

STUDENT SENATE
Executive Summary
Wednesday January 27, 2016

I. Invocation

- A. Meeting called to order at 6:01 PM
- B. Invocation led by Sarah Kim

II. Roll Call

- A. 2 absent; 1 tardy

III. Approval of Minutes

- A. Alex Fincher moved to approve minutes
 - a. seconded Ryan Heard

IV. Officer Announcements

- A. Mr. Bryan Ricketts, Student Body President
 - a. Next Thursday at 7PM we have Rohan, our Community Relations Director, to set up an event called Prosperous Partnership. There will be a panel to discuss internships and post-grad opportunities in South Bend
 - b. Regarding SUB: Friday, we are partnering with SUB to have goodies on library circle. South Bend hosts First Fridays, where local businesses offer special discounts. The transpo bus goes directly downtown, and the last bus is at 10PM. Great opportunity to get involved in the community!
 - c. Monthly CCAC meeting: taxi ordinance is in the works
 - i. Most licensed cabs are doing fine; but some individuals are just putting decals on their cars. The ordinance will provide more ability to prosecute these individuals. Similar enforcements will apply to ride sharing apps like Uber. A bill was just passed that will allow cities to regulate them. If you have a bad experience with Uber you can report it to the city in the same way as you can with a taxi.
- B. Ms. Nidia Ruelas, Student Body Vice President
 - a. Hoping to bring a speaker next week to speak about the new study abroad program. Look out for research methods and reflection questions that will be sent out.
 - b. Brian Coughlin and Brian Fremeau coming in a few weeks to talk about campus crossroads
 - c. If you have any issues you want to discuss in Senate over the next 8 weeks, let Nidia know
- C. Ms. Sibonay Shewit, Chief of Staff

V. Approvals

- A. Director of Gender Issues
 - a. Bryan Ricketts presents nomination of Alex Eisele
 - i. Kathleen Rocks moved to approve the nomination
 - 1. Isabel Fox seconded
 - a. Amy Smikle moved to vote
 - i. Michael Conlon seconded
 - b. Alex Eisele has been approved as the Director of Gender Relations

VI. General Orders

A. Discussion Re: Walk the Walk Week

- a. Wilson Barrett: Luncheon was well done but I wish there was more time to hear panel speakers, because the panel was the most interesting part.
- b. Eva Niklinska: I loved the mural, it is very special and cool
- c. Seamus Quilty: I personally did not notice this, but it was brought up to me by others. The majority of the individuals that were serving food were minorities, so people got the wrong vibe from that.
- d. Louis Bertolotti: Apparently some people had to go to class/portions of class/makeups on monday. Feedback?
 - i. 4-5 people had roommates who had to go to class or had to go to class themselves
 - ii. Amy Smikle: One of my teachers asked who was planning on going to the luncheon and when only 3 people were, the teacher decided to still hold class. So emphasizing the reflective importance of the holiday would have been more convincing to professors.
 - iii. Christine Zvakos: One of my friend's teacher was unaware of the cancellation period until it was brought up in class
 - iv. Ariana Zlioba: Why don't we have the whole day off?
 1. JP Bruno: One of my teachers has 3 sections that day and didn't want to fall behind
 2. Bryan Ricketts: One big concern was faculty: Will they still come if they don't have any classes to teach? As well as students: Would students go to anything if they didn't have to go to class?
 3. Isabel Fox: I had many friends in the same case as JP and their profs cancelled all sections for the day.
 4. Tommy Schneeman: To Bryan's point, it was a good plan to have all students on campus, because I could see many people using the holiday as an extra Sunday. Having a whole day off might decrease the significance. My friends said they probably would have slept through the events.
 5. Amy Smikle: I agree with Tommy, it was hard enough to walk to JAC - trying to get people on campus is already difficult. If we want to continue with this decision, we need to keep faculty more in the loop. The last email was sent in October so no one knew it was a thing.
 6. Lauren O'Connell: I had to give a tour (scheduled to work) from 11:00-12:30. Maybe they can cancel tours during that period.
 7. Kathleen Flavin: I had a tutorial and those are held once a week, so they are hard to makeup
 8. Sarah Kim: My teacher didn't know, and said he would still be there during the usual time. He also took attendance. we couldn't go to the other tutorial - so it ended up being very necessary to go to our regular class.
 9. Michael Conlon: Some of my friends had an SSLP interview during the time slot.

10. Eva Niklinska: Why did they choose that time slot, as opposed to later in the evening?
 - a. Bryan Ricketts: This was done out of consideration for faculty and their families.
 11. Kelly Smith: I enjoyed the luncheon, and I really liked the mural. Brainstorming ideas for more things like the mural would emphasize reflection in a more realistic and ongoing way.
 12. JP Bruno: It took a really long time to light candles, even with a shortened path, as there were very few people who came to help. I got an email about it for for class council, but did not get one for senate. Having a larger group of people to help light would be faster.
 - a. not all senate members got the email
 13. Nidia Ruelas: What were reasons to not help with lighting the candles?
 - a. Kathleen Rocks: I was attending my dorm mass
 - b. Christine Zavakos: Around this time, a lot of people are finishing up homework
 14. Marisa Thompson: When I was looking at scheduling, a lot of departments were sponsoring the events. It made me consider the many cultural student groups who could have been very involved as well
 - a. Nidia: We co-sponsored the Black Lives Matter panel
- v. Walk the Walk Week discussion closed
- B. Resolution SS1516-15
- a. Wilson Barrett moved to withdraw both resolutions
 - i. Abe Jenson seconded
 - b. Wilson Barrett: We have not consulted Peggy and Zach to discuss pros and cons.
- C. Resolution SS1516-16
- D. Both resolutions are withdrawn

