

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**APRIL 8, 2019**

**1. Call to Order**

○ **Present**

- Amanda Kim
- Gianni Hill
- Will Andriola
- Eric Kopp
- Alex Kurtz
- Morgan Perry
- Karthik Ravishankar
- Casey Codd
- Richard Court
- Harry Dubke
- Ben Rhind
- Luis Morales
- Laura Rodriguez
- Alex Stetter
- Diana Perez
- Savannah Kelly
- Drew Anderson
- Ishan Mainali
- Caroline Paulson
- Bryce Febres
- Lóri Fejes
- Finlay Adamson
- Keir Adamson
- Nasheley Boursiquot
- Orlando Paz

○ **Excused**

- Jack Carroll
- Aurora Cai
- Jay Menner

○ **Unexcused**

- Ines Ayara
- Ruben Martinez

**2. Public Comment Period**

○ **Relay 4 Remission**

- **Kory Fogarty '19:** We're here to talk about an event called Relay 4 Remission. It's a Cancer fundraiser that's going to happen on on April 27th at 12 o'clock. The event is a relay race. We're going to have live student bands along with food. It's going to be a fun filled day with activities. We are donating money to three places. First, we are going to be donating to the American Cancer Society. Second one is the Abraham



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House, which is a hospice house in Utica. The third one is Light Hill which is a hospice house which my dad was at. The team registration opened last week. They are teams of four. The race is open just to Hamilton students, faculty, and staff. The rest of the activities will be open to the Hamilton community and anyone else would like to show up. We are collaborating with Grilling Club, BLSU, WHCL, ISC. Those are some of the main organizations we've been working with.

- **Dana Marrocco '19:** If you guys could reach out, or be interested in participating on, or sending a blurb out to a group chat or something like that, it would be so helpful just to spread the word. I know we spoke earlier about sending something out officially, but sending something within your friend group would be really helpful. Save that day, April 27th.

### 3. New Business

- **Mid-semester Feedback — Amanda Kim & Gianni Hill**

- **Amanda Kim:** So Gianni and I went through all the evaluations. We're going to go through the feedback we got back and just tell you what we're going to do in the future to address what we've heard. In terms of meetings, people felt that meetings can be overly long. To address that, we are going to be keeping better track of when we're cutting discussions and set stricter limits before the meeting on how long each discussion will go, so we can be as efficient as possible. People also felt the small group breakout discussions we had were inefficient, so we're going to be moving away from those and moving more toward the larger group discussions. In terms of committees, people said that they felt they were being inefficient. They expressed concerns that their committees weren't meeting often or doing much. Next semester, we're going to start a more formal sit-down process with the chairs. Me and Jiin (R.I.P. Gianni), will be sitting down with the chairs on a scheduled basis. We're also going to be checking in more frequently now to make sure the committees are meeting when they are supposed to be.
- **Gianni Hill:** I think committees have been an ongoing struggle in SA, if you have any concerns please let us know. We'd love to figure out how to make committees the most effective use of your time. Please let us know, because we don't sit in on these committee meetings. We've talked a lot about restructuring some committees, but let us know if that isn't working out.
- **Amanda Kim:** We've heard from some students outside SA that they've reached out to committees and haven't heard back. Make sure you're checking your emails.
- **Gianni Hill:** Committee chairs, your names are on the SA website. They can go and it will say the chairs of the committee and their emails.



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- **Amanda Kim:** People can click your name and automatically send emails. People might be sending you questions or requests that way, so make sure you're checking. In terms of our feedback, the majority of it was good, mostly just "great job" or "keep it up." The constructive criticism we did get was mixed. Some people felt that we are being too strict and authoritarian, while others thought that we weren't being strict enough. Gianni and I will try to strike a better balance between the two.
- **Gianni Hill:** If anyone has tangible examples for us, please let us know. It doesn't have to be right now, but keep us in the loop.
  - **Harry Dubke:** When you address things with tardiness, I think when you address that you use pretty harsh tones before. You should come with a more open tone to it. We all want to be on SA, but we will come.
  - **Amanda Kim:** Thank you. We'll watch our tone. We don't want to be nagging you guys or to come off as patronizing in any way. Any constructive criticism, please let us know. We really do value it and we want to make sure we're not just serving the student body well but also you as the Assembly. Please don't be shy about giving us feedback if you feel anything is amiss, we want to hear it.

