



Hamilton College Student Assembly

General Meeting of the Central Council - April 25th, 2022

8:30 PM – 10:00 PM, Sadove Conference Room Minutes

1. Call to Order

Present:

Isa Cardoso
Nickie Conlogue
Cicille Dan-Morton
Michelle Estrella
Max Ganemn
Nevaeh Gutierrez
Abigail Hagan
Jackson Harris
Josue Herrera Rivera
Emily Jiang

Tommy Keith
Lena Klink
Alex Kropaneva
Marvin Lopez
Joe Maalouf
Dewayne Martin
Ryley McGovern
Evelyn Molina
Subin Myong
Raymond Ni

Allison Sheehan
Felix Tager

Excused:

Adina Mujica

Unexcused:

Rafael Osella
Matthew Sinning

- *We are working with the Oneida Nation to create a new land acknowledgment as well as actionable plans to honor our commitment to developing a relationship with the Oneida Nation.*

2. General Public Comment Period ([TIME: 3:10](#))

Anna Grace '24 (she/her) commented:

“There should be more parking near Bundy. Because of how hard it is to park, people are forced to leave their cars in the fire lanes on Bundy Loop. The only parking near Bundy is often filled.”

Jackson Harris mentioned that his committee is still working on parking issues. With regard to downhill parking, there is a tiny lot near Bundy Cafe. It has been a conversation with Frank Coots to possibly extend that lot, which is currently used exclusively for deliveries. There is a large patch of grass next to the lot which is the most viable option for parking. If that is a priority of the college and whether facilities management wants to do is another question that would require more question. It would require more pressure and more people talking to senior staff as this is a decision Frank Coots and facilities management cannot do on their own.

Isa Cardoso mentioned that the committee is working on other areas for parking. If there are more areas elsewhere to park, there will be less of a need to park downhill. People park down the hill in



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the Sken or Wert parking lot even if they do not live down the hill because there is no other space on campus. Alleviating stress on other areas of campus will help improve the situation down the hill. She noted that things are being done, but given the limited space down the hill, it is not easy to add parking there specifically.

Marvin Lopez noted that SA can follow up with the students and let them know what is being done.

Joe Maalouf mentioned that there have been many comments on food in Bundy Cafe and its operating hours. He stated that he has been working with Travis Hill to get 24 /7 access to Bundy Cafe and hot food options during finals week. He mentioned that he will be in talks this week and that for finals students will have access to these options.

Alex Axton '24 (he/him) commented:

“There is a serious lack of parking accessible to the Bundy Dorms. Not only is the closest parking in Wertimer Lot, but that parking is almost always full - leaving no available parking. This is made much worse by the expensive ticketing that campus safety conducts on those who park in the Bundy Loop.”

3. New Business

- **Approval of Minutes from 4/18**

The motion to approve the 4/18 minutes passes unanimously.

- **Guest Speaker: Julio Demb '23, Honor Court Constitution Amendment**
([TIME: 9:15](#))

Julio Demb '23 (he/him) introduced himself and mentioned that this is his third year on the honor court. He is here to talk about the Honor Court Constitution. He was a representative for the first-year class, was a second-year representative for his second year, served as a chair for a year, and is now in his final semester as a representative on the honor court. He noted that one thing he wants to be done before leaving the honor court is to revise the honor court constitution to allow students who have previous honor code violations to serve on the court. As the constitution currently stands, section B prohibits the honor court from considering students who have had a previous violation of the honor code to serve on the court. He stated that he and the rest of the court would like to change this for a variety of reasons. Firstly, the court does not believe that a



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single mistake should define someone's academic integrity permanently; people can learn from their mistakes. Secondly, the experience of someone who has had a previous violation of the honor code is valuable to the court. Therefore, for practical reasons, the honor court would like to strike the portion of section B of the honor court constitution that prevents people with prior violations from serving on the honor court. He stated that the revision is fairly minimal. He mentioned that he has had students with prior honor code violations come up to him expressing interest in serving on the honor court. He expressed his disappointment with having to tell them that constitutionally the court cannot consider their platform. Furthermore, the constitution barring people with previous honor code violations from serving is an indication that the academic tutorial does not work because if it did, the court would be able to consider these people. He thanked the Assembly for listening, opened himself up to any questions, and emphasized that he and the honor court are passionate about the amendment.

Questions/ Comments: ([TIME: 13:05](#))

Allison Sheehan noted her approval for this change as it allows an empathetic aspect to things because it allows people who are most affected's voices to be heard. Especially for cases in which people have come up to the court wanting to serve, their voices should be able to get heard.

