

Student Senate  
Executive Summary  
Wednesday September 9, 2015

- I. Invocation
  - A. meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM
  - B. Jack Kill led invocation
- II. Roll Call
  - A. two were late; zero were absent
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - A. J.P. Bruno moved to approve the minutes
    1. Reynaldo Lopez seconded
- IV. Officer Announcements
  - A. Mr. Bryan Ricketts, Student Body President
    1. CLC voted to approve the formation of two subcommittees: one on alcohol culture on campus and one on diversity and inclusion
  - B. Ms. Nidia Ruelas, Student Body Vice President
    1. Library renovations, flyers in the back of the Notre Dame room on what's happening with the renovations
    2. 9/11 moment of silence at 9:30 am
      - a) Presentation of the Colors on south quad right before the moment of silence
      - b) please distribute letters to professors and ask them to take time to commemorate at 9:300 am
      - c) Fr. Rocka will lead prayer service at 1:30 PM on South Quad
  - C. Mr. Dan Sehlhorst, Chief of Staff
    1. Next week is Dorm Week
      - a) Quad Festivals done by Quad
      - b) Spread the word that this is happening, it's a good opportunity to learn about the culture of other dorms
    2. Come pick up Student Government T-shirts if you haven't gotten one yet
- V. Approvals
  - A. Judicial Council Election Committee Approvals
    1. *Zach Waterson, Judicial Council President*
      - a) Election Committee that serves to help run elections for the year
      - b) Mr. James Brokaw was nominated for the Judicial Council Election Committee
      - c) Ms. Katie Hergenrother was nominated for the Judicial Council Election Committee
      - d) Amit Paul was nominated for the Judicial Council Election Committee
      - e) Kathleen Ryan was nominated for the Judicial Council Election Committee
      - f) Mary Schubert was nominated for the Judicial Council Election Committee
      - g) Zoe Walker was nominated for the Judicial Council Election Committee
      - h) Ryan Will was nominated for the Judicial Council Election Committee
    2. Reynaldo Lopez moved to bypass discussion on these nominations
      - a) Dan Riehle seconded
    3. Wilson Barrett moved to vote on all candidates at one
      - a) Sarah Kim seconded

4. Sean Kent motioned to approve all seven nominees
  - a) Christine Zavakos seconded

## VI. General Orders

### A. Presentation and Discussion Re: Expectation of Responsibility Policy

1. *Ryan Willerton; Director, Office of Community Standards*
2. Similar to a Medical Amnesty Policy
3. If someone needs help, it is expected that a Notre Dame student would act and get help for that individual
4. Changed the conduct records reporting policy → three disciplinary policies
  - a) permanent dismissal
  - b) temporary dismissal
  - c) stern warning/conversation from the university
5. Expectations
  - a) proactively contact authorities for help
  - b) remain with the individual requiring medical attention
  - c) cooperate with responding emergency officials
6. Person that reaches out for help while also violating the University's alcohol policy or controlled substances policy is exempt from Notre Dame's Disciplinary Status Outcomes
  - a) no three strikes policy
7. Point is to hold individuals accountable, but ensure that they get the medical attention that they deserve
8. Person who is getting help is also exempt from Notre Dame's Disciplinary Status Outcome, but will most likely be referred to an appropriate setting of the University Conduct Process (discussion with Rector, etc.)
9. Questions
  - a) Louis Bertolotti: How does the law apply to St. Mary's, Holy Cross, etc.?
    - (1) Medical Amnesty Policy only applies to Notre Dame students, each school has their own policy
  - b) Dan Sehlhorst: What level outcomes can be reported to med schools, etc.?
    - (1) There's a gap between internal and external reporting (external = med schools, etc.), Notre Dame only reports what the application asks for. If it asks for Disciplinary Action, only Disciplinary Action will be reported. If an application asks for Violations of Policy, that is answered honestly too. University expects honesty from the student's part of the application.
    - (2) Study Abroad: Look at the situation that surrounds your incident, the point is not to "hand over" every violation reported. Violations won't ruin your chance of studying abroad.
  - c) Ivan Finkelstein: How can we reach you?
    - (1) call 66315551 or email [willerton@nd.edu](mailto:willerton@nd.edu) or [ocs@nd.edu](mailto:ocs@nd.edu)
    - (2) contact if you want Mr. Willerton to come talk to your dorm, club, etc.

