknowledgements

- Thank you to BLSU for a moving and impactful rally on Friday.
 - **Julian Perricone:** I was there, and Connie spoke, and she was awesome.
- **Food Committee** — Thank you to Elizabeth Groubert '21 and Jon Stanhope '18 on all of their work and for meeting with **Hamilton Sustainability**.
 - Vegan diner options!
- **Elizabeth Groubert:** Hamilton sustainability is run out of physical plant and they have a lot of projects on campus. Their last project was mug decorating and they had students come and decorate mugs in commons. They decorated over 100 mugs and you'll see them in Commons. In the past there was a problem with students taking mugs, so don't do that!

6. Committee Reports

- **Constitution:**



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- **Sam Gordon:** I wanted to bring up Title IX, we think it would be important for SA to have more training in title IX and victim conversations. Cori Smith will do a special program for just SA.
- **Cultural Affairs:**
 - **Jiin Jeong:** International Affair Day will be March 31, 12-2 in the events barn!
- **Facilities:**
 - **Connie Lorente:** We met with a math professor who is going to help us with survey making and reaching out to the community. We will have our next meeting an open time for people to come in. Also, Bill Huggins is a great man.
- **Food:**
 - Thank you so much for the soy sauce!
- **Health and Safety:**
 - **Gianni Hill:** We have our biweekly meeting with Frank Coots. This will be the first time that the entire committee will meet with him. He gave us a bunch of general ideas that he would like us to communicate to the student body, including clear parking rules. The committee met last week to discuss tangible things to target and we have dinner with him again on Tuesday.
- **Philanthropy:**
 - **Marquis Palmer:** Still fundraising to the scholarship. Instead of reaching for \$1500, we are reaching for \$2,000. We are going to have one more fundraiser after spring break.
 - Bake sale Tuesday March 6th during midterms.
 - Raffle for a food basket during the same period
 - April 14th is a concession stand at the women's lax game with another raffle basket.
 - Huge shoutout to Philanthropy Committee who is doing all the hard work. I'm just doing logistics, they're really doing it all on the ground here.
 - **Lilly Pieper:** Are you doing the silent auction this year?
 - **Marquis Palmer:** nope.
- **Publicity:**
 - **Penelope Hoopes:** I'm getting trained for the website. On the note on website: tomorrow is sunny, high of 54, and zero percent chance of rain. Take your headshots!
 - Also, town hall stuff.
- **Social Traditions:**
 - **Casey Codd:** Feb fest debrief meeting. Talking about how we can move forward with new traditions.
- **Student Affairs:**



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- We are meeting with Dean Martinez at 6 PM over dinner on Tuesday to discuss how we can be of use to her.

7. Funding

Amount Remaining: **\$18,424.83**

Organization	Items/Services Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Resubmit
HEAG	March for Science	\$5,474.39	\$229.49	Y
Anime Club	Japanese Snacks	\$77.50	\$50.00	N

Amount Requested: \$5,551.89

Amount Recommended: \$306.99

Amount Remaining if Funding Passes: \$18,117.84

HEAG:

- **Jake Engelman:** Obviously there is a pretty huge cut between the budget and amount recommended. The first thing they asked for is attendance for the March for Science which will be April 14-15th. They approximate 50 people in attendance and the amount is for a bus and publicity. We talked about this a lot, this is in the realm of what we won't fund. Ultimately this is a long distance to go for a rally at a huge cost to SA. We decided that amount would be better spent on other things. They also are planning a Green week movie screening-- asked for food and tips. They approximated 35 people, so we cut the amount for \$5 a person for 35 people and slapped gratuity. They also have a trivia night on April 18th in which they had a couple bucks of snacks and 3 prizes ranging in price from \$10-20. We recommended food but not the prizes. Maybe the prizes aren't essential to the event. They also have a green week fair which is in the Annex on the 20th of April. For that they asked again for 3 raffle prizes, which we cannot recommend. 60 Tee shirts to give out, thermoses, and corn hole (which Student Activities already has).
- **Tierney Latham:** Regarding the march for science bus, you funded the bus for the climate march last year. I'm just wondering why this year you didn't decide to fund it. We thought it was rather expensive.
- **Ben Katz:** I'm pretty sure that budget was strategic, not nonstrategic. This would be over a third of our remaining budget.
- **Jon Stanhope:** Are we funding this because of the distance or because we don't feel it's valuable?
 - **Jake Engelman:** We thought it was a lot to go to a DC march, a closer distance we figure out is more reasonable.