VII. New Business

- A. Bryan Ricketts: We are still searching for someone for Director of Internal Affairs, because we need someone to advise the election committee over the election period.
- a. Bryan Ricketts reads order SO1516 - 02
 - b. Bryan Ricketts: Peggy is on board with the nomination. It has been brought to my attention that Sara is Becca's roommate, and while I do not think this will affect her impartiality, we will remain open about this. Questions?
 - i. Isabel Fox: Concerned about Sara being roommates with Becca, because it seems like a conflict of interest
 - ii. Ariana Zlioba: if Sara is only there to answer questions about the constitution, her role seems pretty objective
 - iii. Abe Jenson: Her role is to inform rather than to interpret
 - iv. Kelly Smith: How often do you call on the Director of Internal Affairs?
 1. Zach Waterson: Director is always present, but they typically have a pretty minor role. They can offer context about a particular constitutional clause. So, a low to moderate role.

- c. Zach Waterson: If at any time Sara feels unable to be impartial, she can remove herself from the situation.
- d. Tommy Schneeman: Who is on the election committee?
 - i. Zach Waterson: The Election Committee is composed of 7 voting members, as well as the non-voting Director of Internal Affairs and the Judicial Council Vice President of Elections. I am not a voting member, and I suspect that is because I see the election results first, but we are investigating this rationale.
- e. Amy Smikle: I feel better that Sara can recuse herself. Seeing that Becca is running with Corey, and looking at the resolution (regarding endorsements) that was passed earlier this year, there could be an issue with that in the future. I am concerned because of the possibility that an allegation could arise as to how the language of the constitution could be interpreted.
- f. Tommy Schneeman: Concerning Sara, unless anyone can come up with someone who knows the constitution better, this role suits her perfectly
- g. Sean Kent: Why Sara?
 - i. Bryan Ricketts: I am searching for a replacement who will be approved by the required time.
- h. Amy Smikle moved to vote
 - i. Ariana Zlioba seconded
 - 1. Senatorial Order SO1516-02 passes.

- A. Isabel Fox: Regarding endorsements: are we allowed to like someone's facebook page?
 - a. Nidia Ruelas: I believe so
 - b. Zach Waterson: An endorsement is a public or formal declaration of support, or appearing in a photo with a candidate.
 - c. Nidia Ruelas: Bryan and I have a policy that if we do like a page then we like all of them, or we like none at all.
 - d. Kathleen Rocks: Can senators or enumerated people work on campaigns?
 - i. Zach Waterson: You can work on campaigns internally, but making public appearances with a candidate is not allowed.
 - e. Marisa Thompson: Does endorsing include reposting something a candidate posts?
 - i. Zach Waterson: It depends on what they post. If you retweet something about their platform, that could be questionable.
 - f. Michael Conlon: What could be construed about public support?
 - i. Zach: Walking with and handing out flyers, posters, not ok. Merely walking with a candidate, though, is not an expression of support.
 - g. Tommy Schneeman: A good way to think of it is if you think it might be in question, don't do it.

VIII. Announcements

- A. Marisa Thompson: Lobby announcement meetings are T/W/T at 6:30. Attendance is required and each division has a different day and time. Also, we will be electing members for CCC. If you know anyone interested in joining let them know to contact me or anyone else on CCC.
- B. Louis Bertolotti: SUB movie is the Martian.
 - a. tonight until 9:00 is game night

- b. AcoustiCafe: some football players will be performing this Thursday
 - c. February 5th: First Fridays event
 - d. Saturday night is an event; more information is forthcoming.
 - C. Rohan Andresen: Prosperous Partnership panel will be held next Thursday from 7:00-8:00. Back to the Bend is April 2nd, and is a very fun day of service.
 - D. Alex Fincher: Badin Hall's signature event, the Polar Bear Plunge, is on February 6th. It is \$5, and the proceeds go to the Hope Initiative in Nepal.
 - E. Wilson Barrett: Tickets for the Keenan Revue will be sold next Thursday in Lafun from 4:00 to 6:00. The show is February 11-13 at 8:00 in the Stepan Center.
 - F. Abe Jenson: Applications for Fisher Regatta staff went out last week.
 - G. Christina Murphy: McGlenn Hall's signature event, Casino Night, is this Friday, January 30. Tickets are \$5
 - a. Coffee hours provided by Academic Affairs are being extended to Einstein's effective now.
 - H. Isabel Fox: Ryan Hall's Caring Cats Clothing Collection is ongoing through February 4th. It was very successful last year, and the dorm that donates the most gets a surprise!
 - I. Bryan Ricketts: Remember that it is Restaurant Week in South Bend! Participating restaurants are providing fixed-price menus at \$11, \$22, or \$33 through February 7th.
 - J. Nidia Ruelas: Remember that the second floor is an election free zone, and Sib will be strongly enforcing this.
- IX. Adjournment
- A. JP Bruno moved to adjourn
 - a. Wilson Barrett seconded
 - B. meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM