



Hamilton College Student Assembly

General Meeting of the Central Council - May 9th, 2022

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

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Present:

Isa Cardoso
Nickie Conlogue
Cicille Dan-Morton
Max Ganem
Nevaeh Gutierrez
Jackson Harris
Emily Jiang
Lena Klink
Alex Kropaneva
Marvin Lopez

Joe Maalouf
Dewayne Martin
Ryley McGovern
Evelyn Molina
Adina Mujica
Subin Myong
Raymond Ni
Rafael Osella
Josue Herrera Rivera
Allison Sheehan

Matthew Sinning
Felix Tager

Excused:

Michelle Estrella
Abigail Hagan

Unexcused:

Tommy Keith

- *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

There are no public comments.

3. Budgets for Next Year

- **Updates from Treasurer Felix Tager '23**
 - **Encouraging organizations to apply for RENYI funding.**
 - **Items that qualify for RENYI funding**
 - a. **Conferences**
 - b. **Leadership events**
 - c. **Guest speakers/teachers**

Felix Tager mentioned that this system is new and asked for patience as this is the first year it's being implemented. He talked about which measures were taken into consideration and how the budget approvals are going to work. He stated that there were a lot of cuts in the budget. The



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goal was not to cut the budget but a lot of clubs requested way higher than what was necessary or what is requested in the past. The total amount of budget requested this year was \$205,900 out of \$145,000 so there was a lot of cutting that needed to happen. Only 57 out of 150 organizations applied for funding this year. The treasury tried its best to give funding to every club that applied. Of the 57 budget requests received, most budgets were either at the end of the 8% cap or nearly double it. One of the factors used to determine recommended budgets was past club spending, which included spending pre-COVID. Another factor was necessary items. The treasury ranked necessary versus unnecessary items as well as items that are not qualified or could be supplied by the institution. He further explained what RENYI funding is. RENYI funding is the student leadership fund that is an endowment fund provided by student activities that allow for funding of leadership training, workshops, seminars, and conferences. The fund has also flexibility for events that do not specifically fit this criterion. A lot of people ask for funding for masterclasses, trips to speak to professionals, or to have conferences. All these expenses, including food, falls under RENYI funding. A lot of budget cuts were made because clubs could apply for RENYI funding and would likely get approved. RENYI funding is rarely used to the extent to which there is a lot of funding. He encouraged clubs to go through that instead of SA so that SA could provide funding to other clubs. Other facts that were included in decisions making were club membership, meeting attendance, and engagement rates. Engagement rates allow for each organization to be put on the same scale as each organization has different sizes. This allowed for an understanding of where the money was going to go. There are many chances when this did not apply such as with Pottery Club. Pottery Club can only take 9 people on each trip, which is why their engagement rate is so low. He emphasized that any change to the recommended budget will cause the budget to likely go into debt and encouraged members to consider that when making their decisions. This was a tough decision but he is hoping to work with the new SAF committee to meet with each body to decide the final parent budgets. In the event that this happens and budgets increase, clubs that did not apply or were not able to get fully funded could get funding. This is not guaranteed but it is his hope that this happens.

- **Voting**

Club Name	Requested Budget	Recommended Budget	Approved Budgets
Hamilton College Debate Society	\$12,000	\$7,000.00	\$7,000
Questbridge	\$10,000	\$5,000.00	\$6,795



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Club Name	Requested Budget	Recommended Budget	Approved Budgets
Scholars Network			
Slow Food	\$2,075	\$1,925.00	\$1,925
HamTrek Triathlon	\$8,454	\$4,000.00	\$4,000
HEAT	\$12,000	\$5,410.00	\$5,410
Poetry Slam	\$2,050-\$2,550	\$1,000.00	\$1,000
Mock Trial	\$22,125.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000
La Vanguardia	\$10,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000
Model United Nations	\$8,650.00	\$8,348.00	\$8,348
Board Club	\$10,800.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000
Pre-Professional Health Careers Club	\$3,540.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000
Society of Physics Students	\$9,570.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000
ASU	\$8,875.00	\$5,750.00	\$5,750
WINGS: Women Inspiring a Network of Growth and Support	\$2,620.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400
Hamilton Student Chapter of the American Chemical Society	\$4,540.00	\$2,540.00	\$2,540
Plants@Hamilton	\$9,100.00	\$5,600.00	\$5,600
Nordic Ski	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0



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Club Name	Requested Budget	Recommended Budget	Approved Budgets
ROOTS: Society for Students of Color in STEM	\$10,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000
Pretty Tough	\$4,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500
<u>Climate Justice Coalition</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$500</u>
<u>Tennis Club</u>	<u>\$1,260.00</u>	<u>\$1,260.00</u>	<u>\$1,260</u>
<u>RPG Club</u>	<u>\$645.00</u>	<u>\$645.00</u>	<u>\$645</u>
<u>Film Club</u>	<u>\$300.00</u>	<u>\$300.00</u>	<u>\$300</u>
Aquaponics	\$1,700.00	\$800.00	\$800
<u>The Buffers</u>	<u>\$1200.00</u>	<u>\$1,200.00</u>	<u>\$1,200</u>
<u>Humans of Hamilton</u>	<u>\$450.00</u>	<u>\$450.00</u>	<u>\$450</u>
<u>Band Club</u>	<u>\$698.78</u>	<u>\$700.00</u>	<u>\$700</u>
<u>Volleyball club</u>	<u>\$1,460.00</u>	<u>\$1,460.00</u>	<u>\$1,460</u>
<u>People Who Like To Do Fun Things</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>	<u>\$100</u>
<u>Association for Women in Mathematics</u>	<u>\$930.00</u>	<u>\$930.00</u>	<u>\$930</u>
<u>Tropical Sol</u>	<u>\$650.00</u>	<u>\$650.00</u>	<u>\$650</u>
<u>Chess Club</u>	<u>\$300.00</u>	<u>\$300.00</u>	<u>\$300</u>
<u>Pottery Club</u>	<u>\$8400.00</u>	<u>\$8,400.00</u>	<u>\$8,400</u>
<u>Scottish Country Dance</u>	<u>\$1800.00</u>	<u>\$1,800.00</u>	<u>\$1,800</u>
<u>Pokemon Club</u>	<u>\$750.00</u>	<u>\$750.00</u>	<u>\$750</u>



