

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**3/15**

**1. Call to Order**

**Present:**

Tatum Barclay  
Johanna Bowen  
Emily Boviero  
Jeffrey Bush  
Kavya Crasta  
Olivia Chandler  
Emily Fienco  
Ashley Garcia  
Jackson Harris  
Christian Hernandez  
Gianni Hill

Jiin Jeong  
Savannah Kelly  
Stephen Kelly  
Amanda Kim  
Cole Kuczek  
Emma Liles  
Omar Lopez Alvarado  
Dewayne Martin  
Alex Medina  
Dylan Morse  
Adina Mujica

Wriley Nelson  
Raymond Ni  
Jess Parsons  
Dorothy Poucher  
Pablo Reina-Gonzalez  
Saphire Ruiz  
Mariam Saied  
Salwa Sidahmed  
Caroline Ullem

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

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

**3. General Public Comment Period**

**Eric Kopp'22** expressed his support for the passing of the bylaws to be voted on. He mentioned that in the past three months, there have been resignations from the Student Assembly President and Vice President which have caused issues for each administration. He mentioned that it was in the Assembly's best interest to fix the issue. He mentioned that during his time as VP and transitioning to President caused a lot of undue stress. He thanked Saphire, Kavya, and Wriley for working with him on his concerns surrounding the constitutionality of the bylaws. He then encouraged that the Assembly members vote to pass the leave of absence bylaw. He mentioned that in the case that it didn't, that the Assembly should continue to find ways to resolve the issue. He then thanked Kavya and Saphire for their work on the Assembly during a pandemic and what they've accomplished.

**4. New Business**

- **Approval of minutes**

*The motion to approve the 3/8 minutes passes*



- **Confirmation of Lucy Hamann as Treasurer for Class of 2022**

**Lucy Hamann** mentioned her involvement in the Womxn's Center and the swim team. She thanked Tatum Barclay for reaching out to her and expressed her excitement to serve SA and the Hamilton community. She emphasized that her economics background along with her ability to learn quickly and stay motivated would make her suitable for the role as Treasurer.

**Questions/Comments:**

**Tatum Barclay** thanked Lucy Hamann for joining SA and expressed her excitement to work with her. She then gave Lori a shoutout for his work as a member of the Student Assembly during this year.

*The motion to confirm Lucy Hamann as Treasurer for Class of 2022 passes.*

- **Resignation of Vice President Kavya Crasta**

**Saphire Ruiz** reported that this past Thursday, Kavya Crasta announced she would resign from her position on March 16th due to personal health reasons. They mentioned that they immediately worked on a process that would allow for a smooth Vice Presidential transition. They explained that they realized that the current constitution is ill-equipped with situations such as the current one. The current constitution would require a process that would elect four separate vice presidents between February 1st and May 23rd. The current procedure would require a Vice President Tempore followed by a campus wide Vice Presidential election. They mentioned that themselves, Vice President Elect - Eric Stenzel, and Wriley Nelson initially worked to find a solution to allow Eric to take office a couple of months early without having to hold an election. They mentioned that all of Sunday, they reached out to Assembly members on their plans moving forward. They mentioned that after speaking with many members and constituents, they developed a new plan which included the two bylaws presented at the meeting. One of the bylaws would address structural issues with Vice President resignations. Should this bylaw pass, they would be able to appoint a new Vice President which would need to be approved by the central council by  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority. The second bylaw addressed policies regarding student involvement while on leave of absence. Should this bylaw pass, the policies would be waived. If the bylaw passed, students on leave of absences would be able to participate in student activities. This was something that the current administration wanted to advocate since the beginning of their term but got caught up with other projects. They also clarified that Eric Stenzel withdrew



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his request to be in office two months early given concerns regarding a person on leave holding leadership positions.

- **Ad Hoc Bylaws Amendment Addressing Leave of Absence Student Activities Participation During COVID-19**

**Questions/Comments:**

**Caz Ullem** asked how the new bylaws would differ from the original plan to replace the Vice President.

**Saphire Ruiz** mentioned that this bylaw deals with the problems of holding a whole new election with an interim Vice President as it currently stands. They believe it was bad policy because of the ticket splits between the different VP's and between the President and the VP. They also mentioned rules that govern SA elections such as a 30 day time period for an election, which would limit the amount of time a newly elected Vice President would serve in office, allowing them to serve for at most three weeks this semester.

