

- I. Opening Prayer, Sarah Galbenski, *Student Body Vice President*
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - 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 was passed. People were nominated for the 2021 Student Awards and these were debated and were awarded. The nomination for SUB Executive Director was passed unanimously, as were the nominations for Assistant Student Union Treasurers.
 - B. Minutes approved
- IV. Executive Announcements
 - A. CLC Updates
 1. Convened on Monday. We were happy to be joined by Erin Hoffman Harding and Mike Seamon, who are both really taking the charge on student affairs and the University's response to COVID-19 as it affects us. We had a really great conversation with them. Obviously, the specifics of the two resolutions passed onto the CLC about the vaccinations and the changing dynamic was a little less relevant now, but we still did discuss the benchmarks, and that is how the vaccination dashboard came into conversation. We really had a fruitful conversation, and the CLC will meet again next week on Thursday at our standing meeting time. We will discuss future plans for the CLC and how we can better establish it structurally and change it and support it, so we can have the best relationship possible with the division of

student affairs and be as productive and efficient as possible. Those are some exciting updates from the CLC, which our term will last through commencement on the CLC.

B. Student Advisory Group

1. Met on Holy Thursday. Majority of that meeting spent discussing the details of the email you all received on Monday about the vaccinations and the potential for the restrictions that will be adapted or lifted, provided we meet 90% of the student body being at least partially vaccinated. I would encourage you all to look at that email in all of its details to get all of that information.
2. On top of that, we talked about the University putting up a vaccination dashboard so that students could see the numbers and so could the public on how many students are being vaccinated and how close we are to reaching that threshold, which hopefully we will.
3. There are a lot of questions about what the summer and fall will look like, and I think those answers probably won't come until the summer probably just because there is a lot of time between now and the end of the summer. As we know, COVID-19 is ever changing, so a lot of that will be determined later, but that is something that was brought up now that we are past the half point of this semester and the university is starting to look further in advance. Also, as you likely saw in the email today, the University will require all students to be vaccinated for the Fall semester. That is another important detail for the fall.

V. General Orders

A. [SS 2021-37: A Resolution Acknowledging, Defining, and Condemning Antisemitism in Solidarity with Jewish Students](#)

1. Miles Kelly: So Blake was the author on this, and he did an amazing job. I am going to let him take it away.
2. Blake Ziegler: Thank you Miles. I just want to express on behalf of the Jewish Club, a huge amount of gratitude for the student government's response to last night's zoom bombing. According to OIT, we still do not know if it was Notre Dame students, but we still just want to express our support, because, whether or not it was Notre Dame students, it still represents that there is still anti-semitism alive and well in the United States and abroad. For example, over 1 billion people worldwide have been found to have at least one anti-semitic belief. In the United States alone, in 2019 there were over 2,100 instances of anti-semitism being committed, and that was a 12% increase from 2018. We see this particularly happening on college campuses where 43% of Jewish undergraduates or just Jewish students from ages 18 to 29, 43% of them said they either experienced or witnessed someone experiencing antisemitic harassment on a college campus. Anti Semitism is a huge issue in the United States. One of the main issues in addressing antisemitism is the fact that it is hard to identify and not many people know what it is. As a matter of fact, not many people know what Judaism is. That is because Jews are a very small group in the world and in the US. Not many people know Jews, and those that do probably do not know that much about Judaism. It becomes more difficult to identify and combat antisemitism if you do not know anything about Judaism. That is why the Jewish Club



spearheaded the University's first antisemitism awareness week this week, which was entirely aimed at educating the Notre Dame student body and community on antisemitism and how to combat it. We firmly believe the first step in combating antisemitism is defining it. Antisemitism is elusive in the fact that it has the historical tendency of warping itself in vague concepts where it is not really about hating Jews but about hating things that they have done or things that they are associated with, or things that have nothing to do with Judaism but are still emblematic of antisemitism and prejudice against Jews. A unified definition both at home and abroad for the entire world to use is the way that we must go to combat anti-semitism. That is what today's resolution aims to accomplish. The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance has 31 member states, where they are all tasked with combatting world wide anti-semitic thoughts and remembering holocaust victims. What they have done when it comes to the IHRA working definition of antisemitism is they provided a comprehensive definition of antisemitism with examples to both identify antisemitism for educational purposes as well as for data collection for hate crimes and other antisemitic events. I also want to address a couple other antisemitic events. I also want to address a couple other misconceptions of the definition. It is not a speech code, it does not limit free speech on campus. What it says is that any criticism against Israel is completely fine and legitimate if it is a similar criticism that you can level against a different democratic government. If that criticism comes to be something associated with Judaism, such as trying to hold American Jews responsible for what has happened in Israel or accusing American Jews of