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Club Name	Requested Budget	Recommended Budget	Approved Budgets
<u>Board Game Club</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$200</u>
<u>Tap That</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>	<u>\$100</u>
<u>Juggling Club</u>	<u>\$800.00</u>	<u>\$800.00</u>	<u>\$800</u>
<u>Untitled@Large</u>	<u>\$800.00</u>	<u>\$800.00</u>	<u>\$800</u>
<u>Coding Team</u>	<u>\$2,450.00</u>	<u>\$2,450.00</u>	<u>\$2,075</u>
<u>Special K</u>	<u>\$3,100.00</u>	<u>\$3,100.00</u>	<u>\$3,100</u>
<u>Boffer Club</u>	<u>\$225.00</u>	<u>\$225.00</u>	<u>\$225</u>
<u>Hamilton Democrats</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$500</u>
<u>YDSA</u>	<u>\$360.00</u>	<u>\$360.00</u>	<u>\$360</u>
<u>Dance Team</u>	<u>\$1,895.00</u>	<u>\$1,895.00</u>	<u>\$1,370</u>
<u>Tumbling After</u>	<u>\$4,197.00</u>	<u>\$4,197.00</u>	<u>\$4,197</u>
<u>On the Move</u>	<u>\$1,540.00</u>	<u>\$1,540.00</u>	<u>\$1,540</u>
<u>Hamilton Ping Pong Club</u>	<u>\$1,540.00</u>	<u>\$1,540.00</u>	<u>\$1,540</u>
<u>Student Dance Alliance</u>	<u>\$4,500.00</u>	<u>\$4,500.00</u>	<u>\$4,500</u>
<u>On Pointe</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$500</u>
<u>The Hamiltones</u>	<u>\$724.70</u>	<u>\$724.00</u>	<u>\$724</u>
<u>Hogwarts @ Hamilton</u>	<u>\$400.00</u>	<u>\$400.00</u>	<u>\$400</u>
<u>Spanish Club</u>	<u>\$1,735.00</u>	<u>\$1,735.00</u>	<u>\$1,735</u>
<u>French Club</u>	<u>\$2,345.00</u>	<u>\$2,345.00</u>	<u>\$2,345</u>
<u>Duelly Noted</u>	<u>\$6,470.00</u>	<u>\$6,470.00</u>	<u>\$6,470</u>



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Jungwon Lee '24 (he/him) introduced himself as the president of Questbridge. He mentioned that that was the first year they had SA funding and that therefore a lot of funding has rolled back. However, the percentage that rolled back has decreased dramatically for this semester in comparison to last semester. The club spent around \$3,000 in the past semester. He explained that Questbridge is a scholarship for low-income students, and students who receive it are automatically enrolled in the club. The club provides a network for the students as well as little things that matter such as snacks. It is a big organization but it is not a formal organization like HEOP or Posse, so the club has to rely on SA funding.

Josue Herrera Rivera mentioned that the organization is pretty new and although they focus on their scholars, their events are not just limited to Questbridge Scholars. Emails are sent out to the entire school.

Felix Tager mentioned that he would want to increase Questbridge funding in the future. Part of the things looked at is reallocation spending. The main thing that was cut was the finals goodies bags, senior gifts, and the fall and spring day trips. He is trying to fund some things through RENYI funding or with the rollbacks from last semester. The goal is not to define a club by one semester which is why the budget is not set in stone.

Brian Tran '25 (he/him) spoke on behalf of the Board Club. The club was new last semester and although it did not do much, the club had already a high turnout. The club did not have enough funding last semester and therefore did not have enough skateboards to give one to everyone who showed up to the meeting. Funding will be used to buy skateboards. They are not a recurring cost, so this would be a one-time purchase. The second concern funding would go to is safety. Brian explained that he does not want people to get hurt so the money would go towards helmets. Lastly, the club is planning on taking trips to skateparks.

Joe Maalouf mentioned that the cut does not provide the club the necessary funding for the club to function. This is also a new club so some costs are singular upfront costs that the club is not able to cover this semester. The funding for this semester was not sufficient to provide each person showing up to meetings with a skateboard. He mentioned that 45 people are members and 70 people show up to meetings, showing an act of participation. The main problem is that there are not enough boards for all the people that show up. Every cent that is being requested is requested with valid reason. Furthermore, this is a brand new club that needs to get off the ground and has an upfront cost that will not occur next year. Once boards have been purchased,



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those costs will not reappear. He encouraged the Assembly to keep in mind that in requesting the \$10,800 limit, the club is trying to get itself started and to continue to provide its services.

