

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF THE STUDENT ASSEMBLY
February 16, 2015

Recommending measures to the college to reduce medical emergencies on Class & Charter Day, committing Student Assembly to assist, and calling on all students to take responsibility for their behavior and that of their classmates.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS on February 2, 2015, Dean of Students Nancy Thompson requested recommendations from Student Assembly on how to minimize the number of medical emergencies on Class & Charter Day;

WHEREAS the constitutionally enumerated purposes of the Hamilton College Student Assembly include the following:

- to provide the governing bodies of the College with the best possible understanding of the sentiment and opinions of the student body, and to foster the serious consideration of these opinions
- to pass such legislation as shall be consistent with the wishes of the student body;

WHEREAS there is an important distinction between the number of dangerously intoxicated students and the number of medical emergencies (EMT calls);

- In attempting to decrease the number of medical emergencies, the college community should work to reduce the number of dangerously intoxicated students, not the frequency with which students call HCEMS.

WHEREAS a large number of dangerously intoxicated students are a common feature of Class & Charter Day;

WHEREAS the large number of medical emergencies resulting from this behavior places a strain on the Mohawk Valley's EMS systems and hospitals;

WHEREAS Student Assembly shares the administration's goal of improving the quality and safety of student life on campus while decreasing dangerous consumption of alcohol and improving the College's relationship with its neighbors;

WHEREAS the administration plans to prohibit students from congregating on Eells Porch: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Central Council of the Student Assembly:

- (1) Recommends the following measures to the administration for consideration and possible implementation;
 - a. Provision of additional food for student consumption throughout the day;
 - b. Provision of water for student consumption throughout the day;
 - c. Provision of Powerade (or another similar alternative) for student consumption throughout the day;
 - d. Designation of an alternative space for students to congregate before the concert in place of Eells Porch.
- (2) Recommends Student Assembly take the following measures;

- a. Direct remaining Student Assembly funds (at the end of the semester) to provision of food, water, and Powerade (or another similar alternative) for student consumption throughout the day;
 - b. Explore the possibility of local businesses running booths and selling food to students;
 - c. Run a campaign calling on students to take responsibility for their own behavior and to intervene on their friends' behalf when they witness poor or dangerous decision-making.
- (3) Urges the student body to moderate its consumption of alcohol. While measures listed above may help reduce medical emergencies, they do not address the central concern – excessive drinking – and may, in fact, enable additional consumption. Students must be responsible for their own actions and the actions of their friends and classmates.
- (4) Directs the Student Assembly President to send copies of this resolution to the Dean of Students, Director of Student Activities, and the student body of Hamilton College.

Approved unanimously by the Central Council of the Student Assembly on February 16, 2015.