

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE
Executive Summary
January 31, 2007
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

Mariana asked
Jimbo to dinner
on Vday

Josh wants
to announce
it.

Bill thinks
it's mean

I. **OPENING BUSINESS**

- A. Bill Andrichik called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
- B. Chris Labadie led the invocation.
- C. Philippe Collon, Chris Beesley, Mark Healy and Kevin Gimber were absent.
- D. Luke Derheimer moved to approve the minutes. Kevin Smith seconded. *The minutes from the January 24, 2007 Senate meeting were approved at 6:08 p.m.*

II. **PODIUM**

A. Tim Lyden Re: Millenium Village Initiation

- i. Tim introduced the Millenium Village Initiatives. This initiative has been in progress for the past couple of months. He said it can be described from a research type perspective regarding Uganda. Tim said the group will be sending students to each dorm to facilitate discussions. These students will lead discussions regarding economic development. They will also be answering questions. Tim said the group wants students to continue dialogue through the student advisory council. The dorm discussion groups will occur in the end of February before midterms. In April, they may reconvene with discussion more specific regarding development. He is trying to get the word out to student leaders on campus. He said the best way is to start with students who are more active. Members of the council will liaison with the hall presidents as well, who will publicize the event in the stall notes. He asked that students publicize the discussion groups. Tim can be contacted at Tlyden1@nd.edu. An information session will be held February 15 at 4:00 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center.

III. **OFFICER REPORTS**

A. Ms. Lizzi Shappell, Student Body President

- i. Lizzi said the Board of Trustees report will be presented tomorrow. Bill, Liz and her will be presenting it to the student affairs committee. The report will include updates on issues from past projects and future events. They are highlighting the initiatives from the State of the Union. Last night in Cor, Patrick Vassel in SUB addressed potential constitutional changes. Bill will discuss topics under new business. In response to the Native American resolution that was passed onto Father Poorman, Liz announced that he passed the

resolution on to the provost office. The faculty will discuss the resolution.

B. Mr. Bill Andrichik, Student Body Vice President

- i. Bill said he had a meeting on Monday regarding the Kintera project. They were discussing what the social networking pages would look like. The only people with access to the network would be the current seniors and alumni. The site would allow the posting of pictures and offer privileges such as the football ticket exchange. At CLC next Monday, Bill will be bringing forward a report on freshman disorientations. The report is four pages long. There will also be a resolution brought forward. They would like to form a committee to create a peer program for next year.

C. Ms. Liz Brown, Chief Executive Assistant

- i. Liz and Bill met with Dave Prentkowski to discuss the resolution regarding Free Trade passed a few months ago. They talked about the educational initiatives coming out of the social concerns committee and Amnesty International. Liz said food services have been very positive in contributing to the campaign. A draft for the Du lac pamphlet out of CLC has been completed and will be brought next week to CLC. It will be posted online through the judicial counsel website. Liz is also completing the online application for university committees. On Friday, Lizzi and she will be meeting with the sexual assault advisory counsel.

D. Mr. Philippe Collon/Ms. Linda Sharpe, Faculty Senate Liaison

- i. No report.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Committee on Academic Affairs

- i. Jim said Majors night is March 1. Recently, he has been in contact with student activities to connect students through a tutoring system for students that aren't athletes or first year studies. He hopes to work this connection out through Inside ND.

B. Committee on Community Relations

- i. Josh said yesterday, Lizzi and him met with Jackie to talk about setting a date for the community summit. It will be Friday March 2. He has also been in contact with Mikki Dobski, director of communications and special projects for the office of the mayor of South Bend, to discuss a freshman bus tour for next year. Josh's committee also has a representative the will be talking with the new management at TC.

C. Committee on Social Concerns

- i. Sheena said today they met with the action faith and justice network. Karen Koski said they have been working on promoting ombudspersons. She said they're a resource that is not directly connected to the administration, but can give advisement. They recently sent out a survey to all the rectors asking questions regarding how effective previous attempts to promote

budget under student government control. Chris will review this in his committee.