#### 4. Old Business

##### ○ Town Hall Discussion — Amanda Kim & Gianni Hill

- **Amanda Kim:** You should have a piece of blue paper and a piece of yellow paper. Gianni and I met with President Wippman and Dean Martinez on Friday. In terms of location, we've decided on the Annex. It works because the divider that splits the Annex in half can be moved depending on how big we want to make the room. We feel it's a better space because it can accommodate a large amount of people or it can be made smaller if we feel that's necessary.
- **Harry Dubke:** Do we get chairs for it?
  - **Amanda Kim:** Yes, we really don't want people sitting on the floor for this.
  - **Gianni Hill:** We're still figuring out the exact format of the chairs and tables, but yes.
- **Amanda Kim:** In the Town Hall we want to set two topics that we're going to be discussing, which is what your pieces of paper are for. Before you write anything down, we want to have a large-group discussion to talk things out. If anyone feels that there is an issue that is particularly pressing that needs to be addressed at this Town Hall, please feel free to advocate for it now. You can vote for anything you want but this discussion is important as you might not have thought of something originally by yourself. Please note that we're looking for a good balance with subjects where they're not too broad but not too specific. For example, alcohol



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social spaces on campus or mental health resources could be topics. Let's open it up to discussion.

- **Karthik Ravishankar:** Number one is management of RAs and how they can facilitate positive social wellbeing for students on campus. Number two is how to engage with different organizations on campus and how best to coexist in the same space on this campus.
- **Alex Stetter:** In that hierarchy, I think Res Life is important. I think a subcategory of it is alcohol spaces and opportunities for smaller party spaces. The administration has restricted spaces where students can hang out and has made it harder to use other spaces to casually hang out where parties can be thrown. So you're left with big Rocky Horror stuff and large all campus parties.
- **Harry Dubke:** Besides what we're discussing here, I think we should send an email to the student body. We are such an echo chamber and we are pretty representative, but once we get stuck on an idea, we stay with it. I think if there is a way we can send it out to the school and gauge the top two issues the school has, that would be really helpful.
  - **Karthik Ravishankar:** That something our committee can address since we've already sent out a survey.
  - **Gianni Hill:** That survey would have to go out this week so we can get answers soon.
  - **Amanda Kim:** We did have some concerns because of election coming up and C&C, we didn't want to be sending out too many emails and have people delete all of them. We do want to get the student body voice involved in this though.
  - **Harry Dubke:** We can have a person from each class post in the Facebook group as well.
  - **Gianni Hill:** We don't want low turnout. Whatever ways we can boost turn out and get the message out, let's do it.
- **Ben Rhind:** I think mental health specifically about how services have improved, what students think about the new Health Center. A lot of that Res Life conversation can be connected with that and student life.
  - **Gianni Hill:** Do you think it would be possible to have two big topic focus areas that we want to work on? But we could have a shorter discussion section, like fifteen minutes, where we talk about updates in regards to mental health and some suggestions. Not as long as a half block, but just some time to talk about it.
  - **Alex Stetter:** I think in regards to mental health, it's more of an opportunity for us to have a discussion and dialogue. Last time it was something that was talked about, and there have been concrete steps that have been taken, now that the Counseling Center has expanded. There have definitely been pushes and initiatives on mental health, so in terms of collaborating with the administration it's a really positive experience.



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- **Luis Morales:** I think a large thing is the removal of Boston Posse. If we could have something where the administration could put together a statement, that would be great.
- **Richard Court:** I think Title IX and the Culture of Respect. I know about them, but I don't know how many people know about. It's important, especially with the changes happening at the federal level.
- **Amanda Kim:** I will say that one issue that was brought up at the Town Hall last year but wasn't fleshed out as much was diversity on campus.
- **Savannah Kelly:** I think inclusion on campus would be a worthwhile conversation.
- **Ishan Mainali:** There's an ongoing conversation with sleep deprivation, that connects in with mental health.
  - **Amanda Kim:** Do you mean in relation to work overload or stress?
  - **Ishan Mainali:** Yeah. More like why can't people get enough sleep.
- **Savannah Kelly:** We should talk about reading period dates.
  - **Gianni Hill:** We've heard a little about that in the faculty meetings. It's something that has been talked about before. Academic calendars are posted two academic years ahead. It's hard to make immediate changes, but it's something we can get started.
  - **Amanda Kim:** It is something we talked to President Wippman about. Not only reading periods, but mental health days that could be scheduled throughout the semester. We have talked to him about that, and there is a committee that is reexamining the academic calendar and looking at when we could institute some of those things. However, academic calendars are planned a couple years in advance so any changes we make likely won't be seen for the next few years.
  - **Gianni Hill:** It proves to be more difficult because it would have to go through the faculty assembly, then the Dean of Faculty, then Dean of Students. It goes through a lot of different offices, so it's a slow, bureaucratic process.
- **Casey Codd:** The advising system and giving students more resources on campus should be discussed.
- **Harry Dubke:** I was going to ask if we would have the opportunity to ask questions, or if these would all be pre-recorded and on paper. What does the format look like?
  - **Amanda Kim:** We feel the aspect of having an open discussion is super important. In terms of the conversations, we are planning on having an open question and answer session with the relevant administrators. We don't want to script this. People should be able to ask what they want. We do want to have a certain structure with the topics though so the administrators know if they need to



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prepare data or summaries for anything that students should know but that the administration doesn't have off the top of their heads.

