I. **Call to order** at 8:30 pm
II. **Roll Call**: Daniel, Michael, Sam, Tessa, Max, Bernie, and David are absent
III. **President’s Welcome**: Derek announces that there is a lot on the agenda. He cautions everyone to keep to short, productive discussions so we can move through this.
IV. **Public Comment Time**
V. **Guests**
VI. **Old Business**
   a. **Changes to the Charter II**
      - Dani recaps her plan to remove the club designation “Charter 2.” She thinks this will move the red tape around the process. And she’s checked – there are only two organizations that are currently charter 2 (the Anime Society and “Broken,” the Bowdoin Break Dancing Group). These two clubs would be upgraded to charter 1 if this proposal passes.
      - Brian addresses a concern brought up last meeting concerning complications to the funding process if this proposal passes. He doesn’t think it will, it will be straightforward.
      - Anirudh reminds everyone that, if this proposal does get passed, it will be voted on in the same campus election as for BSG officers after Spring Break. (This goes for any constitutional changes we make between now and then).
      - There is a call to vote. 17 in favor, 2 opposed, Anirudh abstains because he’s doing math, and he’s graduating, so he doesn’t want to vote on this. This proposal passes, and it will go to campus vote.
VII. **Committee Reports**
   a. **BSG Affairs Committee – Proposal: Support for Open Letter on Student Protests**
      - Anirudh has another update. BSG will not be voting on a constitutional change to alter the freshmen council elections this week; the Affairs Committee decided to table it until Dean Lohmann comes into the conversation. On the table today is another proposal regarding an open letter. It is part of a collegiate collaborative with thirteen other schools. Northwestern reached out to us. They’re looking for other schools’ governments to support a letter they’ve passed regarding the events of UC Berkeley and UC Davis. It concerns peaceful protests and the need to protect free speech. So far, it has been passed by the University of Oregon, Williams, Harvard, Georgetown, and Wellesley. Signing it would position Bowdoin Student Government as a supporter of this letter. He doesn’t want this to be voted on this week.
      - Derek opens the floor to questions. After moments of silence, Megan asks if we should get the student body’s opinion on this controversial statement.
      - Derek says that’s why we have the two-week rule; this is a bigger statement than we think.
      - Brian is very hesitant to say anything about this. He is in favor of free speech and definitely against police brutality, but he claims to have been rather up-to-date with the day’s occurrences via an online feed. The initial impression of the event is the picture of a police man pepper-spraying people on the floor. In reality, there
had been forty minutes prior of police warnings. Brian claims that the crowd was resisting the police and there was no other way for the police to handle it. He believes that to make a statement about the infamous picture alone is not exactly fair.

- Chris Lord realizes that Brian is talking only about UC Davis. He asks whether Brian knows anything about UC Berkeley.
- Brian does not.
- Jack counters by saying that pepper spray never should have been used in the first place.
- Brian responds by arguing that “how police prevent people resisting arrest from incurring bodily harm. Yes, pepper-spray causes discomfort, but it allows the law enforcement to remove people from a situation without harming with long-term damage.
- John asks, dripping with sarcasm, what the dire need was for them to get out of the walkway.
- Brian answers that, ultimately, the students were camping on public property. The police and administration attempted to remove some obstructions from the area but were going to allow most of the students to stay. The students were blocking the exit and wouldn’t let the police leave after taking down a tent. They began vocally abusing the police. This led the police to decide that the students needed to be removed.
- Anirudh points out that as much as we love Brian, we shouldn’t trust him as our only source. He hopes that between now and next week, people actually do research so we can make an educated vote. He cautions everyone to keep in mind that (as Allen said in the executive meeting) we will take this to our graves; make sure we know whether this is the hill we want to fight on. BSG has taken controversial stances in the past, the most prominent being a letter speaking out against the Iraq war – it caused an outcry – but this is not something we should just lightly vote on. Is this something we actually feel passionately about? Is this something we’ll fight people on when they disagree?
- Chris Lord disagrees; he feels there are no dire consequences from signing it. He’s very confused also. In the proposal, it says that the police “pepper sprayed peaceful students sitting on the ground.” He feels that conflicts Brian’s version of the story. Additionally, he sees a lot of respected institutions have signed this letter. He thinks we can simply take the cue from them, since those respected institutions wouldn’t just jump in blindly [______].
- Chris Breen claims that the protest wasn’t that peaceful; the police don’t just pepper spray people.
- To Chris Lord’s second point, she doesn’t think that just because Williams’s and Harvard’s councils signed this she’s ready to put her faith in in their student government. Some might have just passed it. Perhaps they didn’t have anyone who challenged the facts of the letter itself like Brian.
- Anirudh would like to echo Dani’s point and point out that the passage Chris Lord read was part of an opinion section that came from the email addressed to the Bowdoin Student Government. He cautions everyone to look at that keeping in mind the bias it comes with.
• Derek would like us to have a more educated discussion next week. He would like everyone to consider if anyone has the right to obstruct the police when fighting for a cause you believe in.

