

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

Executive Summary

DATE: 4 DECEMBER 2013

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. Opening Business

- a. Nancy Joyce called the meeting to order at 6:04 *p.m.*
- b. JOE KELLY led the invocation.
- c. 3 were absent; 0 were late.
- d. Nancy Joyce entertained any motions to change the 20 NOVEMBER 2013 executive summary. *The 20 NOVEMBER 2013 executive summary was approved at 6:06 p.m.*

II. Officer Reports

- a. Mr. Alex Coccia, Student Body President
 - i.
- b. Ms. Nancy Joyce, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Went to faculty senate last night
 1. Several faculty members were unhappy with the old wording of the sexual assault emails, and are pleased with the new wording. Thank you to all of you for keeping this conversation at the forefront.
- c. Mr. Juan Rangel, Chief of Staff
 - i. Is meeting next week with the Bookstore advisory committee

III. General Orders

- a. Mr. Chris Abayasinghe, Director of Notre Dame Food Services and Chef Don Miller
 - i. Chris is new this year, and has brought the his senior executive chef Don Miller. During his six weeks, he has had a wonderful experience being able to meet with members of his staff and culinary team. In that time, he has had interactions with a number of departments here. He has begun the process of building one on one relationships here in this group. Tonight, more or less, is to talk on what he is looking for on a student engagement perspective for Food Services. Our chef has worked very diligently to make treats for you all.
 - ii. Chef Don is curious to ask who has taken any of the classes. Carolina Wilson has. He encourages taking these, they are always full. For your reference, if you go to the nutritional site on the homepage, there is a place there for student cooking class. If you haven't registered within the first week, they are usually full. It is a fun time, he encourages anyone who is interested. You will learn a lot of life skills. Some local product went over well when he brought it to a meeting a while ago, and he has brought it here. He brought a tart made with local apples. There is enough dessert for the senate. It is a wonderful fruit and apple orchard, we get all of our pears and apples from there, and peaches when they are
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in season. This is an orchard in Michigan. On a personal note to Chris, he comes from out east and he has brought a refreshed look in bringing local foods into the dining hall. He is invigorated in this. We have a great pastry chef who has added a lot to our bakeshop, her name is Laura Johnson.

1. The pastries were passed out.
- iii. Chris is hoping that we can talk about programing from a student centered perspective. Dining services serves over 2 million years a year. There is north dining hall and south, but there is also the retail locations. He would love to have a strong student voice in their programming for the future, whether it is helping plan for programmatic needs or other. He was thinking about a student dining advisory committee. He would like to have a few requirements. What do you guys value when you dine? With this committee, he was thinking that there are three requirements: you gotta love good food, we need you to be engaged, and to know that by being a part of this committee you have the ability to impact the life of every student on campus. Whether it is buying coffee at starbucks, or at ABP by the way thank you for the one in DBRT, there is an impact. This feedback drives programmatic decisions. He was also wondering about how this can be put together, about every demographic. They want diverse across residence, age, as diverse as possible. They would like about twelve committee members. You will taste food during these meetings. He has been in the collegiate dining business for a number of years. He graduated with a degree in economics, but he found that he really liked food and started as a student employee. You impact lives, but you also make decisions that feed into social. The last college he has been at was Williams College in Massachusetts. He served there for 7 years, and made his move here to ND. He is thrilled to be able to lead this team. He felt the need to come introduce him and Chef Don. He would love to work with us, and for us to help work through a few of these steps.
 - iv. Nancy asked the senate to ask their constituents in the dorm at hall councils, and opened it up for discussion.
 1. Chris would like to keep this as high level as possible.
 2. Joe Kelly, from personal experience, has wondered why you cannot use guest meals on football weekend.
 - a. Chris is unsure at this, but will look into this.
 3. Toni Schreier would like to know about his vision for grap n go. Many students would like a more variety of options.
 - a. Chris said that their experience with ABP in DBRT that the dining patters are changing. He will look into this with the dining advisory committee. He currently does not have a vision.
 - b. Chef Don said that there will be a noticeable change in the breads and sandwiches next semester. They have done something as well from a quality perspective, and they did

not realize that they didn't have as much variety. They are trying to get more quality. They have changed their shifts in the kitchen, and now they are doing the prep late at night so that the food is fresh for grab and go. It used to be that the sandwiches were made a day in advance. Next semester, there will be five different breads offered. They are always looking for input.

- i. Speaking of input, Chris said that they will be doing coffee tasting for the dining halls. Did anyone participate in the ice cream tasting? Your choices helped.
 4. Maggie Armstrong loves the nutritional accounting system, however some foods have no information. Will this be improved?
 - a. Chris said yes. There is a nutritionist who is on staff, and they are working on doing the nutritional breakdown before an item is introduced. They would like to go mobile with this.
 5. Erin Killmurray has heard that students would like maybe a to go container to use as a swipe in the dining hall to take out instead of grab and go.
 6. Rohan Andresen brought up that a grab and go express could be made in a location that is in a more convenient place by the class buildings. This came up at his hall council
 - a. Chris said that within the first week at ABP DBRT cart, they had so much feedback about when are they bringing other foods it was very interesting. They are running this as a pilot. They will think about this.
 7. Maggie A., along these lines, she has heard of students using meals for things like Subway or ABP. Maybe giving you the value of the swipe to use at these locations.
 - a. Chris said that he had a phone conversation today about residential meal plan structures, so he is looking into this. The primary cost structure now is for the dining halls. It covers the living wages for staff and for the overhead costs for these.
 8. Students would like to know how to give feedback directly.
 - a. Chris said that they are looking at a few options. One through the committee, and possibly one online. Maybe you have a concern about oranges at South, this would be sent to the person who over looks this area.
 9. Michael Murphy asked about the efforts to include local foods.
 - a. Chris said from the culinary perspective, there is something about using local foods. The school of culinary that he was trained in said that if you used great
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ingredients, you can make great foods. Here, we have access to Illinois, Michigan, and Indiana with significant agricultural resources. We are looking into buying local produce. When we buy, we buy a lot at a time. We are looking into finding suppliers who can provide a lot at a time.

- b. Chef Don responded that they are incorporating local foods already this fall. The bounty with this geographical location comes in in the early fall. We have to go further out to get fresh produce this time of year. They are working on this, they have some visionary things that they are looking into right now.
 - c. Stephanie Klotter brought up to please send feedback to the Department of Residence Life as well.
10. Carolina Wilson, regarding unused food, she is unsure if there is a system in place of this, but she is wondering if they could go to the homeless shelter?
- a. Chef Don said this is done now. They use their own trucks. What is left and is wholesome is given to the homeless shelters. They would like to cook more to order so that they are not cooking large batches too far out. This would give more money to give better quality food. This would mean less for the shelters.
11. Maggie A. knows about Wednesday lunch fast. Is there another way to donate other meals?
- a. This is a good question, said Chris. There are some logistical things that would need to be worked out. When it comes to acts of giving, he would like to work with SAO and Campus Ministry because these are acts of giving to donate to other organizations.
12. Olivia LaMagna, who is gluten free, finds this challenging sometimes. There has been concerns with labeling. Most of the time it has been awesome, but is there more of a plan in the future to consider more what is going out on a given day.
- a. Chris said yes. They have a nutritionist who helps students with dietary needs. There are students who have very restrictive dietary needs, and for these students they make a very controlled environment for their dining. For more students that are going gluten free, they are working on this.
13. Bob Pak asked about labeling, such as those that contain fish or eggs. Are these being improved? What are these for?
- a. Chris said that these are sourcing allergens all the way from when they buy it and how they are prepared. There
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are certain items such as cucumbers that are not labeled. They want every student to know exactly what is in the food that they eat.

