

- I. Opening Prayer, Jordan Lydon, *Farley Hall Senator*
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - A. [SS 2021-33: A Resolution Requesting a Formal Statement to All University Teaching Staff Regarding Mini-Break Classwork](#)
 - B. [SS 2021-34: A Resolution Encouraging the Adaptation of the Moreau First Year Experience Course to Tell a Fuller and More Inclusive Version of the History of the University of Notre Dame](#)
 - C. [SO 2021-24: An Order to Suspend Class Council and Hall Elections](#)
 - D. [SS 2021-35: A Resolution Requesting the Integration of Notre Dame ID Card into Smartphone Wallet Applications](#)
 - E. [SS 2021-36: A Resolution Responding to the Disbandment of Zahm House](#)
 - F. [SO 2021-25: An Order to Reappoint Senators to Serve the Remainder of the 2020-2021 Academic Term](#)
 - G. Minutes approved as read
- IV. Executive Announcements
 - A. CLC Updates
 1. Aaron Benavides: Met last week and this week the working group met to discuss the resolutions sent to the CLC. They decided it was in the best interest to invite Erin Hoffman Harding to have a dialogue on April 8th, in which we hope to have a conversation with her about COVID-19, the ever-changing situation, and the future of the CLC.
 - B. Next Student Advisory Group Meeting: Thursday, April 1st

1. Sarah Galbenski: Main topic of conversation will be to discuss how vaccination efforts could help campus policy protocols.

C. Next Faculty Senate Meeting: Tuesday, April 6th

1. Sarah will be in attendance at that meeting.
2. Sarah Galbenski: We do not get the agenda until the morning of, but you have anything you think they need to know, let me know and I will get it to them.

V. General Orders

A. [SO 2021-26: An Order Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body to Establish Diversity Council as a Special Interest Organization](#)

1. Presented by Kaya Lawrence and Estefan Linares:
 - a) Kaya Lawrence: I can go ahead and kick us off. A few factors were involved. Part of it is the Diversity Council interested in becoming an organization, but also important to how this order came to be is thinking about MCIC. This summer following a lot of the riots that were happening, black student leaders on campus were wanting to make changes at school and address how minority students were experiencing Notre Dame. We talked about a lot of the changes we wanted to see, and we developed this committee to try to solidify this connection with administration and ensure these changes will be long lasting. DC wanted to have a more holding in the policy aspect to try to be integral in policy formation for underrepresented students on Notre Dame's campus.

- b) Estefan Linares: Thanks Kaya for sharing. I am not sure how many of you were here for the presentation Frankie and I did last semester, but we have come a long way since then personally and professionally with the group. We have become more precise and professional in our goals, we have created MCIC, we have empowered more of our marginal communities to engage in this effort, reach out to clubs, and to become more present because our goal is to become more of a force and more of a presence so everyone can come together and understand each other. That is my biggest goal, and I think understanding one another is key to achieving this goal and for people to truly understand where we are coming from. We hope to become more involved with all of you as a special interest org. The second thing I have is I want to introduce our new chair for next year, who is Daniel Lau. I am not sure how many of you have met him, but he is a great guy, he works hard, he has always been there pounding the pavement along with the rest of them, Kaya and Frankie and everybody else. He works hard, he is determined to make his goals a reality, and he really listens to people who are different and have different opinions and responds with understanding, which really resonates with me. He and the whole board are going to do amazing things, and I hope you all get to meet with him and the rest of the group.
- c) Daniel Lau: Thank you so much Estefan. I honestly do not know how to follow that up. It was very sweet, but hi, my name is Daniel. I

am a current sophomore. I think even when you look at the university as a whole, you have other orgs like PrismND and students who identify as LGBTQ+ use that organization as a way to socialize and meet, but what organization is there for just POC or BIPOC on campus? There are so many answers you will get when asking around campus because there are so many groups related to cultures and race. To make Diversity Council a special interest org is to create that umbrella organization where we can all come together, so we do not have all these individual groups, not that that is a bad thing, but there is a very high need for some sort of conglomeration between all these different orgs. We really see the Diversity Council being that answer. I am really excited for next year to be the DC chair. If any of you have any questions or want to talk let me know.

