

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

Executive Summary

February 17, 2010

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- i. Cynthia called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
- ii. Chase led the invocation.
- iii. Matt, Robyn, Zack Adam, and Ellie was absent.
- iv. Cynthia entertained a motion to approve the new ^{Feb 10th} January 27th, 2010 executive summary. *The January 27th, 2010 executive summary was approved by unanimous consent at 6:09 p.m.*

Names: Carey; Erika

II. PODIUM

III. OFFICER REPORTS

i. Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body President

- a. Grant will be meeting next week with city and county engineers.
- b. Several committee chairs will be meeting with rectors next week and meet with them individually; prior to April 1st, these answers will be brought up in Senate.
- c. Rachel brought up the Domer Dollars initiative (fundraisers)
 1. These Domer Dollars would be credited to those particular accounts
- d. Grant unveiled rent.nd.edu at Senate; very similar to NDToday
 1. Evaluations will be strictly objective; no place to add student comments
 2. Clarification: For example, you can rate Legacy Village as a whole and the individual properties within Legacy Village.
 3. Grant will send an email to the student body and the off-campus students sometime tonight.
 4. Landlords can add their objective information on the property.

ii. Ms. Cynthia Weber, Student Body Vice-President

- b. Cynthia acknowledged the FLEX members in Senate
- c. Cynthia mentioned the discussions regarding the Gay and Lesbian community resolutions:
 1. It appears that these resolutions will express those concerns mentioned in Senate.
- e. Regarding the recommendations for the duLac revisions, CLC will be working on those revisions.

iii. Mr. Ryan Brellenthin, Chief Executive Assistant

- a. Regarding the Haiti fundraising efforts, the grand total has been 12,180 dollars; this money will be distributed to those 5 organizations in varying percentages/allotments.
- b. This Friday, Ryan and Grant will be meeting with Dean McGreevy regarding the economics major changes; at BOT, he and Grant discussed the issue/importance of student input in these changes

iv. Professor Gupta, Faculty Senate Liaison

- a. Professor Gupta was absent.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- i. **Wall of Ideas** [Elle Metz]
 - a. Elle
- ii. **Committee on Academic Affairs** [Austin Holler]
 - a. To follow up on the economics issue, Austin's committee will discuss this in his next meeting.
 - b. Hopefully, there will be a resolution regarding the lack of an Academic Forum this year.
- iii. **Committee on Campus Technology** [Walker Anderson]
 - a. Regarding LaFortune cluster renovations, it will be pushed back to mid-March.
 - i. The individual in charge of the project will outline to Walker regarding the delays
 - ii. Elise mentioned that in her dorm, people have been sprinting to the libraries to print out last-minute documents; lack of close 24/7 venue has been a problem.
 - b. Agenda.nd.edu was a core issue at BOT; the launch date has been pushed back.
 - c. Walker is excited about RentND!
 - d. Mobile version for ND will be available soon.
- iv. **Committee on Community Relations** [Denise Baron]
 - a. Denise met with the research group on Monday; she will have information next week.
 - b. Denise and Ryan met with several administrators in the Political Science Department to discuss 1-credit initiatives.
 - c. Denise will meet with Tim Sexton for the community relations event; as of right now, if there are any senators who are not on community relations committee, they should let Denise know.
- v. **Committee on Gender Issues** [Patrick Tighe and Robyn Grant]
 - a. Pat passed out fliers for Sexual Assault Awareness week.
 - b. Starting on the week of the 21st, there will be a campaign with athletes presenting.
 - c. There will be resource tables in LaFortune and the Dining Halls
 - d. T-shirt giveaway
 - e. Time to Heal Dinner on 2/26 featuring professors and survivors of rape and sexual assault

- f. 2/28- Ribbons and Prayer Cards will be passed out.
- vi. **Committee on Multicultural Affairs [Nika Giger]**
 - a. Nika met this past week to review Professor Bowman's articles regarding college diversity and psychological issues associated with diversity in college.
 - b. Soon, Nika will be drafting several resolutions on MSPS and the Diversity Certificate.
 - c. Nika will be planning an international event at the end of March.
 - d. Regarding Spring Vis, Nika opened the door for senators to go next Friday from 5:30-6:00 to talk to kids about student government.
- vii. **Committee on Oversight [Kevin Kimberly]**
 - a. Kevin met last week to set up a plan for the rest of the year.
 - b. Kevin's committee talked about the whole judicial council deal to fix any problems.
- viii. **Committee on Residence Life [Nick Ruof]**
 - a. Nick just has the resolution
- ix. **Committee on Social Concerns [Rachel Roseberry]**
 - a. Benefit CD is still being sold;
 - b. Green Summit this Sunday
 - c. Forum on Social Entrepreneurship: This Tuesday.
- x. **Committee on University Affairs [Jeff Lakusta]**
 - a. All the Transpo fun starts this week!
 - i. Shirts will be sold
 - ii. ~160 people per night riding Transpo

V. GENERAL ORDER

- i. **SS0910-[12]: For A Medical Amnesty Policy to be added to *duLac***
 - a. This item has been taken off the table for discussion today.
 - b. The conception of a Good Samaritan policy has been around for years by a variety of committees/campaign platform
 - c. The context in *duLac* is also important.
 - d. Without opinionating too much, senators should take the importance of this issue carefully.
 - e. Nick introduced the policy:
 - 1. Basically, if someone is in a health emergency and is with another capable friend, that second friend should not be concerned with contacting NDSP or other emergency personnel without punishment.
 - 2. It is not intended for students to get in trouble.
 - 3. Another Example:
 - 1. If Ryan and Grant get drunk, Grant should not worry about contacting NDSP to help inebriated Ryan.
 - 2. The whole point is that it is only going to affect Grant in this situation in terms of the issue of absolution.