**Eric Stenzel** mentioned that he wanted to speak on behalf of himself and clarify any confusion. He reiterated that in direct response to concerns regarding him taking office early, he would not take office until May 23rd. He emphasized that the current administration's priority was to get as much work accomplished in the Assembly to benefit the student body. He mentioned that he wanted to take up the position of the Vice President for the sake of continuity and apologized for the way that it came across. He expressed his belief that the works of the assembly should not be paused for the next two months just to go through the process of the bylaws. He urged the Assembly to vote on the amendment that allows the President to appoint a new Vice President and to be voted on by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority due to the lack of continuity if an election were to take place. He then expressed his support for the second amendment surrounding leave of absence by bringing personal experiences of feeling isolated from the Hamilton community. He strongly denied the claims that he was involved or connected in the resignation of Kavya Crasta and emphasized the racist and sexist connotations of those statements. He mentioned that he looked forward to serving on the Assembly next semester.

**Keir Adamson '22** offered his support for the two bylaw amendments. He mentioned that many of the clubs that he was involved in had members that were off-campus and participated without



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any issues. He believed that it was harmful to continue this policy regarding leave of absences especially during times of COVID.

**Alex Medina** spoke about emails by certain administration members sent regarding the transition of power. He emphasized his belief that the role of administrators is to support the Student Assembly and body which he believed they had not been doing. He believes that a good advisor is someone who supports the Assembly through their work to represent the student body in the best way possible and he felt that certain people had been imposing their beliefs instead. He further mentioned the college's long history of imposing views upon the Student Assembly and urged the administration to reconsider their views of what the board is talking about and be part of the change that the student body is standing for.

**Saphire Ruiz** read some written comments submitted by members of the student body.

**Izzy Rutkey'22** wrote:

“I'm writing in support of the Bylaws Amendment Addressing Vice Presidential Succession and, in particular, the Ad Hoc Bylaws Amendment Addressing Leave of Absence Student Activities Participation During COVID-19. As one of the Hub Coordinators for Sunrise Hamilton, I have seen first-hand how the restrictions surrounding student activities participation for students on leave have affected students' abilities to remain part of their on-campus communities. Our organization has had many members take a leave either for a semester or the full year, and preventing these students from participating in clubs and organizations isolates them from friends, support systems, and on-campus communities. I believe that the Ad Hoc Bylaws Amendment is a necessary next step to the Mental Health Resolution in supporting all Hamilton students throughout the pandemic, regardless of their enrollment status. Consistency is very important during times of immense change. Allowing students to remain a part of their organizations and minimizing the amount of Vice Presidents to serve in one semester by streamlining the succession process are both key parts of providing this needed consistency. I believe it is in the best interest of the Student Assembly and the student body at large that the Assembly passes both of these bylaws tonight.”

**Faby Alvarez'22** wrote:

“Dear SA,



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I would like to express my support for the SA amendment to allow students on leave to participate in clubs as both members and leaders. Firstly, there are many different reasons why students take leaves. Some want to be involved in their communities, while others want to become detached. Those who do not want to participate in their extracurriculars shouldn't have to, but those students who want to should be able to. Allowing students to participate in clubs, especially during these times of virtual learning, would help students stay connected and gain leadership and professional experience that would help them beyond Hamilton. It would help students who want to build themselves up in their extracurriculars - for instance, students who want to acquire a leadership position in a club but needed to take a leave of absence could still be able to work towards building their experience in these clubs. As a student on leave for personal and health reasons, it would help my mental health to have some level of connection and stay productive in engaging with the hamilton community and the clubs that I love being part of, especially during the pandemic. I understand that this isn't the case for every student on leave, but it would greatly benefit the students who want to stay engaged without taking classes. For me, some structure to my schedule while on leave helps my mental health and does not overwhelm me.