- d) Sarah Galbenski: Thanks so much Daniel. It is so great to have you here. I invite Rachel or Aaron to speak about this resolution and our involvement in it, so I would be grateful for that.
- e) Aaron Benavides: I can pop in, and give the Senate a snapshot into what has been going on since Frankie and Estefan gave their presentation. Ultimately, over the course of the Winter break, we met several times with the black student leaders who were in charge of MCIC as well as with Estefan and the team from DC, ultimately about how these two orgs could come together. DC has worked tirelessly in conjunction with the MCIC leaders to recraft their bylaws to really elevate the voices of marginalized students and to get them

in contact with important administrators who can work with them to make necessary changes here on campus. I am so happy to have been a part of such a wonderful, meaningful process alongside Rachel and Sarah. I know we have been so happy to help them as best as we could and to offer them our support. Also very grateful for Kaya being our liaison with DC and assisting from the Student Government side. They have been in touch with Karen Kennedy and other people working with the division of student affairs to hammer these things out, and we are beyond happy and impressed with what they have come up with. Really happy with how this turned out, and we are excited to see how it helps amplify student voices and uplift them so they can have a seat at the table.

- f) Rachel Ingal: I think you mostly covered it Aaron, thanks! We are super grateful for all the actors who have been a part of this endeavor. We have just really tried to do our best in facilitating and providing institutional knowledge where we can. So many incredible students have put in countless hours and energy because they really care about this effort, and I think the Student Union as well as the student body would really benefit from passing this. We would be really grateful if you all would have a hand in this effort to make the student union more representative. They have done such a great job in communicating with all relevant stakeholders to make sure it is feasible and well understood. We really hope you all help us to make this a reality and to make these voices heard.

- g) Sarah Galbenski: Awesome, thank you both so much. All I will add to that is that institutionally they have a really phenomenal set of bylaws that have been hammered out in this last month that have gotten the stamp of approval as well. We appreciate you all listening to this context and how it all developed. I will ask at this time for anyone of you four to read the text of the resolution or the order actually, just so the Senators know the language.
- h) Kaya Lawrence reads the resolution
2. Questions:
- a) Ricardo Pozas Garza: Thank you very much presenters for bringing forward a very well crafted resolution. I know as it currently stands DC is a club on this campus. By virtue of possibly passing this resolution, would DC be removed from the list of active clubs or would it still remain under this title?
- b) Karen Kennedy: Thanks Ricardo. DC if it becomes a special interest org would no longer be a club, so you would not hold both positions at the same time. Something I would say is that I do not think the club is the right place for DC to have fallen into. The reason DC falls into the club category right now is that it arose outside of the student union. It really always was a conglomeration of clubs formed by MSPS, so it has always been this odd structure, but I think this will make sense to be an official policy-maker role as a special interest org.
- c) Patrick Lee: I realize the difference between the three classifications, but is there a difference in voting privileges or funding?

- d) Thomas Davis: In terms of funding, there is a difference now. Special interest orgs have a quarter of a percent of the student union budget, which works out to be around \$2,000 typically. It is up to FMB to divide this amongst six student union orgs. Funding did not seem to be an issue from conversations I have had with representatives. There is no difference in voting roles or place in Senate, aside from special interest orgs are protected within the constitution.
- e) Karen Kennedy: Currently, because they are technically a club they could apply for funding through the CCC. This group has not applied for funding historically because any necessary funding has typically been given by MSPS.
- f) Kaya Lawrence: I was just going to say we pretty much just rely on funding from MSPS anyways.
- g) Sarah Galbenski: Great question on the voting as well Patrick. I know DC has a seat on the Senate right now, but it does not have a vote. No other special interest org has a seat in the Senate right now, so this would just be affirming their status of their seat in the Senate and protection as a special interest organization.
- h) Ricardo Pozas Garza: Do we have access to the proposed bylaws of DC? If we do not, that is fine, but I wanted to know if there was mention in them about the relationship with MSPS. I would hope this relationship is enshrined in those bylaws.
- i) Kaya Lawrence: I will jump in, but yes we do have bylaws that DC did vote on and approve. One thing to note is that in the bylaws it

does mention that our advisor will be appointed to us by Karen, which is Yvette in MSPS, so the relationship is depicted pretty solidly there.

