

University of Notre Dame

April 2, 2008

Student Senate

I) **Opening Business**

- A. Grant called the meeting to order at 6:04p.m.
- B. Grant led the invocation.
- C. Ryan C. Hawle and Joe Bizjak were absent.

II) **Swearing in of President and Vice-President**

George Chamberlain swears in Grant Schmidt as Student Body Vice- President. Grant accepts the conditions of Student Vice-President. George Chamberlain swears Bob Reish in as Student Body President. Bob accepts the conditions of Student Body President. Grant swears the Senators in as Senators of the Student Body Government. All of the Senators accept the conditions of Senators.

III) **Approval of minutes**

Grant says that he will send out minute every Sunday. Grant brings attention to the minutes from March 26, 2008, and asks everyone to look over them. The minutes are approved at 6:10pm.

IV) **Officer Report**

- A. Mr. Bob Reish, Student Body President
  - i. Bob met with representative from OIT, last week, in order to go over new agenda for next year. He also met with CSC staff, this morning, in order to go over event and programs to hold next year. Bob said that he is looking forward to a new year.
- B. Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body Vice President
  - i. Grant introduces himself and looks forward to a new year. Grant met with Director of Food Services to work on new proposal for off campus Domer Dollar spending. There are concerns about this program from parents because they feel that Domer Dollars are put on the cards to be spent on campus. Grant also met with representative of ND vote to discuss increasing voting awareness on campus.
- C. Ms. Karen Koski, Chief of Executive Assistant
  - i. Karen reviews housekeeping orders. She started off by saying the Senators must relay to their dorm what is talked about in Senate. She says that they should make their dorm aware of what is going on in Student Government. She also hands out posters to be hung up in the dorms, and discussed with hall council. She passes out one poster on Immigration Student Forum and another about Dance for the Homeless. She encourages the Senators to keep communication up. She also lets everyone know that she has binders for everyone.
- D. Dr. Thomas Noble, Faculty Senate Liaison
  - i. Dr. Thomas Noble introduces himself as Faculty Senate Liaison. He says that in the faculty meeting last week they discussed two big issues: the revising of the Constitution and the initiative to hire catholic faculty.

V) **Committee Reports**

- A. Committee of Academic Affairs
  - i. Carol Hendricks speaks on behalf of the Committee of Academic Affairs. She talks about the various events that the committee did concerning policy

issues last year. She says that the committee does a lot of work dealing with the policy and policy changes. She remarks that it is a good committee to be on.

- B. Committee on Community Relations
  - i. Gus Gari speaks on behalf of the Committee of Community Relations. He says that this is a new committee and that they work to improve the relationship between the South Bend community and the Notre Dame community.
- C. Committee on Gender Relations
  - i. Bob Reish presents the Gender Relations Committee because Pat Tighe, chair of the committee, was in class. Bob says that the events of last year consisted of a Generations Conference and a forum on eating disorders.
- D. Committee on Multicultural Affairs
  - i. Ninny Wan presents the Committee on Multicultural Affairs. She says that the committee does a lot of awesome things. She also says that last year a Native American minor was passed, and the committee also worked on passing a cultural competency requirement. She adds that MAC is a way to get to know the administration.
- E. Committee on Oversight
  - i. Ian Secviar presents the Committee on Oversight. He says that the committee is responsible for reviewing internal affairs of Student Government. He also adds that last year the committee worked on reformatting the Constitution.
- F. Committee on Residence Life
  - i. Joy Hwang presents the Committee on Residence Life. She says that the committee is responsible for improving campus and dorm life. She says that they make changes that directly affect the student body. She states that last year the committee worked to get wireless internet in all of the dorms and the RSVP program in the dining halls.
- G. Committee on Social Concerns
  - i. Karen Koski presents Committee on Social Concerns. She says that this committee gives the students a way to get involved on campus.
- H. Committee on University Affairs
  - i. Callie presents the Committee on University Affairs. She says that one of the committee's main events is the Student/Faculty debate. She states that the committee deals with environmental issues on campus.

#### VI) General Order

- A. Executive Order Number 1
  - i. Bob created an Ad hoc committee, Committee on Student Outreach. He states that this committee will be a bridge between the student and faculty as well as the Notre Dame Students and Student Government. He wants to attract more members, especially freshmen, and get them involved on campus.
- B. Executive Order Number 2
  - i. Bob created another Ad hoc committee, Committee on Campus Technologies. Bob feels that there is a disconnection between OIT and the

current students, and this committee will serve as a liaison between the two groups.

C. Confirmation of Nominees for Sentate Committee Chair

- i. Grant recognize nominee and give them a chance to talk.
- ii. Ryan Brellethin, Academic Affairs chair, talks about the major events the committee has done such as signature event, Majors Night. He says that some changes have been made to the College Leadership Program. He says the committee will be working on policy issues such as clocks in classroom and getting credits for all hours in class. Senate votes on the nominee and he is confirmed.
- iii. Gus Gari, Community Relations chair, says that the committee is working on bringing the South Bend and Notre Dame Community together. A few events that they have done in the past are the Fall Festival and Taste of South Bend. This year he hopes to help with the work on Domer Dollar spending off campus, and work on better taxi service and better security off campus. The committee wants to make Notre Dame a better place. Senate votes on nominee and confirms him.
- iv. Pat Tighe, Gender Relations chair, says that the committee plans to restructure their signature event, The Health and Body Image Conference. He refers to an article in the Observer that show the different partying styles of the genders, and he is ready to get to get to work on the discrimination going on between the genders. Senate votes on the nominee and confirms him.
- v. Ian Secviar, Oversight chair, says that the committee plans to hold an open forum in hopes to hear the students' views as to how to improve student committees. Senate votes on the nominee and confirms him.
- vi. Joy Hwang, Residence Life chair, says that she looked at a ranking of the colleges with the happiest students and Notre Dame was number 20. She hopes to improve campus life so that Notre Dame can go up in the rankings. A few things that the committee plans to do are better food in the dining halls and improve Rockne. Senate votes on nominee and confirms her.
- vii. Michelle Byrne, Social Concerns chair, wants to continue to work on past issues such as Fair Trade initiative and strengthening relationship with Center for Social Concerns. Senate votes on nominee and confirms her.
- viii. Ashley Right, University Affairs chair, was not present. Senate votes and confirms nominee.
- ix. Sarah Rodts, Outreach chair, says that next year the committee plans on taking a student census. She also wants to get everyone involved on campus. Senate votes and confirms nominee.
- x. Devin Fee, Campus Technologies chair, hopes to improve ND webmail due to the fact that everyone has to use this site every day. He also wants to improve relations between the students and OIT. Senate votes and confirms nominee.

D. Resolution SS0809-01 bestowing Emeritus Status on Ms. Liz Brown

- i. Brian Coughlin suggests making note that on the resolution there is a mistake in the title; instead of Resolutions SS0809, it should be Resolutions SS0908.
- ii. Grant asks are there any questions.



- iii. Megan Sennett motioned to make year change from 2008-09 to 2007-08. Robin Link seconded. Resolution is unanimously approved. Resolution is adopted.
- E. Resolution SS0809-02 Bestowing Emeritus Status on Ms. Maris Braun
  - i. Resolution should say SS0908-02. Grant asks are there any questions. Grant asks are there any objection. Resolution is unanimously approved. Resolution is adopted
- F. Resolution SS0809-0 Bestowing Emeritus Status on Ms. Sheena Plamoottil
  - i. Resolution should say SS0908-03. Grant asks are there any question and objections. Resolution is unanimously approved. Resolution is adopted.
- G. Approval of Senate Bylaws
  - i. Grant asks that everyone look at Appendix E. He states that everyone will be allowed three unexcused absences. He encourages everyone to try not to miss a meeting, but if one does is going to miss a meeting then send him an email. If one does miss a meeting and still want to vote on a resolution then send Grant an email and let him know your vote. He hopes that attendance will be stable. Grant asks are there any questions or objections. No questions or objections. Senate Bylaws are approved.
- H. Introduction and Nominations for Elected Senate Liaison Positions
  - i. Everyone chooses which committee they want to be on next year. Grant sent this out in an email. One can nominate himself or one can nominate someone else. Voting will take place next week.
    - i. Financial Management Board nominees.
      - a. Megan Sennett asks if Grant know when the meetings will be held. Grant answers no.
      - b. Greg Salter nominates himself.
      - c. Megan Sennet nominates herself.
    - ii. CLC
      - a. Ryan Brellenthin nominates Robin Link.
      - b. Kaitlyn Maloney nominated herself.
      - c. Katheryn Lynn nominated herself.
    - iii. Council of Representative.
      - a. Katie Weber nominates herself.
      - b. Austin Holler nominates himself.
      - c. Patrick Kane nominates himself.
      - d. Mike Sales nominates himself.
      - e. Gus Gary nominates himself.
    - iv. Judicial Council
      - a. Stephanie M nominates herself.
      - b. Zach Reervers nominates self.
      - c. Robin Brown nominates self.
- I. Solicitation of Senators' Committee Preference
  - i. Grant tells everyone that they should decide which committee they want to serve on next year.
  - ii. Megan Sennett asks do the committees meet weekly. Grant answers yes they all meet weekly.

**IX) New business**

- i. No new Business

**X) Announcement**

- i. Brian Coughlin, Vice president of Student Activities, introduces himself and encourages everyone to fulfill their chair. He wants everyone to know that he can answer any of your questions. He also has invitations for Team ND.
- ii. Grant says that the announcement portion is the time to get out information from your dorm, and make everyone of what is happening on campus.
- iii. Grant encourages everyone to participate in the debates. He also informs everyone that a resolution requires 2/3 vote, and encourages Senators to talk with other Senators before presenting a resolution.
- iv. Karen hopes to hold a brain storm project sometime soon, and wants to take pictures next week. She informs everyone that they have a mailbox, and the mailboxes can be used at one's discretion. She also encourages everyone to bring their binders to the meetings.
- v. Ian thanks Karen for putting the binders together.
- vi. Brian Lan, Senator from Duncan Hall, introduces himself and says that he got the position because he is a RA for the hall.

**XI) Adjournment**

- i. The meeting was adjourned at 7:04p.m.

