

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

Executive Summary

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. Opening Business

- a. Andrew called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.
- b. Marina led the invocation.
- c. Hallie and Michael Ryan were absent.
- d. Andrew entertained a motion to approve the September 22, 2010 executive summary.
 - i. Matt requested that CLC be changed to Student Government in II.c.ii.; Erin seconded.
 - ii. Leslie asked to have her name removed as being absent.
 - iii. Kelsey moved to approve the summary. Tierney seconded. *The September 22, 2010 executive summary was approved at 6:09 p.m.*

II. Podium

- a. Chris Gigante, President of the Shirt Project
 - i. Chris updated everyone on sales for The Shirt.
 1. Before the Purdue game, 99,000 had been sold; at the current time, 131,000 have been sold.
 2. The goal for sales is well on its way to being accomplished.
 - ii. Chris also provided some information on the selection of the next President of the Shirt Project.
 1. The application will be up today and is due October 8.
 2. Candidates selected will be interviewed on October 10 or 11.
 3. If there are any questions, people should e-mail theshirt@nd.edu.

III. Officer Reports

- a. Ms. Catherine Soler, Student Body President
 - i. The Stepan Pep Rally will be on Thursday and all senators are expected to help out from 6:15-9:15pm.
 - ii. Doors will open at 7:30pm; the Band and cheerleaders will be there at 8pm and the team with Coach Kelly will be there at 8:15pm.
 - iii. The main intent of the pep rally is to be organized chaos so encourage everyone to go to create a great environment.
- b. Mr. Andrew Bell, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Andrew is glad to be back and looking forward to getting back to work.
- c. Mr. Nicholas Ruof, Chief of Staff
 - i. Nick, Catherine, and Claire met with the Excise Police last Thursday and had a very productive conversation.
 1. The Excise Police thought the best thing to do at the current time is to educate students on the alcohol laws

IV. Committee Reports

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs [AJ McGauley]
 - i. Ed Hums will be the first Last Lecture Series professor.
 - ii. AJ is continuing to meet with other representatives in several organizations to talk about academic resources for students.
- b. Committee on Campus Technology [Casey Cockerham]
 - i. An outreach event will be held next Tuesday, October 5 from 1-3pm with staff from the OIT office to make students more aware of technology services on campus and to answer any questions.
- c. Committee on Community Relations [Claire Sokas]
 - i. The Farmer's Market will be on Fieldhouse Mall next Thursday, October 7; please encourage everyone to attend.
 - ii. Claire is currently meeting with representatives to talk about education in the South Bend community and how Notre Dame can play a role in that.
 - iii. Claire talked with the Student Body President from Johns Hopkins University to talk about how they have handled issues with the police and student-police interactions.
- d. Committee on Gender Issues [Mariah McGrogan and Timothy Castellini]
 - i. Professor McKenna is onboard to kickoff the lecture series; Tim will be meeting with him soon to make a clearer plan.
 - ii. Tim asked everyone to give Mariah a round of applause for taking hold and charge of the Body Image Awareness Week posters after major problems were incurred.
 1. Posters along with the attached stall notes should be hung up in all of the dorms as soon as possible.
- e. Committee on Multicultural Affairs [Brigitte Githinji]
 - i. Brigitte appreciates everyone coming out to the Diversity Dinner on Monday; she thought it was a great event that allowed everyone to meet different directors and people on campus.
 1. Brigitte has also sent out a feedback form to gauge what was talked about at the different tables; please fill these out and return as soon as possible.
 - ii. Brigitte also made it a point to attend events put on by all the different committees because they are very useful and important.
- f. Committee on Oversight [Paige Becker]
 - i. The summary of the Constitution is coming along very well and will hopefully be compiled soon for use by the freshmen in FUEL.
 - ii. Sorting of the archives will begin this week.
 - iii. Paige and others are still working with SUB and Judicial Council to figure out more effective practices within the Constitution.
 - iv. Paige asked all of the senators to think about one thing they would want to change about the structure of Student Government.
- g. Committee on Residence Life [Matthew High]
 - i. A resolution is on the table for later in the meeting.