• Allen suggests that if the BSG decides it agrees with the “free speech” and “freedom of expression” aspects of this letter but not with the details of it, we could sign it and submit an attachment to frame why we signed it and why we approve. This way, we can agree with the overall message and not with the students of the protest if need be.

• Anirudh will talk to them over the weekend to see if they’d allow an addendum.

• Derek urges everyone to look at their constituencies and talk to them to gauge their opinion on the matter.

b. Student Affairs Committee – Proposal: Allocation for the Spring Gala Ad-Hoc Committee

• Allen and his committee have submitted a proposal to establish an ad-hoc committee to plan Spring Gala. It is to be chaired by Melody Hahm and one member from each council (Sarah Levin, Josh Kim, Sarah Nelson, and someone else from the seniors). He asks Brian to fill everyone in on the money situation.

• Brain says that it’s too early to process to have a finite number. He says that the SAFC will be in okay waters giving up to $18,000 (like last year).

• Derek says we won’t be voting on this today; he’d like to keep the two week rule.

• Dani wants to throw out a cost-breakdown. It’ll be about $10,000 for Moonlighting, a couple thousand for facilities, a couple thousand for dining, a couple thousand for a live band, and a couple hundred for a DJ. If you think that’s a lot for one night, just consider that EBoard has a couple hundred thousand on their big events…costs add up.

• Derek states that he’s happy to have Melody in on this – thanks Leah! He instructs all members to thank her every time you see her. Email her every day too. They’ll be bringing her in next week to talk about the Spring Gala since the committee is now part of BSG.

• In other news, Allen’s professor talk series will be going on. The first event is March 2 and will be a half-hour event within the Common Hour time slot. The plans will be finalized after this meeting today, but he does know it’ll be in the Shannon Room in Hubbard. Food and coffee will be provided. Next week is the week for voting on which professors will be invited to speak. We will be tabling in the Union, Moulton, and Thorne. There will also be an online option for those who don’t go to those places. We’ll only be able to nominate three professors for this semester. After we determine which three students want to see, he’ll approach the professors and see if the talk is something they’d like to do. Allen has met with Dean Judd, and she’s on board. He really needs help on the tabling effort.

• Sam wonders why we’re tabling and not just surveying.

• Allen says that surveys usually get a very low voting rate – only 10 to 15% of students ever respond. He hopes tabling will get people invested in it, this way they want to go to hear from professors who are experts in their field.

• Derek notes that we have a line item on the budget for “campus conversations.” They were previously stopped because of a very low turn-out. They are trying to implement them to be very professional and very well done. He wants everyone to come out and be invested ourselves!
• Allen says you can bring your lunch and that it’ll only last a half-hour: 18 minutes of talk and 12 minutes of a question and answer session.

c. Facilities Committee – Proposal: Allocation for the Yellow Bike Club

• Chase announces that Facilities will absorb the Yellow Bike Club (YBC). They do good service and they hope to make it successful. This would allow them to pay for their bike mechanics.

• Brain announces a friendly amendment to this proposal. He says they’ve determined the amount of money that the SAFC will allocate back to the BSG will be $2,208. This is for winter services, this semester expenses, and bike hooks that’ll allow them to double the size of their fleet.

• Dani reminds everyone that they’ve talked a little about this before. It’s more expensive to use labor outside to fix the bikes, but paying students would be against SAFC guidelines. If the BSG absorbs them, the YBC won’t be subject to the SAFC in the fullest extent.

• Sam thinks they’ve been having trouble with bikes being stolen.

• Brain explains that it used to be a combination lock, but now everyone has their own bike.

• Allen Delong bounces off of that – he has a yellow bike (named Buzz Light-year). In his time here, the YBC has gone up and down. Chris Kahn has done a great job this and last year, changing the club’s structure. Instead of a grab-n-go system, everyone has their own bike and lock. The YBC service is incredible.

• Anirudh thinks they’re kind of like a bike rental service now since students are not sharing bikes anymore.

• Allen Delong recalls that Jackie Su tried to make it a bike share program. What ended up happening was a student would ride a bike to Kanbar, and then they’d come out and the bike would be gone – it’s very frustrating. Bikes would be found off campus. Chris changed the model.

• Derek implements the two week rule. He could always ask Chris to come in if anyone’s interested.