Isa Cardoso asked if the money included trips to the skate parks. She then asked if the trips can be funded through the RENYI fund.

Felix Tager replied that it is not related to leadership.

Jackson Harris asked how many skateboards the money would cover.

Brian Tran replied that they have 26 skateboards right now and are looking to have 45. The majority of the money would go to trips to the city.

Felix Tager mentioned that the maximum amount of money clubs can request should not be a goal. 57 clubs are requesting 8% of funding is not possible, which is why no club is getting funded that much. Currently, there is no more physical room for skateboards inside Sadove. The storage is exhausted and it is not possible to put more. Other reasons for cuts that the budget included swag without specification so how much these things would cost. One of the things included in the budget request was teaching kids to skate and donating skateboards to schools. Under school codes, anything that is charity work is not allowed so it cannot be funded. Therefore, the treasury did not know how much of the money would go to that and not towards skateboards. Furthermore, for small trips, the club can get transportation from the college for free and just pay for gas. Based on that and materials for painting a board, and maintenance parts, the treasury came to a recommended budget of \$3000.

Dewayne Martin asked if Assembly members had access to an itemized list.

Felix Tager replied that members had access to the responses in the Google Form that clubs submitted.

Isa Cardoso asked how much they were planning to spend on boards.

Brian Tran replied that [inaudible]



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Adina Mujica asked how many of the people showing up to Board Club meetings are seniors because they will not show up next year and it cannot be guaranteed that new people will fill that gap.

Brian Tran replied that the majority are First-years and sophomores.

Jackson Harris asked that in the case of a club getting a budget that is less than they requested if they can spend it on anything they wanted to.

Felix Tager replied that they can spend it as needed. This is the idea of this system because SA trusts clubs. However, there are also records of everything that is spent. If the club spends it on just merch or on things that SA did not agree to, this will be marked down by student activities. In the event that purchases go against policies, the transaction will be declined and club leaders will be charged.

Marvin Lopez mentioned that if a certain amount is given more to a club, that amount will have to be taken from another club's budget. The funding is not set in stone for the full year and there will be opportunities for more funding.

Felix Tager responded that budgets are set in stone as of now. SAF will meet and hopefully change the parent budget amounts, including the Student Assembly budget. In that case, funding will be reallocated to organizations.

Nevaeh Gutierrez asked who the money would be cut from.

Felix Tager replied that it would need to be cut from another organization.

Noelle Juliano mentioned that historically, this has always been a difficult process. She noted that there may be other ways to get more money such as not renewing the movie channel that can increase the budget. For now, they need to know what is most equitable and find other sources of funding down the line including for example rollbacks.

Felix Tager noted that if members want to increase the recommended budget for a club, they should have a plan from where to cut that budget.

Jackson Harris asked if members need to abstain from voting on a club's budget if they also need to abstain from motioning to change the budget of that club.



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Marvin Lopez replied that this is not explicitly written out in the constitution so the Parliamentarian has the final say. Allison Sheehan decided that members who cannot vote on a budget cannot motion on it either.

Adina Mujica motioned to increase the Questbridge budget. She explained that the general budget for POSSE is \$1000 dollars for each class year and that's an estimate of what POSSEs are getting at each school. POSSE has about 50 people in total and Questbridge would have a lot more. Questbridge should be given \$4,000 but because their original budget was \$10,000, it should be upped to \$7,500.

Rafael Osella asked where the budget would be cut from.

Matthew Sinning asked if they voted for other things they all agree on and come back later to other budgets.

Isa Cardoso commented that a budget that can be potentially be cut is the Model UN budget which has a lot of funding allocated for travel costs. She noted that some of that could be cut.

Felix Tager asked what alternative methods students could use to get to conferences if they are not funded by SA.

Isa Cardoso replied that it is debatable.

Noelle Juliano mentioned that SA should exhaust all its funding first and only after that clubs should go to other departments on campus to look for additional funding.

The motion to approve the first 10 requests except for Questbridge Scholars Network passes.

Alex Axton '24 (he/him) introduced himself and stated that he is representing the Society of Physics Students. He mentioned that the club does not need the full budget now because it can get funding for its conference through the RENYI fund. However, they do need SA funding for their projects on campus. On this campus, there is no space to create engineering projects or hands-on creations. The organization currently has a lower engagement because of COVID during which the club basically died out. As COVID is less impactful now, the club is being revived as they can do more in-person events. The movie nights, for example, the club has been holding are well attended. These events are open to the whole campus.



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Felix Tager answered that the reason why the amount was given was that there was no specification for what the conference listed was for. Merch was also struck as it was for other organizations unless it was necessary for the function of the club. Everything was funded except the conference and the merch.

Rafael Osella asked if Alex believed \$5,000 will be sufficient.

Alex Axton responded that \$5,000 would be perfect and that the club would be content with that.

Joe Maalouf asked Felix if he slashed merch within the funding requests. He asked if SA were to give more money to Physics Club if SA would be funding the cut-out merch.

Felix Tager replied that the budget is not being increased.

Dewayne Martin asked how to reallocate the funds. He asked what the club makeup was of Model United Nations.

Felix Tager replied that MUN has 22 people with an engagement rate of 55%. However, only 12 people can go to each conference. From last year's audit, which is used to generate this year's funding, they seem to have an engagement rate of 100%.

The motion to approve the budget requests from Pre-Professional Health Careers Club to Pretty Tough as recommended passes.