j) Karen Kennedy: Their bylaws do also include maintaining their relationship with MSPS is right in their purpose mission statement of the bylaws.

k) Ricardo Pozas Garza: Motion to end questioning and move into a debate

(1) Second

(2) Vote passes

3. Debate:

a) Ricardo Pozas Garza: I do not mean to brag, but I do know a lot about clubs and how they work. I hope you trust my word when I say DC's purpose is best served as a special interest org rather than a club. I strongly encourage you to vote in favor of this.

b) Sarah Galbenski: Thank you so much Ricardo. You are indeed our club expert, so we trust you on that.

c) Eliza Smith: Motion to end debate and move to a vote.

(1) Seconded

(2) Vote passes

4. Vote:

a) Unanimous approval for DC to become a special interest organization.

- b) Sarah Galbesnki: Congratulations! I know this has been a lot of hard work, and we are excited to have you as a part of the student union for years to come. I think this is an incredible move forward, and I commend all of your tremendous work.

B. 2021 Student Union Awards

1. [Frank O'Malley Undergraduate Teaching Award](#)

a) Debate:

- (1) If you click on the document linked and scroll you will be able to see the teachers that have been nominated. As members of the Student Senate, you all have the ability to nominate them right here and right now. I do ask that you will first consider the teachers who have been nominated, but if you feel strongly to nominate someone else, then go for it.
- (2) Lainey Teeters: I thought I had already nominated this professor, but it appears that I did not. I am going to nominate her here. Professor Michelle Whaley- I had her for both Intro Bio and Intro Bio lab. I feel like she really taught us so many skills needed in the bio world, and she cares so deeply for students. I met with her so many times about how to find a professor for research, how to write papers in the science world, and every single time she was always so helpful while also pushing me to do it myself. She is just a really great professor for bio majors or science people in general, especially in the research world.

- (3) Sarah Galbenski: Awesome, thanks Lainey! Just so you guys are aware of how this is working tonight, Madison is not here because she is getting confirmed, which we are so excited about, so Thomas is back in his old role of Parliamentarian. He is running a google form right now with all these names, and he just messaged me to have you all drop the spelling of the professor you are nominating in the chat so we can be sure to have the right information put down.
- (4) Grace Franco: I did not nominate anyone, but I saw Professor Spence's name on here who I had last semester for Principles of Microeconomics. I wanted to echo my support for him because not only do I think he is a great professor, or the "GOAT" as this nominator described, but unfortunately Olivia and Valeria were in our section. After their tragic passing, he was so good about understanding the toll that had on students. He brought his wife into our class to show that she was even there for us too and why our ND education means something, and he adjusted the weight of our final exams and schedule to relieve some of the emotional and mental pressure on students. Not only is he a great econ professor, but he also really looks out for the individual, which is really special.
- (5) Eliza Smith: I just wanted to talk specifically about Professor Walden. I have her currently, but I also previously had her last

semester. I can echo a lot of the sentiments included in her nomination. She is both extremely intelligent, but she also makes information very accessible for all students. She is willing to be flexible and accommodating for students. I was put in the hospital both last semester and this semester, which is very uncommon, and she delayed three weeks of work for me so I could focus on building up my health rather than stressing about grades. She also believes in an ungrading style, meaning we did a grading contract at the beginning of the year, and all you have to do is hit those deadlines. There is no exact grading per assignment, it is an overall commitment to doing the work. If you do your part to participate in the class she will give you whatever grade you had originally decided on. As a person, she has been able to introduce coding and computing in a very unique way. She talks about the impact it has on marginalized groups. We are currently reading a book called *Data Feminism* in which she talks about the ways we collect and interpret data can affect the way people see the world. She starts really important topics of conversation that are often forgotten about or glossed over. I full heartedly support this nomination, and believe everyone should too.

- (6) Danny Schermerhorn: I am going to echo Grace here. When she said that Professor Spence was the GOAT, she is definitely correct. He was definitely my favorite teacher last

semester. He made learning economics so much fun, and even with masks on, he knew every single person's name by the end of the first or second week and there were like 150 people in the class. He is just a really special guy and really special professor, so I fully support his nomination.

(7) Thomas Davis: Obviously, I made all these submissions.

