

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF THE STUDENT ASSEMBLY  
STATEMENT

Wednesday, October 12th, 2022

*Statement detailing Student Assembly's response to the resignation of five members including the Vice President, Parliamentarian, and three 2023 Class Representatives*

**Background**

*During the October 10th Student Assembly meeting, the former Student Assembly Vice President Marvin Lopez '23 sent out an email to the entire school then read out a statement of resignation at the meeting, which detailed his and four other members' resignations. This was a response to a petition for impeachment submitted jointly by three members of the Assembly. The executive council was scheduled to meet for the initial impeachment hearing moments after the former Vice President chose to resign from the Assembly.*

**Statement, Updates, and Moving Forward**

Hi all! I hope everyone is doing well. I'm your Student Assembly President, Emily Jiang (they/them, class of 2025, sociology). If we haven't spoken yet, nice to meet you!

This email serves two purposes - one, to give context and an apology for what transpired on Monday night, and two, to give an update from all Assembly members on the work we've been doing and will continue to do moving forward. Above all, the remaining representatives are here on SA because they are committed to serving you and your interests - I hope that after reading this email from all of us, the community can be reassured that your SA representatives **want to be here**, and we want to make things better for all of us.

On October 10, the former Vice President resigned with a statement that contained multiple falsehoods and unproven, accusatory statements against myself and other members. Four other SA members from the Class of 2023 resigned along with him. (The 2023 Class President has sent out a statement to the senior class addressing the resignations.)

On Sunday, three members of SA petitioned for the former Vice President's impeachment together out of concern for the Assembly, with the support of dozens of others and claims corroborated by texts, emails, statements, and witness accounts, including students in all grades, senior administrators, and staff from multiple departments. The multiple frustrations with the Vice President described in the official impeachment petition have been expressed during this and last semester by students, faculty, staff and administrators, and have been evidenced to impact Student Assembly's relationships, reputation, work, effectiveness, and future. At the indicted's request, we will not be sharing the document outside of the Executive Committee. I will also not be sharing the official reasoning because of SA's commitment to not feed into gossip or drama. This official petition was filed through all the proper procedures with the parliamentarian's oversight and a pledge of confidentiality facilitated by the chair of the impeachment proceedings. **Student Assembly stands strongly against feeding into rumors or gossip. We wish the best for all the members who resigned, and ask that there be no hate directed towards them.**

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Since the resignations, the entire central council has met in a closed session and discussed how to move forward. The purpose of this email, while partially to clarify, is **mainly to inform the student body and the rest of the Hamilton community on what SA is up to**. The below section was written by the entire Assembly, and endorsed by all the below signed.

In the last semester, we have done some great work:

- Passed an amendment to the bylaws of the student assembly constitution to separate campus news publications and student government, the first of a series of bills aimed at reforming and holding the assembly accountable. (*Felix Tager, Mason Schroeder*)
- Transparency of facilities' accessibility initiatives and pushing for accessibility improvements to campus, in conjunction with the AVP Facilities and Planning (updates in the 10/10 minutes!) (*Emily Jiang*)
- Working with facilities to add yellowjacket traps to Commons and a fly trap in diner (working on getting more) (*Felix Tager, Residential Life and Safety Committee*)
- Establishing an ad-hoc Late Nite Jitney committee to address the record number of public comments about reestablishing it (*Raymond Ni*)
- Partnered with Frank Coots and Campus Safety to reform parking penalties and create effective solutions to parking issues for students (*Felix Tager, Residential Life and Safety Committee*)
- Hosting AMAs with the freshman class (*Quentin Messer*)
- Reinstalled confidentiality barrier during medicine pickup and ensured the availability of paper bags for medicine for easier transportation and increased privacy (*Student Health Committee*)
- Partnered with Frank Coots and Campus Safety and others to reform disciplinary actions for substance usage and violations (*Felix Tager, Residential Life and Campus Safety Committee*)
- Beginning investigations on the financial aid process and student need (*Mason Schroeder, Muhammad Ahmad Rao, Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management, and Development Committee*)
- Working with facilities to make necessary improvements to pathways on campus including filling potholes along Martin's Way (from SCCT to KJ) to prevent mobility devices from getting caught and students tripping (*Felix Tager, Residential Life and Safety Committee*)
- Working on solutions to the housing crisis including advocating for better facilities and living improvements for those on gray side especially those in forced doubles (*Felix Tager, Residential Life and Safety Committee*)

