

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

Minutes

November 19, 2008

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I) **Opening Business**

- a. Grant called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
- b. Bob led the invocation.
- c. Bob R., Austin H., Michelle B., and Lauren C. were absent.
- d. Grant entertained a motion to approve the November 12, 2008 executive summary. Megan motions to change Bill Kurt to Bill Kirk. Robin B. seconded. Kevin motioned to approve the minutes. Ryan P. seconded. *The November 12, 2008 executive summary was approved at 6:07 p.m.*

II) **Podium**

III) **Officer Reports**

- a. Mr. Bob Reish, Student Body President
 - i. Grant says that Bob wants him to mention that everyone should remember that Senate starts at 6 p.m. when darting for classes.
- b. Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Grant says that he printed out the South Bend information just because he thinks that we should be knowledgeable about what South Bend has to offer. The printout consists of activities to do in South Bend.
 - ii. He says that in regards to the CLC taskforce on technology/ student study spaces, they finished a resolution for printers in the dorm. He says that if it is approved in CLC, then it will come back to Senate and we will vote on it here. He adds that the printers will be for dorms that do not have a printer in their dorms.
- c. Ms. Karen Koski, Chief Executive Assistant
 - i. Karen says that she is working on the Blood Drive, and she will be putting together a document for people to sign up for shifts. She says that she will give more details in the email. The date of the Blood Drive is December 8th from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. She would really appreciate it if you could work.
 - ii. She says that the posters will be ready to be posted on December 3rd.
 - iii. She says that she is also working on the transition for student government and class council for incoming leaders as well as outgoing leaders.
 - iv. She adds that the University of Portland will be here tomorrow.
- d. Mr. Kristen Lewis, Faculty Senate Liaison
 - i. She says that they met last week to discuss what was discussed last week at Senate. She says that the faculty stated that there is not enough data to determine why people decide to leave. She says that it could be due to not getting tenure or maybe they just want to leave.
 - ii. She says that they also discussed why it is important to maintain diversity. Most said that it reflects the university as a whole, and many

stated that they don't know how they feel about working at a place where diversity is not welcomed.

- iii. She says that keep in mind that it is a good perspective look at the qualification of the person applying for the job. She says that it broadens the ideas of students to have someone in a leadership role that looks like you.

IV) **Committee Reports**

- a. **Committee on Academic Affairs**
 - i. Ryan says that they talked about the resolution that is on the agenda.
 - ii. He says a group of his and Devin's members are working on an online database.
 - iii. He says that Dr. Gunty is coming on Sunday to work on online TCE. He will also discuss ways to let students know that it is there.
- b. **Committee on Community Relations**
 - i. Gus says that they are continuing projects. He says that they main project that they are working on is in coordination with off campus initiative.
 - ii. He says that they will be having a town hall meeting to discuss moving off/ living off campus. He says that they will have a section where people can submit problems that they are having.
- c. **Committee on Gender Issues**
 - i. Pat T. says that they had a Sexual Assault Awareness table set up today and yesterday. He says that there was not a lot of use of the tables and that may have been due to people sitting at the table therefore they have made adjustments.
 - ii. He says that the Hall President of the dorm should have asked about t-shirt sizes. He asks that everyone turn their sheet in. He says that he will be getting in touch with the dorm via the Hall President. He asks that all Senators wear the t-shirt to the meeting.
 - iii. Professor Lewis asks if there will be enough for the faculty to get some. Pat says that they have a set number of shirts, so when they pass the shirts out to the students they will just distribute the rest to others.
- d. **Committee on Multicultural Affairs**
 - i. Ally and Grant met and wrote a letter to Fr. Jenkins. She says that her committee also wrote a letter to Fr. Jenkins.
 - ii. She says that she met with someone yesterday to discuss the matter, and she adds that BSA will have a meeting to discuss it tonight.
- e. **Committee on Oversight**
 - i. Ian says thanks to Karen and Nancy for getting the updated Constitution.
 - ii. He says that they worked on an amendment to the Club Coordination Council with John Burke, who is the president of CCC.
- f. **Committee on Residence Life**
 - i. Joy says that the DVD program is going smoothly, and he says that there is a sign up for shift.
 - ii. She says that they are researching Peer Institution Policies.