3. Thus, the first step in this policy is to emphasize the health as well as the student's initiative to help his friend.

f. Concerns:

1. People are worried that the moment they call, they start freaking out about punishments and long-term consequences.
2. This policy is in place is that because people are deterred and slow down when they make that phone call.
3. The reason why Ryan (previous example) gets in trouble is that he would be absolved completely of guilt.
4. Megan cited disparities in other colleges (particularly William and Mary's policy that absolves both students).

g. Cynthia would like to open the floor for grammatical changes:

1. "and" will be added to second to last Whereas clause
2. Removing quotations in second to last Whereas clause
3. Date changes: February 17th
4. Erika requested changing from "in introducing" to "to introduce"
5. Elise said that policy should not be capitalized in the final resolved clause.

h. General Questions about resolution:

1. Nika asked whether this pertains to parietals to which Nick said yes.
2. Rich asked why this has been turned down in the past:
 - i. Nick replied that in the past, Senate has not pushed this through.
 - ii. The opposition that they have received is to deter people of drinking primarily prior to absolving students from guilt.
 - iii. Furthermore, this should not have to be put in place because health concerns outweighs punitive consequences (from the viewpoint of administrators.
3. Matt asked if there was anything in here about the education aspects afterwards to which Cynthia highlighted the 3rd resolved clause.

i. Debate:

1. Cynthia first emphasized that there is a level of complexity as to whether people should help their friends.
2. CJ feels that the policy should expand to the victim as well.
3. Elise talked to rector and received the response that this policy should be implemented but the focus should be on a philosophy of health and well being.
4. Elise brought about the fine-line regarding the philosophy.

5. Maria agrees that it's a step in the right direction.
6. Matt R. feels that the consequences should be changed to drug/alcohol counseling; nothing goes on the student's record but there are still consequences.
 1. Cynthia responded that in addition to the resolution, there will be a cover letter that can address these issues.
 2. Nick responded that they would like to approach ResLife to balance out in the sense that the student is not totally off-the-hook.
7. Pat was wondering if this only applies to NDSP in that they don't have to report the incident to ResLife; i.e. If the person who is reporting is violating Indiana State Law or intoxicated, would they have to report those issues?
8. Andrew had a couple of points:
 1. The focus of course has to be on student-well being but the repercussions (2 beer guy getting in trouble than the guy who is dead-drunk); it doesn't seem like alcohol content and age doesn't seem to be an issue.
 2. Andrew agrees with Patrick in the sense of amnesty from state law.
 - a. Grant responded that they the South Bend police/NDSP would still write both individuals down but this issue would eventually get resolved in ResLife.
9. Brad asked what the mentality of the student who reports: Worrying about sanctions or record? Brad feels that by saying that people will get punished, its more of a deterrent so we should be open-ended.
 1. In response, Matt R. feels that education and community service is less punitive than legal measures.
10. Matt motioned to add the following to the third resolved clause; CJ seconded
 1. "but still recognizes the necessity for some repercussions such as alcohol, drug education counseling, and community service."
11. Matt Robinson's Amendment:
 1. Taylor doesn't feel like it's necessary or unnecessary. The idea of community service will not be in the minds of individuals who do decide to call ResLife.
 2. Maria feels that if we comprise right away, we may not get what we want.

3. Also, Maria feels like it would be hard telling one's parents.
4. CJ feels like students have a difficulty differentiating record consequences vs. other measures.
5. Megan thinks that open-ended is better.
6. To steer correctly, Jeff doesn't feel like we have to get too nitpicky and feels that the document conveys the spirit of the resolution.
7. Elise agrees with Jeff in that Matt's amendment should be something brought up in the correct letter.
8. Kevin doesn't see Matt's amendment as a compromise; the administration has no benefit at all in having this document passing.
9. Brad motioned to previous question: vote on the amendment. Matt seconded.
12. Vote: 10-12-01; this amendment has not passed.
13. Taylor wishes to move to previous question. Claire seconded. With a vote of 17-4-2, the I's have it.
14. Erika motioned to suspend Robert's Rules so Megan can offer her comments. CJ seconded. It is opinion of the chair that the motion has passed.
15. Megan wanted to put the following amendment in place in the second Whereas clause:
 1. After discipline: "against individuals who seek emergency medical assistance for themselves or others"
16. Debate on Megan's Amendment:
 1. Colin feels that we would be asking too much
 2. Megan thinks it is just a suggestion.
 3. Megan does not think we have to lower the standards for the person who calls.
 4. Matt motioned on previous amendment. Nick seconded. Failure to call to previous question based on votes.
 5. Grant feels that this resolution is a giant step in the process. Megan's amendment is a step further. Grant would emphasize that if the amendment is not passed, it won't be a loss, but that there is still work to be done assuming this original resolution can be passed.
 6. Cynthia wished to establish that our debate should focus on the resolution spirit because we, as senate, are not the legislature.

7. Brad motioned to previous questioned. The I's have it.
8. With a vote, this amendment has failed.
- j. We are now under the conditions of previous question.
- k. With a vote of 21-2-2 SS0910-[12] has been passed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- i. None.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i. Elise announced that next Friday from 7-10PM – Farley Fiasco
- ii. Chase announced: Sophomore Squares tomorrow.
- iii. Nika announced that on Friday – Black Coffeehouse

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- i. Cynthia entertained a motion to adjourn. Susan motioned. *The February 17, 2010 Student Senate meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.*

**Respectfully Submitted,
Tej Mudigonda
Student Body Secretary**