After I took all the forms, two of my roommates came to me and said they really wanted to write something for Todd Taylor, but they did not get to it just because they are so busy. I know how hard my roommates work in their engineering classes. They both speak so highly of him. Also, Professor Spence-- I am an econ major, but I have never had him as a professor. However, I do work in the econ department and his office is across from the mailroom where I stake out every morning. He always comes over and asks hello and how I am doing, especially given the times we are in. He does not have to do that, there are many professors who are still great but don't do this. He truly cares and goes above and beyond for his students. I cannot vote, but if I had two votes I would vote for them.

(8) Lainey Teeters: Motion to end debate and move to a vote

(a) Seconded

(b) Passes

b) Vote:

(1) Vote to narrow down list to five people

(a) Sarah Galbenski: Any debate on the results or those five people?

(b) Lainey Teeters: Motion to end debate and move to final vote

(i) Seconded

(ii) Passes

(2) Sarah Galebnski: The winner for the 2021 Frank O'Malley Undergraduate Teaching Award is Forrest Spence! My dad loves Forrest Spence, even though I have never had him. We saw his presentation over JPW, and my dad was blown away. So good for him, exciting stuff!

2. [Michael J. Palumbo Award](#)

a) Sarah Galbsenki: How this one works is nominations were fielded from the student body, and then the Ethics Commission debated these nominees and came to a consensus on who they thought deserved the award. I will need someone from the Ethics Commission to read the nomination.

b) Sarah Kirsch: I can read it!

(1) Reads nomination

c) Debate:

(1) Sarah Galbenski: Thank you so much for reading Sarah and for your work as the Senate representative to the Ethics Commission. I will now kick Sam out so we can debate, even

though you ask the best questions. Also, just for clarification

this is more of a yes or no thing. Sam has already been nominated, so any points of debate regarding Sam.

(2) Eliza Smith: Motion to end debate and move to a vote

(a) Seconded

(b) Passes

d) Vote:

(1) Unanimously approved, I will bring Sam back in.

(2) Sarah Galbenski: Congrats Sam!

(3) That is really flattering guys, thanks so much! I appreciate the kind words. In regards to service, I will say, if planning Gatsby Ball or hanging out with you guys here in the Senate or working out in the quad is service, it sure does not feel like it. So thanks!

3. [Irish Clover Award](#)

(1) Sarah Galbenski: There are two parts to this, as some of you may be aware. We will start with the faculty award. A few weeks ago in the Senate, we made Nancy cry by voting for the Nancy Walsh Irish Clover Award, which is now explicitly for faculty and staff. You all can read the nominations there, and our beloved Karen Kennedy is one of them. I believe I will kick her out at this point, but we really appreciate her.

(2) Debate:

- (a) Sarah Galbesnki: I am the one that wrote the first recommendation for Karen. I think she is one of the best human beings ever- she truly does so much and cares so much. I am much more eloquent in my writing than I am right now, so just read what I wrote. Also my beloved rector of Walsh is listed here. I know you probably do not all know her, but she has been a ray of sunshine in my life for the last four years. Those are my two cents. I will now smile upon Aaron.
- (b) Aaron Benavides: Thanks so much Sarah. It is going to be tough to follow up the President of the Karen Kennedy fan club, which is what we affectionately call Sarah at times. If you read the second nomination for Karen, I kind of gave away that it was me. Having been a part of student government since my freshman year, I have gotten to know Karen pretty well, especially in the course of this last year especially. For those of you who are new around here, you do not know of a world without Karen Kennedy, but let me just say Karen has absolutely transformed and revitalized the Student Activities Office in ways that we could have never imagined. She has been an absolute godsend to the students of the University, especially this year. The programming she has put in,

sometimes on super short notice, are incredible. She is an absolute star, and I hope you all have gotten to see through the Senate and any other experiences you have had for her, she is so committed to the students and the University in general. I definitely would advocate you vote for her.

