

Meeting Notes of the General Assembly
Wednesday, 24 February 2016

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. Public Comment Time

- Michelle: Gives a debrief about the “Tequila Party”. Students wore sombreros and donned aspects of Mexican culture. As senior that has seen multiple racist incidents, Michelle is tired and exhausted. It is time to push ask for action. Shit needs to stop.
- Kevin: Frustrated saddened that as a sophomore, it was members of my class that orchestrated this event. Still going to feel uncomfortable next 2 years with these people. Hate people thinking they know about culture.
- Efforts of educating and communicating about diversity and cultural appropriation should be institutionalized by the school. We cannot trust that every student is going to take it upon themselves and take the step to lean about racial diversity and inequality. Consequences of these events are little to none, and that is not satisfactory.
- Bill: Both parents are Mexican, and mom lives in Mexican. Deeply saddened and hurt. When I spoke in Spanish at Clayton Rose’s inauguration it was for a specific purpose; to make it known that that there are Latino/as on this campus. It only takes a couple second to think about how your actions can affect or offend someone else. Someone in this very assembly took part in the event. BSG should pass a bylaw that those who are elected to represent the student body should face repercussions for not living up to the standards of leadership. Right now I feel like an object and costume. I shouldn’t feel like that.
- It is alarming that you don’t know who says stuff on Yik Yak that is assaulting women and people’s cultures. Fetishizing Latinas. It does not feel safe to be Latina at Bowdoin college.
- Ana: Sophomore class president. This event is not Bowdoin, it’s a select group student. Yes, this place is flawed and has a lot thing to improve on but there many great opportunities as well. of great things to happen. We can learn from this. We can’t let it tear us apart. We’re separating into groups, we should be doing better as a Bowdoin community, everyone has a responsibility. Yes, BSG has role, but we should make ourselves worthy of being that 14% that got accepted.
- Sergio: Many Latino men don’t graduate from this campus. When is Bowdoin going to make dialogues mandatory?
- Lizzy: Gives an example of her going to work and seeing kids from the community having access to go to book signings. That is what privilege looks like. As a Bowdoin student if we can’t see or feel the privilege, don’t make it even more visible for people who are marginalized.
- It hurts to see someone put on a costume while you are stuck with that “costume” for rest of your life.
- I appreciate the opportunity to go home. I had to work just as hard as anyone else to be part of that 14%, so why do I have to keep validating why I belong here? I do not feel safe. I put in so much work since my freshman year to get people to understand what is cultural appropriation. I deserve to be here and I am tired of fighting to make it seem like

I belong here. Have to deal with this for so long, and it is still happening and it hurts that my close friends are experiencing this too.

- It is my first year and already two biased incidents have occurred. Today, I have spent like 5 hours speaking about this with other people. A lot of my time is spent educating people; I should also have the privilege to do freshman things. I want to take up people's times because my time has been taken up.
- I enter a room and get weird hesitant looks. There's always silence. It's uncomfortable being on campus.
- The college has failed us. It's not your fault.
- Yik Yak, am I being too sensitive? All we are asking is for basic respect. We want to be respected.
- My first response wasn't immediate anger. I attended a college prep program, and all they taught us is how to act and breathe properly so that I could fit in with white peers. You have to sacrifice your own culture and sacrifice yourself. I am a second class Bowdoin student.
- This Hits home. 1. Don't like to offer ultimatum, but I am not telling people to come to Bowdoin college. 2. Wish I never came here. Feels like it shouldn't be here.
- Disciplinary action- clause in handbook – of “unbecoming a Bowdoin student”. Isn't this behavior of unbecoming students?
- I am part of that 14% but never in my life have I felt more different than being in the classroom. I always reminded that I am different. I am supposed to believe that I am supposed to shut the fuck up and accept all of this because I am lucky and Bowdoin did me a favor by accepting me.
- Why people you are all PRIVILEGED.
- Instead of learning in the classroom I had to take time away from MY learning to explain to other people why all of this BS is wrong. WHY are we stuck on educating?

