

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE
Executive Summary
December 2, 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. Nika and Ted were absent.
- iv. Cynthia entertained a motion to approve the new November 18, 2009 executive summary. *The November 18, 2009 executive summary was approved at 6:09 p.m.*

II. PODIUM

III. OFFICER REPORTS

- i. **Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body President**
 - a. Grant met with CCAC about off campus issues.
 - b. Next, Grant went to a meeting to discuss cab issues; identification information
 - c. The new restaurant, The Mark, run by Uptown Kitchen, will be a bar/restaurant will open soon.
 - d. In the future, there will be a Health Services Advisory Board in which the student body president will appoint six members to serve as liaisons.
 - e. At midnight tonight, the Transpo map will be up.
 - f. Several key points:
 1. Outbound = leaving Transpo and going to campus (library circle)
 2. Inbound = going to downtown
 3. There will only be one bus running
 4. Ultimate concept is to create a laminated card in the future for students to put in their pocket.
 5. Another message that needs to be conveyed to students is that they can ask the drivers questions and that they ought to come early at the initial time of the Transpo stop interval.
 6. Downtown, Notre Dame Campus, and Notre Dame Ave are the three primary stops but students can still get on the bus as long as it is on the route.
 7. Students need their ID to get on for free.
 8. Student government is also working with Hot Box to sell pizza by the slice.
- ii. **Ms. Cynthia Weber, Student Body Vice-President**
 - a. Cynthia introduced Kevin Doyle, the student government liaison to the athletic department.

1. There is discussion with club teams. Several individuals talked about the increasing ice hockey fees.
 2. Cynthia mentioned that the cost for ice time is relatively low compared to other institutions.
- g. Cynthia reminded senators to inform their residents to do the online CIFs.

iii. Mr. Ryan Brellenthin, Chief Executive Assistant

- a. Ryan mentioned that tomorrow is the Red Cross Blood Drive at Legends.

iv. Professor Gupta, Faculty Senate Liaison

- a. Professor Gupta was absent

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- i. **Wall of Ideas** [Elle Metz]
 - a. Vegetarian options and single-semester parking pass
- ii. **Committee on Academic Affairs** [Austin Holler]
 - a. Austin has a meeting with Andrew at FYS to talk about Majors Night and he hopes to meet with other deans along the way.
 - b. His committee is also working on textbook prices.
 - c. He is working with Jeff's committee on the intellectual environment.
- iii. **Committee on Campus Technology** [Walker Anderson]
 - a. Walker will be addressing the future of Concourse in the weeks ahead.
 - b. In the spring, there will be student focus groups to evaluate the student's technology experience throughout the day and address efficiency/trends.
 - c. Regarding the LaFortune color printer, Xerox is saying "no more printers" and the printer budget has been locked down, so he's hoping to look for alternative means.
 - d. Regarding the off-campus evaluation site, it is actually being worked as a group project for a data basing class.
 1. This site will parallel ND Today and there will be usability tests performed next semester.
- iv. **Committee on Community Relations** [Denise Baron]
 - a. Denise's committee is working on the off-campus safety informational meeting for freshman (after break) and finalizing some plans for the winter festival, but she's not sure if it'll be inside or outside. Potentially, there will be an outdoor skating rink.
 - b. Initial planning stages for CommUniversity day are underway.
- v. **Committee on Gender Issues** [Patrick Tighe and Robyn Grant]
 - a. Robyn's committee is working on dorm and equality issues
 - b. Meeting next week to address sexual assault and student government
- vi. **Committee on Multicultural Affairs** [Nika Giger]
 - a. Nika's committee talked about the diversity certificate.
 - b. The committee also talked about making the international showcase next month.
 - c. Getting black history agenda up online.
- vii. **Committee on Oversight** [Kevin Kimberly]

- a. Kevin's committee is working on the strategic plan.
- b. No amendments tonight
- viii. **Committee on Residence Life [Nick Ruof]**
 - a. Working on a good Samaritan policy
 - b. Working on medical amnesty
- ix. **Committee on Social Concerns [Rachel Roseberry]**
 - a. Rachel's committee is working towards increasing social entrepreneurship resources on campus; gauging student engagement in social services and business competitions/clubs.
 - b. Rachel's committee, on the GWI, is also working on the benefit CD. She would like to get most of the submissions possibly by the first week of January.
 - c. Regarding the wishing wells, getting 30 water jugs is actually difficult so she hopes to move that agenda to next semester.
- x. **Committee on University Affairs [Jeff Lakusta]**
 - a. Jeff's committee did not meet.