Marvin Lopez added that there are a lot of good perspectives that can be offered by students that have violated the honor code previously.

Tommy Keith seconded everything people have been saying and noted that it is a great initiative. He encouraged everyone to vote for it.

Joe Maalouf asked whether striking the passage allows people who have been found guilty twice of an honor court violation to serve or if it only concerns one-time offenders. He asked if there was a way to specify this.

Julio Demb responded that this is the only line that addresses students with prior violations, which is why the revision is so simple. If this line is struck, this does not mean that a person who has violated the honor code will not automatically serve on the honor court. The honor court is a selective process and the court reads through several applications each semester. If this revision is approved, there will be questions regarding past honor code violations added to the current application. This would not be a blind system but there is no constitutional prohibition on students who have had multiple violations of the honor code. It would simply be in the hands of the honor court members.



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From his experience of three years on the court, he is confident that members admit the best people onto the court.

Emily Jiang asked if SA has to vote on this or if this is just a vote in support of the amendment. A vote in support would show that the Student Assembly stands behind this.

Joe Maalouf mentioned that the two constitutions work in tangent to each other but are independent. He asked if this constitution falls under SA's jurisdiction.

Allison Sheehan mentioned that she will look into that. She stated that it would not hurt to do this as a typical amendment and that she will look further into it. If this needs to go to a whole school vote, it will be added to the voting period at the end of the semester.

The motion to pass the Honor Court Amendment passes unanimously.

- **SA Email Proposal: President Emily Jiang '25 ([TIME: 21:10](#))**

Emily Jiang mentioned that they wrote up an email to send out to the entire school on behalf of SA. They took a good amount of it from the email they wrote up with Joe a few weeks ago and acknowledged Joe Maalouf's indirect contribution to this email. The email is addressing what the public comments from Eric Santomauro-Stenzel, Eric Cortes-Kopp, and Sapphire Ruiz brought up last week as well as the comments they have heard on campus from faculty and students. The purpose of the email is to name and denounce forms of discrimination and discriminatory events happening on campus that have been extremely detrimental to the safety and health of marginalized students as well as making the campus an unsafe place for a lot of students. They stated that the email is open to edits and discussion and after that, it will be voted on and if it passes send out to the entire school.

Isa Cardoso mentioned that one of her primary concerns is the casual homophobia on campus which is not addressed in the email. She wanted sexuality to be added to the first sentence

Emily Jiang mentioned that they wanted input from the Assembly on naming specific incidents given that the Assembly previously wanted to shy away from it. Nevertheless, they felt like it was important to name specific things that have been happening on campus while not targeting or rebutting anything. Rather they would like to acknowledge that these are things that have happened recently.



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Joe Maalouf mentioned that he likes the inclusion directly of the harassment clause from the discrimination policy of the college because he doubts that most Hamilton students have read that document.

Ryley McGovern asked if there is any way to talk about future actions to take in the letter instead of just denouncing the actions. He expressed his belief that if actions are only denounced without a plan for action for approaching the problems, it would not go over well with the students.

Emily Jiang agreed and pointed to a sentence that mentioned unspecific future projects.

Isa Cardoso mentioned that when the assembly talks about their actions, this statement is all they can offer. She noted that the assembly just needs to have a much larger discussion and that a sentence is all that can be offered.

Joe Maalouf mentioned that seeing that they don't have direct actions, it would not be appropriate to suggest further actions that may or may not be feasible. The current statement, as he expressed, already puts a commitment to SA to do as much as they can. He expressed that adding specificity to the email would be presumptuous as there is not a direct action plan and because people would believe words over actions.

Jackson Harris mentioned that while he agrees with Ryley's point, the assembly cannot have that much control over what people say and do. All they can do is remind people that they are part of this one community that needs to be bettered. He does not know how much SA can do to change this.

Ryley McGovern noted that SA has sent out a similar email to this in the past condemning a lot of these actions. If that is the case, SA should not just send out an email without a plan of action as it gives false hope. He mentioned that he believed the purpose of the last meeting was to talk about plans and actions. Without an idea of what SA is going to do to address the situation, he does not believe sending this letter is in the best interest.

Emily Jiang responded that while they understand what he is saying, this email is something that has been asked for by people, especially those who have come in for public comment. While they agree that there should be actions and plans, which they worked on during the closed session, it is too late this semester to get those plans in action. They stated that the email itself is an action stating the SA does not stand for white supremacy in comparison to a past Jodel email that encouraged students to not use the app. They



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emphasized that this in itself is a strong action and statement. They also noted that not sending the email also creates issues because people have demanded SA to take a stance and the assembly has not done so yet. They stated that this email is a powerful action in and of itself, especially when the assembly names specific forms of discrimination which is different from Dean Martinez's email.

Joe Maalouf agreed with Emily Jiang that the email in itself is a form of action so that the student body knows exactly where the representatives stand and where they want to take the community. Additionally, seeing as there are under two weeks left for the semester before finals, it is important to acknowledge the reality that there is not currently the time to do significant action but there is an opportunity to at least make a stand along with where they want to fo in the future.

Jackson Harris mentioned that the sentence clarifies without the extra line.

Ryley McGovern mentioned that he does not think that clarification is needed. He agreed that this is a good action with the time given currently. He expressed his hope that SA will take more significant actions in the next academic year.

Emily Jiang encouraged everyone who is staying in SA to think over this over the summer.

Raymond Ni mentioned that SA thought about an initiative a few meetings ago. The point was that the student body does not know what the main purpose of the initiatives is for the best results.

Emily Jiang agreed and mentioned that this was their intention with the two committees created. Other committees can still exist, furthermore. They agreed with Joe that it is a little late in the semester to do more action but expressed hope for next semester.

- **Updates: ([TIME: 43:10](#))**
 - **Wellness Packages Content, Pricing, and Assembly Update: President Emily Jiang '25 and Vice President Marvin Lopez '23**

Emily Jiang mentioned that within the wellness packages, they are planning on putting in Caprisuns, lip balm, hand sanitizer, squishy animal toys, face masks, hand cream, caramel tea, stress ball, and other things. They noted that the assembly is requesting \$10,000 which will be one of the funding requests. They will also get \$5,000 from the Dean of Students office. The total cost based on the suppliers SA has now is around \$12,000, which comes out to around \$6 per student. There will be \$3000 leftover in case there is shipping or a supplier change. The boxes will fit into



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mailboxes and they will coordinate with the Mail Center next week. She mentioned that if people are interested in either distributing them or boxing the items, they should reach out as they are assembling 2,000 care packages.

- **Dippin' Dots Event: Class Representative Nevaeh Gutierrez '25**
([TIME: 45:55](#))

Nevaeh Gutierrez mentioned that they are putting on a Dip'n Dots event because of previous success with Dip'n Dots and because it is a nice opportunity for students to talk to their constituents again before the end of the semester along with being a distress tool. This event will occur at the Sadove Terrace on Friday from 3-5 PM. She noted that this was put together the past weekend with the help of the J&E committee.

Emily Jiang asked if she needs anyone to help serve.

Nevaeh Gutierrez answered that there are enough Dip'n Dots for about 500 people and that they are first-come, first-serve. She mentioned that if anyone would like to help serve or be present, it would be very beneficial. She further noted that the items will be here on time and Marvin Lopez has reserved the Sadove Terrace already.

Emily Jiang asked what flavor Dip'n Dots they were getting.

Nevaeh Gutierrez replied that she asked for the most popular flavors along with the most allergy-friendly options in order to be accessible to everyone.

- **SA Tables Schedule - Week of April 25th, 2022** ([TIME: 49:22](#))

Marvin Lopez announced the SA tabling schedule for the week.

- **Non-strategic Funding Requests:**

Club Name	Requested Budget	Recommended Budget
Tennis Club	\$300.00	\$300.00
ICA	\$403.00	\$403.00
SDA	\$589.84	\$589.84
Plants at Hamilton	\$120.46	\$120.46



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➤ **Discretionary Funding Requests**

Committee Name	Requested Budget	Recommended Budget
SA Executive Board	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Student Assembly	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00

The motion to approve the funding requests passes unanimously.

This semester, the Student Assembly has been able to fund every single budget request in full (barring extenuating circumstances), from clubs and the Assembly.

4. Announcements

- Food Truck Fridays are every Friday 6-9pm! See the weekly email for details.
- Dippin' Dots on Friday from 3-5pm on Sadove Terrace!

5. Closed Session: Class & Charter Sidney Wertimer Award Nominees

6. Adjournment

If you would like to be put on the agenda for a public comment, email sa@hamilton.edu by 8:00 PM on Monday. Otherwise, submit them [here](#) using your Hamilton email account.