- iii. She says that they also worked on the Grab and Go policy which is on the agenda.
- g. Committee on Social ~~Life~~ **Concerns**
 - i. Julie says that this week is International Education Week. She says that in O' Shag they are selling hand crafts from around the world. She says that they will be there tomorrow and Friday from 9-5 p.m.
 - ii. She says that next week is Green Week, leading up to the Syracuse game. She says that they are doing well with the Carbon Rally. She adds that it does not end until the end of the month.
 - iii. She adds that they are working on Global AIDS day.
- h. Committee on University Affairs
 - i. Ashlee says that the date for the lecture will be December 4th at 6:30 p.m. in the Montgomery Room.
 - ii. She adds that they are brainstorming ideas now.
- i. Ad Hoc Committee On Student Outreach
 - i. Sarah says that they are working with Gus and Billy on the Town Hall Series.
 - ii. She passes out the first series to 'What's the Deal.' She asks that everyone post them in their bathroom with the Stall Notes.
 - iii. Grant asks that everyone put them up tonight because they are in regards to dart times and how they are distributed.
- j. Ad Hoc Committee on Campus Technology
 - i. Ryan H. says that the Jordan printers are coming along.
 - ii. He says if there are any questions about the LaFortune cluster then you can forward your questions to Robin B.
 - iii. He asks for thought on cell phone service.
 - iv. Grant asks if everyone thinks that there should be a survey for this topic. He asks if this has been a big enough issue.
 - v. Ashlee suggests being specific in the survey, such as asking about particular places that service is bad.
 - vi. Nika says that a survey is not necessary because one can just ask people which services are good.
 - vii. Sarah says that the survey can go two ways. It can be one way that landline phones return on campus.
 - viii. Ryan K. says that we need to know the zones that service is not good. He adds that it is not good enough to just ask if the individual services are good.
 - ix. Grant takes an informal vote on this. He asks is it is important to have a survey on this. The majority agrees that it is important.

V) **GENERAL ORDER**

- a. SS0809-17 Resolution Addressing Absences for Interviews
 - i. Grant directs everyone's attention to the resolution. He gives the floor to Ryan B.
 - ii. Ryan says that the resolution is addressing the need for a student to get an excused absence in order to go to interviews. He adds that this has come down through Grant and Bob as one of their initiatives. He says

- that it is important to let the administration know what students think. He asks if there are any questions.
- iii. Nick says he thinks that line four is too vague. Professor Lewis says that she thinks that it is fine. She asks what the students think about this.
 - iv. Ryan B. says that students would go on interviews and be punished for going. For example, if there was a quiz then they would not be given a chance to make it up.
 - v. Professor Lewis asks if this was in regards to the absence being counted as an unexcused absence.
 - vi. Grant says that there are three unexcused absences, and there was not a means of letting the professor know that the student had an interview.
 - vii. Mike S. says that he has not had an incident like this. He says that in the Business school as long as you let them know then the professors are fine with it.
 - viii. Ryan says that a lot of what they heard is antidotal evident. He says that they just want to get dialogue going and see what the process should be to go about getting excused.
 - ix. Grant asks if there are any grammatical errors.
 - x. Mike S. says that he like the line 5, which states that as the market becomes more competitive...because he says that there is not a greater need now than there will be in the future. He says that as the economy begins to level out again this will be irrelevant. He adds that he does not think that the whole section is necessary.
 - xi. Mike S. motions to remove everything before opportunity and add it after opportunity. Robin B. seconded. Ryan B. says that the resolution is referring to time in the sense of time in general, not in regards to the stock market or economy at this time.
 - xii. Robin B. says that the way that it is phrase it seems like you are referring to the actual market.
 - xiii. Julie says that the resolution is calling for a policy to be changed not bearing on the policy.
 - xiv. Gus adds that as we see more people going to graduate school the jobs in business are getting more competitive. Ryan B. agrees.
 - xv. Grant votes on the change made by Mike S. The vote is 2-23-2, not in favor of the change at 6:34.
 - xvi. Grant goes into discussion of content. He asks if there are any other questions.
 - xvii. Ryan B. invites Professor Lewis to give her opinion. She asks what the purpose is for the line about raising faculty awareness. Ryan B. says that they had heard that a policy for excused absences existed in the business school, but this was not true. He says that the purpose of the line is the express the fact that they want to create dialogue between the students and faculty.
 - xviii. Kevin says that the resolution should simple states that then. Ryan B. says that if it can be fixed with dialogue then that is fine.