Allowing students to participate and serve in leadership roles in their clubs while on leave would give them the opportunity to focus on gaining real-world experience. Our extracurriculars at Hamilton allow students to collaborate with others, reach out to professionals, and do important work to serve the community. During my time at Hamilton, my extracurriculars developed my transferable, real-world skills such as leadership and collaboration, and strengthened my professional connections. Students could have an opportunity to focus on developing these skills through my clubs without the added pressure of academics. Many students are looking to maintain some structure and level of engagement, which is easy for Hamilton to allow during these times of virtual learning, so that is why I am pushing for this amendment.

Having said this, I would also like to advocate for the amendment about VP-elect candidates taking office early in lieu of an election. If they have already been elected, then it makes sense that the elected candidate is qualified to step into their position since students have already voted for them. Additionally, without this amendment SA could have up to four VP's in the span of a few short months, which would make it incredibly difficult to get any significant work done since so much time will be spent on transitioning between the VP's.

Thank you for listening.”



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**Megan Walls'21** wrote:

“Firstly, I would like to thank Kavya for all of her hard work this semester and for taking on such a demanding role during her senior spring.

Secondly, I would like to address the proposed amendments that aim to instate Eric Stenzel as SA VP for the remainder of the semester. I refer to this as the aim of the amendments because that is clearly what they are. These amendments only came about after the resignation of Kavya. It is disingenuous to portray them as anything other than creating an exception to college policy for one student.

Besides my reservations about the constitution being changed to accommodate one student, I am also worried about having both the President and Vice President of SA off campus for the remainder of the semester. I myself was remote last semester and I believe that even though I was talking with students who were on campus, I was still very disconnected from the campus experience during the pandemic. I believe this disconnect will be further heightened by a student who isn't even taking classes remotely. I don't believe that this decision, even if Stenzel was taking classes, is in the best interest of the student body because our experiences on campus will not be well represented by the President and Vice President.”

**Sarah "Sarge" Gyurina'22** wrote:

“I support both proposed amendments. I'm currently on a leave of absence, and I'm lucky enough to be working and safely traveling during my leave. I've been grateful to still have access to club meetings and can attend virtual events so that I can stay connected to the school even when I'm far away from my friends and classmates. However, while I can attend club meetings, I was not allowed to remain in my leadership position in Sunrise. If I were in a less busy situation, it could feel particularly isolating not to fully participate as a member or leader in a club. Students on leave often have more free time (and desire to be productive) and could equally, if not more than, contribute to a club's mission compared to full time students.

For the second amendment, this proposed change will streamline the process of Vice President Succession; it makes perfect sense to model SA's system after other US legislatures and is timely considering present and past scenarios of resignations and replacements. Our student body deserves a fully functioning executive branch to be filled in a timely and organized manner. “



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**Abbie Wolff'22** wrote:

“Hamilton MUN considers all members, whether on campus, studying remotely, or on LOA, an asset to our club community. Barring LOA students from participating in our activities will only further isolate them from the Hamilton community, at a time when we’re all desperate for social connections. There are many unique and valid reasons for choosing to take a LOA during this unprecedented time, none of which warrant repercussions or exclusion from extracurricular activities. Under the current circumstances of COVID-19 and in the hopes of maintaining a Hamilton community, the college must permit LOA students to continue participation in clubs and activities.”

**Maja Domagala'24** wrote:

“As a student who voted last semester, I believe it is important to consider and elect those already in office rather than searching for entirely new prospects. This would make the Vice President succession process all the more concise while honoring the decision the student body has already made - leading to more stability and unity in the Student Assembly in the long-run.”

**Maddie Lazenby'23 & Emma Swan'23 (Poetry Slam Club E-Board)** wrote:

“Dear Student Assembly,

We are writing to you to support the proposed by-law amendment to allow students who are on leaves of absence to participate in clubs and activities during the pandemic. Everyone has been impacted by the pandemic in many different ways, so there are many different reasons why students should choose to take a leave of absence. Recognizing that this would not be an easy decision to make, we do not think that it would be fair to further isolate students from their campus community.

Thinking about our own club, everyone, no matter their status as a student, should be able to come to our meetings to destress by journaling and writing poetry if they want to. Poetry Slam Club is for the entire community and we hope that the Central Council agrees and will vote to pass this amendment.