14. In terms of sustainability, could you please elaborate on things such as the cups being reusable?

a. Chris thinks that sustainability is very important. They have locations such as Starbucks that reward you for bringing your own cups. They will use the student advisory committee to figure out how students take out food, and if they use the cups. He is working with the office of sustainability to have a robust plan on how to change this issue.

15. Erin K. has noticed signs saying you cannot fill up your water bottle next to the coffee machine.

a. Chris is unsure about this. Where is this?

i. North and South.

1. He has not seen the signs himself, but this is counterintuitive and will be looked into.

16. Cristin Pacifico loves flavored coffee at North, but it is not in South. Any chance it will come to South?

a. Please come to the coffee tasting!

17. Thank you so much to Chris for coming to student senate.

18. Nancy said to please send her an email if you would like to be on this committee.

b. "One is Too Many" Campaign Update

i. From the beginning of the year, Alex said that senate has been instrumental in this campaign on raising the level of conversation on sexual assault. This helps us address this issue as head on as we can. We have gotten together, and would like to make this a big issue campaign coming back next semester. We want a high level of one on one conversation about this. We can track the attitude on campus, we cannot track what goes unreported. We would like a community that pledges. He developed a pledge that was read in his state of the student union speech. They will use "One is Too Many" as the tagline. The first initiative they are planning on a door to door pledge campaign. How many attended the students only discussion? Great. We were able to build our organizational campaign from this. It will be busy when we get back. We will have bystander training when we get back to make sure those going door to door are comfortable and knowing how to have this conversation. People from the GRC will run this training. So, what he would ask of the senate, please let Alex know or email him or Nancy if this is something you would like to do. If there is five people per dorm doing this, it will take no more than an hour. He would like the conversations to be honest and to reinforce the efforts of the

administration and the suggestions that come out of senate. Any questions?

1. Michael M. was confused as to what this meant, going door to door.
 - a. Signing the pledge is the introduction and to see what they are willing to talk about in terms of sexual assault. The pledge seemed like a good idea to do. What is most important is not the pledge but the conversation.
2. Conner Cole asked if they would like to have students from hall council?
 - a. Yes, please go back to your hall councils.
3. Olivia L. asked if there would be a trigger concern, statistically this could happen.
 - a. Yes, this is a concern, which is why there will be training.
4. Nancy said to please keep in mind that just because that there has not been emails lately does not mean that there has not been new sexual assaults. Please follow up if you have any questions about this.

IV. New Business

- a. Friendly reminder as elected leaders from Michael Masi. Next week there is a information about those who would like to run for student body president. You cannot talk about campaigns in student government meetings, nor may you talk about it on the second or third floors of La Fortune.
 - i. Please take two posters.

V. Announcements

- a. Carolina W. announced that there are senior events. On Thursday, there is a happy hour at legends. They are providing the food. It is a way to learn about the senior legacy project. This involves the seniors role as alumni. There will also be a cornhole tournament in Stepan Center.
 - b. Kaitlyn Keelin announced that SUB is giving candy grams. Please give your friends real room number. They are FREE. They are selling them this week in La Fortune. Elf is the sub movie this weekend.
 - c. Toni S. announced that majors night is coming up. Please take posters. It will be January 23rd. This is put on by academic affairs
 - d. Howard Holiday will be next week at fieldhouse mall to decorate Christmas trees for each dorm.
 - e. Caroll Christmas is this Friday, the tree lighting will be at 6. Santa will be there. There will be a cookie tasting contest. Please come out. There will be elves and santa. He was an elf last year.
 - f. Badin is hosting a conscious Christmas this Friday. Proceeds go to an orphanage in Nepal.
 - g. Strobe set spike for Juniors is this Thursday.
 - i. On Sunday night, there will be a send off for students going abroad.
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h. Dillon hall light show will be this Thursday at 11

i. The Fisher Regatta is coming up, but Michael Lindt was not here to announce it.

VI. Adjournment

a. Without objection, *the 13 NOVEMBER 2013 Senate meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandria Chloe Wellman
Student Union Secretary