- **Gianni Hill:** We're also thinking of having the relevant administrator give feedback on these topics. For Res Life, maybe we would have Travis Hill or Ashley Place come in and go over what they've done over the years, or say that this initiative never came to fruition, or something like that, so we can get an idea before students asks questions. As an Assembly, we can submit questions that we can ask first before any open forum. I think it would be good to have them some heads up of the conversation because we don't want to drag them in and put them on the spot. Dean Martinez likes to come with her data and numbers. She likes doing her research, so they would appreciate it on their end.
- **Noelle Niznik:** If you all go into with the mindset on focusing on solutions, as much as I know students want to say their concerns, you want to structure this in a way that can start to work towards solutions. Potentially, we can bring the feedback to Student Assembly and we can figure out what committees to delegate them to. We are coming to the end of the school year, so I'm sure people want to know that we are going to pick up with this next year.
- **Savannah Kelly:** Do you guys have a date yet?
  - **Amanda Kim:** We need to decide the topics before, so we can invite the relevant administrators. We want to have this discussion soon and also not so late in the semester that this happens before we immediately head off for summer and then the topics die out.
  - **Gianni Hill:** This is why we haven't rushed into one. We want to plan well so we can use the same model next semester, but much earlier.
- **Elections Update — Amanda Kim & Gianni Hill**
  - **Gianni Hill:** We've talked pretty extensively about how we want to revamp our presence on campus and getting involved in physical polling locations on campus and nominations. So we're going to start next week with nominations, for a week. Faculty, students, and staff can fill out a Google Survey. Once we get all their names, we'll send out an email to all people that were nominated and tell them. After that closes, we'll send an email to all the people nominated.
  - **Amanda Kim:** After that, we're going to be having our election meeting. Gianni will meet with all the people that are running, and that meeting is mandatory. He'll explain the rules of the elections. We're going to open the polls and announce the results at the end of the semester. They'll have to attend if they want to run. Campaigning will start that week.
  - **Gianni Hill:** That will leave them with enough time to attend the last SA meeting of the semester if they want to see how everything works. We're



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doing our elections meeting right before the SA meeting, so they can stay and check out the meeting format.

- **Lóri Fejes:** If current members of SA want to run again, do they have to get nominated?
  - **Amanda Kim:** You don't have to be nominated to run. This is just to encourage people you might not have run otherwise to run. We'll tell nominees that they don't have to run, but someone thought they would be good for the position.
  - **Gianni Hill:** You can nominate yourself if you really want.
- **Will Andriola:** Are there any plans for physical polling locations?
  - **Amanda Kim:** During the actual voting period, we were thinking of doing it during lunch in the dining halls. We do acknowledge that it is a conflict of interest if people are running in the election and also operating the polls, so if you're running again you likely won't be asked to help with the polling.
  - **Gianni Hill:** If you're going abroad or your are a senior, please help us. We're doing two or three days at each dining hall. We are trying to stagger the times so we get different people from campus.
  - **Amanda Kim:** We will also be sending out the link so students can still vote there, the physical location is just to make sure we're reaching as many people as possible. Please sign up to help us if you can.

### 5. Acknowledgments

- **Kudos**

- **Casey Codd represented SA at a Teacher Award Meeting (She also always has a dongle)**

### 6. Committees

- **Executive Committees**

- **Org. Recognition**

- **Orlando Paz:** Due to the nature of our committee, we don't do much after we approve clubs. We will meet with Kaity Stewart before the end of the year to think about new initiatives that we want to enact for next year. That will happen in the foreseeable future.

- **Constitution**

- **Alex Kurtz:** We're going to be putting out constitutional amendments for the end of the semester. We are going to do a Org Liaison e-board position for Orlando and possible election rule changes.

