

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME DU LAC

STUDENT SENATE

Executive Summary

November 5, 2014

I. Opening Business

- A. Matt Devine called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
- B. Kristen Gates led the invocation.
- C. 3 were absent; 2 were late.
- D. Grant Humphreys moved to approve last week's minutes.
 - i. Peter Durbin seconded.
 - ii. Minutes approved.

II. Officer Announcements

A. Lauren Vidal, Student Body President

- i. We want to take a larger view of campus safety by branching out from campus. We will be making a safety video incorporating individuals from all around campus (students, coaches, professors, and administrators). Contact Lauren if you are interested in participating.
- ii. O'SNAP app should be ready in 1-2 weeks.
 - 1. Zach Waterson described the app as a way to request O'SNAP ride online as well as access bus schedules and other transportation aids.
- iii. Lauren, Matt, and Shannon are coordinating a meeting with Sophomore Class Council and Off-Campus Class Council to create a solution for off-campus housing now and in the future, specifically looking at sophomores signing leases.
- iv. There is a Photoshop class (part of the ND Creates initiative, a program working on enriching resumes with technical skills) happening today at 7:00pm in the Hesburgh Center for Digital Scholarship.
- v. OIT is holding a mobile summit next week with a faculty panel on whether or not technology should be allowed in classrooms and a student panel on ways to improve mobile and tablet productivity.

B. Matthew Devine, Student Body Vice President

- i. The 29 for 29 initiative was announced at HPC last night. While many dorms have holiday initiatives that they already do, this is an additional effort to bring numerous campus organizations together to have a unified approach to helping our community

C. Shannon Montague, Chief of Staff

- i. Political Brew will be this Sunday at 11:00am in the McNeill Room.

III. General Orders

A. Discussion Re: Sexual Assault Prayer Service

- i. Matt described the context of the prayer services. Last year Alex and Nancy created a sustainable program to address sexual assault and sexual violence with a response mechanism.



- ii. There have been 2 prayer services this year. Matt asked if this was something that Senate thought was important to continue
- iii. Lauren described how the services are run. When there is an alert, we mobilize the troops through three teams; CLC, Campus Ministry, and the GRC. Matt took the lead on both of the prayer services this year. There is a lot of work for the prayer services going on behind the scenes. We are looking for the most effective way to promote these services and make students aware of this healing method.
- iv. Chris DeSapio cautioned away from promoting the services too much and advertising; however, he sees the value in continuing the programs because the importance is having an avenue open for people to heal.
- v. Matt informed Senate that there were a lot of Faculty members that also came.
- vi. Brian Ricketts said that the men of Duncan Hall continue to support the effort, and that it is on us, hall presidents, and rectors to promote this as a campus-wide healing and not let it fall through the cracks.
- vii. Lauren emphasized that we want to make sure that this is something that remains important to the community so that those who need support have it.
- viii. Matt brought up alternatives: instead of a timely response, acknowledge each one and instead of the 48 hour window, have two prayer services a semester as a more collective response.
 - 1. Grant clarified that there would be two prayer services a semester along with an acknowledgement that the email had come out.
- ix. Katie Arndorfer said that in terms of what would be the most meaningful, a timely response would be much more impactful than grouping them together because it's a more personal response.
- x. Ashley Calvani said that it is very important as senators and hall presidents to organize walkovers from dorms and requested that it was announced in HPC how important they are so that people didn't feel like they were going over alone.
- xi. Michael responded by saying they email the presidents and really push the prayer services hard but the results haven't occurred in terms of numbers because there are a lot of things competing for students' attention.
- xii. Matt said that the numbers have been about 70-75 each time (faculty and students).
- xiii. Lauren stated that in reference to the time, it is earlier because we want to give faculty the opportunity to attend.
- xiv. President of Farley says that it is important to keep in mind that not everyone heals by going to the prayer service and, from Farley's experience, too much persuasion to attend can be a negative thing.
- xv. The CCC proxy addressed the value of individual responses like the One is Too Many campaign.
- xvi. Elle Huang added that it's uncomfortable to throw around the idea of who has time to go, and within the dorm the people who would be most likely to go and rally the troops would be Liturgical Commissioners.
 - 1. For example in Howard there is a group that often gathers together and prays together and she feels these would be the best in rallying support for these.
- xvii. Grace Carroll said that its hard to mobilize all spiritual point people within dorms because it is not a formalized system in all dorms.



