

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Oaths of Office
  - A. Patrick O. Lee, *Student Body President*
  - B. Sofie Stitt, *Student Body Vice President*
  - C. Senators
- III. Roll Call
  - A. Let us know if you prefer a different name!
  - B. Pick One
- IV. [Approval of Minutes](#)
- V. Executive Announcements
  - A. Review of Senate Duties: [Article III of the Constitution](#)
  - B. [Senate Chats with Sofie](#)
    1. Incoming Senators—please sign up if you have not met up with Sofie already.
  - C. List Serv, Slack, and [Directory](#)
    1. If you have an interest in being on the Slack, even if you cannot write legislation, let Sofie know.
  - D. [Parliamentary Procedure](#)
    1. We use this so that every voice is heard and we can move meetings efficiently and fairly.
    2. Proxy Form Available [here](#)
      - a) If you cannot attend Senate, you can have someone take your place as a Proxy. The form will be in the Senator Google Drive that Sofie

Stitt will send after this meeting. This prevents you from getting an absence. You can tell your Proxy how you would like them to vote.

3. Email agenda items to [sstitt@nd.edu](mailto:ssstitt@nd.edu) and [mdoyle10@nd.edu](mailto:mdoyle10@nd.edu)

## VI. General Orders

- A. SO2223-01: [An Order to Amend the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body to Revise Article IV](#)

1. Question

- a) Derick Williams: What are the new departments being introduced?
- b) Sofie Stitt: Faith and Service are now split to Faith and the Departments of Community Outreach South Bend Engagement. Diversity and Inclusion is another large department that needed to be broken down in order to effectively serve the student-constituents adequately. It is split into Disability Advocacy, First Generation Low Income, and Race and Ethnicity. Same for Gender Relations—it was split into Title IX & Women’s Initiatives and LGBTQ+ Advocacy. National Affairs and Political Engagement involves the election coming up.
- c) Thomas Davis: Why do these amendments need to be made?
- d) Patrick Lee: These new departments should better serve the student body. This new format is a better fit for our platform points. If anything does not fall into their specific departments, our directors

are close enough to speak and address any of these intersectionality issues.

- e) Kevin Wang: Which departments were removed?
- f) Sofie Stitt: Student Empowerment and Social Concerns. They had directors doing important work, but work that also fell into several other areas. Directors were being pulled in a multitude of directions, so instead, we moved their work to other departments where the responsibilities could be better focused on.
- g) Claire Sison: Should we expect more overhead costs because there are more departments?
- h) Sofie Stitt: No. There are still about the same number of departments and the same amount of work.

## 2. Debate

- a) Thomas Davis: I will be voting no. The Constitution shouldn't amend itself to fit the points of the platform. There have been many hours put into keeping this document in its best shape. There are pros and cons, such as taking out the description of what the cabinet should be, which is fair. We should not be amending the Constitution at the first Senate meeting.
- b) Patrick Stoller: I agree with Thomas, but I feel that this is a change that doesn't make as much of a difference in the Constitution. I will be voting yes on this, but I agree that we should be careful about amending the constitution, as it is permanent.

- c) Paul Stoller: Does the Constitution actually need to be changed for the departments to exist as they have been set up?
- d) Madison Nemeth: The Constitution would need to be changed in order for the Department Directors to exist the way they have been organized by this administration.
- e) Derick Williams: I speak in support of this.
- f) Peter Herrmann: Where did the Department of Athletics go?
- g) Patrick Lee: The two roles of the Department of Athletics were to sit on the Student Athletic Advisory Council and plan Student Athlete Mental Health Awareness Week. We can have a representative on Student Athletic Advisory Council that is not a department director. Our Health and Wellbeing department director is willing and ready to go on taking on Student Athlete Mental Health Awareness Week.

### 3. Voting

- a) The amendment passes.

## B. SO2223-02: [An Order to Appoint Off-Campus Senators to Fill Vacancies](#)

### 1. Questioning

- a) Derick Williams: This is to fulfill the amendment to add more off-campus senators, correct? Will they be with us for the rest of the term?

b) Thomas Davis: Yes. The amendment was passed unanimously.

They would be here for four weeks until off-campus elections take place.