- **Publicity**

- **Morgan Perry:** We are going to start our tabling in Diner this week. It will be a great way to gain visibility for SA. I'm hoping to





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have an open Google Doc with people sitting at the table, ready to take suggestions and concerns from students. I am really hoping that people at the tables can be particularly outgoing and be excited about the committees that you are on. It will be a great way to see the people. For the people, by the people. If we can have six to seven people in the future, that will be great.

- a. **Amanda Kim:** Talk to Morgan afterwards if you want to do that.
- **Gianni Hill:** We figured out the bulletin board fiasco. No one took it down, it just fell down.
  - **Student Life Committees**
    - **Cultural Affairs**
      - **Lóri Fejes:** You are all cordially invited to International Fair Day 2019! For the past months the Cultural Affairs Committee has been at work to make this event possible and we are ready! The event will be held in the Sadove Living Room, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on this coming Saturday, April 13th. About a dozen students from all over the world signed up to share their cultural heritage with us. They will teach you how to write your name in scripts like Greek or Japanese, and much more, serve you dishes from over three continents (some vegetarian), teach you dance... you name it! We will have a raffle where you can get your hands on our limited edition custom-design IFD 2019 tees and other items our presenters will contribute, and you can grab IFD stickers when you attend. We want to thank Trivia Night for collaborating with us, they agreed to incorporate fun facts from IFD into their trivia on April 16th, the following Tuesday. Even if you don't fully engage with our presenters, you will be able to retain the necessary knowledge to succeed at trivia, make sure you participate! We hope that many of you will come through and enjoy the fruits of our long-long efforts! We would like to thank our presenters, Tashi Lhamu, Maya Funada, Tiffany Lopes, Maria Valencia, Dianne Ferguson, Christina Plakas, Yannis Makridis, Amar Kassim, Jacob Losardo, and their friends who decided to sign up! We appreciate your dedication and your great ideas. We also want to thank the DMC for supporting our efforts. I personally want to thank all my committee members for the work that they have been doing the past months. They might have worked unnoticed, but their dedication made a huge difference which you will see this Saturday. Ines coordinated our relationship with our presenters, Laura helped secure our collaboration with Trivia, Aurora contacted Bon Appétit so that all the food you consume at the event will be prepared in a clean and organized environment, Natalie helped with our great logo for the event, while Jay and Ishan worked tirelessly to find a great space for our event. Jay also





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reached out to SAAC so that IFD could be included in the Superfan app. I would like to remind SAAC to get back to us and remember that when they received funding from SA for the app they said the app will include other events on campus, we would like to check back on this promise.

### ▪ **Facilities, Safety, Health, and Residential Life**

- **Ben Rhind:** Diana and I met with Roger Wakeman, the VP of Facilities, to talk about the work they're doing. From right now to commencement, they are going to work on beautifying the campus, now that hopefully all the snow is gone. They are going to work on the landscaping in front of the Health Center. As soon as it becomes a little less muddy, that will be planted and look awesome. In the near future, this summer, they have a couple renovations planned. Regarding Bundy Dining Hall, they want to put an outdoor patio outside and changing some of the landscaping. That is going to happen after they evaluate the pilot program. If you like Bundy Cafe and want it to be improved more, keep going to it. In Babbitt, they're going to be replacing the floors. In South, they're going to be fixing the heating, like they did in Carn this year. Hopefully you'll be able to control the temperature in your room. In Bundy, they're updating the bathrooms and instituting a little more privacy. The Alumni Gym they're going to be renovating, gutting the floors and everything. Slightly longer term, they're going to be repurposing List, which has been abandoned for a couple of years, and turn it into office and classroom space. That will be great to get that space used again. It will also be used when they renovate some of the humanities buildings so they can move into that space. The other thing, shoutout to Connie she's abroad, but we talked about expanding the Menstrual Health Initiative. Currently it's in Science Center basement, the Library, and KJ. We want there to be the same resources on the Greyside. They're going to be putting a dispenser in Bundy Cafe, so hopefully it will be down the hill for Greyside in the next week or two.
- **Diana Perez:** The work order system still works through the RAs and the FRSH Committee.

. **Amanda Kim:** You guys can submit work orders?

a. **Ben Rhind:** If you're on FRSH, you can submit work orders for anyone that comes to you.

### ▪ **Community Affairs**

- **Karthik Ravishankar:** Big things are coming. It's not here yet. Before break we were supposed to meet with Derek Roy, but then he was pulled away on a meeting. Then we were supposed to meet on Thursday but I couldn't go and there was some



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miscommunication on when the meeting was supposed to be. Over the past few meetings, the real point of discussion has been Meatless Mondays in McEwen. They've been working with HSC to make sure the event is improved. They've done a pretty good job taking feedback and listening to complaints. We're going to meet after this meeting to discuss the survey we mentioned earlier before.

o **Associative Committees**

▪ **Traditions**

- **Casey Codd:** We're working on reaching out to the people in charge of a song competition where they'll write a new school song. We're also fielding concerns from the choir at the moment, who are probably the only people on campus that sing that song.