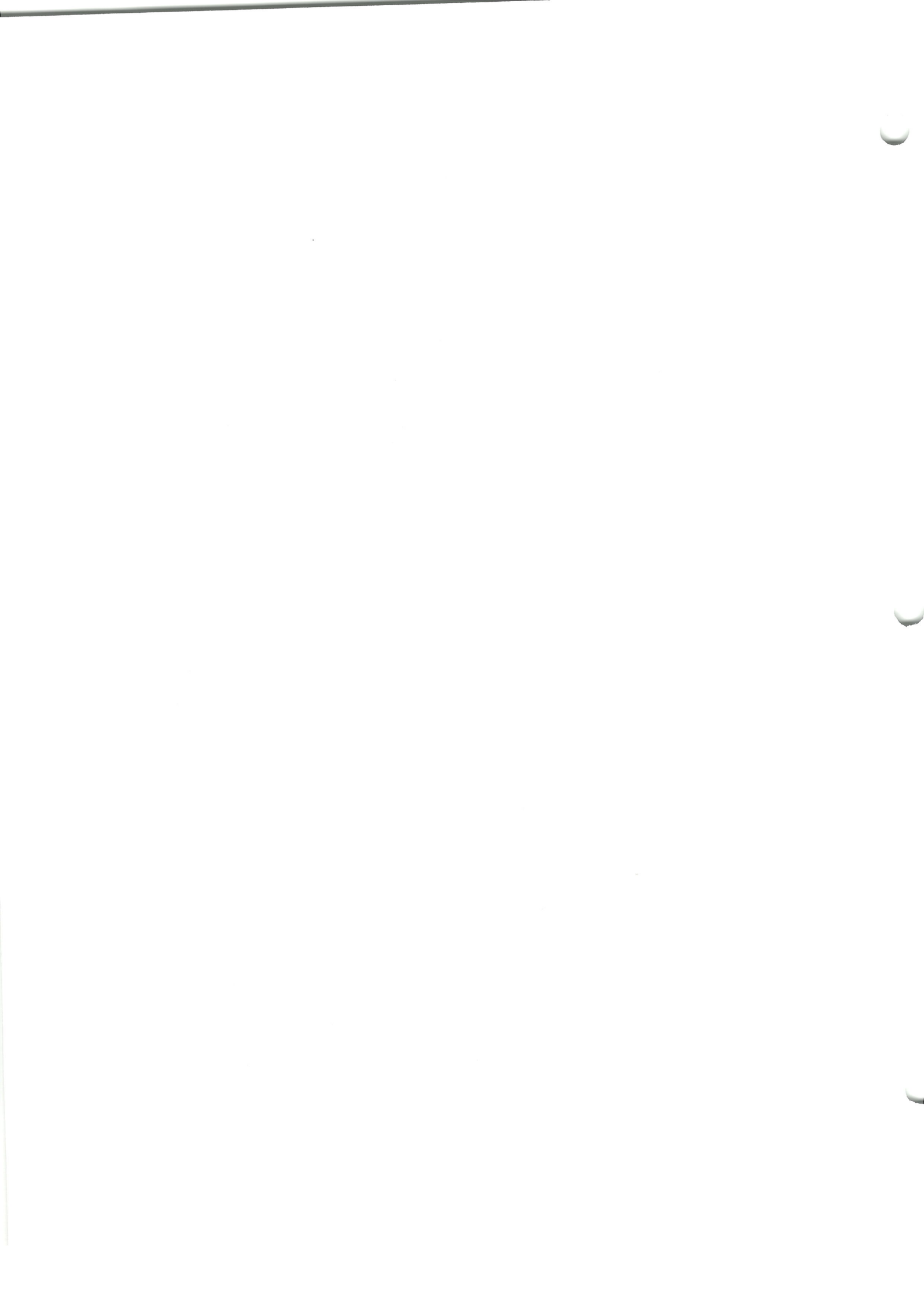
- xviii. Katie Arndorfer said that there was recently a summit with Liturgical commissioners from each dorm and there is a semi-complete or complete list of point people in each dorm that could be obtained from Campus Ministry.
- xix. Matt explained the services themselves: there is a reading, a reflection, and a call to action. This is not the only thing that we are doing but we feel that this is an important step to continue.
- xx. Kathryn Peruski suggested getting other organizations or dorms involved (for example, doing readings) so that they feel more connected to the prayer services.
- xxi. Chris moved to close discussion.
 - 1. Kevin C. seconded.
 - 2. Discussion closed.

B. Focus: Agenda Setting

- i. Matt said we are looking forward to what we can accomplish through the rest of the term and asked if there were any issues that the Senate wanted to discuss.
- ii. Lauren said that we had ideas that we wanted to see discussed as a team and as a cabinet but we want to take a moment to redirect and asked if anyone had something they wanted to address in a timely manner before the end of our term.
- iii. Kevin McMannis said he'd love to focus on safety and actually getting things done and perhaps a resolution could be passed because it seems like South Bend is getting a little more dangerous.
- iv. Matt described resolutions a statement of our collective voices as a Senate or an initiative we'd like to move forward with.
- v. Ashley talked about making Notre Dame's campus more green and her desire to look into that, referencing Cavanaugh as a building that is very energy inefficient.
 - 1. Matt said that he spoke to the architect's office this week and they said that all of the new buildings to be put in will be up to the standards of the revamping of the Morris Inn (i.e. green roofs).
- vi. Chris was wondering if we could take a look at how life would change for coming classes because campus is changing so quickly with all of the new buildings and making sure we are on top of some of the problems that could emerge.
- vii. Elle Huang said she'd be interested in working to design a plan about what to do next year for September 11th because she's been approached by numerous girls about a moment of silence, which seems to be the best way to commemorate the tragedy. She also suggested collaborating with ROTC.
 - 1. Lauren said that Constituent Services would be a great avenue for this, and it would be possible to pass a resolution that would secure that there is some plan for 9/11 each year.
- viii. Lauren asked if everyone was comfortable with the general theme of safety. There were lots of nods of agreement.
- ix. Brian Ricketts passed on the question of whether or not there was something being done to move on informing students about safety issues off campus
 - 1. Lauren discussed that we have been in talks with administrators about where we want to draw the line. The current criteria is that if it is a Notre Dame student involved or it happens on campus, students are notified. If that is not a criteria that we are comfortable enough with as a Senate, we can address it.



- x. Matt said that we've had a lot of discussions about what that can look like and the fact that we are unique as a campus that has a lot of students live on campus all four years. If we are sending emails and reports about all these things around campus. Will notifications be effective in terms of being aware of it? Or is it important to encourage the middle ground What is the more appropriate long term response and how can we bridge that gap
- xi. Ashley said the more that she thought about the issue the more she decided that if students are really concerned for safety they should take the responsibility for finding out the information. She thinks the video is a really good avenue and suggests a specific section delineating the current email alert criteria, and if you want to find out more these are the places you can go to find out and should look at when making the decision to move off campus. We don't want to make people scared but she'd be open to moving the boundary out a little bit.
- xii. David Krohn said that moving off campus is not the only time that students go off campus and thinks it would be important to extend the range a little bit to general areas where Notre Dame students go out.
- xiii. Lauren asked if the underclassmen in the room felt like they were uninformed about off campus residents.
- xiv. Lauren requested that some seniors share the processes they used when deciding where to live off campus and she said that she chose to pay more when moving off in order to be closer to campus for safety reasons.
- xv. Kevin McMannis chose to live where he lives because they have a dog and wanted a yard. He said it is important to weigh benefits that are important to you.
- xvi. Kevin M. also said that there is a new position, Director of Off Campus Housing (Dan Allen) who was talking about an event, "Moving off – What to Expect," the week after the housing fair and asked if people would be interested in coming
 - 1. Elena Silla said that if it was advertised, this is the perfect timing for an event like this.
 - 2. Brian Cimon said that that would be helpful. Also, he said that there is an anomaly because students at ND sign leases so early and don't know what to look for as a sophomore and don't consider all things like safety as you would as a responsible decision maker but doesn't see how we can mitigate that trend.
 - 3. Matt says we just want to make sure they're aware of what they need to be when signing.
 - 4. Tom Taylor asked for more details about the event.
 - 5. Kevin M. said they were still in the brainstorming stages, but they were hoping for students to share their experiences moving off so that it would be more down to earth and open.
 - 6. Tom said he wouldn't want to go if it was the University telling him what he should think from their perspective, and that he was only able to sign his lease because he had a lot of friends go through it previously.
- xvii. Kevin Coleman wants to review the options for grab-n-go and the dining hall and wants to get a greater student perspective on the options that we have in both places.



1. Matt said that was something we could definitely look at, but they base the amount of food on how many people would want to come.
- xviii. The CCC proxy said that there were people concerned that the value of your meal at grab-n-go is significantly less than what you would get if you swiped into the dining hall.
 1. Matt responded that this has been brought up before, but this was an issue that goes along with the food quota system.
- xix. Kristen Parkinson asked if we could roll over unused meals
 1. Matt responded that this has been brought up before, but this was an issue that goes along with the food quota system.
- xx. Noemi asked if that could at least be changed for grab-n-go because it's more convenient when unexpected plans arise.
- xxi. Scott Moore says that we should be able to get our 14 meals whenever we want to provide greater flexibility and he doesn't think that it would affect food supply too much.
 1. Lauren responded that there have been conversations about getting rid of the time stamp and just having 3 allotted meals per day.
- xxii. Ashley said that they offer the same food in Lafun as in grab-n-go and asked why meal swipes couldn't be used for that food.
 1. Matt responded that the management was different.
- xxiii. Helen Hathaway said that it was this year that St. Mary's started using take out containers as a grab-n-go system through the actual dining hall.
- xxiv. Elle Huang seeks out places on campus where vegetarians and vegans can eat and asked if there was a way to introduce more of these options (and more produce) and who she could talk to about this.
 1. Lauren responded that food services is run through Auxiliary Services and that is something that we can advocate for in terms of pushing the campus toward healthier options. We can create a resolution through a department and push it through.
- xxv. Elle said the campus does a great job with gluten-free food and wants to do the same with vegan and vegetarian options
- xxvi. Peter Durbin moved to close discussion.
 1. Ryan Rizzuto seconded.
 2. Discussion closed.

IV. New Business

- A. Helen Hathaway still had people asking about print quota and asked if there was a committee starting.
 - i. Matt responded that he or Shuyung can be contacted with those interests and said that senators are welcome to forward PowerPoint to constituents
- B. Henry Dickman asked if there was anything planned for Veterans Day
 - i. Matt and Lauren responded that ROTC stands outside Stonehenge, but if senate was interested in organizing a remembrance that was possible.
- C. Ryan Rizzuto asked about the most convenient Debartolo door being locked at the most inconvenient times.
 - i. Go through Constituent Services or talk to the building manager.

V. Announcements



- A. Kevin McMannis said that the Housing Fair is next Wednesday, November 12 from 5:00-7:00pm in LaFun ballroom. About 20 companies are going to be there to talk to students about off-campus housing.
- B. Grant Humphreys reminded everyone that there is less than half a year left (171 days) until Fisher Regatta.
- C. Zach Waterson reminded everyone to grab mobile conference posters and take it back to the dorms
- D. Matt reminded everyone that every senator is very important to implementing strategies and encouraged everyone to take initiative to push issues through as well.

VI. Adjournment

- A. Kevin C. motioned to adjourn.
- B. Grant Humphreys seconded.
- C. Meeting adjourned at 6:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon S. Montague
Student Union Chief of Staff