2. Debate

a) Hunter Brooke: I was at the meeting in which the aforementioned amendment was passed. I trust Thomas' judgment. We shouldn't question this too much.

3. Vote

a) The order passes.

C. Nominations

1. [Nomination for Chief of Staff](#)

a) Questioning

(1) Derick Williams: I would like to hear what you hope to do with this role and what you are excited for.

(2) Nicole Baumann: I was really excited about their three platform points, furthering the initiatives of Allan Njomo and Matty Bisner.

(3) Hunter Brooke: What was your role in Pasquerilla West Hall?

(4) Nicole Baumann: I was Brother-Sister Hall Commissioner. I would plan various events with other dorms and do other activities as told to by the President and Vice President.

(5) Mia Moran: Do you have any other leadership experience?

- (6) Nicole Baumann: I have taught English as a Second Language to children in South Bend for the past two years. I also have leadership positions in the Business Honors Program.
- (7) Peter Herrmann: How excited are you for Sophomore Prom?
- (8) Nicole Baumann: I did not click the link in time to get a ticket!
- (9) Paul Stoller: If you had a cat, and for every one second you put the cat in a microwave you would get one million dollars, how many seconds would you put the cat in the microwave?
- (10) Nicole Baumann: I object to answering this question as I am allergic to cats. It is also against my morals as a vegetarian.

b) Debate

- (1) Patrick Lee: She has a strong work ethic and dedication and spends a lot of time in the office.
- (2) Jacob Lowry: How do you know Nicole is qualified considering all of Alix Basden's qualifications (Senate, Howard Vice President, etc.)?
- (3) Patrick Lee: People are excited to know Nicole, and I have heard many people talk about all of the extracurriculars she

is involved in. In the campaign, she worked very hard and kept our campaign very honest and ethical.

(4) Sofie Stitt: I second what Patrick said. She is very qualified and anyone who has worked for her can agree.

(5) Jacob Lowry: She sounds like a very competent person, but how are you sure she can succeed in a large leadership role? Nothing she has mentioned has been related to leading a large group of people.

(6) Patrick Lee: I would say there are a lot of ways to be a leader. You (Jacob) work with people all the time who have yet to dive into the nuts and bolts of Student Government, but that does not mean that they can't. I trust someone's experience leading in a dorm as much as elsewhere.

(7) Sofie Stitt: I would like to comment on that. She was a member of two departments and was an incredible commissioner in Pasquerilla West Hall. She has a laundry list of qualifications.

(8) Thomas Davis yields to Alix Basden: Thank you for talking about my experiences and hard work. I will say that I am going to be there for Nicole because, yes, she does not have a lot of experience in this sector of campus. I will be helping her going forward, and that should not be a hindrance. I fully support her.

(9) Paul Stoller: I would also like to put myself in Nicole's corner. She is a phenomenal person all-around, and you can tell her skills and dedication will translate into serving well as Chief of Staff. It is in her intangibles. I am pretty confident voting yes.

c) Voting

(1) The nomination is approved.

2. [Nomination for Student Union Secretary](#)

a) Questioning:

(1) Derick Williams: What are you most excited for about this position?

(2) Ryann McTague: I am really excited to learn a lot more about Student Government and the Student Union as I will be working with all different branches a lot. I am also excited to explore this position, as we are planning for it to expand further than it has in past years.

(3) Hunter Brooke: How is the position of Student Union Secretary being expanded?

(4) Ryann McTague: Mostly in support of Nicole as Chief of Staff regarding menial tasks like sending emails and keeping records.

b) Debate



- (1) Derick Williams: I worked with Ryann on FUEL, and she showed up to meetings and showed consistency. She put in the work.
- (2) Thomas Davis yields to Faith Woods: I got to meet Ryann at Executive Cabinet onboarding, and she is one of the nicest people I have ever met.
- (3) Patrick Smart: She is very organized.
- (4) Luca Ripani: Why should a first year student be in the Student Union?
- (5) Patrick Lee: We are represented by a variety of grades in this room. Ryann brought so many qualities that we were looking for.
- (6) Sofie Stitt: We elect first year presidents in Pasquerilla West and we always feel young stepping into HPC. However, we deserve a seat at the table. I can confirm that Ryann deserves a seat at this table.
- (7) Trista Brantley: Ryann does not get on anyone's nerves and we will all be working a lot with her.

c) Voting

- (1) The nomination is approved.