- (c) Sarah Galbenski: Before I call on the next person, I will add you are allowed to nominate any other person at this time as well. Same thing as we did previously.
- (d) Thomas Davis: With all respect to the other nominees, I am sure they are all fantastic people, this should be the fastest vote ever. Please vote Karen.
- (e) Rachel Ingal: Just some final words on the Karen point. I just think that Karen is an absolute rockstar. Not only is she so amazing at what she does of maintaining a well-oiled machine of SAO, which did not used to be like that, but she also just has such a kind heart. When she found out that Sarah, Aaron and I went to quarantine, she brought us care packages with coloring books, magazines, and a variety of snacks, which was so sweet. She constantly does the most without complaint. She is so dependable, so reliable, and we genuinely could not have asked for a better advisor. I really just want to

sing her praises one more time and recognize all she does for us.

(f) Ben Erhardt: Motion to end debate and move to a vote

(i) Seconded

(ii) Passes

(3) Vote:

(a) Karen Kennedy has won!

(b) Sarah Galbenski: Karen, congrats, you are the first Nancy J. Walsh Irish Clover award recipient.

(c) Karen Kennedy: Thank you all so much for this and for all your kind words in the nomination letter. I am so thankful for this job, and what a great job it is getting to work with you all every single day. Thank you so much, but I am the one that is lucky!

(d) Sarah Galbenski: We are the ones that are lucky.

Thanks so much Karen.

b) Student Irish Clover Award

(1) Debate:

(a) Michael Murakami: If I may, I would like to nominate Thomas Davis for this award. I think he has done an incredible job, both helping us adjust to our positions and he is clearly very passionate about the Student Union. He has really filled many roles as they have

arisen and contributes so much to the Student Union.

He is really selfless and is a true definition of service and true definition of the brilliance of Notre Dame.

- (b) Sarah Galbenski: Thank you very much Michael. I second that. This also means we now need someone else to handle the vote, but that is perfectly fine. I can handle the vote for now, is that fine by you?
- (c) Thomas Davis: I dropped the link in the agenda and I sent it to you Sarah, so we should be good.
- (d) Sarah Galbenski: Awesome, we got it from here. Goodbye friend.
- (e) Aaron Benavides: Sarah, question, does that mean we need to kick out other nominees?
- (f) Sarah Galbenski: Yes, that does. That means we need to kick out Sam Cannova. You just read to me the people and I will kick them out. I think Sam left? We are fine.
- (g) Aaron Benavides: He is the only one I think.
- (h) Miles Kelly: I want to speak in favor of Pat McGuire. He is an RA in Siegfried, was student body VP last year, and the first time I saw him in Student Gov was when I was proxying for the former Senator. It was a hectic meeting, people were storming out, but he handled it so well and kept everyone calm. Even this

year, he is not my RA, but I have had more deep conversations about life and my career than just about anyone else at Notre Dame. He is just always so nice and so helpful, even just walking past him, you do not think you could get such good vibes from a short conversation or wave, but you can from him. I just want to give him my full endorsement.

- (i) Sarah Galbenski: Thank you so much Miles. I did just receive one comment; Patrick did win this award last year, very well deserved, and there is nothing that says he cannot win it again. I just wanted people to be aware.
- (j) Miles Kelly: Sorry about that, I was not aware. That is my bad.
- (k) Sarah Galbenski: No worries Miles! I think Patrick very much so would deserve to win it twice.
- (l) Rachel Ingal: On the Pat McGuire point, you are so right, he is literally sunshine personified and he has done such a great service to the student body. I am with you there Miles, but since he has already won it, I do not know if I am allowed to do this, but I would like to nominate Sarah, or make a motion for someone to nominate Sarah. She has done so much hard work for the student body and she cares so

deeply about all of you. She takes the Senate so seriously, and she is really so intentional about everything that you do. She runs this so well. I am not sure if I can actually make that nomination, or if it has to be a Senator? I can? Oh great, then I am going to nominate Sarah. That may seem biased coming from me, but I think she has done such a fantastic job and she deserves recognition for that.

(m) Sarah Galbenski: Well, I appreciate that Rachel. This does kind of complicate things, for I will have to leave. Aaron has taken over in the past, so I will hand it over to them, unless someone would like to nominate Aaron at which point someone else would have to take over.

(n) Aaron Benavides: I am back at it folks, whether you like it or not. Rachel, you still have your hand up. I am going to assume that is residual.

(o) Lainey Teeters: I want to echo Rachel's point. I was going to nominate Sarah as well. She has done so much for us this year in Senate but just the student body in general, so I really feel like she deserves this award.

(p) Eliza Smith: I would also like to continue the Sarah train. I have gotten to know her both as a person but

also as a leader. I have known her since my first year, and she probably does not know the impact she has had on me as a student leader. She is one of the most inspiring individuals, and when I hear her talking, whether it be in class or listening to the amazing things she has planned for her future, I know she is going to be a light for a lot of people, just like she has been for me and many others on campus. I think she is way deserving of this award, so I will end with that.

- (q) Grace Franco: I know we hate when we are redundant here in the Senate, but I would be remiss if I did not speak up for my next door second floor neighbor. Sarah, obviously we all know her as Vice President and Chair of the Senate, who is always very articulate and kind, but I also think it is also so commendable that between everything she is doing, she always makes time to be there for her Walsh community too, whether it be getting to know all the first years, leading yoga for us every Sunday, making sure she comes to our hall council events even though she has way bigger student body activities I am sure every day of the week. Every time you see her, she always asks about how you are doing, and you can tell she really cares how you are. All around great person,

not just in student government, but for anyone on this campus, and I think that should be rewarded.

- (r) Aaron Benavides: I know this is not very “Chairly” of me, but I also will have to speak in favor of Sarah. Getting the chance to work with her over this past year as originally a new face to Student Government but now obviously a seasoned veteran in a crazy year, she has had such a positive impact on my life as well as on the student body. Seeing no other hands, I would invite someone to motion to end debate and move to a vote.

- (s) Eliza Smith: Motion to end debate and move to a vote

(i) Seconded

(ii) Passes

(2) Vote:

- (a) Aaron Benavides: Our top five after the first vote are Grace Stephenson, Patrick McGuire, Sam Cannova, Thomas Davis, and Sarah Galbenski. I will now edit the form to remove everyone else, and we will then do our final voting.
- (b) Eliza Smith: Motion to move out of debate and into a final vote.
- (i) Seconded

(ii) Passes

(c) Sarah Galbenski wins the award!

(d) Aaron Benavides: It is my great joy as the acting Chair of the Senate to announce the 2021 to announce the Irish Clover Award recipient is Madame Student Body Vice President Sarah Galbenski. With that, I cede the chair back to Sarah.

(e) Sarah Galbenski: Awh thank you all so much. I was just here reading my People magazine that Karen brought me. This is entirely unexpected, and it has just been the utmost pleasure getting to work with you all this year. I am so grateful that I know you all will continue to shape Notre Dame for the better in the years to come, so I am very honored. Thank you Aaron for serving in my leave as well.

(f) Karen Kennedy: He is very smooth with the Google form.

(g) Sarah Galbenski: I am impressed. I would not have been. That is why I rely on Thomas for such matters. Thank you so much. I am very touched and surprised.

C. [SUB Executive Director Nomination](#)

1. Presented by Mairead Pfaff

2. Questions:

a) Eliza Smith: Motion to end questioning and move to a debate

(1) Seconded

(2) Passes

3. Debate:

a) Sarah Galbenski: Unfortunately, I will need to kick you out Kate, but I will let you back in soon.

b) Isabella Garcia: Motion to end debate and move to a vote.

(1) Seconded

(2) Passes

4. Vote:

a) Unanimous approval! Kate is admitted.

b) Sarah Galbenski: Thank you Mairead for your hard work this year. It has been a pleasure working with you, and you have just been an absolute star, so thank you.

D. [Assistant Student Union Treasurers Nomination](#)

1. Presented by Meenu Selvan

2. Questions:

a) Lainey Teeters: Motion to end questioning and move into a debate

(1) Seconded

(2) Passes

3. Debate:

a) Isabella Garcia: Motion to end debate and move to a vote

(1) Seconded

(2) Passes

4. Vote:

a) Unanimous approval! Congrats Claire and Luke!

VI. New Business

A. State of the Student Union Address, Rachel Ingal, *Student Body President*

B. SS 2021-37: A Resolution Acknowledging, Defining, and Condemning Antisemitism
in Solidarity with Jewish Students

VII. Announcements

VIII. Adjournment

A. Michael Murakami: Motion to adjourn

1. Seconded and passes