

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

Executive Summary

DATE: 9 OCTOBER 2013

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. Opening Business

- a. Nancy Joyce called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- b. NANCY JOYCE led the invocation.
- c. 8 were absent; 0 were late.
- d. Nancy Joyce entertained any motions to change the 2 OCTOBER 2013 executive summary. *The 2 OCTOBER 2013 executive summary was approved at 6:05 p.m.*

II. Approvals

- a. The Shirt Project President, John Wetzel, was presented by Andrew Lall to the senate for approval
 - i. John is a mechanical engineer and industrial design major, he is a junior in St. Edward's hall. Last year he was the Vice President of the Shirt.
 - ii. Alex asked him if he continued to have the relationship with Alta Gratia.
 1. If the quality continues, yes. Every year the companies re-bid on the shirt.
 - iii. Stephen Scobee asked him what his favorite color was.
 1. Green, current color of the shirt.
 - iv. Juan Jose Daboub asked how the bidding process works.
 1. There is a committee and every company shows a presentation.
 2. There is about 70,000 ordered initially.
 - v. Alex C. asked if we are up or down from last year.
 1. About the same, but our profits are higher.
 - vi. Bob Pak asked if Alta Gratia was the cheapest one?
 1. They wanted to combine the social mission with the Shirt. They also liked the color that they had.
 2. How does he weigh in the financial benefits with the social?
 - a. It depends. Adidas did not even give them a bid.
 - b. The RFP will go out at the end of the month.
 - vii. Angel Zambrano motioned to vote, Michael Lindt seconded.
 1. Unanimous decision by hand vote to approve John Wetzel.

III. Officer Reports

- a. Mr. Alex Coccia, Student Body President
 - i. Will be meeting with NDSP to talk about the sexual assault emails, along with Monica Daegele
 - ii. Will be presenting the board of trustee report
 - b. Ms. Nancy Joyce, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Nancy was kind enough to bake the senate fresh, delicious cookies.
 - ii. Notre Dame International Advisory Council
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1. We are working with this group on study abroad and integration of study abroad experiences on campus. There will be an event on November 15 with free Starbucks as a kick off.
 - a. Any thoughts on this, please come to Nancy J.
 - b. This is called FIND.
- iii. Still working on Financial Literacy
- iv. Thank you to all of you to coming to Irish State of Mind week events. Make sure you sign the banners in LaFun.
- c. Mr. Juan Rangel, Chief of Staff
 - i. Please attend all department and senate meetings
 1. Please let your department director know if you cannot attend the meetings.
 - ii. Immigration Task Force
 1. Thank you to everyone who came to the celebration this past Friday. About 100 people attended.
 2. They are currently working on a workshop about college students and the immigration movement for the Immigration Conference in March of 2014. This will be about college student leaders.

IV. General Orders

- a. Board of Trustees Report
 - i. Next Thursday, Juan Rangel and Alex Coccia will be presenting
 - ii. Anne Thompson, chair of student affairs committee, dictates the topic of the report in the fall. The spring report is up to us.
 1. This fall, the topic is on immigration and diversity.
 - a. It was written by Juan Rangel, Alex Coccia, and Nancy Joyce.
 - iii. This was presented to the senate, as required by the constitution.
 1. Alex Coccia
 - a. There may be feedback, however the written portion cannot be changed.
 - b. They recommended with racial and ethnic diversity that student affairs make concerted efforts at the recruitment and retention of culturally and ethnically diverse persons in leadership positions, a visible statement of inclusion be placed in each classroom and residence hall, the office of student affairs create a cocurricular cultural competency, and the student affairs hold mandatory inservices for clubs and organizations.
 - c. They recommended for sexual orientation issues that the advisory council first meeting happen at least four times in the spring and at least once before Thanksgiving break and that there is conversation about transgender students and housing.

- d. They recommended that for gender issues that the student affairs please look into the issue of sexual assault.
- e. Open for questions.
 - i. Juan Jose D. asked what these statements of inclusion would be like.
 - 1. They would be little, like fire escape maps. Ideally they would be highlighted.
 - a. Would I see it?
 - i. Do you normally see a crucifix? Asked Nancy J.
 - ii. Juan Jose D. says if they do not feel it, a piece of paper will not change it
 - ii. In O'Neill, they have a statement of inclusion that they sign by each section, brought up Kyle McCaffery.
 - 1. Not initially, but Alex C. thinks that is a great idea. He asked for Kyle to send a picture to him.
 - 2. Rohan Andresen asked what these said.
 - a. It is not beautiful language, but it is there to cherish each student and not discriminate based upon race, gender, sexual orientation, or SES.
 - iii. Cristin Pacifico brought up that a lot of people forget that we have an honor code. That would be interesting to include on a plaque as a gentle reminder as to why we are here. Both are equally important.
 - iv. Rohan A. was thinking, and he was thinking that it might do well to not be very specific on this. Not be specific, because you are reminding these people that they are different. Just say do not discriminate against individuals, this is more universal and applies to everyone, not just those are discriminated against historically.
 - 1. Juan Jose D. says that the more you put up signs, the more it comes up. He is from El Salvador, and he has never felt discriminated against. Bringing it up can make people feel uncomfortable.
 - a. Kyle M. said that sometimes you just have to go through the uncomfortableness.

- b. Rohan A. said that he just doesn't like the specifics.

2. Nancy Joyce.

- a. Reported on Socioeconomic status (SES).