3. [Nomination for Executive Controller](#)

a) Questioning:

- (1) Paul Stoller: iPhone or Samsung? Why?

(2) Kevin Wang: Samsung, as I am using one right now.

However, I will not judge one's character based on their choice of use.

(3) Claire Sison: I am Student Union Treasurer. I was wondering what experience you have creating an actual budget versus creating a budget in theory?

(4) Kevin Wang: In Knott, studying Finance and ACMS, minoring in Business Tech. The budget matters a lot, and my skills and background coursework should be useful in creating the budget.

(5) Derick Williams: Can you explain to us what the Executive Controller position is and its duties?

(6) Kevin Wang; I am in charge of maintaining the budget for exec cab and senate. I will be bookkeeping all of the expenses made from both. there are also more duties

(7) Claire Sison: Do you have any experience making a budget before?

(8) Kevin Wang: I have in theory in Finance classes.

b) Debate

(1) Paul Stoller: I was with Kevin Wang in First Year Class Council and got to know him more this year. He is so passionate about Student Government and helped to plan Prom over the summer even when he was no longer

involved in Class Council. He can add a lot of experience to the Executive Cabinet.

(2) Griffin McAndrew: He was the Knott Freshman liaison.

Kevin is a fantastic guy who is very easy to work with and personal. We would be lucky to have him on the Executive Cabinet.

(3) Claire Sison: Kevin has a lot of great skills. I have taken similar Accounting classes to Kevin. I think he is more than capable of succeeding in this role.

c) Voting

(1) The nomination is approved.

4. [Nominations for Executive Cabinet Directors](#)

a) Questioning

(1) Griffin McAndrew: Would any of the 21 candidates like to speak on what they would like to do?

(2) Lane Obringer: I am requesting your consideration to approving my nomination to Director of the Department of Gender Relations - Title IX and Women's Initiatives. This year I have been the campus champion for Callisto. I also want to add sexual assault curriculum into the Moreau First Year Experience.

(3) Faith Woods: I am asking for your consideration to nominate me as Department Director of Diversity &

Inclusion - Race and Ethnicity. I am hoping to expound upon Walk the Walk Week. It was bigger before COVID. I am really passionate about diversity and inclusion and ensuring everyone has an equitable experience at Notre Dame. I also want to work more closely with administration.

- (4) Derick Williams: I would like to hear from Sofie Stitt and Patricke Lee about the Department Directors' qualifications and what you were looking for when selecting them?
- (5) Patrick Lee: These people are the best choice to lead their departments. We spent a week going through over 100 apps and leading 50 first round interviews. The people in this room gave excellent answers as to what they would like to accomplish this year.
- (6) Sofie Stitt: I can confidently say that all of them are a dream come true. There is nothing I would change. We are incredibly confident in them.
- (7) Thomas Davis: Are there any rising seniors being nominated to the Executive Cabinet?
- (8) Sofie Stitt: Can rising seniors present raise their hand? [About 3 students raise their hands]. There are also two rising seniors abroad. Diversity was important to us when selecting an Executive Cabinet.

## b) Debate

- (1) Hunter Brooke: I have nothing against any of these candidates. I have read through all of their letters, and there are quite a few errors in them. I feel that if we want to be taken seriously as a group, we need to put out documents that read well and have a high level of quality. In the future, we should try to do better in this regard to produce documents that are legible and grammatically correct.
- (2) Sofie Stitt: I would like it to be known that these documents will not be published.
- (3) Peter Herrmann: How many of the nominees worked on your campaign? How many worked on the other campaign?
- (4) Patrick Lee: Ben Nash worked on our campaign. I am not sure how many did, but I know a few worked on the other campaign. We are happy that they were not focused on the ticket and were rather focused on the issues.
- (5) Claire Sison: Do you believe that this selection of students represents the diversity of the student body?
- (6) Patrick Lee: Yes. That was an objective of ours from the start. We ended up with a group that accurately represents many identities and communities on campus, and they are strong advocates of those identities and communities.
- (7) Thomas Davis: Was anyone a transfer student?

(8) Patrick Lee: Yes. Lane is a transfer from St. Mary's College.