### B. Presentation and Discussion Re: Sexual Assault and It's On Us

1. *Bryan Ricketts; Student Body President*

2. Culture Change Model

- a) Awareness: One is too many (two years ago)

- b) Education: It's On Us pt. 1 (last year)
  - c) Action: It's On Us pt. 2 and Green Dot (this year)
- 3. Policy is important, but it is a tool. Culture change is necessary.
  - a) Culture change happens relationally, person to person
- 4. Resources
  - a) Brochures and posters about prevention and support.
  - b) Pledge cards on the table in the back of the Notre Dame room and front desk of the Student Government office, pick one up if you haven't already
  - c) visit [itsonus.nd.edu](http://itsonus.nd.edu)
    - (1) link to googleform that allows you to sign a pledge and choose to learn more about GRC, sexual violence, green dot, etc.
- 5. What can you do
  - a) reach out to 5 people you know who care about sexual assault, and have a conversation with them about It's On Us, especially if they want to get involved
  - b) Invite five of your friends and anyone else you know to the Dorm Storm Launch, Thursday September 10th at 8:30 PM in the Montgomery Auditorium
- 6. Nidia Ruelas: If you would like to talk about Sexual Assault with Bryan, Nidia, and Dan, they're doing a Board Report (presentation given to the Board of Trustees) on the topic, reach out to them with any discussion/ideas/conversations.

## VII. New Business

### A. Isabel Fox: Lack of Cups in the Dining Hall

- 1. people can't take anything out of the dining hall in a cup anymore
- 2. maybe introduce biodegradable plastic
- 3. Bryan Ricketts: Sustainability commissioners may still be giving out water bottle
- 4. Dan Sehlhorst: Kathleen Rocks and Dan both sit on the sustainability committee, this decision was made because of a big push to remove paper bags and styrofoam in the dining halls. Surveyed large number of students, and they got 80% support from removing both entirely. Thought the best way to do this was to remove immediately. Thought that the amount of styrofoam getting thrown out each year outweighs the benefits of having the cups in the dining hall
  - a) Director of Sustainability: Linda Kurtos
- 5. J.P. Bruno: Why were clear plastic cups removed from north?
  - a) Dan Sehlhorst: Had to do with the volume and how much was getting thrown away (water footprint and landfill space). A small lifestyle change could make a big positive impact on the environment
- 6. Tommy Schneeman: Grab and Go bags offered a solution and a replacement, but there is no solution for the styrofoam cups nor has there been any information on it
  - a) Dan Sehlhorst: The reason why they didn't start selling cup is because they felt that a good amount of people carry water bottles or coffee mugs, so replacement for styrofoam wasn't as necessary
- 7. Danny Funaro: Did the 80% support understand that there would not be a replacement
  - a) Dan Sehlhorst: I think the question was worded "would you support the dining halls removing all paper bags and styrofoam cups?"

8. Kathleen Flavin: It would be nice if we could bring in our own containers as a solution
  9. Janie Goodson: the policy has always been that you couldn't bring out certain things (such as yogurt) but now they're starting to enforce it more
  10. Isabel Fox: How are we supposed to take things out like dessert (which is allowed) if we can't bring out cups?
    - a) Nidia Ruelas: we can look into current taking out food policies and discuss it in Senate
  11. Seamus Quilty: Has there been any type of analysis as to how other universities are approaching this problem?
    - a) Dan Sehlhorst: Not sure how much they've looked at other colleges. Also changing the current dining hall policies can lead to higher meal plan prices
  12. Isabel Fox: Does the policy allow for us to bring in coffee mugs to the dining hall?
    - a) Nidia Ruelas: Answer is probably yes, you can bring a coffee mug
  13. Marissa Thompson: I think the reason why a solution was not proposed for cups is because there is not a clear solution unlike with the plastic bags from Grab and Go.
  14. Kelly Smith: even if we can't think of a solution, there should've been more transparency about this change in the dining hall.
  15. Kevin Coleman: Seems like transparency is an issue with many university things. (ie styrofoam cups, printer quota, etc.)
  16. Kathleen Rocks: North Dining Hall has signs of all the new rules, which helps with transparency
  17. Bryan Ricketts: Recognize that the sustainability did contain student input, what we can do is discuss what we don't like and propose a possible solution. I don't want to paint this as a decision by a heavy handed administration
    - a) Nidia Ruelas: If you have suggestions for solutions, we can discuss that in Senate
  18. Louis Bertolotti: We should also look into food waste if we want to improve sustainability. It'll do more than not letting us take out ice cream, etc. from the dining hall
  19. Christina Murphy: Trays also take up a lot of water, so maybe we can introduce biodegradable cups instead of trays or some sort of alternative. Since the dining hall caters for so many people, a footprint is inevitable.
- B. Eva Niklinska: Is there a way to get another printer in Jordan Hall of Science?
1. Nidia: We can talk to OIT and tell Michael McCroskey for Campus Tech
- C. Sarah Kim: New Hydration Stations in Debart and Jordan
1. Isabel Fox: Wouldn't a new water fountain still use the same water supply
  2. Nidia: May be partially due to construction, but we'll take this back to the department and continue to investigate this topic.
  3. Bryan: A part of this is construction, but the school is very aware of the issue we're having with the water taste. Only solution would be to dig them up and replace them, which is unlikely.
- D. Ivan Finkelstein: Why is it that Wall Street Journal sometimes shows up in the dining halls, but sometimes doesn't?
1. Bryan Ricketts: We've purchased NY Times for this year, but they haven't been consistently placed because of delivering issues. We chose not to renew Wall