- i. Made two recommendations

- 1. The board of trustees give equal attention to students of varying SES
 - 2. Also have a conversation about expanding the rector fund
 - a. The rector fund comes from proceeds from the Shirt Project. The money goes to students to pay for things like basketball tickets, dances, or service trips so that no student is left out because of their financial situation. In order to qualify, you must meet a certain financial aid requirement. These may also adjust a student's financial aid package.
 - b. They would like them to evaluate the rector fund and make sure it is used to its full potential. They would like to reach students that are in the middle of the SES. There are students that are still financially constrained but still do not meet the requirements to use the fun. They would like to improve and expand this program.
 - 3. Joe Kelly thinks this is a great idea, he had no idea it existed.
 - 4. Kyle M. asked if part of the conversation would be advertisement? He has never heard about it.
 - a. It is not meant to be very public, as long as the rector's know so they can give the students who need it.
 - 5. Sarah Price brought up that her rector in Pangborn stressed this very much in FroshO.
 - 6. Rohan A. thinks that it might be a good idea to tell students, like they do in Pangborn because some students may be unaware that they can get help.

7. Erin Killmurray agrees with Rohan A. She says they were told in Farley when their parents were there in FroshO, which is great because their parents could talk to the rector.
8. Sarah Senseman would encourage senators to reach out to their rectors to advertise the rector's fund, or at their hall councils.
9. Nancy J. brought up that the Shirt Project also goes to students who have illnesses and cannot pay for them.
 - a. There is a story at the first floor of LaFortune about how this started. Please read this, as it is a moving story and really should be a part of your Notre Dame Education.
10. Kristin Dennis said that maybe there could be a special circumstances fund giving a more holistic view than just the W2 form.

3. Juan Rangel

- a. Reported on undocumented status
 - i. Office of student affairs that list available resources for undocumented students
 - ii. MSPS integrate undocumented students into their programming and services
 - iii. Admissions recruit these students
 - iv. The office of student affairs make legal resources available for undocumented students

V. New Business

- a. Rohan A. said that at Sigfried Hall Council they had an idea to address sexual assault. There should be mandatory meetings after a sexual assault to bring it home, saying that this happened in your house. The guys also were talking about doing something more pre-emptive, especially with Freshman and Sophomores. He just wanted to get some feedback, please talk to your rectors.
 - i. Joe K. asked if it was just in the dorm it occurred in?
 1. Yes.
 - ii. Sarah S. said that this came up in her department, constituent services.
 - iii. Kyle M. thought this was a great idea, this could be a good grass roots initiative.
 - iv. Rohan A. said that the idea was to keep it grass roots, so the rector would choose students to speak at it. It is hard to make things mandatory, so far as a sophomore he has had no mandatory meetings.
 - v. Catherine Kromkowski talked to Dr. Stackman, and he said that progress should be a cultural shift. She thinks that this starts with the rectors.

- vi. Bob Pak is concerned for the person accused, because he could be innocent, and his fellow students may be wondering who it is.
- vii. Olivia LaManga thinks that small groups are core to these movements, feed these through section events.
- viii. Kyle M. addressed Bob P's point that if it came through Campus Ministry, so like with the prayer service if it is more prayerful reflective than a clan council thing to figure out what happened, if it more addresses hurt in the community this would be better. Also, he shared that in CLC to make real the grassroots thing that one of the professors (Carolyn Nordstrom) works in war zones, and talked about war rape. There is a harsh reaction to the term war rape in the past 20 years, so the horror and backlash to this act is something that has come about in the last 20 years. These conversations can have an actual impact. There has been progress upon this issue in the past.
- ix. Meghan Gallagher asked how would you make it so a dorm could find out if it happened? Right now it is private.
 - 1. Nancy J. said that the crime report you can see the dorm online. It is not publicized. So, there is a bit of confusion as to how we can access this readily in a public way. That is how the Tribune found out. The information is available. Dr. Stackman does not always contact the rector of the complaintant or the respondants dorm. This will probably change, because we keep coming back to the dorms in conversation because it is there that we can have change. This could be even through the RAS
 - a. Rohan A. brought up that it was just the rector making it mandatory, this would be peer to peer because RAs must report things.
 - b. Nancy J. brought up that nothing has been proven at this point, in regards to Bob P. We would be very careful about the tone of these meetings and so that they would not be accusatory. She knows of a case that the event in question did not even happen in the dorm, and it was not the kid accused, because alcohol was involved. It is a great idea, but also we should always proceed with caution because nothing is for sure at this point. It is legally and psychologically important to be cautious
 - c. Catherine K. also brought up that some emails do not go about because they are not timely reported. Whoever wants to do this needs to look at this as well.
- x. Nancy J. would encourage the senators to get feedback at their hall councils. This could be a great conversation to have.

VI. Announcements

- a. Erin Killmurray announced that the off campus council is hosting a block party this Friday with off campus vendors from 5-8pm on Irish Green. There will be many free givaways and a large bouncy obstacle course.
- b. Keough hall is having their annual chariot race, as announced by Conner Cole.
- c. Thomas Rogers announced that Morrissey is having a Catholic Priest who is an exorcist come in tonight at 7:30 pm in Carey Auditorium. He will lead a walk from Alex's program.
- d. Mortgaging the future is right after this.
- e. Michael Lindt announced that this Saturday is the Mobile Summit. There is a free lunch at the Morris Inn, please register online at mobile.nd.edu
 - i. The regatta is 118 days away.

VII. Adjournment

- a. Without objection, *the 9 OCTOBER 2013 Senate meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandria Chloe Wellman
Student Union Secretary
