

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE  
Executive Summary  
November 7, 2007  
Notre Dame Room, La Fortune

- I) **Opening Business**
- a. Michelle called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.
  - b. Stephen led the invocation.
  - c. TJ was absent.
  - d. Maris entertained the motion to approve the minutes. Karen motioned, and Ian seconded. *The October 31, 2007 minutes were approved at .*
- II) **Podium**
- a. Rudy—St. Edward's University Student Body President
    - i. Came to introduce himself and a few of their student leaders. Were able to get a lot of feedback from the policy board. There are several items that are different things that we address and the student government is very different. Breaks down the makeup of the government staff, and expresses that they are looking to make changes regarding student clubs and organizations.
- III) **Officer Reports**
- a. Ms. Liz Brown, Student Body President
    - i. Liz said she sent the email this morning and has asked for the senators to go around the dorms to see if the Sexual Assault Awareness week posters. Next Wednesday Maris and she will go meet with a group of people to talk about football tickets.
  - b. Ms. Maris Braun, Student Body Vice President
    - i. Maris simply added that Marianna and she have a meeting with Brian Coughlin about Domer Dollars off campus. Are looking to do research at per intuitions. Had the fall festival which was a wonderful success.
  - c. Ms. Sheen Plamootil, Chief Executive Assistant
    - i. Working on the airport shuttle idea, and will be meeting with St. Mary's and Holy Cross soon in reference of that.
  - d. Mr. Thomas Noble, Faculty Student Liaisons
    - i. The faculty senate will soon finalize the list of issues that they want to focus on this year. .
- IV) **Committee Reports**
- a. Committee on Academic Affairs
    - i. Carol said that Major's night will be February 7<sup>th</sup>. Will have a meeting with the deans to coordinate this night. In terms of academic advising, it has been difficult to get a hold of those people. Talked about printing specifically printers in the limited computer space in DB. Will be discussing with OIT in reference to advertising printing from laptops. Most likely next week there will be something on electronic reserves.
  - b. Committee on Community Relations

- i. Tastes of South Bend will be coming up soon.
- c. Committee on Social Concerns
  - i. Karen said International Education Week will be November 11<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>. Refers senate to ISSA website via the Notre Dame webpage. Monday November 12<sup>th</sup>, dinner and dialogue. 3 professor speaking about reformation in times if war.
- d. Committee on Gender Issues
  - i. Brenna the Jackson Cats presentation went very well. Monday will be the clothesline project that is for informative purpose. Prayer vigil Wednesday at 10pm.
- e. Committee on Residence Life
  - i. Marianna and Maris are meeting in reference to Domer dollars off campus. Will be meeting with Dave to determine if there can be free laundry nights. Will be talking to Rec Sports to see who does maintenance on their machines. and meeting with Steve Harris in order to evaluate the aunt of blulights.
- f. Committee on University Affairs
  - i. Callie said that debate on November 13<sup>th</sup>, is on Religion and Politics student-faculty debate. Free Starbucks coffee and deserts. In other news she will be meeting in reference to the taxicab situation that her committee is working on. Has met with Phil Johnson.
- g. Committee on Oversight
  - i. Ian said the committee met on Sunday and approved Senator Lockwood's resolution and it is now in the agenda.
- h. Committee on Multicultural Affairs
  - i. Ninny said that there is a letter that she is presenting. Wants senators to make sure that there are posters for Native American awareness week. On the 26<sup>th</sup> the exhibit will occur with a basket weaving workshop.

V) **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Student Senate Resolution SS0708-18
  - i. Creation of an online printing quota online Kelly said that this resolution came in light of E-resolution last week. Notre Dame runs on the online market place allowing a person to pay and buy online. Had a very positive meeting with people from IIT. ND marketplace does all online business transduction. Because OIT already has online buying store, they would not have to pay extra to do it. OIT wants to see how next semester goes. OIT has to see how e-reserves goes. *The resolution passes 28-0-0 at 6:40 pm.*
- b. Student Senate Resolution SS0708-19
  - i. Resolution is pretty clear. The main goal is to inform the senate as to the issues that happen at the city council or CLC. Ian said that this amendment did go through his committee, does fit in to section that is going right now. Doesn't think this amendment is unreasonable. Jim says that the what the amendment was portrayed

falsely in the Observer. Jim further explains that especially after this summer and the Ordinance, it was important to have such an amendment. George asked why attendance at these meetings must be made constitutional by this amendment. Kelly said that she was kind of confused because it was Collin's job to attend these meetings. Liz said the way it was created in the city ordinance that the Student body president was forced to attend these meetings. Marianna said that she thinks that is important to keep in mind 2 things, that it is meant to address something that is happening now but it might not occur a few years down the road. Gus said that there was restrictive language in the amendment like, "Any and all information of the CCAC must be reported." Denise was wondering how many student leaders this coalition calls for. She said that by just demanding the representation of the President undermines the authority and the opinions of the other students. Ian said that the way Oversight sees the constitution is changing and this amendment is in no way out of sink of what is required in other organizations. The amendment is not overly restricted. Liz said that in reference to Student Body president coming to CoR, the amendment is pretty basic. Said she should not judge amendments based on current leadership. She said that you can't assume something is going to happen just because its happening now. Finally she said that there are certain things that shouldn't be available to a wider public. Consequently she said that the amendment is a little overbearing, and there are other ways to include in the constitution the same demand for information. While it is a public body, sometimes there may be a requirement for the meetings to be closed. Jim said that the attendance policy was never meant to be so restrictive. He said he is not so concerned about what CoR says because it doesn't effect the off campus students as much as the city council. Guss said that the amendment should be watered down, so wanted to amend the amendment. Nick said that another change is that someone else on behalf of the president can be present in their place. Ian said that as Jim said the CCSC can close it's meetings whenever it wants to. reminds the senate that the constitution of a living document, and it is not huge to change it. Collin said that he just wanted to echo Liz's sentiment that the nature of politics and information indicates discretion. Andrew says that the language similar to Section 6.2, A1. Andrew moves to previous question. *With a vote of 1-26-1 the amendment to the amendment fails.* Ian moves to recommitment to Oversight committee. passes with a vote of 28-0-0.

- c. Minority Faculty Recruitment and Retention
  - i. Ninny introduces the bill, it is important to have diversity in ideas and faculty. Tara said that after Prof. Noble's comment that what the minority hiring rate would do to the Catholic retention among

professors at a Catholic institution. Ninny responds that this letter is just a general push for the hiring of minority faculty. Jim Murphy asked if there are any hard facts and numbers. Ninny said that from the research done last year, the majority of the minority professors are in the math/sciences departments. Ezinne echoed Marianna's sentiments saying that minority or catholic faculty are not 2 mutually exclusive things. Scott said that he looks at the letter as simply an encouragement to the administration to consider people of different backgrounds. Ian wanted to remind the senate that no matter how they feel, this letter is just a follow up than a letter sent before. Erdina definitely wants to push for it, having worked for MAC. Kelly moved to voting. Robin seconded. *Letter passed with a vote of 21-4-3.*

VI) **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Oversight committee meets at 4pm on Sunday in the Gold Room.
- b. MAC meets Sunday at the student government office at 4.

VII) **ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Maris entertains a motion to adjourn. Robin motioned. Tara seconded. *November 7, 2007 Senate meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Zaldana  
Student Body Secretary`