- Street Journal this year because of cost, etc. They've been delivering the WST to the Dining Halls as samples to encourage students to purchase subscriptions
2. Kevin Coleman: Has it been considered bringing back other papers that were here two years ago (USA today, South Bend Tribune)
    - a) Bryan Ricketts: we have electronic availability of all these papers. Library purchases a database of many of these papers (about 10,000). The readership of the physical copies was approx. 5%, but any student can access them online for free
  - E. Christina Murphy: We don't have a lot of science journals, etc. access. For example, we don't get Pubmed for students
    1. Nidia: We can bring that to the library committee and Academic Affairs

#### VIII. Announcement

- A. Reynaldo Lopez: Morrissey Manor is holding their Manor Laser battle 10:00 PM Friday on September 19th.
  1. Laser battle and Mechanical Bull
- B. Ryan Heard: the Mobile Charging Stations in LaFun and Library are now in Debart as well in the lounge and computer lab.
- C. Wilson Barrett: Dorm Week events
  1. Sunday Night, Ice Cream with Faculty Fellows
  2. Monday: South Quad Carnival
  3. Tuesday: North Quad Carnival
  4. Wednesday: Mod Quad Carnival
  5. Thurs: West Quad Carnival
  6. Stamps in 24 hour lounge of each dorm, if you get stamps from all 29 on your "passport" you can turn it into any tent of the quad carnivals and you'll be entered into the raffle
- D. Louis Bertolotti:
  1. Acoustic Cafe: 10 PM Thursday
  2. Movie: Avenger: Age of Ultron
    - a) Thursday (8:00 PM), Friday (8:00 and 10:30) Saturday (10:30 PM)
- E. Lauren O'Connell: Next thursday, September 17th, "Catch Me if You Can" playing on the lawn of North Quad
- F. Marissa Thompson: CCC splits into small groups to work on both internal and external affairs in the fall. If you or any of your friends have had complaints about club processes or how the CCC works, email [CCC@nd.edu](mailto:CCC@nd.edu) and I'll try to incorporate those into the small groups this semester
- G. Michael Finan: Remind freshman that FUEL applications are due on tuesday
- H. Amy Smikle: Howard is hosting a dunk tank on Monday between 3:00 and 5:00 on South Quad
- I. Zach Waterson: Class Council Elections starts Monday, Wednesday and Friday will be run off elections. Email J-Council if you see anything that shouldn't be happening
- J. John Julien: Zahm is cooking out on the quad on tuesday
- K. Patrick Murday: Taxi Cards for the Student body
  1. gives students knowledge and safety tips
  2. currently distributing these cards, please take bundles and distribute them to your hall council. There is a table in the elevator lobby of lafun for the net few days
    - a) Bryan: The city liked these so much, they're putting them up on major city entering places such as airports

#### IX. Adjournment

- A. J.P Bruno moves to adjourn
  - 1. Reynaldo seconds
- B. adjourned at 7:02 PM