Emily Jiang wanted to reiterate what Felix Tager said in the beginning. They noted that Questbridge was not funded in full because of their spending last year, in which much of their requested funds remained unused.

Felix Tager repeated that they tried to cut things that were not traditional or essential such as swag and senior gifts. This was done across all organizations. Rollbacks were a factor in the cuts but swag was the main issue.

Isa Cardoso asked how much they had in rollbacks.



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Felix Tager responded that he does not have that on him right now but he can get that information to the Assembly. He estimated that it is a couple of thousand dollars.

Dewayne Martin asked if that new amount would be sufficient.

Emily Jiang clarified that rollbacks go back to the parent fund, that being the SA fund.

Dewayne Martin clarified his question and asked how much funding would be sufficient for Questbridge.

Jungwon Lee responded that \$7500 would be enough because there are fewer restrictions this year. Questbridge also wants to do more swag, has been trying to do it for a while, and has never gotten anything apart from stickers. As an organization, there are so many members on campus. The low participation rate is due to so many new people being automatically enrolled every year. The Questbridge class is growing and they want to adjust for that. They are further trying to use the swag that is bought for future years.

Matthew Sinning expressed that they should not be voting on this funding request before knowing what other funding requests to cut to make up for it.

Marvin Lopez stated that the Assembly needs to find a budget to cut to fund Questbridge above the recommended funding.

Joe Maalouf asked if they are voting on Questbridge or another budget.

Marvin Lopez responded that SA is voting on Questbridge right now, but could revisit the request after finding things to cut from other budget requests.

Jackson Harris agreed that they should vote on other budgets and see which budgets can be adjusted and then return to the organizations that need more such as Questbridge.

The motion to put voting on the Questbridge budget on hold and proceed with voting on the other budgets passes.

Raf Osella asked why Tennis and Volleyball club did not fall under club sports funding.



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Felix Tager responded that Tennis Club and Volleyball Club are not considered club sports for funding purposes. As a result, they fall under SA funding but Nordic Skiing is a club sport which is why their SA funding is 0 dollars.

Joe Maalouf mentioned that the Aquaponics fund is a fund that can be taken away. They have not described where the money is going and there is no itemized list. Furthermore, there is mention of apparel drops.

Felix Tager replied that it was an error because there were multiple violations of the funding code. The budget for Aquaponics should be \$800 after cutting out merch and money for donations.

Joe Maalouf asked how he determined the \$800 and whether it is determined by the number of members. If so, he asked how much money is allocated per member and why.

Felix Tager responded that the money is allocated depending on the number of members. There are no specifics so one thing that they are trying to figure out is the cost given there are 90 members with only about 35 involved. The amount is determined by roughly the SA cost of items for 35 people. Historically, Aquaponics has also used up all their funds effectively. They are trying to find funding from the science department. He is trying to

Emily Jiang stated that SA has freed up \$900.

Nevaeh Gutierrez asked if clubs are able to reapply for funding.

Felix Tager replied that contingency funding goes to new clubs.

Matthew Prus asked if there was still going to be nonstrategic funding in the future.

Emily Jiang replied that there was no longer going to be nonstrategic funding in the future in accordance with the new funding codes.

The motion to pass the budget requests for the Climate Justice Coalition to People Who Like To Do Fun Things as recommended passes.

Isa Cardoso asked why the Pottery Club was requesting so much money.



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Felix Tager replied that the Pottery Club number was not accurate when they submitted their forms. They are the largest club on campus currently so the club is trying to find the opportunity to give all its members the opportunity to participate. He mentioned that there should be pottery wheels on campus so the club does not have to get a contract off-campus. A contract can not just be cut partway. He noted that the arts center used to have pottery wheels but discarded them so a contract is now needed. He mentioned that he is working on capital projects such as getting this equipment for the campus. The same applies to recording studios so acapella groups do not need to get contracts off-campus.

Marvin Lopez asked if any money can be cut from this budget.

Felix Tager replied that he does not know the specifics of the contract and as a result, he does not know.

Joe Maalouf asked whether the funding for the Association for Women in Mathematics is for a person who comes in and speaks or for a speaker item.

Felix Tager responded that organizations do not have to submit exact numbers so cuts are also not exact. Because the speaker wasn't explicitly stated whether it was for a leadership activity or the overall benefit of the club, he cannot automatically say that it is eligible for RENYI funding. Traditionally, the organization uses all its funding and it is a pretty low-budget request.

Joe Maalouf asked whether the speaker can be considered a leadership opportunity so the organization can request from the RENYI budget. He mentioned that they should not be funding ambiguity and that the organization should have been more specific.

Felix Tager mentioned that the one reason he does not do so is that these forms are ending. A lot of the budget requests are a guessing game so that is why he kept it.

The motion to remove \$600 from the budget request for the Association for Women in Mathematics fails to pass.

Felix Tager mentioned that one thing that can be cut is the \$375 from the Coding Team which would leave them with \$2075 remaining because they are requesting money for shirts.



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Subin Myong asked why they were funding the embroidery for SDA considering that it was not funded last semester.

Felix Tager replied that the funding codes in the past did not allow it but now it does. No

Dewayne Martin asked how many students are in that Coding Team and how much would need merchandise. He wants to be mindful of the fact that \$20 may be a lot for some people although it may seem like a little amount of money for others.

Felix Tager responded that it is the same for all clubs. Merchandise is sometimes essential for coding teams because they compete in competitions. However, the purpose of the shirts is not explicitly stated so they can possibly cut the costs for it. He noted that is not fair to fund merchandise for one club and not for another.

Isa Cardoso mentioned that the Coding Team is going to a Hackathon competition and mentioned that this is an event that might require shirts to distinguish themselves.

Felix Tager responded that Hackathon does not always require outfits so he is not sure whether the shirts requested are essential.

The motion to fund the Coding Team budget request as \$2,075 passes.

Josue Herrera Rivera asked whether the shirts requested for the Hamilton Democrats are necessary.

Joe Maalouf responded that the design for the Hamilton Democrats is for the purposes of GOTV (get out the vote) which is something necessary for the purpose of the club. He sees this as separate spending from recreational shirt spending.

Isa Cardoso mentioned that the shirts and stickers are the only things they are requesting funding for which is a lot lower than other clubs.

Matthew Sinning expressed that while he agreed with the reasonings given to fund the shirts, he needs more information on whether the shirts requested are club membership shirts or GOTV shirts. He mentioned that some of the budget requested can be cut.



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Joe Maalouf replied that the design of the shirts and stickers are for GOTV which is for the purpose of the club. He expressed the need to trust that this is the intention for the shirts and stickers although it may seem a bit unorthodox.

Emily Jiang summarized what has been said. They clarified that there is an argument that the shirts are not essential for the function of the club, while Joe Maalouf argued that the shirts were essential for the function of the club. It was mentioned that students have not really seen the shirts described around campus. There may be a motion to slash the funding by a little.

Marvin Lopez reiterated that they are trying to get \$2,500 extra for the Questbridge Scholars Network as a final goal.

Raf Osella expressed that money should not be slashed from other budget requests solely for the Questbridge Scholars Network if the items that they are requesting funding for are not essential.

Dewayne Martin expressed his agreement.

Marvin Lopez mentioned that Felix Tager has noted that the Dance Team has requested money for sweatshirts along with their dance uniforms.

Felix Tager mentioned that the reason why he was unsure about slashing the funding for the Dance Team initially is that they are requesting sweatshirts. Sometimes dance teams wear sweatshirts over their dance uniforms during competitions when they are not performing. However, he noted that this may not be the purpose of the sweatshirts that they are requesting.

Raf Osella clarified that he has seen the dance team wear their outfits to competitions without sweatshirts.

The motion to cut the Dance Team budget request by \$525 passes.

Emily Jiang mentioned that SA has now cut \$1,800 from other clubs which is now available for the Questbridge Scholars Network. This puts the Questbridge Scholars Network budget request now at \$6,800 for the amount recommended.

Joe Maalouf asked Jungwon Lee if that amount is enough for the organization.



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Jungwon Lee replied that it was.

Felix Tager mentioned that there was a mess up on the spreadsheet and adding \$1,800 will make them go five dollars over which will bring them into debt. As a result, he proposed only adding \$1,795 extra to the funding request.

The motion to add \$1,795 to the Questbridge Scholars' Network recommended budget to make it \$6,795 passes.

The motion to extend the meeting to 10:30 PM passes unanimously.

4. New Business

- **Approval of Minutes from 5/2**

The motion to approve the 5/2 minutes passes unanimously.

- **Appeals Board Candidates Confirmation:**
 - Julio Demb '23
 - Emilio Vicioso '23

The motion to approve Julio Demb '23 and Emilio Vicioso '23 as Appeals Board Candidates passes unanimously.

- **Resolution 22-1: Reproductive Freedoms for Hamilton Students**
 - Introduced by: Evelyn Molina '23, Marvin Lopez '23, Dewayne Martin '24, Adina Mujica '24

Allison Sheehan read aloud Resolution 22-1: Reproductive Freedoms for Hamilton Students.

Questions/ Comments:

Matthew Sinning asked if the resolution has to be passed unanimously by the assembly considering the line saying that the resolution is passed unanimously.

Marvin Lopez replied that the statement is only meant to stay if the resolution is passed unanimously. Putting the line in would be providing more support for the resolution.



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Isa Cardoso asked if the document could be shared in Slack for everyone to see.

Dewayne Martin replied that it should be available and that he will share it again.

Joe Maalouf asked if the voting record was going to be attached to the resolution document. He then asked if the resolution is going to be emailed to all the listed administrative recipients.

Marvin Lopez replied that passed resolutions have to be sent to the entire school. The voting record will only be attached if it is passed by unanimous consent.

Jackson Harris commented that the proposed resolution is probably the most thorough and well-written resolution in his time here, especially with the resolution's mentions of peer institutions and federal laws. He noted that this resolution presents a strong argument for how the college was not meeting the expectations of colleges that receive federal funding nor upholding their responsibilities.

Dewayne Martin shouted out every single speaker during the Reproductive Rights protest/teach-in, Corey Sloan '25, and everybody as this resolution is a result of the larger community. He mentioned that this is a national struggle as well.

Joe Maalouf thanked the contributors of the document. He asked if there have been successes in sending resolutions like this in the past to ensure action is taken.

Jackson Harris responded that resolutions are the best, if not the only way, in which SA can impact the college's policy. In terms of the previous success of passing resolutions, he noted that it had been mixed. There have been passed resolutions that have been wholly ignored but recent resolutions have been successful. For example, the marijuana resolution did result in policy change. However, there has been a lack of acknowledgment of SA's involvement in the policy change. He emphasized the need for SA acknowledgment. Past resolutions have not been as thorough as this current one.

