

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE
Executive Summary
September 2nd, 2009
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- i. Cynthia called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
- ii. Chase led the invocation.
- iii. Ted Horn, Zack Maxwell, and Adam Twardzik were absent.
- iv. Cynthia entertained a motion to push the approval of minutes for the following week. Marc Anthony first. Daniel seconded.

II. PODIUM

III. OFFICER REPORTS

- i. **Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body President**
 - a. Grant mentioned that Transpo and Activities Night were both successes
 - b. Grant also mentioned that in yesterday's meeting, student government introduced the offcampus.nd.edu website
 - c. Grant also brought up the home game ticket-exchange system:
 1. For two students, in which one needs a ticket and the other does not plan on attending, they can both go to the box office to exchange tickets.
- ii. **Ms. Cynthia Weber, Student Body Vice-President**
 - a. TeamNd was successful.
- iii. **Mr. Ryan Brellenthin, Chief Executive Assistant**
 - a. Ryan mentioned that he has been meeting with faculty members:
 1. Issues: CIFs, volumes in the library, and academic affairs (with Austin)
- iv. **Ms. Kristin Lewis, Faculty Senate Liaison**
 - a. Ms. Lewis was absent.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- i. **Committee on Academic Affairs [Austin Holler]**
 - a. Austin said that he had his first meeting Monday night and they discussed on the continuation of the online database for syllabi
 - b. Austin also talked about initial thoughts about majors' nights perhaps changing the venue and the way it is staged
 - c. Austin also talked about who they want to invite or put out for the Last Lecture series in the fall.
- ii. **Committee on Campus Technology [Walker Anderson]**
 - a. Walker's committee met this past week
 - b. Walker reiterated that over the summer, there is internet in DH, printers in dorms, and a new insideND site
 - c. New initiatives: Walker brought up itunesU (working with Paul Turner and his team) and is thinking of ways for a launch sometime this fall.

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- d. Walker also brought up course registration (there is currently a beta version) so if any senators are interested they should let Walker know
- e. Walker will be meeting with Gordon as to how students feel about OIT as well as thanking him for printers in the residence halls

iii. Committee on Community Relations [Denise Baron]

- a. Denise brought up the South Bend Frosh Bus Tour (hosted 450 students).
- b. Offcampus website is up so check it out
- c. Fall Festival is coming up in which parents are invited for a Halloween fun fest.
- d. This year, each month the committee plans on promoting a unique offcampus event.
- e. The committee is also in the planning process for Robinson Center picnic

iv. Committee on Gender Issues [Patrick Tighe and Robyn Grant]

- a. Robyn mentioned that their group is planning on a Shameless Plug exhibition.
- b. The GRC is working on body image and poster campaign (details to follow)
- c. Patrick mentioned that he will be contacting the committee dealing with sexual assault incidents to schedule a future meeting as to what was written in a recent report on the sexual assault policy.

v. Committee on Multicultural Affairs [Nika Giger]

- a. Nika had her first meeting this past Monday to talk about the international showcase (tentatively for September 24th)
 - 1. She sent out an email to all the multicultural organizations
- b. Nika also talked about commissioner training and that MAC is in charge of training them; She hopes to increase attendance this year.
- c. Nika also talked about international student move-in and the idea of a virtual video tour.

vi. Committee on Oversight [Kevin Kimberly]

- a. Kevin met this past week and plans on sending the front page of the constitution as well as plans on placing them in senators' mailboxes.
- b. Kevin's group also talked about updating the constitution.

vii. Committee on Residence Life [Nick Ruof]

- a. Nick brought up the update of prices in the huddle, new timings in South dining hall (opened until 7:30), hot grab n go, itunes U, rector evaluations, and potentially putting phone numbers on back of ID cards
- b. Carroll = Word of the Day

viii. Committee on Social Concerns [Rachel Roseberry]

- a. Rachel mentioned that the big thing this year is the Global Water Initiative and she's really excited about it.
- b. Farmers' market in will be late September or early October

ix. Committee on University Affairs [Jeff Lakusta]

- a. Jeff met on Monday night
- b. Some issues talked about dealt with the alumni Lecture series and increasing the intellectual atmosphere of Notre Dame .

