

## DISPUTATION CLXIV

April 20, 2017

Dear Peucinians,

Last time we met around the table, we debated the merits of a strict social code at Bowdoin, ultimately deciding we were better off with more freedom. This time, we will turn away from institutions and toward ourselves. After a refreshing two-week hiatus, I am excited to present the timeless classic:

### **RESOLVED: WORK HARD, PLAY HARD**

**Affirmative: Charlotte Corday '18**

**Negative: Gilgamesh, Fifth King of Uruk '20**

Life is short. What's the best way to spend our brief time here?

*A normal life is borin', but super stardom's close to post mortem...*

On one view, we have to live the hell out of every second we get. When we work, *we work*. When we play, man, do we play. By separating the two, we can fully dedicate ourselves to each. Intensity and passion will bring us the greatest pleasures and the most glorious successes; taking risks and living dangerously will unlock thrills that are mysteries for all who feared the water was too cold. *It's your life, it's now or never: you ain't gonna live forever.*

*Slow down, you crazy child... what's the hurry about? You'd better cool it off before you burn it out...*

If we work and play too hard we'll become overstimulated—exhausted, even—and we'll never be satisfied. How can we be present, full-minded, and connected to nature? *You've got to make the morning last.* When do we take the time to pause and reflect? If we live moderately, work and play begin to blur, and every moment can be meaningful and fulfilling. Cultivating self-discipline will lead us down a golden, middle way.

What will you choose? Is moderation a virtue? How hard should we push ourselves?

Please note the relaxed dress code, per tradition. Due to prospie weekend, I ask that if you bring containers of liquid, I not be able to tell what's inside.

Bring yourselves, bring your friends, bring your prospies, and bring the fire:

*Thursday, April 20, 8:15 p.m.*

*Third Floor of Massachusetts Hall (Faculty Room)*

**Dress Code: ???**

Sincerely,

Jean-Jacques Rousseau

*Pinos loquentes semper habemus.*