

## UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

February 18th, 2019

Meeting Agenda

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Motion: Zach spitzer
  - B. Second: Patrick Paulsen
    1. Vote: All approved
- IV. Executive Announcements
  - A. Corey Gayheart: We have some corrections to Elizabeth's presentation from last week. We met with the administration to talk about Notre Dame's words on the new business from the government. One of the first corrections being made is that there right now isn't an artificial boundary drawn around the edge of campus. We said that the University wouldn't have to investigate sexual assault that occurred off campus, but that's inaccurate. The University has to investigate when it's a school-sponsored activity, but that doesn't mean they can't investigate it if it happens off-campus.
  - B. Bri Tucker: There was a concern about mediation, but if you're familiar with the Sexual Harassment Guideline book, it says that it is a voluntary remedy space, and this process includes educational programming, but in some cases, mediation is not appropriate even on a voluntary basis. Notre Dame does not use mediation in cases of sexual assault, nor do they intend to. Information resolution has to be voluntary and it cannot be used in certain cases. There was also a concern about the standard of evidence, and the actual guidance says the University can choose between preponderance of evidence or clear and convincing. Both of these are civil standards, which was a mistake.
  - C. Gates McGavick: There was a concern about administrative liability. Rectors are mandatory reporters, and we got strong assurance that that will remain the same. The reason that conversation started is that Notre Dame wants to take some flexibility with religious guidelines. If you remember the eight cases against Notre Dame, there's more context and nuance to the situation than would be expected. Some kids are suing to get their degrees because their proceedings went through the end of their academic year. We just wanted to clear the air and we have to take

what the administration tells us at face value, and we feel they are committed to staying with their guidance they spoke out as well.

- D. Gates McGavick: We have been meeting with friends in Class council, SUB, and Judicial Council, and we feel we are very close to finding a solution that works for everyone in terms of club funding. We are still working on it, and we're confident that that will get done.
  - E. Bri Tucker: If you have any more questions about Title IX, you can meet with Bill Stackman and Erin Hoffman Harding, and I can set up a meeting.
  - F. Corey Gayheart: We will have Christine Karen Gebhardt, Dr. Stackman, and an officer from the Title IX Office here in a few weeks. Let us know if you want more information.
  - G. Gates McGavick: The degree of Cardinal McCarrick was rescinded, and we are proud that this resolution came out of the Senate.
  - H. Caroline Cloonan: My department is proud to announce the return of the Coffee Hours program. This program allows students to take their professors to coffee complements of student government. These \$10 vouchers will be accepted at any campus coffee shop. All you have to do is come to the Student Government office and you can take your professor out to coffee anywhere on campus. I brought posters that you can put up in your dorms.
  - I. Corey Gayheart: FUELers have been putting on an International Film Festival, and they are showing a different International Film in the Montgomery Auditorium of the LaFun Ballroom.
- V. General Orders
- A. Presentation: The Student Worker Participation Committee - Student Government Representative to the SWPC, Victoria Erdel
    - 1. Victoria Erdel: Back in 2001, when Father Malloy was President, he wanted to know if human licensing products were made, such as water bottles and t-shirts. They called together people to create a policy that says that Notre Dame can't produce products in a country that doesn't allow for workers to form unions. This policy barred Notre Dame from producing products in 11 countries, including China. In the fall of 2015, Father Jenkins sent an email saying that they start a pilot program to test manufacturing products in certain factories in these 11 barred countries to see if it would be worthwhile to encourage certain factories to manufacture our products. From 2015-2018, they held that pilot program. The Worker Participation Committee created 5 recommendations which were accepted by Father Jenkins: Establish a standing committee to monitor human rights in factories around the world., include more human

rights issues in our policies, in countries that allow FoA, we want to make sure they pass the auditing process, in countries that do not allow FoA, they not only have to pass one assessment, but a more in depth assessment, and only up to six factories can be approved for these products, and finally to cultivate other organizations across the country to make sure that everything in the code of conduct should be there. These have been accepted by Father Jenkins, and so now our committee is addressing all these recommendations. We changed our name because we felt WPC was misleading, letting people believe that we were working with human rights issues on campus. We have many student representatives on our committee, and it's a collection of different student groups on campus. A few of those student representatives are part of the full committee as well. The first subcommittee is the Licensing Code of Conduct. We have identified 10 universities that have pretty good codes of conduct and we are making sure we have everything they have. The second subcommittee is analyzing the auditing data we already have. The final subcommittee is trying to create a consortium to create a conference to discuss these ideas. In terms of how you can get involved, if you're part of an organization that has representatives on our committee, you can talk to your organization to see if you can be a rep. Otherwise, you can apply. We have our upcoming consortium, and any students can get involved if they are interested.