Matthew Sinning explained that while he believes the resolution is greatly written, he will not be able to vote for this resolution because of the religious/personal standpoints that he and many others may hold. He noted that he cannot use his voice as an SA assembly member to support the resolution despite the number of great ideas.



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Emily Jiang, speaking on behalf of others that had brought the issue to them, mentioned that the phrase “anti-choice rhetoric” is not necessary for the resolution because it may be seen as a free speech violation. Just because people have been talking about an issue does not mean that a resolution should be passed.

Jackson Harris noted that this concern can be an easy fix. The resolution can instead say something along the lines of “seeing reproductive health is increasingly under threat.”

Allison Sheehan mentioned while the first line of the resolution says that it is unanimously passed, it does not need to be unanimously passed in order for the resolution to be sent out according to the constitution.

Dewayne Martin added that Matthew Sinning only disagreed with a certain portion of the resolution which can be specified.

Joe Maalouf asked if there is a way to split up the parts that will guarantee unanimous consent. He mentioned that a separate email can be sent with the parts that are not supported by everyone. He would like to say that there is unanimous approval for some sections of the proposed resolution. He noted that he would be voting yes for the entire resolution.

Emily Jiang mentioned that the assembly still needs to go through questions and edits for the resolution.

Felix Tager mentioned that while he appreciates this resolution being proposed, it needs action in addition to it being passed in order for it to be effective. Even in the cannabis resolution, there were efforts being done after that particular resolution was passed to ensure that it was enacted. Only publishing support for the actions of the resolution is only for publicity if things are not done to further address it. He expressed the need to create a game plan to follow up on this resolution.

Marvin Lopez clarified that this is phrased as a recommendation.

The motion to extend the meeting time to 10:45 PM passes.

Jackson Harris expressed that he does not think they should be splitting up the resolution because the net effect of doing so would be to water down the parts of the resolution that are not unanimous. Regarding follow-up, a resolution is not a promise. SA has no agency over whether



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the college will follow up on the policy or not. To suggest that the assembly does have agency is to confuse students that they have more authority than they actually do. While he does believe in follow-up, they should happen quickly so meetings can happen during the summer.

Isa Cardoso mentioned that the follow-up is in the resolution.

Joe Maalouf asked how the assembly would make sure this resolution does not get lost in the follow-up if the resolution is sent out now.

Dewayne Martin replied that Hamilton College is one school in a national movement. In terms of follow-up, students can reach out to the organizers and the coalition at the school. It relies on everybody in student assembly and everyone in the school. They are in a moment where everyone needs to step up. He mentioned that if no one will keep the assembly accountable, he will.

Marvin Lopez mentioned that the last point states that a subcommittee will be established which will be working with administration within three weeks into the Fall '22 semester.

Nevaeh Gutierrez mentioned that people need to be invited. She expressed that while she contributed to this work, they need to know who this resolution is prioritizing.

Emily Jiang expressed the need to keep the focus on the resolution and not the protest movement.

Marvin Lopez mentioned that Title IX is a big part of the resolution. It does not have to do with any other movement on campus. The vote is whether they should call Hamilton out for their lack of access to sexual/reproductive/menstrual products that other schools, especially other NESCACs, have.

Joe Maalouf mentioned that one of the main tenants of this resolution is calling Hamilton out, this needs to be emphasized in the document. He expressed the need to differentiate Hamilton College's support for the listed services and other college support for the services to gather more support for the proposed actions.



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Emily Jiang mentioned that they could not find any place in the constitution that said that only voting members were allowed to be writers of the resolution so they can add the other contributors.

Dewayne Martin noted that they did not use any sort of antagonist language in the resolution. Going about this in a way that solves problems will be better for the process. The issues that the movement has encountered have more to do with Hamilton as a social space. He would like to check in with the administration to see how to facilitate the aspects of the resolution.

Raf Osella mentioned that he has no confidence that the administration will support this resolution, especially after the assembly antagonized Karen Leach a couple of weeks ago.

Adina Mujica mentioned that the comments she made during Karen Leach's presentation were based on her experiences working with her on the COVID-19 Task Force. She noted changes being placed in the college have proven to be motivated by catching up to what other colleges similar to Hamilton are doing. She expressed her belief that she would be okay not being put into future conversations as long as their goals are carried out.

Raf Osella reiterated that he doubts that the administration would support the resolution.

Isa Cardoso expressed that regardless of how the administration views the assembly currently or how they will potentially view the resolution, she still wants to send the resolution to them. There is a chance that they will act on it regardless. She then motioned for the assembly to speak about changes/edits to the resolution.

Joe Maalouf noted that he has heard two different responses that have disagreed with each other. He expressed the need to have the administration like the assembly as they would be more likely to cooperate with them.

Dewayne Martin expressed the need to keep the discussion regarding the resolution.

The motion to move the question to make edits and changes to the resolution passes.

Emily Jiang asked if the resolution can credit non-voting members who have contributed to it.



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Allison Sheehan replied that she looked in the constitution but did not see anything about the need to only credit voting members in resolutions. She declared that non-voting members involved can be added to the resolution.

Marvin Lopez mentioned that he read that in Robert's Rules of Order. He has no problem putting authors on the resolution document but emphasized the need to make a decision at the last meeting, especially since the policy outlined in the resolution will need financial, structural, and organizational support from Hamilton College.

Subin Myong asked if she could motion to put all the suggestions and edits to the resolution online, possibly in the next 24 hours for the interest of time.

Emily Jiang replied that this current meeting is the last chance they can pass this resolution. They noted that the assembly could also shelve this resolution into the next semester.

Marvin Lopez interjected and stated that tabling this resolution until next semester is unproductive, given that the Supreme Court is set to vote on *Roe v. Wade* potentially over the summer. He added that there is no time to wait on this matter, especially since the recommendations call for actions that will take coordination between students and the Hamilton College.

Dewayne Martin followed up with the sentiment that the endangerment of reproductive freedom has very real and immediate consequences and would affect a great number of people.

Emily Jiang expressed that they would be affected by legislation restricting reproductive freedom and would prefer not to be interrupted. They then opened up the floor for more suggestions and edits to the document.

Jackson Harris explained that the question asked here is whether the assembly has time for the edits and whether the edits are necessary. He does not think this resolution should be extended to the next semester because many administrative and budgeting activities occur over the summer. If they want the resolution to be in effect next semester, it is best to pass it during this meeting. The question that should be asked is what edits to make now.



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Isa Cardoso mentioned that she has made suggestions to the document. She motioned to add Corey Sloan and Nevaeh Gutierrez as authors. She then motioned to pass the question and vote on the resolution.

Joe Maalouf emphasized the need to pass the resolution now and not move it to a different time. He noted that this resolution addresses issues that affect everyone on campus in one way or another.

Subin Myong mentioned that there should be a note of the current state of accessibility to the reproductive health resources already on campus.

Joe Maalouf asked if the votes for the resolution can be tallied individually and attached to the document sent out. He motioned for this vote to be a rollcall vote.

Isa Cardoso expressed wanting to extend the meeting time to 11:00 PM. She mentioned that the reason why she wants to do so is that the assembly has not given an overview of the semester. She also has some thoughts that she would like to share regarding mental health on the assembly and the leaving members.

The motion to extend the meeting to 11:00 PM passes.

The motion to pass Resolution 22-1 passes via rollcall vote.

- **Spring 2022 Semester in Review**
 - President Emily Jiang '25 + Student Assembly

Emily Jiang gave a shortened version of the speech pasted below in the interests of time, reviewing the work SA has done over the semester:

Hi everyone! This will be quick but I wanted to first thank everyone for an awesome spring semester. After the retreat, we came into our work with a lot of energy and i'm really proud of everything we got done! To give a shortlist of some things we've accomplished as an assembly this sem:

Res Life and Safety worked to swiftly address the issues of mold that were brought to SA at the beginning of the semester.

The Health Committee, in collaboration with the Wellness Center, worked together to organize a Paws for Relaxation event in the Events Barn the week before spring break.



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Along with CAB, Student Activities, and Media Board, Student Assembly representatives on the Student Activities Fee Committee have created a slew of documents pertaining to student organization funding and the Student Activities Fee. Principal contributors include Treasurer Felix Tager, Vice President Marvin Lopez '23, Parliamentarian Allison Sheehan '23, Junior Class President Joe Maalouf, and myself. Felix has also worked to secure a trial run of annual rollovers for SA funds in preparation for an eventual transition to an agency fund.

Our Publicity Director Max Ganem '25 designed and ordered SA sweaters for this year so that representatives can more publicly display their commitment and availability as SA members.

Marvin has helped us set up weekly tables at Diner with merch, postcards, and public comment stations in order to increase engagement with the community.

Junior Class President Joe Maalouf has increased access to printers on Grey Side during finals week by working with facilities to keep the Bundy printer open, and has been working with other assembly members especially Felix Tager '23 to increase food access on grey side.

Student Assembly has nominated, deliberated on, and/or confirmed about a dozen students to Honor Court, Judicial Board, college committees, and trustee committees. These students, most of whom are not Assembly members, will be helping make decisions and give student representation on both student-centered and college-wide topics.

The freshman and sophomore delegations put on an awesome underclassman formal, which had solid attendance and some of the cutest cupcakes I've ever seen!

We've already distributed about 500 of the wellness packages that SA put together for all students for finals week and plan on distributing more through this week. I may have ordered the items, but I want to thank Marvin for securing the cute air plants, and thank everyone who helped assemble and distribute the packages - Raf Osella, Allison Sheehan, Matt Sinning, Raymond Ni, Marvin Lopez, Ryley McGovern, Michelle Estrella-Dominguez, and non-Assembly students Makayla Alston, Corey Bravo Sloan, and Gabriel Bit-Babik. It was a big undertaking and I'm very proud of all we did!

The Constitutional Review Committee is working on revamping the Constitution to make it more legible, useful, and pertinent for future Assemblies.

The Justice & Equity Committee has been working with the Opportunity Programs Director, Aaron Ray, in facilitating conversation among class years to make changes to the summer program.

The Academic Enrollment and Development Committee, with a special shoutout to Cicille Dan-Morton, has been working with the financial aid office on programs to cultivate financial literacy on campus.



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Joe Maalouf and I wrote the basis for the email against discrimination and harassment that SA sent out recently, which we felt was important to take a firm public stance while we work on actionable plans to make that stance real.

Additionally, many SA members have been involved in committees and decision-making at the college level as your representatives. Marvin and I have been attending the monthly faculty meetings, some members have been invited to small group discussions with prospective Dean of Faculty candidates, I've had the honor of being a part of the Dean of Students search committee, and additionally Marvin, Felix, and I have met with trustees and are working with them to advance student concerns and goals.

