

STUDENT SENATE
Executive Summary
Wednesday December 2nd, 2015

- I. Invocation
 - A. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM
 - B. Jack Kill led invocation
- II. Roll Call
 - A. 5 were absent; 0 were tardy
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Reynaldo Lopez moved to approve the minutes from last week
 1. Michael Finan seconded
- IV. Officer Announcements
 - A. Ms. Nidia Ruelas, Student Body Vice President
 1. Next Senate is the last Senate of the semester (no Senate during finals week)
- V. General Orders
 - A. Presentation and Discussion Re: Library Renovation Updates
 1. *Hesburgh Library Renovation Steering Committee*
 - a) *Jessica Kayongo, University Librarian*
 - b) *Diane Walker, University Librarian*
 - c) *John Wetzel, Student Member*
 2. Hesburgh is 50 years old, interior has mostly not been renovated during that time
 3. Overall Project Goals
 - a) Make visible activities of intellectual engagement with Hesburgh Library
 - b) Promote research and learning services
 - c) Provide high quality study and work environments for all users
 - d) Implement space strategies for effective access and growth of collections
 - e) Recognize and celebrate Hesburgh Library's unique and special collections
 - f) Transform the physical environment of the library to reflect its prominence
 4. What's been completed
 - a) North Entrance Gallery
 - b) North Reading Room (second floor)
 - c) North Skylight
 - d) North plaza: added a North entrance
 5. What's under construction
 - a) First and Second floors of the south end should be done in March, 10th floor should be done early spring
 - b) Continuing the north entrance gallery and installing a south ceiling opening.
 - c) Furniture will be added to North and South entrance gallery
 - d) Service Points (circulation desk and research help desk) will be placed in a more prominent location.
 - e) Adding a glass wall to the second floor common area to increase natural lighting
 - f) Furniture around the second floor openings
 - g) Changing the graduate carrels to a group office space on the 10th floor
 - h) Carpet flooring on the 10th floor
 - i) Adding a reading room to the 10th floor: enclosed space w reading tables

6. Plans for Phase Two

- a) Adding a scholar's lounge, concourse space, etc.
- b) Working on the 4th floor next
- c) Concourse Space: creating an art installation, more glass covering instead of current wood panel, adding furniture along with large windows. Purpose is to make the space look much more refined.
- d) Fishbowl space is changing to a two floor grand reading room with a skyline area
- e) Scholars Lounge: first floor, including wide tables for group work, and booths and high tables for individual studying.
 - (1) will be a bookable event space
 - (2) has a view of library circle

7. <http://renovation.library.nd.edu/>

- a) includes any and all information about renovations, including renovation plans so students can check ahead if it will be a noisy day in the library due to construction, etc.
- b) great resource if you have questions

8. Questions

- a) Isabel Fox: Is the reading room on the 10th floor open to all students?
 - (1) Yes, there will also be individual study spaces scattered around 10th floor
- b) Ariana Zlioba: Is the 10th floor a model for all the other floors?
 - (1) It's an experiment, if people like the way it turns out it may serve as a model, but that's not certain yet. We're hosting focus groups to determine the needs for each floor so that the designs can compliment.
- c) J.P. Bruno: Will the 10th floor be a conversation or quiet floor?
 - (1) We don't imagine that it will change from what it is now, so more of a quiet space
- d) Sara Dugan: Will every floor eventually be renovated?
 - (1) We hope so, it depends on fundraising
- e) Morgan Dunn: When is the project projected to finished.
 - (1) Depends on fundraising, but it looks like it will go on through 2019 at least
- f) Eva Niklinska: Do you have an idea of who would use the scholar's lounge as an event space?
 - (1) We'll set up a request and review event sign up. We're thinking something academically relevant, or maybe a reception space following a speaker in the auditorium
- g) Louis Bertolotti: What's the plan moving forward for book storing?
 - (1) We intend to keep the books, the stack tower floors will continue to be stacks with some study space and the lower levels will have compact shelvings. Humanities, arts, etc. will stay on campus, and the off site annex will mostly have science, technology, engineering, and journals. We'll still have close to 2 million volumes in the library
- h) Patrick Murday: What are you guys planning to do with the carrells on the other floors?

- (1) Depends on how the 10th floor works, but the current plan is to abolish the carrels
- i) Taylor Still: How much additional study space will be added when phase 1 is complete?
 - (1) Master plan keeps about the number of study seats, but our current study seats include spaces we don't see many people using. The number will be about the space, but the work space should be increased. Phase 1 we're not sure about
- j) Reynaldo Lopez: Has the electrical outlet situation been addressed?
 - (1) It is being addressed. There are now outlets in the floor on the first and second floor. The goal is to add an outlet for just about every seat.
- k) Bridget Doyle: Is it possible to introduce more light into the tower?
 - (1) Part of the challenge with the tower is that the carrels encompass the windows that we currently have. Part of what we're trying to do with the design on the 10th floor is make the windows that are there more available to everyone. However, we can't add any more windows. All of the lighting going in is LED lighting which should be an improvement from the lighting we currently have.