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- **Rachel Sutor:** Could you have, in theory, been able to submit for strategic budget?
 - **Kai Scarangella:** We had to wait to hear back for quotes from several different busses.
- **Marquis Palmer:** Can you explain a little bit what the march for science is about?
 - **Tierney Latham:** A national rally that anyone can participate in, to raise awareness for science education primarily. To raise awareness of quantitative, scientifically backed data. We think that as HEAG, the core of Environmental science is science. We originally wanted to go to the People's Climate March but they aren't having an event this week
- **Jon Stanhope:** How many people would you be sending?
 - **Tierney Latham:** Around 50 people from the campus community.
- **Gianni Hill:** I'm wondering of any of you could speak to attendance last year.
 - **Kai Scarangella:** Last year we had a strapped budget that was \$200 more. We had about 30 people. In hindsight, last year's publicity was last minute because we couldn't secure our bus earlier. All the busses are full. We've tried to do it earlier. Last year it was a climate march, so we think this will draw more people. From HEAG's standpoint, we are interested in going to advocate for climate science. It would draw more people than people's climate march.
 - **Jake Engelman:** I know for the Women's March, they had funding from other areas excluding student assembly. Have you approached the Science departments?
 - **Tierney Latham:** No, do you have suggestions? We have not looked into anything else.
 - **Jake Engelman:** I'm just curious.
- **Rachel Sutor:** If they plan on bringing faculty, do we fund for faculty to be included in the headcount?
 - **Jake Engelman:** By the funding codes, we can't fund anything for faculty? But that would be very nitpicky and not make a lot of sense, in my opinion.
 - **Rachel Sutor:** I could definitely see a lot of faculty being interested in it. How many participants do you think are going to be students or faculty?
 - **Tierney Latham:** That's a good question. I'm not sure. Last year we had two faculty sign up that backed out.
 - **Kai Scarangella:** We wanted faculty to participate for good collaboration.
 - **Rachel Sutor:** I thought there would be more. 2 isn't a big deal.
- **Jake Engelman:** I think maybe at this point, strawpoll on the bus?
 - **Marquis Palmer:** I'm inclined to support this initiative. I think it makes sense from an educational standpoint. Compared to most of the things we fund, I find this immensely meaningful.
 - **Julian Perricone:** I'd like to add the option that they find other options.



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- **Jake Engleman:** I'd rather do it in full or ask that you come back and resubmit.
- **Lilly Pieper:** I think if we fund them in full, there are rollbacks if they get funded elsewhere.
- **Penelope Hoopes:** Have you looked into satellite marches in different locations?
 - **Tierney Latham:** We looked at one in Rochester the same day, that is a viable option. DC is the most nationally recognized option that will draw more people.
- **Alex Stetter:** What events might we not have the opportunity to fund at this point given that our budget is low?
 - **Jake Engelman:** Last semester we were in a worse position at this point but we are riding the wave of rollbacks.
 - **Gillian Mak:** I want to add to something. The whole point of you all (SA) managing the Student Activities fee is to spend it. It doesn't roll over to next year and there really isn't a reason to save it if you see something valuable you would like to fund. I don't think it is a good use of funds to save a bunch just in case we want to throw what's left into C&C. This money is for organizations.
 - **Lilly Pieper:** How much is left in discretionary?
 - **Jake Engelman:** \$4,000.

HEAG funding passes as recommended with the addition of the Climate March.

Anime club funding passes as recommended.

8. Announcements

- **Diana Perez:** In response to the Parkland Shooting last week and the movement created by the "March for our Lives Movement," we invite the student body to write a letter to their representatives, senators, governors, major donor groups, and local leaders. In partnership with the Community of Care initiative, BLSU, and SA all supplies and snacks will be accommodated for the event. The Letter Crafting Day will be on **Sunday, March 4th from 11AM to 3PM in the Sadove Living Room**. An email will be sent out this week with more information.
- **BLSU — Letters and Posters for Parkland Victims**
 - We would like to further amplify the message BLSU sent out to our campus in their work to help the Parkland, Florida community. Below we have attached their message:
"Hey everyone. We ask that you find the time to visit the bookstore this week to write letters and sign the poster that will be sent to Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland. The station will be inside the bookstore by the fridge for the entire week. Best, The BLSU e-Board"
- **Connecticut College — March for our Lives**
 - In speaking with representatives and colleagues from Connecticut College, attached is a message from a Facebook event at the school for a peaceful



The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

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protest this week on their campus. We want to, and were asked to, share the message from their event to everyone, so it is as follows:

Enough is enough.

Please join us on March 1st at 1:30pm to walk out of class in peaceful protest of gun violence in our schools.

This event is inspired by and in conjunction with the many protests across the nation created by the "March for our Lives" movement. We hope to create momentum around this specific date so please spread the word to individuals at other schools. We encourage you to create a Facebook event like this one for your own school to stand in solidarity at the same time and date.

- **Suicide Prevention:**
 - The Peer Counselors are offering suicide prevention gatekeeper workshops to all students interested. This workshop is designed to improve our recognition of suicide warning signs in ourselves and others increase our comfort with responding to friends in distress and referring them to professional resources
 - The workshop consists of a review of signs and symptoms of depression and suicidal thinking, small group discussions, & role-plays in pairs to practice supporting a friend in distress
 - We are offering this training on Friday March 2nd from 4:00-5:30 pm in the Science Center, 2048.
 - **RSVP for this workshop [here](#).**
 - To schedule a workshop for your student organization, or share other questions/concerns, please email: iomalley@hamilton.edu.
- A reminder to everyone that the third floor of Sadove is home to the **Community Mosaic** spearheaded by **Irina Rojas '18**. Feel free to come by during the day to put a few tiles on and contribute to this wonderful project for the college.