2. Lindsay McCray: What was the motivation for changing the policy in 2015?
3. Victoria Erdahl: Their goal was to make good factories better and not-so-good factories good. They thought it was unfair for factories trying to include better standards for their workers to be barred from producing our products.

B. Approval of Winter Reallocation from FMB - Jin Kim, Student Union Treasurer

1. Corey Gayheart: We have to approve the numbers from the reallocation this winter, and then we will need a formal motion to approve, and then a vote.
2. Jin Kim: A few weeks ago, we had the winter reallocation project, and we came together to agree on the budget you saw in the spreadsheet, and we just need Senate approval.
3. Sam Cannova: Motion to approve the budget
  - a) Laksumi Sivanandan: Second
  - b) Vote: All approved

C. SS181-03: A Resolution Supporting the Inclusion of a Mandatory Sustainability Module in the Moreau FYE Course - Daniel Rottenborn, Alumni Hall Senator and Chair of the Senate Committee on Sustainability; Dana Plagenz, Lewis Hall Senator

1. Dana Plagenz: Last semester, in my Sustainability course, we had to pick a project on any sustainable topic, and so we decided to look into sustainable education at Notre Dame. First we sent out a survey to gauge student perception on sustainability at Notre Dame, and we got 348 responses from 15 residence halls. We found that 92.5% of students wanted to know more about sustainability at Notre Dame, 71.6% of students have not taken a class about sustainability, and many students hadn't heard about sustainable groups on campus. Also, 40.2% of students answered questions about sustainability incorrectly. We asked how we would help students better learn about sustainability. We thought that Moreau would be the best option because it's required, and it's about developing your own opinions. We formulated a Moreau lesson plan, including readings, videos, and infographics, as well as response questions. Moving forward, we are proposing this resolution and we are meeting with Moreau FYE to talk about this idea. They might not implement our exact lesson plan, but if this were a topic in Moreau, it would do a lot about Sustainability for Notre Dame.
2. Daniel Rottenborn: A large motivation for us to make this a resolution was that we thought it would be helpful for Dana to have something more tangible to give to the administration, and to have the support of the student body.
3. Alyssa Ngo: In the resolution, the last "whereas," says that that it would be an optional Sustainability module, so how is the temporary program gone?
4. Daniel Rottenborn: We wanted to highlight this because we wanted to emphasize that the FYS is committed to this program. Some faculty wrote a letter to the administration explaining that they feel this is an important step that the administration needs to take to educate students from when they step on campus. They couldn't change the syllabus this semester, so they made it optional for professors to do. Several professors have checked this box, and the Office of Sustainability provided them with resources. That's the approach that the Office took towards this, and we're hoping to add a student voice to put this over the edge.
5. Mark Spretnjak: How different is what you're proposing from the optional thing they already have?

6. Daniel Rottenborn: It's the same basis, but it's difficult for us to force a curriculum onto the administration. The idea their group developed was well-thought out, and the Office of Sustainability did the same, and this is just food for thought from interest groups.
7. Dana Plagenz: If you have any input about what we should take to this meeting, let me know because we're totally open to it.
8. Corey Gayheart: What would be condensed in the Moreau curriculum that we could use to supplement this curriculum, so they have ideas about which modules aren't effective?
9. Zach Spitzer: From what I recall, there were a couple modules that were repeated, especially from one semester to the next, and so it would help if those were replaced, and we took multiple field trips to the same places.
10. Dana Plagenz: When we thought of this, there were some topics that had 2-3 weeks, which could be condensed. We were speaking to the field trips being added to the power plant or something similar.
11. Bri Tucker: Lauren Donahue sent us the Moreau curriculum from this semester. It includes Health and Wellness, Spirituality, Career Development, "Define Your Normal," Financial Literacy, Inclusiveness, etc.
12. Lindsay McCray: We spent way too long on Spirituality, I feel, and we took many field trips to Father Sorin's grave or the Basilica, but they didn't add anything to my life here. Notre Dame is very spiritual as is.
13. Zach Pearson: I thought Financial Literacy wasn't important.
14. Jack Usher: Going down that list, I think you could really cut out any of those without much of a problem, and I would say that because I don't think Moreau brings anything to the table that you don't get somewhere else.
15. Gates McGavick: There's always time for debate about how Moreau can be used most effectively, but we should keep in mind that we're talking about the Sustainability module right now, and we should check that box first and then continue the conversation.
16. Daniel Rottenborn: We've all heard that, but we want to emphasize that Moreau is the University's attempt to do the opposite of what you said, and in terms of offering things that other people don't get, we know that they want more Sustainability, and so that's what they are going to give them.
17. Jack Usher: I think this is all really great, but because of how Moreau is perceived by a lot of people, I don't think throwing something important like this into everything else, this will just become one more module in the

endless weeks of doing this that are irrelevant. I don't think you would get the effectiveness that you desire.

