

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

Executive Summary

March 24, 2009

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I) **Opening Business**

- a. Grant called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.
- b. Grant led the invocation.
- c. No one was absent.
- d. Grant entertained a motion to approve the March 18, 2009 executive summary. *The March 18, 2009 executive summary was approved at 6:13 p.m.*

II) **Podium**

- a. Mr. Bob Reish Re: State of the Student Union
 - i. Bob reported the progress made this year in approachability and reaching out to students, among other initiatives.
 - ii. Bob framed his comments about how to succeed in Student Government through a business perspective. He emphasized the importance of having core values and a mission statement on which to structure your term. Everyone on the Student Government team and every project undertaken should be in tune to this mission and these values.

III) **Officer Reports**

- a. Mr. Bob Reish, Student Body President
 - i. Bob reported that he has been working on the Intercollegiate Symposium which is coming up this weekend. Our Student Government office will host the student government representatives from 4 schools for idea exchange.
 - ii. In addition to transition preparation, Bob is also preparing for the Thursday, April 2, CCAC meeting which Notre Dame is hosting on campus.
- b. Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Grant reported that he is preparing for the April 1 transition.
 - ii. He also gave an update on his CLC task force, which is making headway in revamping the agenda.nd.edu calendaring system to be more compatible with the new Google calendaring technology. He has a meeting with a representative from the Office of News and Information next week.
- c. Ms. Karen Koski, Chief Executive Assistant
 - i. Karen reported that the last Executive Programming Board meeting of the term was held last week. They reviewed the plethora of Post-April 1 Event and Expenditure forms that were turned in by the Class Councils and the Senate committees. She said there is a lot of good programming coming up and to keep your eyes peeled for a lot coming from SUB and your Class Councils, in addition to CommUniversity Day and the Off Campus Transition Fair.
 - ii. Karen reported on a successful year with the new FLEX program. She highlighted to committees: the Student Legal Services Committee, and the Google Apps Committee. Both will have projects that extend into the new term. The Student Legal Services Committee plans to launch their website in the coming weeks after submitting content for approval to the Office of General Counsel. The Google Apps Committee will be presenting to new leaders in HPC, CCC, Senate, FMB, and SUB on some useful tips for getting the most out of Google as organization heads.
 - iii. Karen also reported on her CLC task force on Medical Amnesty Policy Review. She will be meeting with Mr. Jeff Shoup, Director of ORLH, next week to talk about the feasibility of a concrete recommendation to CLC and the division of Student Affairs regarding this issue.
- d. Ms. Kristen Lewis, Faculty Senate Liaison

- i. Professor Lewis reported that at the next meeting of Faculty Senate they plan to review the resolution on student absences following up with Student Senate's request of earlier this term.

IV) **Committee Reports**

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs
 - i. Ryan passed around posters promoting enhanced class search from Dr. Gunty.
 - ii. Ryan recommended that work on textbook prices continue into the new administration.
- b. Committee on Campus Technology
 - i. Devin reported that he is having wrap up meetings with all of those he has worked with in OIT this term.
 - ii. He reported that LaFortune cluster redesign was postponed due to a faculty member leaving Notre Dame, but that it might still be feasible for the summer.
- c. Committee on Community Relations
 - i. Gus reported that his committee has been working hard on Community Summit, which will be this coming Friday.
 - ii. He is also working with Michelle to finish up plans for CommUniversity Day, which will be April 4.
 - iii. His committee is working with the Off Campus Council to plan the Off-Campus Transition Fair for April 8.
- d. Committee on Gender Issues
 - i. Lauren and Patrick reported that CSAP recommendations are to go to Fr. Poorman in the coming weeks, and proposals are available to view in the office.
 - ii. Stand Against Hate Week will be cosponsored with Student Government and Core Council the week of April 13-17.
- e. Committee on Multicultural Affairs
 - i. Ally met this weekend with the clubs interested in International Showcase.
 - ii. Work on the Contemporary Topics Diversity Workshop is a recommendation she has for next term.
- f. Committee on Oversight
 - i. Ian reported that he and the committee are working to ensure a smooth transition and he says thanks for a great year.
 - ii. They have a constitutional amendment on the table today, recommending the change of title from "Chief Executive Assistant" to "Chief of Staff."
- g. Committee on Residence Life
 - i. Joy thanked everyone for the year. Her committee has continued to work on itunesU and work will need to continue into the next term to finish the launch of ND's itunesU successfully.
- h. Committee on Social Concerns
 - i. Michelle reported that Ice Skating at the JACC for the Catholic Worker House was successful and raised hundreds of dollars.
 - ii. Her committee is now focusing on CommUniversity Day April 4 and the Farmers' Market, April 7, Fieldhouse Mall, 2:30-5:30pm.
- i. Committee on University Affairs
 - i. Ashlee reported on the South Shore Line train rescheduling and confirmed that everyone was on board with the discussion held in the prior week's Senate meeting.
- j. Ad Hoc Committee On Student Outreach
 - i. Sarah reported a good turn out with the Spring Student Survey and that she is meeting with the Observer to make the results public.

V) **General Orders**

- a. Resolution SS0809-23 Resolution Changing Title to Chief of Staff

- i. Ian introduced the resolution which proposed the change from Chief Executive Assistant to Chief of Staff. He highlighted the past Chief Executive Assistants, the job as going beyond just “assisting,” and how Chief of Staff is a more recognizable and familiar title to those outside Student Government.
 - ii. Brian Coughlin provided some insight as to why the title was changed Chief Executive Assistant. First, when Student Government was rearranged, the President no longer had a “staff,” and so Chief of Staff did not make that much sense. Chief Executive Assistant was chosen instead because it mirrored the title used in the University’s administration.
 - iii. Grant entertained a motion to move into voting. The measure passed with a vote of 28-0-0.
- b. Discussion Re: Future Senate Initiatives
- i. The floor was opened to discussion about suggestions of items to address for the incoming administration and the new Senators. These suggestions were: campus labor issues, inequality in dorms, more formal and frequent communication with the Office of Sustainability, and peer advocacy program improvements.
 - ii. Kevin voiced his disappointment that there was no resolution passed this term to make the Ad Hoc Committee on Student Outreach a formal standing committee. He hopes the progress the committee has made will not be lost. Grant said it most certainly will not be lost in the new administration.

VI) New Business

- a. Ryan Hawley presented a resolution bestowing emeritus status on Committee on Campus Technology chairperson Devin Fee.
- b. The measure was sent to be reviewed in the Committee on Oversight.

VII) Announcements

- a. The Duncan Highlander games will be Saturday, March 28 at noon on South quad.
- b. Latin Expressions is at the Century Center at 7pm on Friday, March 27. Tickets are on sale at the LaFortune box office.
- c. Lewis Eggstravaganza on the lawn by Lewis will be Saturday, March 28 at 2pm.
- d. Farley Fiasco is coming up and will be held on North Quad.
- e. Also coming up is PE’s pyrotechnics fireworks show.
- f. Walsh will be having a new event, Walsh Hall Tree Sit, April 7 on God Quad.
- g. The Keough-O’Neill Rivalry challenge will be held April 4.
- h. CommUniversity Day is April 4. Sign up for a project on the Student Government website.

VIII) Adjournment

- a. Grant accepted a motion to adjourn. Austin motioned. Jon seconded. The March 25, 2009 meeting of the Student Senate adjourned *at 7:16pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen S. Koski
Student Body Chief Executive Assistant