• Also, Chase met with the IT people about a printing proposal in the near future.

d. Academic Affairs Committee

• Speaking of Chris Kahn, Jordan says he visited the Academic Affairs Committee. A multifaceted individual, he’s also a member of ITAC, the IT Advisory Committee. He’s interested in developing a system where students are able to request a greater allocation for printing. He’s really excited on getting in on the conversation. However, there are questions on who will moderate the system and where the money for the new printing will come from. In two weeks, Del and Rebecca will come to our meeting.

• Chase thinks he and Jordan should talk. He spills the beans and says that the BSG could provide up to $5000 if we were to take on the printing according to Del and Rebecca.

• Derek clarifies that the BSG may act as an administrating agent to allocate to those who need a larger allocation.

e. Student Activities Funding Committee

• Brain says that the SAFC has been fun and fine. A bunch of money has been spent and they’re humoring big constitutional changes. The last one was integrating the SAFC as part of the BSG, thus giving power back to the BSG. Another one being
considered is a larger and probably less popular change, but he feels it’s important to the longevity of the SAFC. He proposes the idea that the SAFC chair must have been in some way involved in the SAFC before. Interestingly, this is how the SAFC has been operating, and he was under the impression that there already was such a clause, but he was mistaken. Brian agrees with the case that there shouldn’t be any discrimination, but he feels that if he hadn’t been on SAFC for the two years prior to his chairship, he wouldn’t have been able to do it. His largest role is to know everything about the process so he can be a resource to the student body. He feels that if the chair doesn’t have the know-how, club life can suffer. He wants someone in his position who has experience; he might even be open to adding club leaders into the clause of eligibility. But all that’s down the pipeline.

• Dani, to give us another perspective, says that last year Alex Takata ran for SAFC and he ran for the chair position. She suggests everyone check out the Youtube debate from last year – does he seem to know what was going on? He met with Kyle and herself to get some experience behind him second-hand. But she definitely sees Brian’s point too.

• Anirudh mentions that the only position on BSG that has an eligibility clause is the President. All other positions don’t.

f. Student Organizations Oversight Committee

• Dani announces that her organization has been slow to meet since there are no charter proposals coming in. They have spent time outlining goals so they actually have something to discuss and project to work on when they’re not deciding charter and charter status. They are also working on advisor training right now as well.

VIII. Member Reports

a. Class Representatives

• 2012: Grace’s council has been working on senior sweatshirts, but they didn’t have a meeting yesterday – they’ll be meeting tomorrow. They’re working on a wine and casino night with Res Life also. It’ll be the first weekend of March. AANNND of course they’re planning future senior nights and senior week.

• 2013: Leah’s council is working on a few things, such as a class gift. They’re wondering whether to give the traditional Ivies garb or whether EBoard will move in on the territory. They’re also thinking of creating Bowdoin’s largest sundae.

• 2014: Martin’s council met Friday. They’ve been talking about throwing a pub karaoke night. They’ve also talked about a spring carnival event the weekend before Ivies.

• 2015: Hannah’s council met yesterday. They’re still planning on doing an assassins game for the first years. Other stuff they’re planning is contingent on warm weather.

b. IHC Representatives

• Max isn’t here, but applications are due tonight by 11:59. Interview slots are already filled.

c. E-Board Representative

• Chris Lord announces that the EBoard has solidified their 3rd and final Ivies act. In response to Leah, they will be selling items for Ivies. They might have money left over, so they may buy a photo booth for Ivies. Upon prompting, Chris reveals that the last act is a party/electronic one.
• Dani cautions that EBoard went $20-30 thousand over budget last year, so be careful with that “extra” money.

d. Athletics Representative
• Kaitlin informs us that the Pink in the Rink event will be going on Friday and Saturday at the women’s hockey games. All donations will go to Midcoast. Women’s basketball quarterfinal playoffs begin at 3. In early May, Jeff ward will be holding a Polar Bear Pageant, where different people will be trying out for the role of the polar bear mascot. The winner would be paid 20 bucks per game. Anyone who’s interested can “audition.”
• Allen inquires if it’s a one-size-fits-all suit. [LOL]

IX. President’s Report: Derek calls an executive session, but before I have to leave, Allen Delong advertises that Michael Kimmel will be in Kresge to kick off Dude week. He’s written a fascinating book called Guyland. And for all the men in the room, there’ll be an event on Friday called “Shit Guys Say.” It sprang out of a Youtube sensation and will be a conversation of ONLY men. Seventy-five men already RSVPed. There they will talk about what it means to be a man and have masculinity at Bowdoin.

X. Adjournment at 9:21 pm