

## NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

### Executive Summary

DATE: 17 APRIL 2013

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

#### I. Opening Business

- a. Nancy Joyce called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
- b. JENNIFER SEWELL led the invocation.
- c. 3 were absent; 1 were late.
- d. Nancy Joyce entertained any motions to change the 10 APRIL 2013 executive summary. *The 10 APRIL 2013 executive summary was not yet approved as there are a few changes such as last names being added.*

#### II. Podium

- a. There was no podium.

#### III. Officer Reports

- a. Mr. Alex Coccia, Student Body President
  - i. The prayer service held in Geddes Hall on Tuesday night for the victims of the bombings at the Boston Marathon was a success. Over 100 students were present. Thank you to everyone who came, it was a very powerful event in response to what happened on that day. Please keep all of the victims and their families in your prayers.
  - ii. This Friday April 19 in Dillon Hall Chapel at 3:00 pm to pray for just and effective immigration reform.
- b. Ms. Nancy Joyce, Student Body Vice President
  - i. Met with the SMC president and vp about Support a Belle, Love a Belle and will be meeting with NAMI-ND.
  - ii. In addressing Rohan's concerns about storage, we have looked into the issue. Dorms that have had a substantial need have already found storage solutions. Nancy has spoken with HPC about the issue. We will not be taking the issue up at this time, as we would only have one week to organize this.
- c. Mr. Juan Rangel, Chief of Staff
  - i. Senators, please make sure that you took the list of contacts in the back of the room.

#### IV. Approvals

- a. Judicial Council Vice-President of Elections nominee Kathryn Peruski
    - i. Presented by Michael Masi
    - ii. Juan Jose Daboub asked, in the interest of time, could we approve them both at once?
      1. Nancy responded that both approvals must be done separately.
    - iii. Approved unanimously by voice vote
  - b. Judicial Council Vice-President of Peer Advocacy Erin O'Brien
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- i. Presented by Michael Masi
- ii. Thomas Rogers asked if one person says no, then what happens?
  1. Nancy responded that if only one person says no, then they would still be approved if everyone says yes.
- iii. Approved unanimously by voice vote

## V. General Orders

### a. Discussion of Town Hall Topics

- i. Nancy explained that in her and Alex's campaign, they had wanted to have regular Town Hall meetings to meet with administrators to understand why they do what they do and to open up for dialogue with them. This will be through Constituent Services (Sarah Sensemen is the director). Nancy would like to open discussion for what the senators would like to see as topics. She also brought up that another outlet for important issues could be brought to CLC.
- ii. Rohan Andresen had a question for an example, is it just for students or more broad?
  1. Nancy explained that an example would be the meal plan and grab and go, but it can be deeper than food.
- iii. Maggie Armstrong would like to have a topic about how the university is growing and changing.
  1. Rohan Andresen would like to have this.
  2. Also, his section has had trouble with not be very clean. Better interaction between hall staff would be better.
- iv. Kyle McCaffery would like to hear about the law suit going on with Notre Dame and the government about healthcare.
- v. Carolina Wilson would like to have a topic on senior housing.
- vi. Erin Killmurray would like to find out about students being able to miss class for interviews.
  1. Alex brought up that the death of family member clause has been expanded, however this topic has not been changed.
- vii. Sarah brought up that she is planning on having a topic on "going green".
- viii. Maggie would like to have the Science-Business and Engineering DARTING for business classes looked at.
- ix. Dorothy Schlueter brought up that DARTING in general should be looked at.
- x. Robert Pak would like to bring up issues with applying to be an RA and deadline to pull people into dorms.
  1. Maggie would like to expand on the subject that if you apply to be an RA, you are stuck on campus, because you have signed your housing contract.
- xi. Alex would like to ask if anyone has any opinions on specifically dorm life.
  1. Kyle would like to have a better relationship between the hall staff and the students.
    - a. Juan Jose asked if they could clean dorm rooms as well,

- b. Margot Hughan asked if there could be a staff appreciation day.
    - i. Casey said that Farley did this. Also, she went to a useful talk with the university architect.
    - ii. Sophie explained that girls in her dorm were concerned about the different standards held for men and women on campus.
      - 1. Monica Daegele is the person to see for these issues. She is the Gender Relations Director.
  - c. Thomas R. says that Morrissey has a staff appreciation day, and it is a great idea.
  - d. Nancy suggests that the senators should suggest this to their dorms.
  - e. Matt Munhall was looking through the archives and said there used to be a school wide staff appreciation day.
  - f. Margot said a large cookout for the staff would be a good idea.
  - g. Carolina suggested a "senior skip day" for service that they had been planning could be expanded.
  - h. Danny Colston in Duncan said that they chipped in money for the staff in their dorm.
- 2. Stephanie Klotter of Residence Life said that women's dorms are becoming more crowded and the mens are becoming less so.
  - 3. Carolina Ramirez has spoken to staff and explained that sometimes the staff isn't given enough time to do their job and have a proper lunch break. They are given too much to do in too little time.
  - 4. Sarah explained that these are great ideas, however she believes that might not be a good idea for a town hall as there would probably be no argument about having a staff appreciation day.
  - 5. Conner Cole brought up that the ResLife process would be a good idea.
    - a. Michael Masi agreed that this would be a good idea and mentioned that the University is in the process of changing this department.
  - 6. Carolina Wilson would like to ask about study space. They did have study spaces in certain dorms, however they were taken out and made into living spaces.
- xii. Nancy asked all of the members of senate to please get more feedback for next week.
- b. Boston Marathon Response and Outreach
    - i. Alex explained that we wanted to get in contact with Boston College, ACC Schools, and Stone Hill. BC is planning a walk called the last five miles.
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The police has asked them to postpone this walk, as it is a crime scene. Now they will be doing a vigil. We will be working with The Shirt Project to have a moment of silence at the unveiling. We will try to coordinate the walk with BC and have a walk here at Notre Dame at some point. If you would like to assist in planning this, please contact Alex of Nancy.

- ii. Nancy asked if anyone else has some ideas, please share them.
  1. Kyle McCaffery would like to suggest coordinating some sort of campus wide thank you note for the first responders.

**VI. New Business**

- a. Robert Pak explained that the Bald and the Beautiful is going on right now. The Duncan Highlanders, because of a resident in Duncan Hall who had cancer, have been helping with this since 2009. Please help with this if you can.

**VII. Announcements**

- a. Michael Lindt said 10 days until the Fisher Regatta.
  - i. Juan Jose asked how to sign up.
  - ii. Michael will get back to the senate about this.
- b. Welsh Fam is having their Kiss a Pig event this Saturday at 7:30pm as announced by Sophie Manley.
- c. Keenan's Muddy Sunday is coming up, as announced by Zach Waterson.
- d. Maggie explained that the Club Resource Center is being used by students as study space. It is not a study space, it is for clubs to use as meeting space and to do work. Please spread the word about this.

**VIII. Adjournment**

- a. Without objection, *the 17 APRIL 2013 Senate meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandria C. Wellman  
Student Union Secretary

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