

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

Executive Summary

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. Opening Business

- a. Andrew called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
- b. Chase led the invocation.
- c. Casey, Kaitlin, Jessica, Luke, and Michael Ferguson were absent; AJ and Jessica were late.
- d. Andrew entertained any motions to change the November 17, 2010 executive summary.
 - i. The spelling of the word hummus was changed without dissent.
 - ii. Alex moved to approve the November 17, 2010 executive summary; Dan seconded. *The November 17, 2010 executive summary was approved at 6:06 p.m.*

II. Officer Reports

- a. Ms. Catherine Soler, Student Body President
 - i. Catherine attended the CCAC meeting and reported the changes in the Off Campus Council; these changes were well received and much positive feedback was acquired about getting off campus students more involved.
- b. Mr. Andrew Bell, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Andrew thanked everyone for getting through the lengthy resolutions as of late.
 - ii. Andrew reiterated the point of reading e-mails and going through the documents before the meeting to be sure discussions are as effective as possible.
- c. Mr. Nicholas Ruof, Chief of Staff
 - i. Nick has been working with the LaFortune managers to fill out the SAO requests online; at this time, they are working to create a new system to reserve rooms faster and more efficiently.

III. Committee Reports

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs [AJ McGauley]
 - i. Paige reported that AJ wanted to remind everyone of the Last Lecture with Kevin Lannon in the Jordan Auditorium in Mendoza at 7pm.
- b. Committee on Campus Technology [Casey Cockerham]
 - i. Casey was not present.
- c. Committee on Community Relations [Claire Sokas]
 - i. The Committee has just been working to get things ready to roll for next semester.

- d. Committee on Gender Issues [Mariah McGrogan and Timothy Castellini]
 - i. The Committee is planning more student-friendly events around campus, particularly with Sexual Assault Awareness Week next semester.
 - ii. Tim plans to continue influencing people left and right in order to be sure that all is equal for males and females alike.
- e. Committee on Multicultural Affairs [Brigitte Githinji]
 - i. Brigitte e-mailed the Multicultural Commissioners to encourage them to speak up at Hall Council meetings.
 - ii. The Committee members are dividing up into different projects.
 - 1. A big project is to highlight and bring different companies to campus that make diversity an important issue.
- f. Committee on Oversight [Paige Becker]
 - i. Paige had nothing to report.
- g. Committee on Residence Life [Matthew High]
 - i. Harry Potter Night was a success; a record number for South Dining Hall was set.
 - ii. Whine Week feedback is being organized and will be the next order of business for the Committee.
- h. Committee on Social Concerns [Patrick McCormick]
 - i. Patrick encouraged everyone to get as involved as possible with the event this Saturday – Stand with Sudan.
 - 1. This event is going to be huge with about 80 teams registered.
 - 2. T-shirt orders are still being taken at \$5.00/shirt.
 - 3. This is a big chance for Notre Dame to show some leadership on this pressing issue through an exciting event that sends a message.
- i. Committee on University Affairs [Chase Riddle]
 - i. The Committee is still working on DeBartolo Lounge renovations; there are certain phases that have been established, some possibly beginning next semester.
 - ii. An idea was proposed to establish a tradeoff for basketball tickets as there are for football tickets.
- j. Ad Hoc Committee on Off Campus Concerns [Emily LeStrange]
 - i. The main work of the Committee for the rest of the semester is two-fold:
 - 1. Continuing to promote TRANSPO and solidify a plan to do so.
 - 2. Stepping up the promotion of the Off-Campus Discount Program.

IV. General Orders

- a. SS1011-10: Election Revisions to the Constitution [Oversight]

Introduction

- i. This is the second part of election revisions to the Constitution and deals more so with election regulations themselves instead of the bodies that run elections.

- ii. The following changes were made in accordance with the roman numeral:
1. I/II – This now clearly defines what the Executive Liaison’s role in the newly established Election Committee.
 2. III/IV – This clarifies that the Election Committee must review all allegations of potential election misconduct, regardless if explicitly mentioned as a rule or not.
 3. V/VI – This clarifies how decisions of the Election Committee may be appealed to the Senate.
 4. VII/VIII – This stipulates what should be reported to campus media about different allegations and sanctions.
 - a. Previously, there was no explicit statement about what should be reported.
 - b. It now reads that the Judicial Council should report what the Election Committee’s decision about an allegation and sanction is, keeping all else private.
 5. IX/X – This more explicitly states what a candidate is, one who is in good academic and disciplinary standing with the University.
 6. XI/XII – This subsection now defines what an actual candidate is, being anyone who is an undergraduate student with the intent of seeking office.
 7. XIII/XIV – This more clearly defines types of unethical behavior.
 8. XV/XVI – This subsection now takes into account the Internet as a polling place and defines relevant procedures for campaigning.
 9. XVII/XVIII – This changes the holding of a sanction after an appeal is filed.
 - a. Previously, any sanction handed out was deemed void when an appeal was filed.
 - b. To ensure that candidates do not have free reign to break that sanction during an appeal, the sanction will now stand when an appeal has been filed.
 10. XIX/XX – This defined what an actual signature on a petition as any mark of approval from an undergraduate student for a ticket.
 11. XXI/XXII – The only change was replacing the Executive Committee with Election Committee.
 12. XXIII/XXIV – This clause was updated to be more appropriate with advances in technology.
 - a. Social network sites are now explicitly stated as campaign websites.
 13. XXV/XXVI – This subsection updated write-in candidate procedures.
 14. XXVII/XXVIII – The definition of a majority was changed to be more accurate, no longer being considered 50 percent plus one.

15. XXIX/XXX – A clause was added to explicitly state that if there are no qualified candidates for a position or office, then that position or office will go unfilled.

General Questions

- i. Yiting asked why links to websites have to be turned in before a certain time period; Marcelo mentioned that all websites are approved by the Judicial Council and an e-mail is sent out to the Student Body with these sites to ensure everyone has a fair chance of advertising that link.
- ii. Ellen asked about the new rule of Judicial Council being the only provider of the link to vote and what the punishment would be if some supporter did this via a Facebook status or some other venue; Paige responded that a candidate could possibly then be sanctioned.
- iii. Alex asked if someone could be sanctioned for posting a link to the Judicial Council's website; Paige said that this would be up to the Election Committee.

Grammatical Changes

- i. SS1011-11 was changed to SS1011-12; this change was made without objection.
- ii. Elizabeth requested that a period (.) be added to the end of the sentence in Section XXVIII.a.4.A; this change was made without objection.
- iii. Tierney requested to change the list following XXIV.h.2 to reflect how the Constitution normally formats lists; this change was made with one abstention.

Debate/Discussion

- i. Kevin thought that the change in the penalty standing for an Election Committee might have possible unfair results, in the sense that a sanction could be handed down ending someone's campaign.
 1. Paige responded that while this is possible, we have to put trust in the Committee; an election postponement is also possible.
- ii. Brigitte thanked Paige for explaining everything so clearly again.

Voting

- iii. By a hand vote of 25-0-1, the resolution passed at 6:37pm. [applause]

V. New Business

- a. E-mail Questions on Alcohol Education (Adequate and Further Information)
 - i. Leslie mentioned that girls wanted to know the best venue for helping a sick friend.
 - ii. Kevin mentioned that guys thought College HAS Issues was a little repetitive but overall pretty good; also, it could have covered handling a sick friend more.
 - iii. Dan mentioned that guys wanted to know more information about legal rules when drinking off campus; John also mentioned that many people wanted to know about the specific laws for Indiana.

- iv. Tegan mentioned that girls talked about the Medical Amnesty policy and wanted to know more about alcohol poisoning signs; she also mentioned that many girls thought the Four Loko e-mail actually made them want to try and drink it whereas the PILLARS stall notes were effective.
- v. Marina mentioned that many girls thought hearing stories from fellow students might be more effective for getting across points.
- vi. Erinn mentioned that Lyons does have an informal alcohol education at the beginning of the school year, but many girls mentioned that having a similar thing later on in the year might help.
 - 1. Ellen also mentioned that girls thought the beginning of the year was overloaded with alcohol information.
 - 2. Mark mentioned some guys thought having events in the spring from PILLARS might help.
- vii. Tegan mentioned that seniors in Cavanaugh had a follow-up session with PILLARS their freshmen year that they thought was pretty effective.
- viii. Brigitte thought that applicants taking a mandatory alcohol education class online might help.
- ix. Jack mentioned that some guys thought incorporating RAs into the education component might make it more effective and relevant.
- x. Marina mentioned that a girl suggested having one person in each dorm to address all alcohol education related things, possibly an 'alcohol commissioner.'

VI. Announcements

- a. Carroll Christmas is this Friday from 7pm-10pm; everyone should come!
- b. A Silent Auction put on by PE will be in LaFortune tomorrow (Thursday) from 6-9pm.
- c. A Conscious Christmas, a fair-trade sale to benefit an orphanage in Nepal, will be held in Badin this week.
- d. The Aidan Project is this Saturday in South Dining Hall; come make blankets for kids at Riley Hospital who have cancer.

VII. Adjournment

- a. Andrew entertained a motion to adjourn. Michael Ryan moved to adjourn. Jack seconded. *The December 1, 2010 Senate meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Kimberly
Student Body Secretary