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- Beginning negotiations with Facilities, Trustees, Alumni, and other student orgs about Dark Side beautification, including the possibility of panels, murals, and vegetation (*Emily Jiang*)
- Hosting SA movie nights (*Emily Jiang, Kiara Nelson, Class Committees*)
- Passing two resolutions responding to student concern about divestment, food quality, and the experiences of Bon Appétit workers (R22-2, R22-3) (*Felix Tager, Mason Schroeder*)
- Assembling a Brain Trust on Inclusion with members of the Class of 2026 (*Quentin Messer*)
- Establishing senior pub nights as an official tradition and funding them for seniors (*Felix Tager, Senior Planning Committee*)
- Confirmed the availability of several services directly as well as through the Health Center with Barbara Fluty and started planning effective ways to communicate those to the student body. Further and more detailed updates to come in the form of committee updates during SA meetings (*Student Health Committee*)
- Fleshing out the new funding process (*Prim Sudchananya Udomphan, Felix Tager, Emily Jiang*)
- Sending out a survey to gauge student experiences and satisfaction with inclusion on campus (*Ryley McGovern, Felix Tager, Justice and Equity Committee*)
- Working to install more printers on campus, especially on Grey side, and increasing the amount of color printers (*Felix Tager, Mason Schroeder*)
- Working on ways to improve treatment of Title IX on campus and training at Hamilton (*Felix Tager, Emily Jiang, Residential Life and Safety Committee*)
- Bringing in guests to speak; so far, we have heard from Elise Dudley from Bon Appétit, Director of Campus Safety Frank Coats, Acting Student Activities Director Tessa Chefalo, and Chair of Economics Ann Owen (representing the faculty)
- Plans to improve the working relationships between SA members and increase SA's communication and efficacy
- Improving relationships and reputation with the rest of campus, including establishing communications and collaboration with students, administration, trustees, alumni, faculty, and staff

**Upcoming:**

- Working to investigate the equity and determining if there is discrimination with Campus Safety calls using analysis of demographic data (*J&E and/or Residential Life and Safety Committees*)
- Bringing in more guests, including VP Facilities Mike Klapmeyer, Dean of Students Chris Card, and ALEX Advisor/alumnus Kevin Alexander (*Emily Jiang*)

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- Amendments to the Constitution to clarify, codify, and make commonsensical procedures and rules
- Open SA/Institutional Knowledge Info Sessions in collaboration with recently graduated alumni in order to give more clarity on the history of student agency on campus
- Overhaul of the website to ensure everything is up to date, and reinvigoration of social media accounts (*Max Ganem*)
- Resolutions about parking and student housing (*Felix Tager, Residential Life and Safety Committee*)
- Continuing with improvements to Bundy, including printers and food
- Hosting Student Assembly town halls open to the entire community
- Finding ways to make Hamilton more sustainable (*Katrinah Tejada, Jacob Piazza*)
- Special elections will be held in the next few weeks to fill open spots: 3 Class Reps for 2023, 1 Class Rep for Class of 2025, and 2 Class Reps for Class of 2024
- President and VP Elections (joint ticket) for the 2023-2024 calendar year will happen on November 16th! The official process will begin soon, so start prepping if you want to run!
- There is also an open spot for Parliamentarian, who is essentially the sitting Constitutional reference - please reach out to [ejiang@hamilton.edu](mailto:ejiang@hamilton.edu) if you're interested.

In short, we are working on SO many amazing initiatives! I know SA has a reputation as only relevant for drama or is just seen as useless, but I and the other remaining members have been working incredibly hard to change that perception over our time on Assembly. I hope the above listed initiatives and accomplishments can serve as a springboard for reestablishing our credibility - these impeachment processes and resignations are only a bump in the road on the Assembly's journey. We are students, and Assembly exists because of the desires, passions, and needs of us students. The resignations last night do not change the work we have done or will continue to do.

Above all, your Assembly representatives want to make Hamilton somewhere where we can all live, study, have fun, feel safe, and feel welcomed, and will continue to pursue those ends. Please continue to talk to your reps and send in public comments about what you are passionate about and the changes you want to see. Though we cannot deliver on everything, we will do our absolute best to push as hard as we can for your interests.

Thank you for reading - we hope to be able to continue building trust and communication with all of you. Stay in touch!

Ever Improving,  
Your Student Assembly

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*This email has had input and overview from all SA members; the below signed explicitly endorse this statement.*

President Emily Jiang '25

Class President Felix Tager '23

Class Representative Mason Schroeder '23

Class President Raymond Ni '24

Class Representative Katrinah Tejeda '25

Class Representative Ailis Hayden '26

Class Representative Adan Corea '26

Class Representative Muhammad Ahmad Rao '26

Class Representative Quentin Messer III '26

Secretary Lena Klink '25

Deputy Director of Publicity Virginia Davis '25

Director of Publicity Max Ganem '25

Deputy Secretary Corey Bravo Sloan '25

Deputy Secretary Gael Javier '26

Treasurer Prim Udomphan '26

Deputy Treasurer David Kim '26

Class President Ting Mei '26