18. Bri Tucker: We are working on serious Moreau reform right now, and we have expressed that exact sentiment, and we think it's the perfect opportunity to reach kids right away, but it's not being done the right way.
19. DC Morris: Is there anything like Sustainability right now that we could cut out? The study of spirituality is very different than sustainability. Is there anything we could cut out that this will now cover?
20. Katie Gabanic: I never took Moreau, but my friend that was a FY last year transferred because she felt that spirituality was forced in Moreau, and so replacing one of the sessions with Sustainability might be a good idea. She felt she wasn't valued because she didn't have the same beliefs.
21. Megan Metersky: A big reason why this should be in Moreau is because it's not covered in other classes, and taking out one week of spirituality isn't a bad thing because you still have to take theology at the University. Those classes are things you will still take.
22. Dana Plagenz: When we presented this, there was a group for professors push for a Sustainability requirement in the university, and sustainability education fizzled out campus wide.
23. Jordan Theriault: What other ideas did you have for implementing sustainability into some sort of coursework outside of Moreau?
24. Dana Plagenz: We wanted to start with how we could get students more aware of these things, like putting up posters, organizations on campus, but then we fell into this idea because it would give students a comprehensive view about facts and how Notre Dame addresses these things.
25. Alyssa Ngo: Did you reach out to any student groups?
26. Dana Plagenz: We didn't, but I don't think they would be opposed to being spoken about in the module. We know a lot of kids in those groups and we can get back to you.
27. Alyssa Ngo: I would recommend talking to them before to let them know you want to include them in the conversation.
28. Zach Spitzer: Motion to end discussion and move to debate
  - a) Lindsay McCray: Second
  - b) Vote: All approved
29. Zach Pearson: If that's not going to be something we want to actively amend into this resolution, that's probably not the conversation we should be having right now, as it's not in the resolution. If it's not directly

pertinent to the stuff in the resolution, I would say we should probably move ahead.

30. Daniel Rottenborn: *(reads resolution)*

31. Zach Pearson: I would like to offer a friendly amendment to to capitalize “His Holiness”. I have not read Laudato Si enough times to know if Creation should be capitalized.

32. Lindsay McCray: Survey says that Notre Dame students want an education, and Moreau is not going away any time soon. You have to be there you might as well get info that you actually want, and so if this helps the Office of Sustainability to fight for this course, I say yes.

33. Mark Spretnjak: Motion to end debate and move to a vote

a) Second: Zach Pearson

b) Vote: All approved

(1) Vote on resolution: 3 opposed, 1 abstaining, resolution  
PASSES

34. Corey Gayheart: Right now, your Student Body President just signed it, making it official, and we will be passing it off to Lauren Donahue and Huge Page, as well as the advisory committees on Moreau, and they will bring this to their meetings next week.

D. Committee Breakout Time: Resolution Planning/Writing

## VI. New Business

- A. Alyssa Ngo: Aaron Benavides and I had a meeting with Father Pete and it went very well. He’s part of the liturgy team on Campus Ministry, and we’ve scheduled a time for a Teaching Mass. The liturgy team is working on the logistics for the event, and in the meantime, we can gather casual information about what people would like to see, or maybe even opinions on preferences of chapel. If anyone wants to work on this with me, please come talk to me. Secondly, the chapel team has already been working on diverse art in chapels, so we are moving in the right direction. Not only are they looking at chapels in dorms, but also looking at diversity of crucifixes in classrooms on campus. Since they’re already working on that, there isn’t too much for us to do, but we would like to draft a resolution to support the work that Campus Ministry is doing, to publicize their work and show that this is something important to the student body that we want to put forward.
- B. Shady Girgis: The Class of 2020 and 2021 have only one ticket running, and we can put forward an order to suspend the elections and give them the automatic win. *(reads order)*
- C. Halena Hadi: Is there any opposition?
1. Patrick Paulsen: Motion to open debate

2. Second: Jack Usher
3. Vote: All approved
  - a) Vote on Order: All approved, 1 abstaining, order PASSES

VII. Announcements

- A. Alyssa Ngo: Me Too is next week after Senate!
- B. Caroline Cloonan: There are posters in the back, please take one.
- C. Zach Pearson: Sorin Spelling Bee is on March 28th.
- D. Devin North: The movie is Star is Born, the concert is on Friday.
- E. Megan Metersky: Flaherty Food Fights is tomorrow, and we don't have teams from 11 dorms. It's similar to Chopped, and will be judged by campus dining celebrities.
- F. DC Morris: Fisher Regatta is in 68 days.
- G. Kaya Lawrence: Badin Polar Plunge is this Saturday at 2:00 pm.
- H. Shady Girgis: Tell your freshmen to vote in the SCC Elections tomorrow, and we will be sending our nomination requests for our three awards. We will provide more context for these awards at next week's meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

- A. Motion: Patrick Paulsen
- B. Second: Jack Usher
  1. Vote: All approved