▪ **Mental Health**

- **Amanda Kim:** Gavin actually wasn't able to come in this week, so we're taking a rain check on the update from him. Committee chairs, please reach out to him with the information he asked you for a few meetings ago.

▪ **Philanthropy**

- **Richard Court:** The applications have been disbursed to the school. It's just a matter of when we get them back. We extended the deadline by a week because they're going on break next week. Some teachers I talked to said it would be helpful to expand it. Instead of the 26th, it will be the following weekend.
- **Gianni Hill:** If anyone wants to help with the application process, let us know.

**7. Funding:**

Amount remaining non-strategic: **\$10,027.88**

Amount remaining discretionary: **\$8,739.99**

Organization	Items/Services Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Resubmit
HEAG	Trip to Rogers Environmental Education Center	\$120	\$120	N
Social Traditions	Jackie Robinson Classic and Softball game promotion	\$2,707.30	\$2,707.30	N



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Society of Physics Students	High altitude weather balloon	\$261.79	\$261.79	N
Spanish Club	More food for “La Cena Cultural” event	\$212.75	\$0	N
Women in Computer Science	Technical interviews workshop	\$30.88	\$0	N

Amount Requested Non-Strategic: \$3,332.72

Amount Recommended Non-Strategic: \$3,089.09

Remaining non-strategic if funding passes as recommended: \$6,938.79

- **HEAG - Funding Passes as Recommended**
  - **Will Andriola:** They just want a little more funding for the actual tickets. I believe it’s twenty students, so it’s pretty cheap,
- **Social Traditions - Funding Passes as Recommended**
  - **Will Andriola:** They resubmitted their budget. They decreased the quantity of both shirts and hats. Instead of buying 250 shirts, they’re getting 150. Rather than 100 hats, they’re getting 75 hats. That reduces the cost of the budget by \$1,000. They’re requesting funding for publicity and posters for both events. They’re moving the softball game to Saturday, April 20th. They are collaborating with SAAC’s game of the week. SAAC is doing pizza and Traditions is doing hats to get more people there. They responded well to all the complaints of Student Assembly. They’re marketing the softball as something different to get people there.
  - **Amanda Kim:** The pizza for the SAAC game, did we already fund that?
    - **Will Andriola:** Yeah we already funded it. They just decided to collaborate with SAAC.
- **Society of Physics Students - Funding Passes as Recommended**
  - **Will Andriola:** We’re recommending funding in full.
- **Spanish Club - Funding Passes as Recommended**
  - **Will Andriola:** They’ve already run into the \$8 per person limit on that event, so we have to recommend \$0.
- **Women in Computer Science - Funding Passes as Recommended**
  - **Will Andriola:** The event was within the ten day rule, so we can’t fund that.

**8. Announcements**

- **All staff, faculty, and students are invited to join the listserv of a new group on campus, the Climate Action Group.**
  - The group is premised on the fact that climate change poses real and permanently damaging consequences. The group's purpose is to educate ourselves and others; to bring together campus efforts to address climate



The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

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change; and to move us to action, individually and within our communities to help prevent the worst outcomes.

- A meeting will be announced in the weeks ahead.
  - Please refer to the all-campus email sent Sunday night for instructions on how to join the listserv.
  - Please contact Naomi Guttman ([nguttman@hamilton.edu](mailto:nguttman@hamilton.edu)) with any questions.
- **The Visual Communications team is looking for candid shots of students around campus on April 16 and 17!**
    - Students can email their availability by 4:00 Friday, April 12 to Mona Dunn ([mdunn2@hamilton.edu](mailto:mdunn2@hamilton.edu))
    - Schedules will be confirmed with times/locations by Monday, April 15.
    - Groups and individuals are welcome!
    - Images will be used primarily for Admission publications and digital communications, so we hope to capture a true cross-section of the Hamilton Community.
    - Please contact Mark Mullin with any questions ([mmullin@hamilton.edu](mailto:mmullin@hamilton.edu))
  - **International Fair Day**
    - Join us on April 13th from 3-5pm in Sadove Living Room, for International Fair Day, a celebration of global diversity at Hamilton. Through songs and dances, crafts and dishes, students will share their cultural background from countries like Brazil, México, Italy, Greece, Japan, and more.