Sincerely,



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Maddie Lazenby, President of Poetry Slam Club

Emma Swan, Treasurer of Poetry Slam Club”

**Malik Irish’22** wrote:

“I’m in support of the resolution to pass the Vice President role to the next available option (Eric Stenzel) and allowing for students on leave to participate in virtual student activities. At this point in the semester it doesn't make much sense to hold a campus wide election. Assuming that the election takes the same amount of time as the race in December, the elected student would only have a month in office before being transitioned over to the Fall '21 elected Vice President. If the next available option is able and willing to come into the role earlier, then it should be allowed, granting a smoother shift into the next semester. In the context of general student club involvement while on leave, I think it's very important to keep students engaged with the community even if their student status isn't full time. While it's understandable that if a student is put on leave they omit all the benefits of being full time, some students don't want to leave the Hamilton Community and may feel ostracized or left out for the time they're gone which could cause social and mental complications. Student orgs for many are a place where they feel active, stress-free, and a part of a group who cares for them. COVID has put a strain on this by taking away our physical interactions, and continuing to complicate this by restricting students on leave doesn't account for many people's personal situations and capacities.”

**Daniel Heintz’21** wrote:

“In my time at Hamilton, I have remained an active, albeit it unspeaking, observer of the Student Assembly. I have followed the activities of this Council with interest from afar, and have continued my silent approval of the work you have done. I have felt that an active voice was not required of me, as the steps this Assembly has taken have, in my honest opinion, attempted to make Hamilton a more equitable, inclusive, and enjoyable community for all. This is no longer the case. My conscience and the ideals of Hamilton College compel me to speak out when I see such a grave misstep. I can no longer remain silent and am submitting this to express my thoughts, and those of the community you represent, to you all.

As a member of the Senior class and an active member of the Hamilton community, I am deeply troubled by the motion to break with established democratic practices and amend the Constitution in order to place a person, who I remind you is currently neither enrolled as an



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in-person student nor remote student, in a leadership position in the Student Assembly. The Student Assembly is meant to be a voice for members of the student community to express the opinions we have and problems we face to the administration and represent our interests in the affairs of the College. While I understand individual members may have decided to take a Leave of Absence for personal reasons (which every person was and is entitled to do), how can that person represent the student body? They are not able to experience what we experience. They are not able to articulate our concerns. They are completely absent from the community that they are supposed to represent. Democratic processes require active, honest, and consistent representation of a community by members of that community. Changing rules and regulations to install a non-member in a place of power is grossly disrespectful of the processes we, as Hamilton Students and members of a democratic and lawful country, hold most dear.

I urge the Assembly and Central Council to listen to the will and opinions of the people who elected them, and to vote against this undemocratic amendment. The Hamilton community is watching. The people you represent are watching. Do not let us down.”

**Robbie Rioux'21** wrote:

“As a senior on campus, that is heavily invested in the Hamilton community and legacy student, I am very concerned by Student Assembly’s attempt to undermine the practices that have been in place for years to allow a student on leave to serve as Vice President, and worry about the precedent this sets and the traditions it undermines.

A student on a leave of absence is not a currently enrolled student, and therefore, should not have a say in how the Student Assembly functions and should not represent the student body - nor can they adequately represent the current needs of the students and understand the issues we presently face. Especially a student that hasn't spent a full year on our campus, and during such a turbulent semester. We need a student who is a current, active member of the student body - anyone on a leave of absence, for any reason, cannot make that commitment. Blatantly disregarding the constitution and circumventing SA's rules and norms is setting a dangerous precedent - and for what? What can Mr. Stenzel accomplished that any of the other members of SA (who were elected for this semester, to represent us) here tonight cannot?

To the members of SA, I urge you to stop this from happening. We need a democratic process. We need you to uphold the constitution to which you were elected to follow. We need representation on campus. Changing election rules in the middle of a presidential term, with such



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short notice, is extremely problematic, undermines the active role SA plays, and calls into question the motives behind such an action.”

**Jessica Sanchez’23** wrote:

“I am writing in support of both of the bylaw amendments, especially, for the amendment in support of having on-leave students receiving the possibility of becoming e-board members for clubs and organizations. I am on the e-board for FCC, SMART, and Sunrise Movement, and I have seen how students on-leave have been blocked from being able to participate in these clubs. These students went on leave for a reason: the overwhelming pressure of school. However, their reasons do not deny their passion and dedication in making a change in these clubs and organizations. For many of us, our clubs are a source of joy and stress-relief from school work. Therefore, passing this amendment would greatly benefit the mental health of students regardless of their enrollment status. They are still a part of the Hamilton community. As a result, I believe that passing these amendments would be for the best interest of our community and SA.

