

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME DU LAC

STUDENT SENATE

Executive Summary

April 23, 2014

- I. Opening Business
 - A. Matt Devine called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
 - B. Lauren Vidal led the invocation.
 - C. 3 were absent; 0 were late.

- II. Officer Announcements
 - A. Lauren Vidal, Student Body President
 - i. Attended the CCAC meeting earlier this morning
 - ii. Representatives from local law enforcement, Robinson Center and Center for the Homeless
 - iii. Discuss pressing issues in South Bend and St. Joe area
 - iv. Discussing safety on and off campus
 - v. Next meeting is September 3. They will be looking at off-campus safety in the fall.
 - vi. Katie sent out a CCAC survey. Please distribute that so they can get maximal responses.
 - B. Matthew Devine, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Stay after Senate if you have questions about Team ND.
 - C. Shannon Montague, Chief of Staff
 - i. No announcements.

- III. General Orders
 - A. Speaker and Discussion Re: First Year Orientation
 - i. Deirdre Harrington, *Chair of the Student Campus Orientation Committee (SCOC)*
 1. SCOC trains all Frosh-O Commissioners for each dorm. They look at programming, handling their staff, inclusion and making a great Frosh-O experience for everyone.
 2. They are trying to change the culture of Frosh-O to make it more welcoming. Currently, they are educating Commissioners about micro- and macro-aggressions regarding race, socioeconomic status, etc.
 3. Changes for this year
 - a. They will delay serenading until Sunday. They are also considering changing the name to remove the romantic connotation.
 - b. Walkovers to Domerfest will be alone, not with another dorm. This is mainly due to the construction near Stepan. This will also eliminate the “date” aspect.

- c. Ensuring that programs are not just forced mingling. They are encouraging programming between same-sex halls to encourage friendships across dorms.
 - d. Activities fair the Monday before classes start so freshmen can see what resources and activities are available on campus. This will be a showcase about what Notre Dame is about, separate from Activities Night.
 - ii. Matt opened it up for discussion.
 - 1. Kevin McMannis asked about pairing up with dorms before Domerfest.
 - a. Dierdre responded that activities between opposite-sex dorms before Domerfest will be on a case-by-case basis.
 - 2. Martin Walsh pointed out that sometimes those “awkward” interactions push people to form relationships, which is not a bad thing. He advocated for dorms being able to play a larger role in Frosh-O planning, as long as it is in accordance with SCOC guidelines and goals.
 - 3. Scott Moore noted that activities between opposite-sex dorms are a crucial part of Frosh-O and they do help freshmen make friends of the opposite sex.
 - a. Shannon noted that the change would be to balance activities between same-sex and opposite-sex dorms.
 - 4. Ashley Calvani pointed out that rest is important and we should consider eliminating an event or two to give freshmen some down time.
 - 5. Kevin Bond noted that seeing the upperclassmen have fun at Frosh-O events is a big part of the experience, so SCOC should also stress the importance of commissioners and Frosh-O staff participating.
 - 6. Scott M. pointed out that managing expectations is a big part of enjoying Frosh-O. Don’t expect to make your best friends during Frosh-O, but just take it as it is.
 - 7. Elle Huang asked about upperclassman involvement before school starts.
 - a. Upperclassmen are not permitted to attend Frosh-O events, but should welcome freshmen and encourage them to participate in Frosh-O activities.

IV. New Business

- A. Scott M. proposed the idea of an informal dinner after Senate.

V. Announcements

- A. Martin announced a Rwandan charity concert at Mulligan’s tonight for those over 21. There is also a talk beginning at 7:00pm.
- B. Lauren discussed progress with S.N.A.P.
 - i. NDSP want the name to sound Irish, so if anyone has any ideas of names, email Lauren (lvidal2@nd.edu).
 - 1. Grant Humphreys suggested O’S NAP.

- ii. We are making good progress speaking with Marty Ogren in Transportation Services and making SNAP happen.
- C. Lauren also announced the first Political Brew this Sunday.
 - i. All are invited to watch Meet the Press Sunday at 11am in the McNeill Room.
 - ii. Discussion of these issues will be in a neutral setting with bagels and coffee.
 - iii. Pick up two posters from the back of the room and hang those up in your dorms.
- D. Grant announced the Fisher Regatta this Saturday.
- E. Zach Waterson announced two events sponsored by JCC.
 - i. Berries! is a celebration with free berries.
 - ii. Abroad send-off picnic and with ND abroad ribbons for your luggage.
- F. Ryan Rizzuto announced Muddy Sunday this Sunday. Today is the last day to sign up. The link is on the Facebook group.
- G. Scott Copeland announced that AnTostal is going on all week. The Goo Goo Dolls concert is this Saturday at 8pm. Tickets are being sold at the Lafortune Box Office for \$20.
- H. Kevin C. announced that Keough Hall and Lewis Hall are now officially brother-sister dorms.

VI. Adjournment

- A. Kevin C. motioned to adjourn.
- B. Peter Durbin seconded.
- C. Meeting adjourned at 6:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine L. Wood
Student Union Secretary