- ii. Matt is collecting information from the Committee about issues with the Office of Residence Life and Housing.
 - iii. The Committee is starting to plan a Harry Potter Night in South Dining Hall in the near future.
- h. Committee on Social Concerns [Patrick McCormick]
 - i. Patrick thanked Rachel and Justin for coming to speak tonight about last year's social concerns project on water.
 - ii. The Committee is working on ways to get more students involved and engaged in different organizations and events that deal with social concerns and service issues.
 - iii. Many leaders and representatives from several organizations have contacted Notre Dame to raise awareness about the recent issues in Sudan and increase involvement; Student Government has been also asked to work closely to talk about ways Notre Dame can add awareness and add to the global interest in this important and pressing topic.
 - 1. The issue at hand includes potential genocide and civil war in Sudan, comparable and possibly worse than Sudan.
 - 2. The goal is to add to the national and worldwide involvement and pressure to call for action that will prevent the potential consequences.
 - 3. The hope is that students can inspire change with the issue by calling for action, as happened with the Darfur case.
- i. Committee on University Affairs [Chase Riddle]
 - i. Chase met with the director of NDSP to follow-up on the earlier discussions of getting on and off campus; Chase will be working on disseminating information about these procedures.
 - ii. The Committee is also beginning to work on how to respond to the breaking in of off-campus houses.
 - iii. Chase then provided his Mr. ND rap, which will be his talent for the Mr. ND show; the rap concerned Chase's obsession with Hogwarts and Gryffindor Hall, both of which he was extremely sad about.
- j. Ad Hoc Committee on Off Campus Concerns [Emily LeStrange]
 - i. The proposal for the off campus discount program has been sent and mailings have been delivered.
 - ii. The Committee is also working on new cards for the TRANSPO route changes, getting window decals for the merchants that are participating in the off campus discount program, and planning for the upcoming lease fair.

V. General Orders

- a. Global Water Initiative Presentation and Evaluation
 - i. Andrew introduced Rachel and Justin to talk about last term's yearlong Social Concerns project, the Global Water Initiative.

- ii. The project was a yearlong one to raise funds and awareness about the amount of people who do not have access to healthy water.
 - iii. Overall, over \$4,000 was raised thanks to the help of students, organizations, Student Government, and Rachel and Justin's hard work.
 - iv. The money raised went to the Yams Farm Primary School in Western Africa, which serves around 550 people, to fix numerous problems with access to water.
 - 1. Remove the old pump that was in place with the old well and contaminated.
 - 2. Remove dirt from the well interior; this component involved community members in the revamping of the well.
 - 3. Install a new Afridev hand pump.
 - 4. Establish a community point person for monitoring.
 - 5. Conduct hygiene training and education; this was an especially important part of the project to ensure that those in the community were educated.
 - v. The project was completed on July 19, 2010.
 - vi. Those involved with the school expressed thanks and reported successful practices since completion.
 - vii. The main idea of the project was to engage the community members and not just send a quick check to help out.
 - viii. Several pictures were shown to exemplify the progress of the well.
 - ix. Rachel and Justin expressed thanks to all involved with the Initiative last year and at the end, are very pleased with the results of the first big Student Government project that really looked outside the box.
 - x. Both Rachel and Justin spent numerous hours working on the Global Water Initiative last term and deserve a tremendous amount of thanks for all that they did and accomplished.
- b. SS1011-07: Commending the Office of Student Affairs for Positive Revisions to duLac

Introduction

- i. Matt mentioned that the main intent of the resolution is to thank the Office of Student Affairs for including students and Student Government in revisions of duLac.
- ii. It is also the hope that the resolution will encourage them to remember to include students in future major decisions that really do impact students.

General Questions

- i. There were no general questions.

Grammatical Changes

- i. There were no grammatical changes.

Debate/Discussion

- i. Brigitte thought it was a very honorable thing for the Office of Student Affairs to include students in the process of revisions.

- ii. Patrick seconded Brigitte and thanked Matt for taking the time to recognize people who have helped.
- iii. Julie expressed her support for the resolution in that it will hopefully continue the trend of administrative officials asking students for their opinion on major decisions.
- iv. John asked about how the resolution was handed to the Office of Student Affairs.
 1. Andrew mentioned that the resolution is given to the Office with a cover letter further explaining the intent of the resolution.
- v. Jack wanted to make sure that the resolution did not close dialogue between the administration and students/Student Government.

Voting

- i. By a voice vote with no dissent, the resolution passed at 6:37pm. [applause]

VI. New Business

- a. Kevin mentioned that at his Hall Council, some dorm members asked about bringing rainbow sprinkles to North Dining Hall.
- b. Conor mentioned that some of his friends have expressed concern about the lack of flyovers before the football games; Alex mentioned that some of the decrease has been attributed to budget cuts.

VII. Announcements

- a. Patrick announced that Energy Week is this week so look out for events.
- b. Patrick mentioned that the Post-Graduate Service Fair is happening tonight (Wednesday) until about 8pm.
- c. Patrick also mentioned that the Feast of St. Francis is coming up, complete with special desserts in the dining halls.
- d. Emily mentioned that her Committee would not be meeting tonight as planned.
- e. Patrick also announced that the second Pizza, Pop, and Politics event will be this Thursday at 6pm for those not helping out with the pep rally.
- f. Tim asked everyone to please be sure to pick up their posters and hang them up.
- g. Claire announced the Mara Fox Run this weekend.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Andrew entertained a motion to adjourn. Alex moved to adjourn. Luke seconded. *The September 29, 2010 Senate meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Kimberly
Student Body Secretary

*do chairs
usually
talk a lot?
or senators?*

