I. Attendance

II. Public Comment

Heru said he had a meeting with the Student on their relationship with the AAS. They are talking about having a monthly column and having a Student rep at the meetings. He would like to see column devoted to places of power at Amherst like committees.

Birk Mitau wanted to discuss his request for the Hip Hop Club, he wants to understand what the problem is with his request. He said he understood the problem is attendance and cost. He said regardless of the show, with production fees, hospitality, and travel included, a show will at least be $2,000 dollars. Those are fixed costs before we start the conversation on honorarium. He said he wouldn't want to have the event in the Powerhouse. He wants this conversation to discuss whatever they are willing to give him to work with because he has put months of work into this process.

Aditi Krishnamurthy said she understands that there are production costs. She understands that he might not want to have the concert in the powerhouse, but the senate likes to fund things there.

Birk said it makes sense to bring multiple artists for one show because you already paid the fixed costs so it saves money.

Manny Morales said the Powerhouse has more capacity than common rooms. He said we can’t really provide an arbitrary number to work with, because normally funding is based on request. He said it depends on attendance.

Birk said it he thinks holding concerts in common rooms and other places on campus has a precedent and would increase attendance. He said its not viable to come to senate every week and hope they'll approve his new request. The conversation needs to be about how much he could have to work with.

Fawzi Itani suggested trying a dorm to see what attendance might be for the future. He noted that WAMH doesn’t have any other sources of funding.

Tasha Kim said the typical consideration is to spend said $20 dollars per person.

Birk said DRAM has a cosign with Beyonce and was credited with Drake's Hotline Bling. Also the sonic nature of his music might be compelling. He said its hard
to give an attendance number but he’s actively working on how to increase turnout. He said he definitely thinks he could get the goal turnout.

Paul Gramieri said his concern was that it was a Friday night on the triangle, so attendance would be harder.

Will Jackson said the senate is the governing body to decide funding, but these are guidelines and not set in stone.

Birk said the location of the concert and the Friday date were both decisions in his mind that might increase turn out.

Aditi said keeping the larger caliber artist is important. She said Seelye might be limiting.

Birk said big artists with big crowds have performed in Seelye.

Manny said he looked into past budgets for WAMH and they used to be much larger.

Fawzi moved to fund DRAM for $2000 dollars and $1500 for Smino.

Paul said we have been spending an unsustainable amount of money.

Vote to fund DRAM for $2000 dollars and $1500 for Smino.
Result: Passed.

III. BC Recommendations

Paul presented the BC recommendations for the week.

Hao Liu said recently we haven't been funding the Amherst Student. They make a profit from it and editors get paid, so what precedent does this set.

Paul said recently they have not been for profit but for loss. He said the BC decided that it would be bad if the oldest college paper in the country stopped printing.

Silvia Sotolongo said papers are free to the students.

Tomi clarified that the Student editors aren’t paid.

Jacob Silverman explained the rationale for equestrian club financial aid.

Fawzi asked why the BC had so much reservation with WAMH when WAMH attracts so many more people than equestrian.
Manny explained that cutting equestrian club means no one can participate. If you set a cap, it would be impossible to decide who can join and who can’t.

Aditi said the financial aid is for participation in equestrian club all semester but Birk’s event is two hours long. We need to think about this like we think about the crew team.

Tomi asked what might happen if this activity explodes in popularity.

Jacob said you have to show commitment, you can’t just decide to show up and start equestrian.

Aditi said she’s not sure this is the time to have this debate because we’ve already funded a significant amount for financial aid and the semester has already started. Now isn’t the time to zero financial aid because this activity is a big deal for people.

Tomi said there at least has to be some forward thinking for the future and create a sustainable budgeting policy.

Aditi said she agrees we should talk about this, but now isn’t the time to solve this problem.

Jacob said he doesn’t think this is the most efficient use of time.

Will said he agrees, but there should be concrete measures put in place to deal with our financial sustainability.

*A motion was made to fund the BC recommendations for the week.*

**Roll call vote to fund the BC recommendations for the week.**

*Result: Passed.*

Paul said the BC will talk to the equestrian club and this problem will be on the agenda.

**IV. Committee Elections**  
  a. Sexual Respect Task Force (2)

  *Maeve McNamara was nominated and elected.*

  b. Appointments Board (1)

  *Pierre-Alexander Low was nominated and elected.*
c. Powerhouse Committee (1)

*Namita Khajanchi was nominated and elected.*

IV. Reports

a. Committee Reports

Aditi, representing Elections Committee, reported that senators in the junior class went abroad and many members of the senior class have resigned. She said we need to advertise running for senate more.

Chico Kosber said we should have a senate meeting next week to just discuss how we could be better as a body because this attendance is ridiculous.

Fawzi asked Bonnie if she reports on who resigns, goes abroad, or gets kicked off.

Bonnie Drake said she could but her job is to report on the good things we do.

Maeve said it might be more efficient for seniors to approach people they think would make good senators.

Phillip Yan said Chico’s point is that we as a senate right now is unsustainable. He wants us to actually have this conversation.

Aditi said that Olivia Pinney reached out to people directly to run for senate and that might be the best approach.

Tasha, representing Curriculum Committee, reported that they talked about how the first year seminar should be about skills.

Mohamed Ramy said you can have shared experience with things other than curriculum and he didn’t think that this is a good approach.

Maeve asked if the point of having a class to have a shared intellectual experience or the institution feels we should learn about the same thing.

Paul said at Rutgers all freshmen have to take a writing class. The freshmen seminar should teach everyone how to write, as a liberal arts college we should all know.

Tasha said there have been numerous ways that people have tried to fix our culture. An idea for a curriculum would focus on current events on
how we got to where we are now. She said another idea is different classes under a theme, like water.

Jacob said he agreed with Paul’s point that freshman seminars should teach students how to write.

Bonnie said she supports having some loose core requirements.

Chico, representing the CEP, reported that they are discussing FTE hires.

Fawzi, representing the Arts Committee, said they are having an event to dye snow on the freshman quad.

b. General Announcements

Heru said there is a lot that can be done for transparency. He there’s something to be said for being able to speak to representatives directly. He said committee conversations could be open to general public.

c. Officer Reports

Paul said we’ve already spent a significant portion of our discretionary fund for the semester.

David Dickinson said things are slowly getting back to being business as usual after the van drama.

Tomi said we talk a lot about wanting to change things, as senators we have a lot of resources and can actually do that. He said need to improve with committees and senate projects.

Bonnie asked everyone to tell her what their senate projects are.

Will said he’s not happy with how this meeting went. He said need people to attend meetings and he’s trying to think of ways to make meetings more substantial.

V. New Business

VII. Adjournment 10:45 PM