B. Constitution Debate

- i. Bill introduced Section 5 regarding Financial Management Board Approvals, number 2 in the constitution. Bill said the main concern was brought up at COR. The concern was that \$5000 is a fairly low number compared to the type of events SUB produces. A suggestion was to raise the budget to \$10,000 to qualify for FMB approval. A delay, a fairly small one, may sacrifice the ability to carry out the events. Patrick said bringing this up has nothing to do with the timeliness of FMB, but there are two parts in bringing events to campus. First, there is an offer and then they move into contracting. Before they can even do the offer, they have to receive the FMB approval. SUB has a lot of programs that fall above \$5000. Patrick said it gets tricky in booking people because things are moving to fast. He said SUB is looking to reduce the number of times to approve events. He doesn't want to reduce oversight but just change the number. Bill introduced a percentage idea. He said the percentage idea would be judging an event greater than a certain percentage of the club's budget. Groups with very small budgets may put on one event per year. Bill said the lack of oversight that might ensue from this was another concern. Patrick said before the proposal gets to FMB, the programmers have to decide what they want to do which then has to be approved by the director. All of the approvals within SUB must happen before the proposal passes on to FMB. He said there is a lot of structure within SUB to ensure that there is oversight. Greg suggested doing a percentage or a number. Danny asked if there was any thought classifying groups according to their budgets and then allotting a more precise percentage. This may avoid confusion. Brian Lan asked if any other groups would have a similar situation than SUB. Bill said student government would have a large budget followed by class counsels. Lindsay said CCC also has a large budget. Maris said the consensus was that this proposal is not to favor SUB, but the scope of SUB events is greater than that of smaller clubs. The process needs to be streamlined. Jim said he is against this proposal because many of the times the proposals have come to FMB, the contracting information has been completed. He said the problem is that groups complete the logistics before asking FMB about this. He said it is about how much money is being spent. He said there should be oversight because SUB is a larger group. Danny asked what the average cost is of a band. Patrick said there are two authors coming next week and they were 7 and 8 thousand dollars respectively. Ben Folds concert was \$55,000. Danny said then for a major band, they would have to go through FMB regardless. Patrick said for the larger events yes, but smaller events would be around the 10,000 range. Liz said SUB in addition to student government already has a large

amount of oversight up to the point when they are going to sign the contract. Therefore, raising the limit or using the percentage would not be detrimental. Lindsay said there was discussion at FMB last night and the consensus was that the limit to \$10,000 would not be that significant. She said historically FMB as worked as an ad hoc basis when necessary. She said at first it does make sense to move towards a percentage model, but this could be creating more oversight. Someone would need to monitor what the percentages are and budgets change annually. Jim Grace asked Patrick how often SUB is not able to book an event due to delay. Patrick said it also has to do with how long the programmer needs to put the proposal together. A newer programmer may not be that quick. He said it's not an epidemic problem, but from SUB's perspective, their budget is vastly different in a lot of ways than other student union organizations. Their annual proposal is at least 10 to 15 pages. This standard is difficult. They are trying to streamline the process without eliminating the spirit of oversight. Lauren asked how often the organizations get turned down. Patrick and Lizzi said they've never been turned down. Patrick said they can't control how FMB operates. He said it is not an issue of being approved but of how quick the event can get approved. Jim said they did discuss that SUB had oversight but oversight from SUB differs from oversight from other organizations such as FMB. Oscar asked how many organizations other than SUB go over the 5000 limit. Bill said student government, class counsels, and other large clubs. Brian said lower than 25 groups a year. Brian said he likes Greg's point which would eliminate the vast majority of clubs from this problem. Liz said it is important not to negate oversight, but because there is so much oversight from student activities, it may not be detrimental to raise the limit to allow groups to more easily program. Jim said the percentage idea is good, but a problem may occur as to oversight regarding percentages. Liz said it would be simple to set the percentage at the beginning of the year when clubs finalize their budget. Chris will review this section further.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Lizzi said Father John has announced presidential officer hours for students. Students will be able to schedule an appointment to discuss a variety of issues. She said they are also working with HPC to prepare a raffle with all the dorm halls to do hall events.
- B. Danny said there is a committee formed regarding the Pope's encyclical. There will be a student conference coming up. He announced the essay competition about the Encyclical, God is Love. Deadline is Friday, May 4.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Lindsay moved to adjourn. Luke seconded. *The January 31, 2007 meeting of the Student Senate was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Martinez
Student Body Secretary

