

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME DU LAC  
STUDENT SENATE  
Executive Summary  
October 29, 2014

I. Opening Business

- A. Matt Devine called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
- B. Lauren Vidal led the invocation.
- C. 1 was absent; 0 were late.
- D. Kevin Bond moved to approve last week's minutes.
  - i. Jimmy McEntee seconded.
  - ii. Minutes approved.

II. Officer Announcements

- A. Lauren Vidal, Student Body President
  - i. We are working with NDSP and Campus Safety to hold an off-campus safety session for students currently living off-campus or interested in living off-campus in the future. They are collaborating with Kevin, Peter and the Off-Campus Council.
- B. Matthew Devine, Student Body Vice President
  - i. Representatives from the library will be coming to discuss renovations.
  - ii. He met with Student Affairs yesterday about the new PE curriculum. They are currently hiring for the new class. There should be a more formal way for us to incorporate our feedback after we return from break.
  - iii. If you or anyone in your dorms is interested in being involved in drafting a plan for the new printing system, please email Matt by the end of the day.
  - iv. There is a finance exam next Wednesday during Senate. If you are not taking the exam, please ensure that you attend Senate so we will have quorum.
- C. Shannon Montague, Chief of Staff
  - i. Not in attendance.

III. General Orders

- A. Resolution SS1415-06
  - i. Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body concerning student union organization reports
  - ii. Ashley Calvani asked for clarification.
    - 1. This resolution proposes to give officers more time to compile transition materials, allowing them to make more accurate records for incoming officers.
  - iii. Scott Moore moved to close discussion.
    - 1. Elena Silla seconded.
    - 2. Discussion closed.
  - iv. Chris Desapio moved to vote.
    - 1. Kevin Coleman seconded.
    - 2. The resolution was approved by unanimous voice vote.



#### IV. New Business

- A. Ashley brought up a concern from a constituent about parking.
  - i. Jimmy added that some of the parking lots are unsafe because there are very few lights and the spaces are very far from the center of campus. Walking to a car in the D2 lots near Stepan feels very unsafe, especially late at night.
  - ii. Please send specific feedback about parking to Matt, and he will pass along your comments.
- B. Scott M. reported about a meeting of the Academic Affairs Department with Dean Hugh Page.
  - i. There is little standardization across colleges about approval of credits taken over the summer.
  - ii. There will be a database containing past approvals so students may reference historical records when deciding to take classes over the summer.
- C. Scott M. also brought up a concern about a lack of study spaces on campus, especially in light of midterms week.
  - i. Academic Affairs is also looking into a policy change about opening rooms in Debartolo or Lafortune for studying, as long as they are not being used for meetings.
  - ii. Zach Waterson brought up a concern about second floor rooms in the library being converted to Writing Center rooms.
    - 1. Matt responded that these will change with upcoming library renovations.
- D. Martin Walsh asked about the shuttle to the parking lots.
  - i. There is a shuttle from the parking lots to campus, but it only runs until 7:00pm.
- E. Chris asked everyone to spread the word about the new power strips that Academic Affairs has added in the library. Students may find them at the information desk.
- F. There have been concerns from professors about bike safety on campus.
  - i. Ashley added that some universities have bike lanes.
  - ii. Matt noted that bikes are usually only used in the fall when the weather is nice, but this is still a pressing issue.
  - iii. Lauren asked for a show of hands of members of Senate that ride bikes and if they would prefer to have a bike lane.
    - 1. Jimmy responded that the main issue is the crowding around Debartolo and a bike lane probably would not solve that.
    - 2. Peter Durbin responded that since we do not have streets running through our campus, the bike lanes may not help on our campus as much as they would at another university.
  - iv. Matt asked if there was the same concern about skateboards or longboards.
    - 1. Jake responded that many people are reluctant to hop off their bikes or skateboards to walk them in closer to the buildings.
  - v. Tom noted that many people are not smart about the way they ride their bikes or skateboards around other people. A policy change may not be the way to approach this. It may be better to launch a campaign to encourage students to ride safely and communicate with students they are riding past.
    - 1. Ashley added that pedestrians should also be more cautious and aware of their surroundings.



- vi. Lauren added that Student Government is working on a safety video, which could be an effective outlet for addressing this issue.
- vii. Scott M. expressed a concern about bike lanes, especially from an aesthetic perspective. With the Campus Crossroads project, traffic patterns will change.
- viii. Chris added that the paths are somewhat arbitrary and adding a bike lane may not help. The main issue is bikers riding safely.
- ix. Ryan Rizzuto proposed moving the bike racks to less centralized locations to decrease congestion around the front of Debartolo and other crowded areas.

V. Announcements

- A. SUB is hosting Puppies and Pumpkins tomorrow from 4:00-7:00pm on Fieldhouse Mall.
- B. Senate dinner will most likely be Thursday, November 20.
- C. Show Some Skin will be tomorrow in the Anders Auditorium in Geddes Hall.
- D. There are 178 days until the Fisher Regatta.
- E. Hip Hop Night is this Saturday at Legends.

VI. Adjournment

- A. Kevin C. motioned to adjourn.
- B. Peter seconded.
- C. Meeting adjourned at 6:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine L. Wood  
Student Union Secretary