V. GENERAL ORDER

A. Paige's Discussion of Robert's Rules

- a. Paige mentioned that the point of Robert's Rules is to keep the formality of senate meetings yet at the same time, leisure talk is necessary.
- b. Previous question must be recognized by the senate and if senate receive a 2/3 vote on previous question after it has been seconded, then senate must end the debate and attend to voting on the motion at hand.
- c. Protest breach of rules: Paige mentioned that senate ought to foster leisure talk but if controversial issues arise, then the goal should still maintain the respect in the senate

B. Pep Rally Discussion

- a. Cynthia mentioned that since the JACC is being renovated, the pep rallies are being held elsewhere.

- 1. Dillion pep rally is on South Quad
- 2. Matt High mentioned that the time will be from 5:45-7:15PM
- 3. Dillion will substitute the for the pep rally in the stadium

- b. Cynthia mentioned that for the other pep rallies that she met with Mr. Semen :

- 1. For Michigan, for the first time, there will be a student only pep rally that Thursday, 9/10; student government hopes to contribute to this event as well.
- 2. For USC, the pep rally will be tentatively in the ND stadium.
- 3. For Michigan State, BC, and the Navy game will be held on Irish Greens which is in between Eddy street commons and Debartolo Performing Arts Center
 - a. Open to families, students, faculty
 - b. There may be 1 or 2 members from the football team
 - c. It is a community relations event since ND is inviting the community

- c. Concerns:

- 1. Cynthia: Not having the entire team there
- 2. Grant mentioned that student government hopes to get a cohesive pep rally just for students, not so much for the community since it might take away from that ND dynamic
- 3. Grant also added that these pep rallies tend to fluctuate based on how the team is as well as the weather factor.

- d.) Comments:

- 1. Chase mentioned that it will be a big problem if the freshmen cannot attend the pep rallies for the final games of the year and especially in the cold, since perhaps not many people would go to Irish Greens, Chase suggested that perhaps holding a North Quad or God Quad pep rally in order to bring it back to the students and having it more central.

- i. Cynthia added that the capacity is important for the venue and North Quad might not accommodate all students.
2. Taylor asked how much say tonight's meeting can have on changes to the pep rallies.
 - i. Grant mentioned that there will be no changes and that this has been announced in the press release
 - ii. Grant mentioned that if it's something of a big enough concern, student government can host its own event
3. Megan asked if any areas of the JACC would be available
 - i. Cynthia responded that the ice would be up by then so it would not hold all the students during that period.
4. Claire asked if this change would be permanent
 - i. Grant responded that the Irish Greens rallies would be a trial for now.
5. CJ mentioned that Irish Greens appears to be a fair for alumni and students and that student government ought to host their own pep rally.
6. Marc Anthony said that pep rallies are very integral to Friday evenings at ND especially for the freshmen:
 - i. Marc Anthony said that the idea for Irish Greens is a terrible idea and perhaps student government should find alternatives of hosting at different venues
7. Andrew felt that students should give the pep rally a chance before they can be critical about it
 - i. Susan seconded what Andrew said.
8. Colin asked why the University does not support Stepan Hall for pep rallies
 - i. Grant responded that Stepan, as a venue, sets up for for a capacity of only 2100 people.
9. Claire asked why the football team is not going to the pep rallies
 - i. Grant responded that since the attendance to the pep rallies has been fluctuating seasonally, Fridays, according to the ND football staff, should serve as a day of winding down for the football players before the big game.
10. Daniel suggested about another pep rally in the stadium.
11. Pat asked why can't pep rallies be only 30 minutes since it would be less of a struggle for students, the football team, and the band.

C. Open Forum

- a. Cynthia mentioned that if senators have an idea that should be assigned to the committee, they will be put in a box next to the "Wall of Ideas"
- b. Andrew asked about the printer situation in the dorms and as to who they should contact:
 1. Walker responded that they should contact OIT Help Desk.

- d. Chase requested if senators can have a senator's ball and just chill:
 - 1. No response...
- d. Cynthia added that the idea that Transpo hours will be extended is still in the works.
 - 1. Cynthia clarified that the purpose is safety first and foremost.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- i. None

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i. None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- i. Cynthia entertained a motion to adjourn. Chase first. Susan seconded. *The September 2nd, 2009 Student Senate meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Tej Mudigonda
Student Body Secretary