**Wiley Nelson** explained that the first bylaw would be a permanent change, allowing the President to nominate an interim Vice President that will be voted by the central council by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote. If not passed and the Assembly would have to hold an election, he mentioned that there is a possibility that the Assembly could have 4 Vice Presidents in the span of one semester. He mentioned that failing to approve the first bylaw would damage the reputation of the Assembly. He then explained that the second bylaw was originally drafted to allow Vice President Stenzel to take office while on leave but then clarified that now it is to allow any student on leave to participate in student activities during the pandemic. He mentioned that by passing the bylaw, the Assembly would send a clear message that they are working to represent students and not oblige to college rules that don’t support all students. He mentioned that as Parliamentarian, he had the obligation to present available options to solve this issue.

**Questions/Comments by members of the Assembly:**

**Jackson Harris** mentioned that he did not know how much of an impact passing the leave of absence amendment would have on students who are currently on leave considering we are already half way through the semester. He expressed his belief that it is too late for this amendment to make any real difference as E-boards this semester have already been filled. He would likely vote yes but is not sure what real impact it would have. He mentioned that the only viable option in regards to the issue of resignation was to allow the President to appoint a new Vice President as there are many capable people in the Assembly.



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**Gianni Hill** mentioned that the board is looking at two different issues. He emphasized that with COVID-19, this was a very unique circumstance for students who decide to go on a leave of absence. While he acknowledged the struggles that those on leave of absences have, he explained that there needed to be a duty to the constituents who are undergraduates of the college. This line needs to be drawn to prevent students from other schools from taking these club leadership positions. He questioned whether there had been instances of students being barred from activities due to their student status prior to the current situation. He echoed Jackson Harris's point about the amount of time spent on this amendment being unnecessary with COVID bettering. With the VP bylaw, he emphasized that even if the bylaw passed, the constitution would also need to be changed in order to have real impact. He reiterated that the Assembly's power is having jurisdiction over enrolled students on campus as they pay the student activity fees.

**Tatum Barclay** agreed with the process mentioned to appoint the VP instead of holding an election and stated her belief that the conversation related to the leave of absence was only established due to Stenzel's leave of absence. She reiterated Gianni's point that there would need to be a study body vote to make constitutional change to amend the bylaws. She believed in the general benefit of students on leave to participate in clubs while remote and didn't see the harm in codifying it especially during a pandemic. She did want to put the topics out before codifying them because the college has different policies regarding students on leave of absence. She wanted the vote to be something actionable by the college and feels that there needs to be a larger conversation with student activities and the college before voting on these bylaws to ensure that these actions actually happen.

**Amanda Kim** understood why students on leave would need support during the pandemic but also mentioned that it was important to have a discussion on student leadership while a person is on leave. She mentioned her discomfort of allowing students on leave to be heads of their clubs. She mentioned that the Assembly should have more clarity of what the Assembly's jurisdiction is on this issue as there is confusion on what the assembly can put sanctions on. She mentioned that the image and legitimacy of the Student Assembly would be damaged if they were not fully aware of what they could change.

**Kavya Crasta** spoke about the bylaw regarding VP secession and stated her support for it because she and Sapphire had been working on building the legitimacy of the Student Assembly. She believed that it was important to continue the legitimacy of the Student Assembly with this procedure. She mentioned that with a Vice President only really serving three weeks, the board



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wouldn't be able to focus as much on committee work. She then addressed comments implying that the bylaws were ingenuine due to the timing with her resignation. She explained that this issue had been a topic of thought from the beginning but had not been brought up until now.

**Wriley Nelson** presented some documents that were relevant to the discussion. He mentioned that according to college policy, students on leave cannot have any involvement with student organizations. He mentioned that the Student Assembly had jurisdiction over student organizations and that these guidelines relating to students on leave were made without the opinion of the Student Assembly. He mentioned that the Student Assembly is attempting to not punish student organizations for allowing students on leave to participate.

**Jiin Jeong** reiterated Tatum Barclay's point and was confused by Wriley Nelson's point. She believed that the Assembly did not have the jurisdiction to change college policy. She mentioned that there had to be a broader discussion. She agreed with Gianni that students on leave and remote students were two different circumstances. She mentioned that she was okay with students joining organization meetings but not holding leadership positions.

**Wriley Nelson** mentioned that the quote was from the spring semester COVID-19 guidelines.

**Olivia Chandler** mentioned that during the pandemic, there needed to be as much flexibility as possible. She interpreted the bylaw as the Student Assembly would not sanction clubs for allowing students on leave to participate rather than go against college policy. She then asked whether the Assembly would have to also approve the new VP if the bylaw fails. She then expressed her support for the two bylaws.

***The motion to extend the meeting passes***

**Cole Kuczek** rederiated Tatum Barclay's point and mentioned that the Assembly should not directly go against the college's policies.

**Pablo Reina-Gonzalez** expressed his agreement with Olivia Chandler and addressed Amanda and Jiin's concerns that these bylaws would affect the perception of what it means to be a leader. He clarified that the amendment would only apply for the hybrid semester. He expressed his support for the VP succession amendment which would allow for an appointment. He mentioned how voting against it would hinder all the progress Sapphire has accomplished.



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**Gianni Hill** reiterated that the only reason the board was having the discussion is because the Vice President Elect is on leave and is willing to take up the position. He asked Wriley Nelson to clarify language in Section 5 Article 1 relating to students on leave of absence. He believed that the board should cut the sentence letting students on leave to take on leadership roles. He agreed with Kavya that this was a persistent issue. He reiterated Cole Kuczek's comment about this action being bad optics due to the timing of these amendments in accordance to Kavya's resignation. He also mentioned that whenever the administration split a ticket, it was usually due to studying abroad and emphasized that this issue was only relevant to this year due to COVID-19. Because of this, he did not want the board to set this precedent and further questioned the constitutionality of the bylaws due to contradictions.

**Saphire Ruiz** clarified that Eric Stenzel would not be taking office until May 23rd.

**Jeffrey Bush** agreed with members that the process of replacing vacant positions did not make sense. He emphasized that there was a difference between participating in a club and leading a club while on a leave of absence. He mentioned that this issue should be discussed further to permanently solve it because of potential confusion in the future.

**Pablo Reina-Gonzalez** reiterated Eric Kopp's '22 comment about passing the bylaws and reducing the stress of the current administration.

**Kavya Crasta** emphasized that the legitimacy of the Assembly would come from the work that the Assembly accomplishes and to have an election would certainly disturb that process.

**Eric Kopp'22** addressed the constitutionality aspect of the first bylaw. He mentioned that this issue had been something the Assembly wanted to address and agreed it was time to officially amend the constitution to allow for a smoother transition for the succession of vacant positions. He emphasized that this bylaw would allow for more efficiency and continuity. He talked about his experience as President trying to find someone to fill the vacant seat.

**Jiin Jeong** mentioned that as the past elections chair, she was disappointed that after various times of addressing how difficult these positions were, the Assembly finds itself having to find a new President or Vice President. She emphasized that resignations should be rare. She mentioned that there should be a discussion as to why members are starting to resign and how to avoid it.

**Amanda Kim** believed that resignations are a rare instance and feels uncomfortable about the Vice Presidential amendment. While she understood the point of appointing a VP being effective



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for efficiency, she believed that because the VP was an important role, it should be democratically elected by the students.

**Saphire Ruiz** mentioned that there should be a conversation on the workload within the Assembly and why members continue to resign. They mentioned there should be dedicated time to solve the issue. They said that they've had this conversation with Kavya and were planning to resolve it later in the semester.

**Eric Kopp'22** mentioned that various members of the Assembly have always wanted to have a conversation surrounding resignations, but they never got around to it. He mentioned that the current policies cause undue stress to members who need to step down and who are worried of the same issue. He mentioned that this was a persistent issue and urged Assembly members to take a step forward and finally make a decision. He mentioned that it was incredibly stressful as President to complete work and find a replacement at the end of the semester.

