

# Honor Council Minutes

November 21, 2004

Lisa: Will [the Quaker bouncers] enforce JSAAPP's party guidelines?

Jeff: I hope not. We are not JSAAPP's bitch.

J.J. On the record, that's awesome.

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Members Present: Julien Colvin '05 (Co-Chair), Lisa Griswold '05, J.J. Jacobs '05,  
Oleg Nudelman '05 (Co-Chair), Leah Gold '06, Abby Schutzman '06 (Co-Sec),  
Laura Scorr '06 (Co-Sec), Nathan Singh '06, Will Coleman '07, Travis Green '07,  
Chloe Jones '07, Brandon West '07, Alex Balzer-Carr '08, Dan Logan '08,  
Lindsey Merikas '08

Members Absent: Jen Benson '08

Guests: Will Moss '05, Brian Walker '05, Spencer Walters '05, Amie Roe '06, Lauren Adriaansen '07,  
Rachel Heaton '07, Jeff Millman '07

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## I. Moment of Silence

## II. Public Portion

### ~Amie's petition (see Addendum 1):

Amie explained that she is frustrated with the Go boards because she sees so many Honor Code violations. She has written a petition that asks for a suspension of the Go boards so that the community can take time to stop and reflect on the tone of the Go boards and what can be done so that they are more consistent with community standards. She hopes that, if the boards are suspended, a community-wide forum would be held during the suspension.

Will M. and Brian, representatives of FIG, expressed the concern that people might not come to a forum, and a suspension might not bring about the changes Amie hopes it will. Furthermore, they are uncomfortable with suspending the boards since it is FIG's job to provide a service, and this petition asks them to stop providing that service.

Travis mentioned that the Go boards are like a crack house. There's nothing wrong with the house itself; the problem comes from the transactions that take place in the house. In order to eradicate the problem, you have to shut the house down.

Chloe echoed this thought that we're not attacking the boards or FIG; we appreciate the Go boards, but there's a problem. We just want to give the community an opportunity to reflect on this fact.

Will M. mentioned that FIG doesn't want to do anything until we know how the entire campus feels. Everyone agreed that it would be a good idea to get a better feel for community opinion but acknowledged that there is no real way to determine how *everyone* feels. J.J. suggested sending out a campus-wide survey, and everyone thought that that was a good idea.

Will C. mentioned that it's hard to determine what constitutes a Code violation on the Go boards. Because of this, many Council members were hesitant to officially support Amie's petition even though they thought it was a good idea. There were also Council members who thought it was very much in the realm of Council's responsibilities to take action and make the community aware of this issue. However, Council seemed to agree that we shouldn't do anything until we know how the community as a whole feels. Will M. said that, if Council does decide to do something, it should explicitly state that it is taking action to promote community awareness (as the Code says Council should do).

At this point, the FIG representatives left, and Council went to visit the SC meeting. When we returned to this topic later, we agreed that we would write a statement explaining to the community that we were discussing this issue. Council would not take a formal stance yet, but Oleg and Julien would write a post encouraging people to take an interest in this issue.

### **~JSAAPP party guidelines:**

Honor Council went to the SC meeting to listen to John Katsos (JSAAPP chair) discuss the letter that JSAAPP recently released about its party policies.

John explained that the party guidelines are not new, but very few people knew that that existed, which is why he released the letter to the community. Travis asked if the party guidelines are enforceable. John stated that they are not official, but students are required to follow them. They have not been enforced in the past, and they are not part of college policy or the Constitution, but JSAAPP plans to start enforcing them. Chloe said that the wording of the letter was very confusing and asked John to differentiate between “guidelines,” “rules,” and “policy.” John said that although the “guidelines” are not part of a college “policy,” they are nonetheless “rules” that must be followed and will be enforced. Chloe asked how someone can confront someone else for breaking a rule that is not part of a policy. John said that the alcohol policy gives you the right to confront. He plans to send the community more information that further explains what he is trying to do.

Jeff Lichtstein (SC rep) asked how these changes are different from John’s resolutions that were voted down at plenary. John said that JSAAPP has the authority to start enforcing these changes even though his resolutions didn’t pass.

J.J. asked how many people were at the meeting when it was decided to release this letter. John said that he emailed the letter to all JSAAPP reps and asked that they respond if they had a problem with it. J.J. asked if there was any active consensus, and John said no.

John asked that community members please come to JSAAPP’s community meetings, which are held on Wednesdays at 6:30 in the Swat room of the DC.

### **~Quaker Bouncers:**

Jeff Millman visited our meeting to discuss the Quaker Bouncers Club, which is being created to check IDs at parties and create a stronger connection to Security.

Jeff asked if Council would be willing to help train the bouncers so that their actions wouldn’t be in violation of the Code. Council is very excited to be involved, and Nathan and Will volunteered to be Council’s reps to the Quaker Bouncers Club.

### **~Other business:**

- The faculty panel will be December 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>.
- StuMP is having meetings.
- People offered the following suggestions for the Abstract Reading Club: Charlie; Star Wars; Sam (peeing out window); and Omar, Pat, and Theo.

~Our weekly meetings are held on Sundays in the Pendle Hill Room of the DC at 5:00pm. We welcome community members to the public portion!

### **III. Confidential Portion**

### **IV. Moment of silence**

Disclaimer: These minutes reflect the opinion of Abby and Laura and are not meant to represent the views of Council or the community. Furthermore, while we respect *all* analogies made during this meeting, we do not want to insinuate that any organization on campus is a crack house.

**Addendum 1: Amie's petition:**

Below is Amie's original post asking for a suspension of the Go Boards.

We the undersigned members of the Haverford College Community believe that the Go Boards have developed into a forum which threatens the integrity of our communal belief in the values of trust, respect, and concern. We recognize that community members have failed each other insofar as they have used this forum to slander, degrade, humiliate, and offend one another. We also recognize that our community has failed doubly in that members have not upheld their responsibility to confront one another when their actions in this forum are clearly in violation of the Honor Code. We assume responsibility for the damage that has been done to our community and seek to rectify a situation that we find detrimental to the spirit of the Honor Code. We call for a suspension\* of the use of the Go Boards to allow the community as a whole an opportunity to address this problem. We acknowledge that the Go Boards as a forum for discussion is not the problem, but rather, that the problem rests with the attitude with which our community approaches it.

We believe that a temporary suspension\* and subsequent forum which exhausts the various amenities that could improve the use of the Go Boards will not only improve the integrity of this forum, but also heighten the awareness of the community as a whole to their obligation to the Honor Code – that the ideals therein expressed must be upheld actively by all and also, that living in a community such as Haverford is a privilege that can easily be lost if such active strides are not taken.

Thank you for your consideration.

(\* = a suspension of the Go Boards would allow access to all previous posts but would not allow for community members to create new threads or reply to previously existing ones. This will allow for community members to review the ways in which the Go Boards have been used in the past.)