(9) Sofie Stitt: Not with regard to people on this list, but many people I would consider as sub-directors are transfers from Holy Cross, St. Mary's College, and other universities. We also have someone who took a gap year.

c) Voting

(1) The nominations are approved.

5. [Nomination for Student Union Parliamentarian](#)

a) Sofie Stitt: For background, this person will be helping me, the Chairperson of the Senate, to guide through the Constitution.

b) Questioning

(1) Griffin McAndrew: There is a vague sentence in the second paragraph. "When reviewing applications for this position, I was especially impressed with Jared's ability to develop and communicate a strong interpretation of a difficult constitutional question.". Could you elaborate?

(2) Madison Nemeth: I asked two difficult questions related to elections. One was about opting out of Judicial Council regulation for elections. The second was about ranked-choice voting in elections.

(3) Derick Willaims: What are your qualifications and experiences?

- (4) Jared Schlachet: I have five years of experience in parliamentary procedure from my time in Model UN. It is done slightly differently in Model UN [than at Notre Dame], but it should be a pretty seamless transition. I have also gotten a much better understanding of the Constitution and better understanding of Student Government than I had last year when I applied to be Parliamentarian.
- (5) Derick Williams: What was the outcome of your past running for this position?
- (6) Claire Sison: In what branch of student government is this position?
- (7) Madison Nemeth: Judicial Council. However, the Parliamentarian plays a large role in the Senate.

c) Debate

- (1) Madison Nemeth: I want to respond to Derick's question about his past run for election. I became the Parliamentarian early last year and was renominated. It did not have as much to do with who applied and more to do with the fact that there was someone who was just in the role that was willing to serve again.
- (2) Derick Williams: I was on the Committee on the Constitution with Jared. I think it is important to get someone who has been on Senate and who has spent a lot

of time on different committees and spent a few years on Judicial Council. I would like to see Jared as Deputy Parliamentarian.

(3) Hunter Brooke: I want to reiterate that. I have some serious concerns about Jared's ability to serve as an effective Parliamentarian. It is nothing against him, he is a great guy. I would just like to see a candidate with much more experience. He has never served on Senate, and his role is to help us write resolutions and tell us [Senators] what to do once resolutions are passed. He has only been to one Senate meeting before this one. I know Sofie will need a very strong Parliamentarian, not that she doesn't know what she is doing, but it is good to have someone with the right amount of experience to get things done.

(4) Thomas Davis yields to Faith Woods: I know Madison Nemeth very well, she is very brilliant, so I trust her judgment. If she believes Jared is the best person for the role, I trust her. I do not feel it is right to contest a nomination due to lack of experience in Student Government. I do think chairing at Model UN does provide a good experience.

(5) Thomas Davis: I served as Parliamentarian for two terms and as Judicial Council President. I take great offense to



one saying that one needs Senate experience to be a good Parliamentarian. The job is to be an impartial person who knows the rules and speaks up only when necessary. Jared displays the attributes and qualities of a Student Union Parliamentarian. This position probably one of the most powerful and influential members of the Student Union, probably following the Student Body President. I served well as Parliamentarian without Senate experience. I would say that Madison Nemeth felt very underqualified when I asked her to be Parliamentarian under me, but she grew so much in the role and has become a star. [Appointing Madison] was one of the best things I did as Judicial Council President.

(6) Robert Spence: I would like to echo what Thomas says. It probably is not rocket science. Someone smart enough to get into this school that says he is capable of the role is probably capable.

(7) Hunter Brooke: This should not be an emotional decision, only logical. This is not against Jared as a person. I think he should serve as Deputy Parliamentarian with someone as Parliamentarian with more knowledge. The Parliamentarian is not a Senator and is not supposed to represent people. They are supposed to know the rules, and I believe

someone who would know that most would be someone who has experience on the Senate. I think [Jared] would be a great Deputy Parliamentarian, and there would be people with greater experience that would want this role.

(8) yield to Patrick Smart: I think more important than experience is motivation. The fact he applied this year and last year shows that he has motivation. Model UN is intense and shows that he does have a lot of past experience. We should also trust Madison's judgment.

(9) Derick Williams: We have a lot of rising sophomore Senators. I know from my time on the Committee on the Constitution that the Constitution is very long. We need someone who can lead with much experience of the Constitution in order to get work done for our constituents. This is an important role, and I think we could be best served by allowing Jared to serve as Deputy Parliamentarian and allow a different Parliamentarian to serve with more knowledge.

(10) Kevin Wang: I want to speak on Jared's behalf. Jared and I both live in Knott Hall. The role of the Senator is to represent the opinions of the dorm. You are appointed Parliamentarian, not elected. Madison appointed Jared as Parliamentarian. Jared is curious, as Madison states in her

letter, about the Constitution and Student Union. I can assure you that he has read every page of the Constitution, which is the best experience you can get. His experience in Model UN can only help him. I strongly believe that we should confirm Jared.

- (11) Faith Woods: Please do not confuse mine and Thomas' passion for being emotional. Serving on the Committee on the Constitution is arguably the hardest job in the Student Union. If you are able to understand and lead in that area, you are more than capable of being Parliamentarian.

Madison is brilliant, so if Madison trusts Jared, I trust Jared.

- (12) Matty Bisner: I am the outgoing Vice President and Chairperson of the Senate. Thomas, thank you for your endorsement on this. Please end this debate so we can get on with our lives. It is almost 9:00pm.

d) Voting

(1) Closed vote

(2) The nomination is approved.

6. Motion to cap the meeting at 9:15pm is passed.

7. [Nomination for Judicial Council Vice President of Elections](#)

a) Questioning

(1) Paul Stoller: What are you most excited for?

(2) Koryn Isa: I held this position last year and am excited to continue the important work that we do.

(3) Patrick Lee: We have 18 minutes left and the last three items on the agenda are incredibly important. If we could move efficiently, that would be great.

b) Voting

(1) The nomination is approved.

D. [A Resolution Bestowing Emeritus Status on Allan Njomo](#)

1. Debate

a) Patrick Lee: Quickly, I want the minutes to reflect that Allan Njomo was a fantastic Student Body President. He did more than the role required. In Stanford, Allan lived across the hall from me my freshman year, and he took me every step of the way. He is such a great person. The effect Allan has had on the campus and on the job is absolutely indelible.

b) Paul Stoller: I will keep this brief. Allan Njomo has some of the most swagger I have ever seen from a Notre Dame kid. Calling him nice is an understatement.

c) Derrick Williams: Allan Njomo's welcoming nature is amazing. He was very open to getting coffee with myself, a first year. He is dedicated in both his work in student government and personal life.

2. Voting

a) The resolution passes.

E. [A Resolution Bestowing Emeritus Status on Matty Bisner](#)

## 1. Debate

- a) Kevin Wang yields to Allan Njomo: Matty is extremely dedicated to serving. When we were set to go home for COVID, Matty was committed to working to find housing for students who could not go home.
- b) Sofie Stitt: Matty is my predecessor, and the shoes they are leaving behind are ginormous. An emeritus status would be well deserved.
- c) Claire Sison: I have worked with them for the past three years, and they are the reason I am sitting in this meeting today.
- d) Tavin Martin: I have been involved in Student Government for most of my freshman year, and Matty has been one of my biggest role models. They deserve this more than anyone else I can think of.

## 2. Voting

- a) The resolution passes.

F. [A Resolution Bestowing Emeritus Status on Alix C. Basden](#)

## 1. Debate

- a) Kevin Wang yields to Allan Njomo: Alix held us together. A lot of the events, programming, and policies you see were because of Alix.

- b) Paul Stoller yields to Matty Bisner: Alix was a godsend to [Allan and I] after we got elected. She has been a good friend and a fantastic leader.
- c) Lauryn Pugh: Alix Basden is a true champion for everything the Student Union stands for. Her dedication is unmatched, and I am sad to see her go.
- d) Paul Stoller: Unique is a great word for Alix. She is not only going to leave a hole in student government, but a hole at Notre Dame. I am really going to miss her.

## 2. Voting

- a) The resolution passes.

## VII. New Business

- A. An Order to Revise the Senate Bylaws
- B. A Resolution Calling for an Extension of the University's Subscription of Timely Care and Calm

## VIII. Announcements

- A. Madison Nemeth: Do not endorse anyone for Off-Campus Council elections.

## IX. Adjournment