

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE  
Executive Summary  
April 30, 2008  
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I) **Opening Business**

- a. Grant called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.
- b. Grant led the invocation.
- c. Katie M., Anastassia, Robin L., Brian, Ryan H., Andrew, David, Lauren, and Ashlee were absent.
- d. Grant entertained a motion to approve the April 23, 2008 executive summary. Robyn motioned to remove her name from the absence list. Robin seconded. Correction approved at 6:06 p.m. *The April 23, 2008 executive summary was approved at 6:07 p.m.*

II) **Podium**

- a. Bob Reish, State of the Student Union
  - i. Their motto is bridging the gap. This gap changed over the campaign. Bob will be sharing his goals. He has found that there is a dichotomy between student government's actions and the student body's needs. Always thought student government goals were self-driven. This is the gap they are hoping to bridge. For it to occur, it must have a source. It is time to make student government an effective part of student life. The communication between student government and the student body needs to be improved. Student government should be something you have to continually defend. They will be focused on tangible results. However, change takes time and moves slowly. Right now, seeing the benefits of previous students work with the example of online TCEs. The best leaders change the status quo. This year, everyone has a fresh perspective and will be able to see a different side of certain issues. They want to redefine the direction of student government. He asked everyone to make a list of goals you would like to see complete by the end of your term. They need to acknowledge the needs of the student body. To truly bridge the gap, they need everyone.

III) **Officer Reports**

- a. Mr. Bob Reish, Student Body President
  - i. Bob said met with someone from the student ticket office to discuss the changes in the ticketing process. All home games will have a ticket lottery exchange. Each student is allowed to exchange at most 1 game per season. Only 100 students will "win" the lottery per game. Rules are available on the student ticket tab on the athletic website
  - ii. He also met with John Affleck-Graves to talk about the changes on campus and started a positive relationship.
- b. Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body Vice President
  - i. Grant said today was the Taste of South Bend and it was really successful

- ii. Grant also gave an update on Domer Dollars. Some statistics from Dave P. from food/card services: 70% of all students have Domer Dollars and on average every deposit is about \$150. Grant said that this makes it legitimate to have Domer Dollars off campus. Something they will be working on over the summer and will hopefully have underway next year.
- iii. Also, he met with some representatives from the forum. No specific details yet, but they are working on lots of projects, especially to increase dialogue. It is an initiative Notre Dame as a whole is looking on improving.
- c. Ms. Karen Koski, Chief Executive Assistant
  - i. Karen asked to look at the list of members for corrections. Devin said his email address should be devin.lee@gmail.com. Sarah said her phone number is wrong and gave the correction. Megan said she has two t-s at the end of her email address. Zach said his phone number is wrong and gave the correction.
  - ii. Karen is working on stuff around the office.
- d. Dr. Thomas Noble, Faculty Senate Liaison

#### IV) **Committee Reports**

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs
  - i. Ryan said that this week they discussed the role of economics at Notre Dame and is something they are going to consider next year.
- b. Committee on Community Relations
  - i. Gus met with Josh from the ticketing office about the off-campus fair. He has a meeting with the off-campus president and vice-president on Friday to talk about the block parties for next year.
- c. Committee on Social Concerns
  - i. Michelle said they narrowed down 10 specific projects to start working on.
- d. Committee on Gender Issues
  - i. Pat said the Gender Relations Center is having trouble getting Fire Starters and he passed around an application to be a Fire Starter.
- e. Committee on Residence Life
  - i. Joy met with the general manager of LaFortune to talk about it as a study space and the arcade. They are still working on the grab-and-go survey to change the items.
- f. Committee on University Affairs
  - i. Grant said they did not meet this week, but are looking into the mock election and how they want to approach the elections and make sure awareness is increased right off the bat.
- g. Committee on Oversight
  - i. Ian said they did not meet this week but has a resolution.
- h. Committee on Multicultural Affairs
  - i. Grant said that they did not meet this week, but will be voting on the potential chair tonight.
- i. Ad Hoc Committee on Student Outreach

- i. Sarah said that last Thursday they had the survey on Domer Dollars and discounts off campus. They had 70 responses. Some statistics from the survey: 56% use Domer Dollars for laundry, 51% go off campus at least once a week, 53% said most likely to go off campus if had discounts, and discounts were most important to have off campus. Also, working on the survey for grab-and-go.
- j. Ad Hoc Committee on Campus Technology
  - i. Devin met with Bob Guthrie from OIT with the changes they want implemented to concourse. Most of the problems/changes they want stem from professors not knowing how to use concourse. OIT is trying to step up their programs to teach professors how to use it.

V) **General Orders**

- a. Confirmation of Nominee Alyssa Zamora for Multicultural Affairs Chair.
  - i. Grant said that Alyssa is a junior from PE and a member of MAC for the past 2 years. Grant asked if there are any objections to the nomination without a formal vote. No objections. Alyssa Zamora approved as chair of the Multicultural Affairs Committee at 6:25 p.m.
- b. Resolution SS0809-08 Amendment Redefining the Jurisdiction of the Committees of Gender Issues and Social Concerns
  - i. Ian said that this resolution moves sexual orientation to the Gender Issues committee and away from Social Concerns. Also, the addition of global issues to the Social Concerns committee. Pat said the committee on Social Concerns was formed before the committee on Gender Issues. This was never really passed over when the committee on Gender Issues was formed. Sexual orientation is one of the top three issues his committee deals with each year. Also, it allows Pat to attend the CORE meetings. They want to make a big push on addressing issues on sexual orientation and it gives them a way to do so without violating the constitution. Michelle said that Social Concerns has a lot of other issues, especially with global awareness and it seems to make the most logical sense. Sr. Sue said she was fine with this too.
  - ii. Grant directed everyone's attention to the resolution. Grant moved into voting. Resolution SS0809-08 passed with a vote of 22-0-0 at 6:29 p.m.

VI) **New Business**

- a. Devin said that there is something called Agenda on the calendar system. The calendar system he is proposing is to have 1 calendar unified against many different aspects. It would be a simplification of things. Grant said this is just a recommendation and something they will be working on. Nika asked how it will be different from Agenda. Devin said that in many other calendar systems, you can share your calendar and work with others to change times. You can put details, subscribe to club calendars etc. Whenever it is updated, everyone can see the changes almost instantly. Zach asked if it looks like this will happen. Devin said Bob Guthrie, the new project manager from OIT, is really excited about it and said that it is something they should do. Karen said

that agenda.nd.edu is the calendar that has the activities on campus and recommended checking it out to get some background. Devin said that he has nothing against Agenda, but it just hasn't been publicized and it needs some improvements to integrate things together. Karen said that agenda.nd.edu came out of a student government project from several years ago.

VII) **Announcements**

- a. Bob asked that anyone who was at the Taste of South Bend to please send any comments or improvements for possibly having the event again next year.

VIII) **Adjournment**

- a. Grant entertained a motion to adjourn. Katie motioned. Megan seconded.  
*The April 30, 2008 Student Senate meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Caitlin Flynn