

STUDENT SENATE
Executive Summary
Wednesday October 7, 2015

- I. Invocation
 - A. meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM
 - B. Rohit Fonseca led invocation
- II. Roll Call
 - A. 8 were absent; 3 were late
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Reynaldo Lopez moved to approve the minutes
 1. Jack Kill seconded
- IV. Officer Announcement
 - A. Ms. Nidia Ruelas, Student Body Vice President
 1. Wednesday after fall break (Oct. 28), no Senate because of the Time to Heal dinner
 - a) attendance is highly encourage
 - b) Morris Inn ballroom, purpose of the dinner is to come together as a community to talk about issues dealing with sexual assault
 2. SAO football fridays
 - a) football weekends
 - b) Friday night, game night in Lafun ballroom 10:00 PM to 1:00 AM
 - c) Saturday: harvest and hayrides from 10:00 PM to 1:00 AM
 - (1) free hayrides
 - (2) Halloweentown playing in LaFun ballroom
 - (3) pumpkin decorating
 - B. Mr. Dan Sehlhorst, Chief of Staff
 1. Onward forum is fully operating
 - a) First round of decisions about implementation will happen soon
 - b) Continue to spread the word about posting ideas on Onward and voting on ideas that are already on the forum
- V. General Orders
 - A. Presentation Re: Men's Basketball and Hockey Student Ticket PLan
 1. *Brian Pracht, Assistant Athletic Director*
 2. Process started last spring through focus groups, trying to solve some issues with student attendance at MBB and Hockey games
 3. 30% show rate for students purchasing passes to the Men's basketball games
 4. Men's basketball and Hockey tickets will be free for this coming season
 - a) Not selling season passes anymore, but there is going to be a three day window to claim free tickets online for each game.
 - b) On game week Mondays for hockey and men's basketball the window will open, and the window will close on Wednesdays.
 - c) As of right now, there is no penalty for not using reserved tickets, but that is subject to change depending on if this turns into a problem or not.
 5. Questions
 - a) Will students still be able to sit at the bottom of student sections for Men's Basketball games even when it isn't a super popular games?
 - (1) yes.

- b) For high demand games, will you limit how many tickets we can claim online?
 - (1) Yes. For ACC games, the total student ticket cap will be 1500. For non conference game, the cap will be cut down to 1000
- c) Is there a system that rewards students who go to a lot of games?
 - (1) Yes. It'll be weighted so that the more games you go to, the higher chance you'll have of getting a ticket to the more high demand games.
- d) Has the loss of revenue from student tickets effected ticket prices to the general public?
 - (1) We've had nominal price increases, so the general public isn't really seeing any big difference in their ticket prices.
 - (2) If you miss the window, you can pay a walk up price if tickets are available at the game. (\$10 for basketball, \$7 for hockey)
- e) How many student tickets are allotted for hockey games?
 - (1) Close to 1000 for hockey as well. Numbers are based more on opponent than conference, so there will be a little bit of wiggle room
- f) What happen if the first basketball game happens, and more than 1000 people try to get tickets?
 - (1) Even if 1500 tickets are claimed for 1000 seats, we don't expect everyone is going to use their ticket. I don' think it'll be an issue for the first games, but there could be a lottery that no one has an advantage over anywhere else, that is completely random.
 - (2) There is no benefit to requesting early, either
- g) Can you explain the rationale for hockey? It seems to hurt hockey more than help
 - (1) We have a lot of public demand for a smaller facility for hockey. We're turning away alot of people in the public who want to come, and end up with an empty student section. It's an inventory management issue that we're trying to address.

B. Presentation and Discussion Re: Local and Sustainable Food and Food Survey

1. *Carolyn Yvellez, Social Concerns Staff-Sustainability*
2. What ND does now
 - a) In the process of defining what are sustainable and local foods
 - b) ND began highlighting local producers and farms
 - c) Defines local as 250 miles from campus
 - d) spend 3.5 million on supporting those local farms
 - e) 38% of dining hall food is locally sourced
3. Results: Healthy was a bigger factor than local, and that quality and affordability is also really important (even though quality is usually directly correlated to prices)
4. Why local:
 - a) Current industrial system is not sustainable
 - b) industrial agriculture pollutes, air, water, soil, etc.
 - c) threatens public health through development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, overuse of pesticides, etc.
 - d) local farms = lower risks
5. Premiums for better food

