

STUDENT SENATE  
Executive Summary  
Wednesday, March 16

I. Invocation

- A. John Julien led invocation

II. Roll Call

- A. 11 absent; 1 tardy

III. Approval of Minutes

- A. Ryan Heard moved to approve the minutes
  - a. Christine Zavakos seconded

IV. Officer Announcements

- A. Mr. Bryan Ricketts, Student Body President
  - a. Our annual day of service, Back the Bend, is coming up on April 2nd. Signups for that will be going out within the week and you do not need to provide transportation - but if you can and would be willing to provide, let us know. It usually goes in the morning from 8:00 (we will give you some food) until the afternoon. We have been working with the mayor's office and are hoping to have a big South Bend day the week before!
    - i. Marisa Thompson: I believe the start time this year will be about 10:00 or 10:30
- B. Ms. Nidia Ruelas, Student Body Vice President
  - a. I encourage you to attend Back the Bend - think of it as your last act of service while in Student Government!
  - b. There are two Senates left. We have tentatively planned to review the resolutions from Judicial Councils, the Bill Cosby resolution, Judicial Council and Student Union approvals, and awards
    - i. Please fill out awards nominations!
- C. Ms. Sibonay Shewit, Chief of Staff

V. General Orders

- A. Discussion Re: Zhejiang University (ZJU) Partnership in China
  - a. Michael Finan: Bryan and Nidia reached out to Dr. Entrikin, who was supposed to come to Senate and discuss this, and he canceled last minute. They reached out again, and his secretary responded by saying that he is retiring and traveling and couldn't really make it. Fr. Jenkins had a faculty town hall back in November, and some approved of it and some opposed it. The quote I found from Fr. Jenkins about the matter is "Many of our students want to learn the Chinese language and its culture" but I don't think that fully represents the student interest. I am interested in drafting a resolution to send to administration to explain that the students

feel left out of the discussion - especially since Dr. Entrikin canceled - so I was hoping for feedback from you all.

- i. Christine Zavakos: Have we ever done a partnership with this before, and if so were students involved in the discussion?
- ii. Amy Smikle: Well, the university in London could be an example of this - but with this new University, would it be the same approach?
  1. Michael Finan: I looked online and there was not a lot of information available, but the makeup would be 1000 students: 70%chinese and 30%international
- iii. Kathleen Rocks: What does our "association" mean?
  1. Bryan Ricketts: Though I cannot represent the University's position on this, I do have some information - the university would be partnering with other universities. ND would be responsible for providing the liberal arts curriculum there. Mostly a 4 year student commitment
- iv. Rohit Fonseca: in a liberal arts classroom, how open would the discussion be, keeping in mind China's policies? Would crucifixes be allowed in the rooms? Mass??
- v. Amy Smikle: would there be any religious affiliation at all since we are partnering?
- vi. Michael Finan: I've heard that it would be allowed to be religious. Because its a province, however, there is a lot of religious persecution. Also I am worried that it would hide some of the human rights violations there
- vii. Kathleen Rocks: well University of Illinois is a state school so they wouldn't be allowed to be religious
- viii. Wilson Barrett: it could be a huge help as a safe zone
- ix. Michael Finan: so what I'm thinking is that we make it like "we want more info" type of resolution. Do you think it should go to Dr. Entrikin or someone higher up?
- x. Amy Smikle: He seems to be brushing it off so we should send it to someone else
  1. Bryan Ricketts: well if we sent it to Dr. Entrikin, it would stay his the office and the next person would see it
- xi. Abe Jenson: I read an article in the Irish Rover from a faculty member expressing dissatisfaction with the university regarding Zhejiang University and how the administration was largely making the decisions so I think this would be helpful
- xii. Kathleen Rocks: how large of an effect could we have? Could we create a working student group to be involved in discussion?
  1. Bryan Ricketts: the Provost's office came up with the idea, spent about a year researching, said they were interested, and no such committee has been formed to actually make

a decision. Also, ND was invited to be a part of this partnership.

- xiii. Louis Bertolotti: timeframe?
  - 1. Bryan Ricketts: 5-10 years; we are 2 years in now
  - 2. Michael Finan: Online it says that this would be established in the 2017-2018 academic year
- xiv. Taylor Still: We should also ask what social justice obligation ND has, so we can have in writing that commitment - like the factory investigation
  - 1. Bryan Ricketts: I noted that our academic freedom is restricted only to Zhejiang University, not the area around it.
- xv. Michael Finan: would anyone be interested in forming a committee to draft?
  - 1. Members interested: Kathleen Rocks, Michael Finan, John Kill
- xvi. Michael Finan moved to form a committee to draft a resolution
  - 1. Abe Jensen seconded
- xvii. Committee formed

## VI. New Business

## VII. Announcements

- A. Andrew Thomas: Stanford Hall's pie eating contest is Saturday at 1:00pm. \$9 for teams of three people
- B. Christine Zavakos: Lewis hall's chicks for charity is 3-6pm in lafun. We will be assembling Easter baskets!
- C. Louis Bertolotti: SUB announcements
  - a. AcousticCafe this week
  - b. Chris Jones is a hypnotist, and requests that his name be pronounced as one word. He will be here Saturday at 10pm in legends
  - c. Movies: Room, Deadpool, Star Wars
  - d. Currently putting together Antostal schedule, so if any dorms or groups would like to put on events, let me know
  - e. Subpatricks day tomorrow~ photobooth, ice cream trucks, hot dog trucks, PE parade at Fieldhouse Mall
- D. Michael Conlon: FCC tomorrow is giving away green pancakes outside debart
- E. Abe Jensen: Fisher Regatta April 23rd.
- F. Christina Murphy: Academic affairs is hosting lectures in Washington hall. On Tuesday there will be one lecture, and on Wednesday there will be two
- G. Isabel Fox: More information about Theresa's service?
  - a. Bryan Ricketts: her friends are stepping forward to help out
- H. JP Bruno's proxy: SCC with Irish Dance team and Green Dot are putting on an event Friday night

- I. Zach Waterson: Up to 8 amendments to go over next week!
  - a. Let me know if you are interested in any of these topics: Who is able to endorse, campaign financing timeline, degree to which materials can be approved, and which classrooms can be used.
- J. Amy Smikle: thanks anyone who came to the bone marrow registry! Almost 200 people registered
- K. Marisa Thompson: Club budget meeting tonight at 7:15 in Jordan or tomorrow in debar 141 at 6pm. Automatic deduction from allocation request if you don't attend

VIII. Adjournment

- A. Isabel Fox moved to adjourn
  - a. Katelyn Markley seconded