dual loyalty in Israel, being more loyal to Israel than to the United States, that is where it crosses the line into antisemitism. By accusing Israel of its policy such as its treatment of Palestinians or occupation of the West Bank, that is completely fine and legitimate criticism, and the definition does nothing to stifle that kind of speech on campus or anywhere else that it is being used. The sole purpose of the definition is twofold. The first is to provide an educational tool to address anti semitism when it arises, so for instance, if the University adopts the definition, if an allegation about something antisemitic that has happened would use the definition to determine if that act were actually antisemitic. It does not prescribe a punishment or specific disciplinary measure. That is for the University or whatever organization it may be to decide. The sole purpose of the definition is to simply be an educational tool to simply recognize antisemitism and to guide those conversations about antisemitism. It is also used for data collection, so for groups that collect hate crime data they would use this definition of antisemitism to identify antisemitism events. This definition has been adopted by 29 states across the world, including the United States, Israel, France, Britain, and a whole litany of other states. Both the Trump administration and the Biden administration have embraced the IHRA working definition, and a number of universities across the world have accepted it. It started off in Europe, where the IHRA headquarters is located, but it has spread into the United States more and more. Some notable Universities that have accepted it over the past couple years are Stanford, Florida State University, Indiana State University, Michigan State University,

and then a couple other places. If you are interested in ones in other countries, then I have a list of them in my bag that I can get to you. The point I am making is that Notre Dame needs to be the next institution to do this, as far as I am aware Notre Dame would be the first Catholic University to accept this and only the third or fourth top 25 university to accept this definition. There is precedent for this, there is a need to do this, so what I am asking you here today is to demonstrate solidarity with the Jewish community here on Notre Dame's campus. The only way we can fight antisemitism is to define it in the first place. You have to define it to fight it.

3. Questions:

- a) Curt Gouldin: I do not have speaking rights, but I do have a question.
- b) Sam Cannova: I yield you my time, sir.
- c) Curt Gouldin: At the beginning of the presentation, you mentioned a zoom bombing. Can you elaborate on that because I am not aware of what that means?
- d) Blake Ziegler: For sure. Last night we were hosting as a part of Anti-Semitism Awareness Week a panel with Jewish college students from across the country talking about their experiences with Judaism on campus. Prior to the event, a group of people that got the link to the zoom event crashed it, and once they got into the meeting they started sharing some lewd comments and videos, so we ended up having to stop the meeting and suspend participant activities until we could find the people causing it. It occurred prior to not during the event. There was one person with a profile picture with a swastika in

it, but I am pretty sure they did not make it past the waiting room. I do not think they were able to get into the meeting. So, yeah, we got zoom bombed last night, and we kicked those people out of the meeting.

e) Isabella Garcia: Motion to end questioning and move into debate

(1) Seconded

(2) Passes

4. Debate:

a) Renee Pierson: I want to express my sympathy for the Jewish community and to thank Blake for all his hard work. He is clearly such a good advocate for the Jewish community.

b) Eliza Smith: I encourage you all to think about the positive externalities this could have on other racial groups and religious groups. Although we are a catholic university, this is a great step in the direction to make people more comfortable coming here and to stand in solidarity with these minority communities.

c) Dan Law: Motion to end debate and move into a vote

(1) Seconded

(2) Passes

5. Vote:

a) Passed unanimously

b) Sarah Galbenski: I am happy to announce this has passed unanimously. Thank you so much Blake and Jewish Club for your work on this resolution, and we really hope the University adopts this

definition in the near future. Amazing! As you will see, we have the State of the Union address next. I would really love for that to be our closing. I ask you all to move a very brief order off of new business which would require a unanimous vote. This should take under five minutes. This, if we pass it, would allow the Cavanaugh Hall senator to vote at next week's meeting. Cavanaugh's elections were just a bit delayed unfortunately, so she was not able to be with us at our last big wave. This was a personal request from Matthew to me, and I am sure he would appreciate it, so she could feel like a full member of the Senate and be able to vote at next week's meeting. I do need a unanimous vote. It is alright if you do not want to hear it. I would appreciate it if you heard it. Would you all like to hear SO 2021-27?

(1) All in favor. SO 2021-27 moved to general orders.

B. [SO 2021-27: An Order to Suspend the Cavanaugh Hall Senate Election](#)

1. Presented by Madison Nemeth

2. Questions:

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

(1) Seconded

(2) Passes

3. Debate:

a) Michael Murakami: Motion to end debate and into a vote

(1) Seconded

(2) Passes

C. [State of the Student Union Address](#), Rachel Ingal, *Student Body President*

1. Sarah Galbenski: Thank you so much Rachel. You will all notice that she was squatting from our final year in review document. I strongly encourage you all to check it out because you will notice you all made a great impact this year. As you scroll through, you will see a number of different resolutions coming from conversations you had and actions put into place, so we could not be more proud and grateful for the service you all have given the student body this past year. We are so excited to see the ways you all will shape the Notre Dame community in the years to come.
2. Aaron Benavides: Please check out the new student government website!
3. Sarah Galbenski: It is Aaron's baby!!
4. Aaron Benavides: Aaron's and Chris Russo's! I could not have done it without him. But yeah, new website, check it out. The Senate page is might I say, incredibly organized if you ever want to go back and reminisce. Shoutout to also the communications and marketing team for helping us go live in just one day. So yeah, but I wrote something because I am not very good on the spot. I want to offer some brief remarks on this final day together. My student government journey was unlike anything I could have ever expected. I think of a lot of high moments, like planning the 10th annual Back the Bend with my friend Fritz, being a member of the Campus Engagement task force, and just really working on so many different committees and projects for student government. Obviously, this year was really the culmination of those experiences, getting to serve alongside two of the most incredible people I have gotten to know throughout the journey of my life and who I am sure will do incredibly phenomenal things and make this world a better



place. Thinking through all of those things, I wanted to leave you all with just a little bit of wisdom, the little bit of wisdom that I have left at this point.

First, you should be proud of the work you have done this year. I can wholeheartedly say I have been so deeply inspired by the commitment and energy each of you bring to this body and to the Student Union as a whole. This Senate has been remarkably productive and collaborative, and it has worked truly tirelessly to represent the student body and for that each of you should be commended. It has been an honor to sit on this body with you all, and this group has been productive and fiercely representative of the students which is something I have not seen in the few years that I have been around, so be proud of that. The work that you do is important. Oftentimes people are unaware of the work that is done in these meetings and what is done before and after them. Even outside of these roles and in the future, this is the duty that Our Lady calls us to do. We can certainly bring lasting change to this campus. Lastly I want to encourage you to always seek out common ground. Disagreement is not a bad thing, but at times of contentious debate always seek out to find a common purpose, belief or understanding. Working with administrators or a variety of student leaders on different issues can pose different views at times as we have seen, but never forget your common mission is to do what is best for the student body. Only then, will you be able to work together and do what is best. I want to close by thanking each and every one of you for the work that you have put in this year. I believe in the work of the student union because I believe in you, the people that build it up. It is incredibly bittersweet to close this chapter of my

time at Notre Dame, but I am filled with hope as I have gotten to know the incredible change agents you all are and how you will continue to build a better Notre Dame for all. Thank you.

5. Sarah Galbenski: My brief words will be my opening prayer and thank you because if I speak at this point in the meeting I will begin to cry. But that is alright.

VI. New Business

- A. Enjoy your freedom on Wednesday, April 14th from 7:45-9:15 p.m.!

VII. Announcements

- A. Mairead Pfaff: SUB is hosting a discussion with Anthony Ramos of Hamilton. Check out your email, and be sure to attend!
- B. Blake Johnson: I don't know if you guys saw the group chat, but Sarah is going to be a Fulbright Scholar! GOOOOO SARAHHHHHH!!!!
- C. Renee Pierson: Round of applause to Rachel, Sarah, and Aaron, as well as all the Seniors for their hard work, leadership, and dedication to the student body! They have done such an incredible job this last year and during their four years here.
- D. Michael Murakami: Motion to adjourn the meeting

1. Passes

VIII. Adjournment