**Saphire Ruiz** mentioned that conversations regarding the reasons as to why people are resigning should be saved until the next meeting.

**Dewayne Martin** mentioned that despite gaining efficiency from the first bylaw, the democratic values should be a priority. He mentioned that it did not make sense to have an Assembly that has representatives who are currently not a part of the student body. He said that the Assembly's foundation is flawed. He mentioned that before voting on bylaws, there was work to be accomplished.

**Saphire Ruiz** mentioned that Eric Stenzel would not be taking office until May 23rd.

**Gianni Hill** emphasized that the assembly had made substantial progress over the years so the board should think ahead for the future. He emphasized furthermore that COVID-19 has exacerbated the issues and expressed his appreciation to the current board for working throughout the current times. He said that some of these issues were overdramatized. He mentioned that the Assembly was able to get ahead through the resignations last semester and that there was a solution for everything that falls under the constitution.

**Saphire Ruiz** mentioned that through their experience, they needed to take a leave of absence because of medical reasons and had to resign from their leadership roles. They mentioned the two month transition into the leave of absence was extremely difficult. They emphasized that there is a mental health issue when it comes to not letting students on leave to participate. They



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also mentioned that not passing the first bylaw would severely affect their ability to govern. They also said that in the case that the bylaw passed, there was someone on the Assembly ready to take on the Vice President position.

*The motion to extend the meeting passes*

*The motion to amend Bylaw II passes*

*The motion to pass Bylaw I does not pass*

*The motion to pass Bylaw II does not pass*

**Tatum Barclay** motioned to cancel next week's general meeting and committee meetings due to a light week next week.

*The motion to cancel next week's general meeting and committee meetings passes*

**Wriley Nelson** reported that both Bylaws did not obtain a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority and that required the Assembly to select an Interim Vice President.

**Saphire Ruiz** announced that Secretary Christian Hernandez Barragan would be able to take on the Vice President position until the end of the election for a permanent Vice President.

**5. Funding**

Total SA General Amount Remaining: **\$52,968.18**

Amount Remaining Discretionary: **\$4,423.00**

Organization	Items/Services Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Resubmit
La Vanguardia	Snack pack drop	\$255.00	\$255.00	N
Sunrise Movement	DIY Flower Power Poster Kit	\$62.22	\$62.22	N



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Minds for Change	Mental health poster campaign	\$12.80	\$12.80	N
Beekeeping Club	A bee hive & a training class	\$340.00	\$340.00	N
Helping Hands	Knitting needles	\$45.36	\$45.36	N
Classics Club	Remote Herm-sculpting event	\$40.99	\$40.99	N

Amount Requested (from SA General): **\$757.37**

Amount Request (from Discretionary): **\$0**

Amount Recommended (SA General): **\$756.37**

Amount Recommended (Discretionary): **\$0**

Amount Remaining if Funding passes (SA General): **\$52,211.81**

Amount Remaining if Funding passes (Discretionary): **\$4,423.00**

*The motion to approve the funding requests passes.*

**6. Announcements**

○ **Kudos**

- Kavya Crasta for all of the work she’s put in over the last few months for the Assembly, and all of the work she’s put in in general during her time at Hamilton to make the campus better for current and future Hamilton students and community members.
- Wriley Nelson for all of the work over this weekend to work through the constitutional confusion about handling the Vice Presidential resignation, in addition to the work around supporting students who are currently on a leave of absence during these unprecedented times.
- Eric Kopp for helping Sapphire, Wriley, Kavya, and Eric Stenzel make the necessary adjustments to the Bylaws to ensure the protection of the Assembly’s efficiency and work following a Vice Presidential resignation.

○ **ALEX Internships**

- The ALEX program is looking for three student interns to start in early April into the next semester to help start-up the program. The application is due at 11:59 on Monday, March 15th. **If you cannot make this deadline**, email Janine Oliver ([joliver@hamilton.edu](mailto:joliver@hamilton.edu)) by the end of the



The Central Council of Student Assembly, Hamilton College

**STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING**

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day Tuesday, March 16th with your intent to apply. After emailing her, you'll then have until the end of the day Friday, March 19th to submit an application. Here's the link to the application:

<https://hamilton.joinhandshake.com/jobs/4467143>