V. **Introduction of Guests**

- Randy Nichols: director of safety and security
- Next Thursday, Bowdoin's first lock down drill big step because of administration support
- Lock out drill is a less serious version of a lock down drill. Randy sent an email with a 4 minute YouTube video explaining the process.
- Security will be locking exterior doors. It can be locked remotely by technology.
- Some are very old so they have to be manually locked. This will be a good opportunity to see weaknesses in the system.
- Purpose of drill is to have everyone be aware. Many staff and faculty have not had a drill like this before, and some will not know what to do in the event that an attack were to happen during class.
- In event of campus emergency, we want people to know enough to be accountable for their own safety.
- Example: if an attack were to happen now, what will we do at this moment?

- We want people to start thinking, what will they do if the worst were to happen right now?
- Want people to know their surroundings. Do they know all evacuation routes?
- During next Thursday's drill, there is very little that students/faculty will have to do. We just want people to think of various options.
- In a couple years, there will probably be a lock down- which will require people to do more.
- One cards will work if there is a lock down. (so you can still enter the buildings)
- Many colleges are using a similar protocol
- What are the immediate next steps after seeing unsafe places? There have been many weeks of preparation for this. (it has been an organized process with Res Life and faculty). Security knows that there are weaknesses. This drill will help evaluate what places on campus need more cameras, and what kinds of training can be put into place to make sure that if an attack were to happen, things would run more efficiently.
- In what instances would a lock down occur?
 1. Violent intruder. For example- if a barricaded person were across the street and BPD didn't have everything secure, the danger could affect the campus- in that case, Bowdoin Security could recommend to keep everyone indoors.
 2. If there was a robbing. As precaution we would want everyone inside- lockout don't want anyone inside.
 3. Lockdown is something more targeted. For example, if there was a domestic violence incident and someone is attacked on campus that way.
- Chances of random act of violence are extremely rare but we have to be prepared for it.
- If you have a safe way to evacuate, get out if you know the threat is. The goal is to get away to be as far away as possible from the threat. However, sometimes the safest thing you can do is stay where you are (especially if you don't know where is the threat). Stay put. And stay low.
- "Only you can save yourself" ... (and sometimes the person beside you)
- Want people to be leaders.
- If you never think of it, or what would you do if a violent attack were to happen on campus, you are more likely to panic and freeze.
- Last semesters sexual assault: There is a person that is in custody, and since his arrest campus has been really quiet. if the arrest the last of it. We have several chargers against person. There are several cases that would be prosecuted... took a lot of work
- Most of the charges against this person are violation of privacy, which is a misdemeanor not a felony.
- Mayflower and potter street are still under investigation.
- Have not had any incidents since this person in custody
- Any other places that need more lighting? – Smith house, Mayflower Apartments
- Changing parking policies, will they remain for the rest of the year? They will remain until March 11.
- Overall good semester, relatively safe. Alcohol transports are down.

VI. **Old business**

VII. Reports of Committees

- a. Student Affairs- Luke Von Maur '16
- b. Student Organizations Oversight Committee - Emily Server '16
- c. Academic Affairs - Andrew Millar '16
- d. Facilities and Sustainability – Kevin Hernandez '18
- e. Student Activities Funding Committee- David Levine '16
- f. Executive Committee- Daniel Mejia-Cruz'16/ Michelle Kruk '16
 - Statement of solidarity proposal passes

VIII. Reports of Members

- a. Class Councils
 - 2019-
 - 2018-
 - 2017-
 - 2016-
- b. Inter- House council
- c. Entertainment Board
- d. Athletic Council
- e. McKeen Center:
- f. Multicultural Representative:
- g. At- Large Representatives:

IX. Report of the President- Daniel Mejia- Cruz '16

X. Announcements

XI. Adjournment

- Public comment time ended around 9:55pm, so we didn't get a chance to get to the reports of the committees.