I'm sure there are some things I've missed or forgotten, which I think speaks to the amount of things we accomplished this semester. After I finish, I want to invite Assembly members, voting and nonvoting, to talk about anything they've been working on this semester, whether it's come to completion or not. I'm so grateful to have had the chance to work with you all this past semester - even though some of you will be leaving us, I know every one of you will go on to do great things. I'm honored to have been a beneficiary along with the rest of campus of your energy and dedication, and I want all of you to know that you have had a direct hand in student assembly's revival. I'm incredibly proud of the work we have done, and I hope everyone is satisfied with your work on the Assembly this year. Again, an honor to work with everyone, and I'm forever grateful to all of you for your dedication and hard work.

Now I'd like to open the floor for three things: first, for any updates that I didn't mention, or if you'd like to elaborate on something I did; second, to give thanks or shoutout anyone on the Assembly; and lastly, for any members who are leaving to say something at their last SA meeting.

Thank you guys so much again!

Emily Jiang then opened the floor for Assembly members who were leaving to share anything they'd like to.

Isa Cardoso gave the following speech:

"My name is Isa Cardoso, I've been a representative of the Class of 2025 all year long. I also served as the Assembly Election Chair until the current election. I'd like to speak on the matter of accessibility within the Student Assembly. Being on the Assembly has proven to be one of the most draining experiences of my first year here, and it is because of this that I chose not to run for re-election, despite having done a lot of good work and believing there is far more to do. However, I didn't want to leave before sharing some of my thoughts in hopes that whoever



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serves on this Assembly next has a more positive experience than I, and many other students, have had because of how taxing it has historically been to be a member of this body.

I'll start with a quote from an email sent out to professors by the Student Assembly before spring break: "The mental and physical health of students must come first, as it greatly affects our ability to engage in academia, extracurriculars, and everything else. The purpose of a break is to give students an opportunity to rest, both physically and mentally, from a draining academic schedule." Despite this sentiment, I had both my winter and spring breaks interrupted by Assembly matters, as many representatives did. Every text from an Assembly member read like the world would stop spinning if I didn't drop everything to do my so-called "duty" as a representative. To be frank, students don't care if the Assembly works over a break. The only thing such a request does is keep the students in this room from getting the kind of rest we fought to get for everyone else. It was hypocrisy.

This has been an overarching theme for the Assembly. There's been a blatant disregard for the mental health of the people doing the work. It's been expected that we prioritize being Reps rather than consideration towards academic and social lives for years. We have been shamed for not being able to give 100% of our mental and physical energy to the Assembly amidst a campus-wide mental health crisis that we have repeatedly claimed to want to help mitigate the effects of. In reality, this Assembly has been responsible for negative impacts on the mental health of at least the 13 students who had to resign this year, most of whom cited mental health as their reasoning for doing so. That's not including the people in this room who may have suffered silently or the people who were on this Assembly in years past who dealt with the same issues.

If we want students to take care of themselves, we have to start here in our positions as leaders. I urge next year's members to evaluate ways they may be able to do this.

To you, future reps, Presidents, and executive board members, I say:

- Take care of yourselves and each other.
- Make each other's lives as easy as possible.
- Create solutions instead of problems.
- Make meetings, documents, statements, resolutions, amendments, and the Assembly as a whole as accessible as possible.
- The amount of work *you* can take on is not necessarily the amount of work someone else can.
- If you *can* take on more, consider taking something off of someone else's plate.



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-Let go of your expectations of immediacy from your fellow Assembly members.

Respect their time.

-And, have honest conversations with one another about what you are and are not capable of.

In the long-term, I feel the Assembly should seriously consider shortening the terms of Class Representatives and Presidents to a single semester, as this would increase motivation and lessen the chance of burnout by the end of the year. I'm happy to continue that conversation next year.

I know I'm not the first to have these thoughts and feelings toward the Assembly, and I know I won't be the last, but I hope to at least have planted some seeds for growth so that this community can change for the better. Thank you all."

Nevaeh Gutierrez gave the following speech:

"I would like to thank my committee members for the hard work this semester. We came into the semester with the hopes to continue amplifying student voices. This semester we met with HEOP Director, Aaron Ray several times to ask questions and Aaron Ray has been very receptive to making changes to the summer program. We were able to successfully collect and analyze data from the HEOP upperclassmen survey we sent out and have sent recommended changes to Aaron Ray to consider when running this summer's HEOP program. I am hopeful that this summer program will yield more positive experiences for the incoming freshman. I wish for lots of success for who will be taking my role next year, as I am too a leaving member of the Assembly."

Joe Maalouf noted that he enjoyed having represented the class of 2023. He expressed his proudness for the accomplishments achieved through SA such as bringing snacks back to Bundy Cafe and making Bundy Cafe a 24/7 access space. He thanked Felix Tager for his hard work and congratulated the assembly on passing the new funding codes, as it had not been achieved in past administrations.

- **Updates:**
 - **Spring 2022 Elections**

Marvin Lopez mentioned that election results were coming out at midnight tonight.

- **Care Packages Update: Assembly and Distribution**



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- President Emily Jiang '25

Emily Jiang gave a brief update on the amount of care packages distributed so far (more than 300), and thanked everyone who had worked on them.

5. Announcements

- Reminder that no club events can be held during reading days or finals.
- The Class & Charter Awards Ceremony will be held Tuesday, May 10th at 4:15pm, and will be followed by a picnic on the Dunham Green.
- Any student organizations found to be violating or not-complying with Student Activities Handbook processes will have to reapply for club status in the fall.

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.