B. Discussion Re: Core Curriculum Review Draft

1. *Student Union Senate*
2. Jack Kill: There's a helpful article in the observer that highlighted the course changes and what they would look like. Does anyone know more about what this would entail? The courses that replace math and science have names that don't really give specifics and are somewhat confusing. This draft was published but we haven't been told anything specific
 - a) Christine Zavakos: It sounded like a broader description of what quantifies math. So you could take stats or calculus and that would count towards math credit
3. Eva Niklinska: There are four reps who sit in on this council, we are being briefed on Monday and we can give you a debrief during next week's Senate.
4. Louis Bertolotti: The only question I have is about the AP requirements. What's the thought process behind accepting less AP credit?
 - a) Eva: AP requirements in the college of science are not usually accepted because they want you to retake certain classes so you don't struggle in higher level science courses
5. Christine Zavakos: I'm in the college of engineering, it's a little concerning to hear that they're not taking AP credits and it's confusing because it says that it's up to the college. It's nice to have a freer schedule if you can get some classes out of the way thanks to AP credits.
 - a) Eva Niklinska: Casey Skevington is the representative for the college of engineering, so I can pass the question on to her
 - b) Nidia Ruelas: College of Engineering will still be taking some AP credit, but what's accepted changes from college to college
6. Wilson Barrett: The number of credits needed to graduate changes per school and engineering has the highest graduation credit, so having the AP credit helps keep

students on the graduation track. Just wondering how removing AP credit will impact graduation times, majors, etc.

- a) Andrew Thomas: I came in to Notre Dame with three classes taken off freshman year due to AP credit, so I was able to work towards a minor. If i didn't have that I would probably not be able to add a minor to my major
 - b) Ryan Herd: My AP credit allows me to go abroad. If i didn't have it I wouldn't be able to go abroad
7. Isabel Fox: If you were an engineering major and then you switch into Arts and Letters, what would be the rule about transferring AP credit if one college accepted and the other didn't?
 8. Zach: They reduced the amount of the courses we have to take by one by getting rid of one math/science course. They also added a writing course, which ends up being a "double whammy" to students in science majors.
 9. Ariana Zlioba: Being able to test out of different classes and majors helps you jump into what you want to do much more quickly. The one thing I hope that if they decide to limit AP courses is that they're really transparent about what you can and can't test out of.
 10. Louis Bertolotti: That's something a lot of student think about when they consider where they go to college. So it makes us less competitive as a university if we accept less AP credit
 11. Seamus Quilty: A lot of friends at state schools are ahead of their graduation track because their AP credit transfers
 12. Marissa Thompson: The other side is that they're building the liberal arts education. For example, there is a student who has a second major in Arts and Letters who never took a history or english class at Notre Dame because of AP credit. They want to shift the focus of taking the core requirements from getting those classes out of the way.
 13. Jack Kill: Might be helpful to take what has been drafted so far and reflecting on that based on each specific college to best fit their studies
 14. Wilson: There are subcommittees on the website that address a lot of these detail based question
 15. Reynaldo Lopez motioned to close
 - a) Isabel Fox seconded

VI. New Business

- A. Jack Kill: St. Ed's hall raised the most money for Notre Dame Day. We have \$30,000 and the money will disappear if we don't use it, but many of our ideas have not been approved by the University. I don't want this to happen to your dorm, so just be aware of this concern. Additionally, if you have any ideas for St. Ed's and how we can broach this problem, please share with me.

VII. Announcements

- A. Ethan Holland: Sorin SYR is this Friday and will be opened to the public due to lack of interest. The theme is Stars, Stripes, and Cena
- B. Alex Fincher: Badin Christmas this Friday from 11:00-7:00
- C. Kathleen Rocks for Amy Smikle: Howard Holliday 4:00-6:00 this Friday.
 1. All the money raised goes to Catholic Charities
- D. Kelly Smith: PE Silent Night Silent Auction today (December 3rd) in the LaFun Ballroom from 6:00-9:00, free cookie decorating and performances.

1. So You Think You Can Sing: Auditions are coming out, be on the lookout for an email with more information.
 - E. J.P. Bruno: Ornament sales for the class of 2018 for \$20. Today (December 3rd) from 4:00-6:00 PM in front of the elevators.
 1. Still a couple days left to sign up for the Turkey Bowl. Currently in Loftus on Saturday. Link to sign up is on Facebook
 - F. Louis: SUB Announcements
 1. Movie: Straight Outta Compton
 2. Acousticafe this Thursday
 3. Saturday 10PM: Creed Bratton from The Office will be here
 4. Saturday 7:30PM: Donuts in SUB office before Creed
 5. Christmas Grams: Selling this Thursday and Friday from 2:00-5:00 in the Dooley Room
 6. Stress Relievers a week from this Sunday
 - G. Zach Waterson: If you're interested in running for President/VP email has just been sent out
 - H. Eva Niklinska: Next Tuesday there will be ugly christmas sweater free skate. Free food/skate for the first 100 people
 - I. Ryan Herd: Carroll Christmas this Friday
 - J. Nidia Ruelas: Be on the lookout for an email that includes a survey on Senate and how it's run.
- VIII. Adjournment
- A. Reynaldo Lopez moved to adjourn
 1. Ethan Holland seconded
 - B. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM