

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME DU LAC

STUDENT SENATE

Executive Summary

November 12, 2014

I. Opening Business

- A. Matt Devine called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.
- B. Matt led the invocation.
- C. 4 were absent; 0 were late.
- D. Grant Humphreys moved to approve last week's minutes.
  - i. Elle Huang seconded.
  - ii. Minutes approved.

II. Officer Announcements

- A. Lauren Vidal, Student Body President
  - i. The Department of Campus Technology and OIT are almost done with the O'SNAP app. There was a major breakthrough today.
  - ii. CLC went well this week.
    - 1. We are discussing student stress and mental health.
    - 2. The Social Scene Task Force presented on if/how students relax.
- B. Matthew Devine, Student Body Vice President
  - i. Renovations will begin soon in Hesburgh Library.
  - ii. The script for the safety video was finalized this week, so filming will begin soon.
- C. Shannon Montague, Chief of Staff
  - i. The University Committee for FYS met on Monday. Please let Shannon know if you are interested in learning more.

III. General Orders

- A. Resolution SS1415-07
  - i. Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body concerning the Office of Community Standards
  - ii. Matt opened discussion
    - 1. Brian Mukhaya asked for clarification on Subsection (XVII)(1)(a).
    - 2. Martin Walsh clarified that there are no policy changes proposed. This resolution simply changes the name of "Office of Residence Life" to "Office of Community Standards."
  - iii. Scott Moore moved to close discussion.
    - 1. Jake Wittenburg seconded.
    - 2. Discussion closed.
  - iv. Jake moved to vote.
    - 1. Martin seconded.
    - 2. The resolution was approved 32-1-0 by a show of hands.
- B. Resolution SS1415-08
  - i. Resolution addressing the study areas available to students around campus



1. Scott clarified that this resolution will not immediately open additional study space. It is intended to initiate a discussion.
  2. Martin and Marissa Taylor agreed that the lack of available study space is frustrating. They are both on board with opening this dialogue with building managers.
  - ii. Ryan Rizzuto moved to vote.
    1. Brian M. seconded.
    2. The resolution was approved 33-0-0 by a show of hands.
- C. 29 for 29 Overview and Rollout
- i. Lauren introduced 29 for 29
    1. There is an extensive alumni system at the Center for the Homeless. The Center continues to follow up with residents even after they have moved out of the Center.
    2. Each dorm will adopt a family every year. The dorms will act as support systems, welcoming the South Bend families into their dorm families.
    3. We do not want this to burden the dorms during this time of year. Student Government will provide a \$100 stipend to each dorm to subsidize activities dorms do with their families.
    4. Katie Arndorfer asked who would be the point person in each dorm.
      - a. This is running through both Senate and Hall Presidents Council. Dorms can assign a point person within their own dorm.
    5. Elle Steichen relayed some concerns from the Pasquerilla West President.
      - a. We will distribute 29 for 29 materials as soon as possible to answer any questions and alleviate any stress.
    6. Ashley Calvani clarified that this program is not intended just to buy gifts for the families.
      - a. It is much more important to spend time with the families.
      - b. The \$100 stipend can be used however the dorm sees fit.
      - c. We hope this program will foster a lasting relationship between the dorms and their families. If your dorm has a signature event later in the year, please invite your families.
    7. Katie A. asked how this program would foster the alumni network at the Center for the Homeless.
      - a. As new families are adopted each year, families from the previous year will still be involved in the dorm.
    8. Helen Hathaway asked how long the families would be connected to the dorm.
      - a. We hope that this can be provided in transition materials within Hall Council.
      - b. The hope is that the families will stay involved for several years.
    9. Lauren emphasized that this is a program that can vary from dorm to dorm. This is a centralized initiative, but the dorms have independence.
    10. Martin offered his support of this program and noted that it will be a great thing for the dorms.
  - ii. Matt went through the 29 for 29 packet that will be distributed to each residence hall.



1. The packet includes a description of the program and a list of ideas for how the residence halls can spend time with their families this holiday season.
2. Elle H. asked about inviting families to Howard Holidays.
  - a. It will be up to the dorms to decide which events to bring their families to, but Howard Hall is welcome to extend that invitation to all dorms.
3. Brian M. asked about the 29 families.
  - a. There are 29 "families," but they may not all be traditional family units. Some are groups of individuals or couples that have graduated from the Center and now live together.
4. Ashley asked for clarification on Howard Holiday.
  - a. Howard provides trees for students to decorate and distribute to people in the South Bend area.
5. The Morrissey proxy asked about how the dorms will be paired with families.
  - a. Student Government has been working with Steve Camilleri at the Center for the Homeless to determine who the 29 families will be.
  - b. The families will be paired with dorms based on the size of the dorm and structure of the family unit (ie: an all-male "family" will be paired with a men's residence hall).
6. Grant Humphreys requested a section in the packet about breaking the ice during the first meeting with the families.
7. Henry Dickman asked about subsidizing Notre Dame athletic events.
  - a. We are working with Corey and the athletics department.
  - b. Sports games and dining hall meals may be subsidized so they would not cut into the \$100 stipend.
8. Michelle McGrath asked about the structure of the schedule.
  - a. We recognize the shortened timeline, so we are leaving the specifics up to each dorm. Dorms may decide on their own how to balance this with other commitments they have made.
  - b. The holiday season is a very stressful time for people with lesser means. Many other halls are doing service through donations, but this project is about interacting with the families.
9. Michael Wajda asked for clarification about the involvement of the Executive Vice President Leadership Team.
  - a. John Affleck-Graves' office is very interested in this program, but they do not want to interfere with dorms' participation.
  - b. Steve Camileri from the Center for the Homeless felt that this would be better if the program was entirely student-run.
  - c. Martin agreed that letting the dorms be in charge would be beneficial.
  - d. Kathleen Clark suggested inviting the EVP team to a campus event with multiple families present, such as Howard Holiday tree-decorating.
  - e. Helen noted that this program might work better in the long run with less administrative participation and standardization.
  - f. Katie A. asked if this was the first year that Student Government has initiated a campus-wide service event like this.



- i. This is the first time that all of the dorms have joined together in a collective service event initiated by Student Government.
- ii. Communiiversity Day involves all of campus, but not the dorms specifically.
- g. Ashley asked when 29 for 29 was presented to Hall Presidents Council.
  - i. Lauren and Matt presented to the Hall Presidents at the HPC meeting two weeks ago.

#### IV. New Business

- A. Ashley wanted to address transportation to and from campus. The buses do not stop near many of the locations students need to go to work, shadow, or volunteer.
  - i. Brian M. responded that CSC cars are available for anyone to reserve.
  - ii. Katie A. responded that there are Zip Cars available as well. It is \$25 to rent and then \$9/hour each time you use it. There are also discount coupons available.
  - iii. One way to address this could be a ride board for people to sign up to drive together.

#### V. Announcements

- A. "What to Know Before Moving Off-Campus" will be November 17 in the Lafortune Ballroom and November 19 in the Montgomery Auditorium, both from 8:00-9:00pm.
- B. SUB is bringing the Asia Project to campus. They will be coming on at 8:00pm this evening in Washington Hall.
- C. Matt proposed the idea of a Senate Secret Santa. The spending limit will be \$5. If you do not want to participate, email Shannon or Katie. Otherwise, all members of Senate will be included. Nancy Walsh will pair names so none of us will know who we have.
- D. There are 164 days until the Fisher Regatta.

#### VI. Adjournment

- A. Martin motioned to adjourn.
- B. Kevin Coleman seconded.
- C. Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine L. Wood  
Student Union Secretary