- a) Local and sustainable food can come between 10-20% food more. Is this student body receptive to price change for better food?
- b) What are we willing to pay for better, healthier, local food?
- c) We're already not very aware of what prices are because most things (especially in the huddle) don't have price tags, so it's difficult to know
- d) What if cost of attendance at Notre Dame increased? How would people respond to that?
 - (1) Eva: I would spend more at cafes or restaurant (meal type), but probably not at the huddle
 - (2) Kathleen Rocks: replacing burger king with a restaurant that offers healthier, better quality options might be a solution.
 - (a) looking into about five different options that offer healthier, better quality foods
 - (3) Seamus: people probably wouldn't be very responsive to an increase in cost of attendance to cover this high quality food
 - (4) Dan: One of the most rapid ways to reduce the price of room and board would be to reduce tray use in the dining hall. If those two things went together, we probably wouldn't see as much of a price increase
 - (a) Price increase is geared more towards student spending on campus.
 - (5) Sara Dugan: Price increase should only be on items that are locally sourced, not just as a general increase.
 - (6) Wilson: How much does 14000 gallons of water actually cost?
 - (a) Not as much of an issue about how much it costs, we just want to reduce this number to be more sustainable.
 - (7) Jack Kill: Can you explain how a trayless system would work?
 - (a) I go into the dining hall, I would take a plate and go get stuff. Instead of stacking multiple cups, I get up and refill my cup. As far as dropping it off, trays would be cycling on the belt so students can just put their plates, cups, etc. on the trays laying down.
 - (8) Amy: With people already upset about the styrofoam cup, there would be a riot about the trays. It may not go over well, how would we be able to tell students that it's better for the environment when they don't care about the styrofoam cups?
 - (a) the goal is to have that educational component so that students know how much this benefits our environment and Notre Dame in general.
 - (9) Rohit Fonseca: Have we thought of letting students know how much food we're wasting every day so that they know how much food we're wasting every day?
 - (10) Wilson Barrett: What if we made platewear that we could attach a cup to and had an area to attach a bowl?

C. Presentation Re: Student Government Report to the Board of Trustees

- 1. *Bryan Ricketts, Student Body President*
- 2. *Nidia Ruelas, Student Body Vice President*
- 3. *Dan Sehlhorst, Chief of Staff*

4. Bryan: Every year, SG presents to the board of trustees during the fall and spring. Our upcoming presentation will be October 15th, we wrote our report on sexual violence. The contents of this report are not public, so I would request that we close Senate for this presentation
5. Reynaldo moved to close Senate
 - a) Kevin Coleman seconded
6. Reynaldo Lopez moved to open Senate
 - a) Ethan Holland seconded

VI. New Business

- A. Jack Kill: Changes in our behavior towards Clarke Memorial Fountain, Stonehenge
 1. Fountain is a memorial that honors 500 Notre Dame alumni who died fighting for our freedom in war
 2. The celebratory tradition of running into the stonehenge after games is something we should reconsider since it seems inappropriate considering the purpose and meaning behind the stonehenge.
 3. St. Ed's has changed their tradition of running through the Stonehenge on game days to reflect the change in behavior being discussed
 4. Encouraged to discuss and consider traditions associated with the stonehenge with your dorms, friends, etc.
- B. Kathleen Rocks: Sustainability Strategy Committee
 1. certain dorms don't have hydration stations. Let Kathleen know if their dorms don't have any in the dorm.
- C. Marissa Thompson: *Onward* use
 1. Members of my dorm recommended that no one in Student Govt, especially Executive Cabinet, downvote anything on *Onward*. Doesn't look good for people in Student Government positions to downvote ideas because it sets the wrong precedent.

VII. Announcements

- A. Rohit Fonseca: SUB
 1. Midterm Stress Relievers bagels and coffees next wednesday 8:00 to 10:00
 2. SUB movie: TED 2
 3. Acousticafe basement of Lafun Thursday Oct. 8th
 4. Irish State of Mind Week: Kevin Breel on Thursday at 7 in Wash Hall
 - a) Free books for the first 100 people there
 5. November 6th: Huge sub event.
- B. Andre Thomas: Social Concerns Collection Drive
 1. Look for donation bins in the first floor commons, 24 hour areas, etc. of each dorm
 2. Looking for toiletries donations, but specifically hoping that guys' dorms give more men related items, and women's dorms give more women related items.
- C. Christine Zavakos: LHOP this Friday
- D. Amy Smikle: Research Like a Champion Today
 1. Research like a Champion Today is a privately funded organization that gives students at Notre Dame from any major an opportunity to develop ideas for cancer research in any capacity.
 2. Spread it to your dorms, make sure people know about this opportunity!
 3. <http://science.nd.edu/research/researchlikeachampion/>
- E. Alex Fincher: Puppy Days next Wednesday

1. basement of Knights of Columbus from 1:00-3:00

F. Nidia Ruelas: Please send the food survey to your halls

VIII. Adjournment

A. Jack Kill moved to adjourn

1. Isabel Fox seconded