

## NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

### Executive Summary

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

#### I. Opening Business

- a. Andrew called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- b. Kevin led the invocation.
- c. Jack, Ryan, and Tommy were absent; Chase and Kelsey were late.
- d. Andrew entertained any motions to change the minutes. *Without objection, the October 6, 2010 executive summary was approved at 6:05 p.m.*

#### II. Officer Reports

- a. Ms. Catherine Soler, Student Body President
  - i. This Friday, there will be a pep rally as well as a walkover to Irish Green.
  - ii. Volunteers are still needed for the collection during the Western Michigan game so anyone willing to help out should sign up and encourage others to do the same.
    1. If you missed the mandatory meeting, e-mail SAO or Peggy to get up to speed.
- b. Mr. Andrew Bell, Student Body Vice President
  - i. Election reforms will be ready soon for Senate to vote on.
  - ii. Student Government is kind of in a transition phase, focusing less on the off campus issues and more broadly.
- c. Mr. Nicholas Ruof, Chief of Staff
  - i. The Safety Summit was last night with NDSP, SBPD, the Prosecutor's Office, and Catherine; the meeting was overall productive.
    1. Nick is now currently friends with the Prosecutor, with no mention of how that friendship was formed.

#### III. Committee Reports

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs [AJ McGauley]
  - i. The Last Lecture is set for Thursday, October 28 from 7-8pm in Washington Hall; please announce this to everyone and posters will be available after Fall Break.
  - ii. The Committee is looking to expand the interactive map of Notre Dame to include additional layers relevant for students (i.e. having a layer that shows where the study spaces are on campus).
  - iii. AJ is looking into starting training for the academic commissioners in the dorms, similar to what the Committees on Multicultural Affairs and Social Concerns do.
    1. The idea is to build a support system for the academic commissioners.

- iv. AJ will also be meeting with the Kaneb Center to talk about how to better use the newspapers via the College Readership Program.
- b. Committee on Campus Technology [Casey Cockerham]
  - i. On the Wednesday after Fall Break, there will be a day of lectures and speakers from technology companies to work on security issues with computers.
- c. Committee on Community Relations [Claire Sokas]
  - i. The Farmer's Market was a great success and well-attended.
  - ii. Claire is still looking into adopting a school in the community to get involved with education in South Bend.
- d. Committee on Gender Issues [Mariah McGrogan and Timothy Castellini]
  - i. The Committee is working with Feminist Voice to have a panel on what exactly feminism is with several speakers from different departments around campus.
  - ii. The events were not well-attended though well-done for
  - iii. Tim is still working on planning for the upcoming lecture series with Professor McKenna.
- e. Committee on Multicultural Affairs [Brigitte Githinji]
  - i. Brigitte asked for feedback on continuing dorm involvement for multicultural events; please e-mail her with any thoughts.
- f. Committee on Oversight [Paige Becker]
  - i. Paige thanked everyone for their suggestions on how best to improve/change Student Government.
  - ii. The Committee is finalizing the amendments for the Judicial Council and elections articles, which will be set for the week following Fall Break.
- g. Committee on Residence Life [Matthew High]
  - i. The Committee is working on expanding Grab 'n Go options, the upcoming Harry Potter Night, getting grilled chicken slices in North Dining Hall, and having multiple slides in a meal period.
  - ii. Matt is working on going through some of the relevant suggestions that everyone has provided recently and will hopefully be able to get started on fixing these things.
- h. Committee on Social Concerns [Patrick McCormick]
  - i. The Committee is still focusing efforts to educate the community on the situation in Sudan.
  - ii. Patrick has been working on getting the Hunger Project going.
    - 1. On October 26 at 7:30pm, the launch for the Hunger Project will take place.
    - 2. A community meeting will be held before Fall Break focusing on the issue.
    - 3. The Holy Cross Holiday Hunger Drive will take place from October 25 to November 19, so more information will be forthcoming about this.

- iii. In a most important announcement, Patrick informed everyone that IHOP is running a special, offering pumpkin pancakes all season long.
- iv. Patrick was sure to mention that Summer Sanders was born today and wished her an excellent birthday.
- i. Committee on University Affairs [Chase Riddle]
  - i. The Committee met to talk about Alcohol Awareness Week, which is set for the week after Fall Break; this is a joint thing with the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education and PILLARS.
  - ii. The Committee and Chase are working on figuring out some usage statistics for the College Readership Program.
- j. Ad Hoc Committee on Off Campus Concerns [Emily LeStrange]
  - i. TRANSPO cards have been printed and can be picked up.
  - ii. Five (5) more businesses have signed on to the discount program, bringing the total to thirty (30).
  - iii. Nine (9) people have responded to the lease fair invitations sent out last week; the fair is currently set for Thursday, November 11.

#### **IV. General Orders**

- a. Discussion of Off Campus Safety and Future Direction
  - i. Student Government is still working hard to alleviate off campus issues but will be turning to a more broad view of issues on campus.
  - ii. The Board of Trustees presentation went very well and included Student Government in the larger discussion about off campus issues.
  - iii. Many people are working on pulling different ideas to compile a report and database about how other schools work with police and deal with off campus issues and safety concerns.
  - iv. The focus is now turning to on campus things that may contribute to decreasing off campus problems, particularly better on campus programming extending into the night and into the winter season.
  - v. Andrew asked everyone to try and get a sense of how students still perceive the off campus environment in order to keep a tab on how students are making social decisions.
    - 1. Catherine also mentioned that Hall Council should be used as a way to get ideas from students in the dorm; use the agenda sent out early by Andrew to have ideas of what to ask about.

#### **V. New Business**

- a. There was no new business.

#### **VI. Announcements**

- a. Tomorrow (Thursday) at 5:00pm will be the first Kickstart Coffee event at Geddes Hall with fair trade coffee.
- b. Luke announced that Keenan Hall is sponsoring a service trip to Cedar Falls over Fall Break; more people are needed to signup.

- c. Hallie announced that some posters still need to be picked up for some dorms.

**VII. Adjournment**

- a. Andrew entertained a motion to adjourn. Tierney moved to adjourn. John seconded. *The October 13, 2010 Senate meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Kimberly  
Student Body Secretary