V. GENERAL ORDER

i. Semester Evaluation; Goal Setting

- a. For the next couple of weeks, all the initiatives are in progress.
- b. For today's senate meeting, Cynthia would like for senators to evaluate the progress this administration has taken this semester.
- c. Cynthia addressed the four over-arching perspectives that student government has had in mind:
 1. Expediting improvements to campus conveniences and comfort as a standard mode of Student Government operation.
 - a.) Cynthia mentioned the notion of addressing the "little things" and the working relationships with administrators.
 2. Making student government a sitting "focus group of students of University Administrators"
 - a.) Cynthia discussed the efforts with university departments and individuals.
 - i. For example, commencement or changes in the economic course structures.
 3. Increasing the level of collaboration with local leadership and resources
 - a.) Cynthia discussed the collaboration with the city, such as Transpo
 4. Increasing student government's social consciousness and role in the country and world.
 - a.) Cynthia addressed collaborative efforts such as the Global Water Initiative.
- d. Initial Thoughts:
 1. Jeff, having been here for 4 years, emphasized that ND is

- truly a special place and it's pretty cool that we can tackle the larger and more global issues.
2. Denise also iterated that it's nice for student government to extend its role beyond the ND bubble and we are addressing issues on so many different levels.
 3. Daniel said that it's important for students to recognize that the accomplishments listed were performed by student government.
 4. Chase suggested having some sort of open forum element for the student body to come and talk to student leaders.
 5. Elise suggested perhaps sending a student-government email of what has been demanded and what has been done in order to engage feedback between leaders and students.
 6. CJ suggested a whine-time session.
 7. In context of the CIFs, Taylor suggested creating a student government survey.
- e. On the backside of the first sheet, Cynthia addressed the current accomplishments from student government. Some clarifications:
1. ND/Boston College Ireland Trophy
 - a. Grant mentioned this has been a tradition between ND and Boston College Football
 2. Little Flower Representation
 - a. This summer, the pastor had a lot of concerns about the traffic intersections and also wanted to extend the arm of friendship to students in Legacy Village.
 - b. Student government planned a picnic to welcome students to initiate mass for off-campus students.
 3. Gold Rush Program
 - a. Cynthia clarified that it is a program that the athletic office does to promote non-football and non-basketball events.
 - b. Last year, if students went to a lot of gold-rush games, they were entered into a lottery to go to the ND Football game in Ireland
 - c. Student government worked a lot over the summer to expand this to all games. Although there is no commitment, the plan is in progress to extend it to all varsity sports games.
- f. Cynthia introduced the Quick Evaluation of the Semester form.
- g. Cynthia requested if senators have any recommendations down the road that may be pertinent.
1. Brad suggested addressing the pep rallies next semester.
 2. Elise put forward the idea of a social gathering in order to get to know the senators together.

3. Erika suggested the idea of increasing collaboration with more clubs/organizations.
4. Brian suggested to pushing the new football coach agenda next semester.
5. Taylor suggested having a town hall meeting for all senators, i.e. a state of union address.
6. Brian put out the idea of having a pep rally for the Blue-Gold game.
7. Taylor put out the idea of an event to honor Charlie Weis.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- i. Chase suggested having an ugly sweater senate next week.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i. Nick mentioned that on Friday, Carroll Christmas at 6:30PM.
- ii. Daniel introduced Brian, the new Alumni senator, for next week.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- i. Cynthia entertained a motion to adjourn. Chase motioned. *The December 2, 2009 Student Senate meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Tej Mudigonda
Student Body Secretary