- xix. Grant says that if they take to faculty senate and they get where we are going from, then we will look at it again.
 - xx. Mike S. says that it will be hard to make sure that students are actually going to an interview, and not just skipping class.
 - xxi. Professor Lewis says that they do sometimes get a letter from the Dean to let them know that it is a real interview. She says that it would have to go through verification if the resolution was passed. She says that she will take it to Faculty Senate and see if they want to approve it.
 - xxii. Maggie says that it is an issue because she has experienced it firsthand.
 - xxiii. Grant moves to voting. The vote was approved with a vote of 28-0-0 at 6:45 p.m.
- b. Discussion Re: Grab and Go/Golf Facilities Survey Results
- i. Joy asks if everyone was able to complete the survey. Everyone was not able to complete it. She asks if there was a reason that everyone was not able to complete it. She adds that someone is having trouble getting it done at Hall Council then just go ~~around~~ and ask like ten people.
 - ii. She asks that everyone complete it before next meeting.
 - iii. Grant asks if she wants to wait. Joy says that we can wait until everyone has done it.
 - iv. Mike motions to wait until everyone has it. Kevin seconded.

VI) NEW BUSINESS

- a. Grant says that they have approval to use the dining hall to study during finals. The dining halls will be open December 14-18 from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. He says that the east side of South dining hall will be open. He adds that in North there are two rooms on the side that will be quiet study spaces. He says that student government is paying for security to ensure that none of the Food Services things will be tampered with.
 - i. He says that next week he will talk with someone about the Interview rooms in the Career Center being study spaces.
- b. Grant says that there is a company in South Bend that wants to be promoted. He says that the lady will sell coupon booklets for 5 dollars. He gives examples of the types of coupons that are in the booklet.
 - i. He says that the other option is a card, which you could constantly use.
 - ii. Nika asks how much it would be. Grant says that it would be like 2 dollars.
 - iii. Grant asks which one everyone would want to pursue.
 - iv. Grant says that with the booklet when you rip it out and it is gone, but you can use the card over and over.
 - v. Ryan H. asks do you get the same amount of restaurants on both. Grant says that you can only fit so much on card. He adds that we could do both, and the book would be more immediate.
 - vi. Ryan B. asks who produces that. Grant says that he is not allowed to say who produced it.

- vii. Grant says that if it goes well then we can personalize it with something like the Notre Dame emblem.
- viii. Kevin if we can the discounts in the booklet for delivery use. Grant says yes.
- ix. Catherine says that she thinks that we should do it right now and if you want a card then we can do it later.
- x. Grant votes to sell the card after Thanksgiving. The majority agrees. Grant asks who wants to see the card implemented too. The majority agrees.
- c. Mike S. asks what is going on with Hall President and Shirt President resolution. Ian says that they withdrew the amendment. Mike S. says that he thinks that we should still consider having a resolution for this.
 - i. Grant say that they problems with that is that 1) we want as many people as possible in leadership positions, and 2) we want the leaders to give their undivided attention.
- d. Karen asks what about selling the booklet for 7 dollars and using the extra money on something else. Nick suggests using it to print the cards. Karen asks if we think that people would buy it. Everyone says yes.
 - i. Mike S. says that he thinks that people would pay 10 dollars.
 - ii. Ryan P. asks if one could buy as many as one wants. Grant says yes.

VII) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Kevin announces that Miss ND Pageant will be tomorrow, and Robin B. will be in the pageant.
- b. Nick announces that on December 5th Carroll Hall will be having it Carol Christmas. He says that there will be singing groups, karaoke, and hot chocolate.

VIII) ADJOURNMENT

- a. Grant entertained a motion to adjourn. Nika motioned. Zach seconded. *The November 19, 2008 Student Senate meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Whitney Toole
Student Body Secretary