

Senate Executive Summary  
August 24, 2005  
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

- A. Lizzi Shappell called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
- B. Brad Tucker led the invocation.
- C. No one was absent.
- D. Ben Gunty moved to approve the minutes; Rob Lindley seconded. Some minor corrections were noted in the minutes. Chris Garibaldi moved to approve the minutes; Rob Lindley seconded. *The minutes for the April 27, 2005 meeting of the Student Senate were approved at 6:08 p.m.*

**II. PODIUM**

- A. Iris Outlaw, Diversity Bracelet Initiative
  - i. Ms. Outlaw spoke about the Diversity Bracelet Initiative. The committee recognized the need to reunify the community and show commitment to the existing diversity at Notre Dame and its future advancement. The goal was to show a respect to all people at Notre Dame in a visual way. The bracelets are not just for racial and ethnic diversity, but religious, cultural, etc. They created the "Diversity Matters @ ND" bracelets. Ms. Outlaw asked the Senators to support the cause and pass them out to students in dorms, classes, etc.

**III. OFFICER REPORTS**

- A. Mr. Dave Baron, Student Body President
  - i. Dave was here at Notre Dame over the summer. He thanked Ms. Outlaw for speaking and emphasized his plan to make diversity a major priority in his administration. They have officially created the Minority Affairs Committee, which is headed by Rhea Boyd. They have also officially created the Committee on Community Relations, which is led by Nick Guzman.
  - ii. The inauguration of Father Jenkins will be one of the biggest things in the coming month and will be an amazing time. Dave stressed that this is an excellent opportunity for student government to really make some changes at Notre Dame.
- B. Ms. Lizzi Shappell, Student Body Vice President
  - i. Lizzi thanked everyone for coming to the TeamND retreat. She was very excited about the work that Ali Wishon and her committee did on the revised sexual assault and safety program for freshmen. Dave and Lizzi emceed the program and it was a very good start to the year.
- C. Ms. Liz Kozlow, Chief Executive Assistant
  - i. Liz said that NDBay is up and running since student government has purchased it over the summer. Matt Adams will oversee the transition, and if you would like to be on the committee, talk to her.

- ii. The Catholic Think tank Series has some people confirmed and Liz is looking for volunteers to help her with it.
  - iii. Student Government 101 will take place next Wednesday from 8 to 9:30 pm in the Montgomery Theater. This is an opportunity for freshmen to get involved in student government.
  - iv. Liz yielded the floor to Steve Miller. Steve asked that all committee chairs contact him about the brochure that he is creating. The campus wide stall notes should be coming out soon within the next week as well.
- D. Mr. Philippe Collon, Faculty Senate Liaison
- i. The Faculty Senate will be focusing on the academic freedom of students (i.e. out of class). Some people feel that they don't have enough freedom out of class and Professor Collon asked for the input of any senators.
  - ii. Dave Baron asked if they had selected representatives for the Campus Life Council. Professor Collon said that they hadn't yet.

#### IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Committee on Academic Affairs
- i. Chris Harris apologized for not attending the retreat. He and Rob Lindley have been planning a Majors Night for the spring 2006. They plan to have every college and major represented, and it will hopefully take place in the JACC. It will be beneficial for freshmen and any students who are undecided. They are also going to throw in a spin, and have it not just for ND students, but for the local community and high schools as well. Any input would be appreciated.
  - ii. The Newspaper Readership program is still being worked on. The committee is hoping to have a proposal to increase the Student Activities fee in October.
- B. Committee on Diversity Affairs
- i. Sarah Liu said that the committee is focusing on religion, class and sexual orientation. There will be two awareness weeks; one on GLBT and one on religion. The religious awareness week will be at the end of September and will include a traditional gospel brunch or picnic and information sessions. They tried to send out informational pamphlets this summer, but it didn't work out. The GLBT awareness week will be later in the semester.
- C. Committee on Gender Issues
- i. Ali Wishon had a very exciting summer, as she was able to revamp the freshmen sexual assault program. They have had nothing but positive feedback and it was a very comprehensive program. They will continue to work on the program for the rest of the year with the GRC. They have also booked a speaker for Eating Disorders Awareness Week.
- D. Committee on Residence Life
- i. Mark Seiler announced that he is planning to show up to Senate this year. To-go cups are in the dining halls currently and they are a pilot program for the first semester, and if all goes well, they will be there permanently.



- ii. Mariana Montes tried to get in touch with people regarding the D6 “ponding issue”, but they have been difficult to reach. They are hoping to get the problem fixed over fall break.
- iii. The committee is also looking into a Student Government alumni data base (like the Observer’s), as well as ideas for a new student center.
- E. Committee on Community Relations
  - i. Nick Guzman said that he is catching up with Steve Cartwright about work done by the committee before the summer. They are working on building relationships with neighborhood coalitions. They are also contacting local attorneys to put together a legal help packet for students.
- F. Committee on Minority Affairs
  - i. Rhea Boyd spent the summer looking at Notre Dame’s peer universities and looking at their diversity curricula. Hopefully at the committee’s second meeting they will look at the wording of Notre Dame’s diversity curricula.
- G. Committee on University Affairs
  - i. Matt Walsh mentioned that FedEx Kinko’s is now in LaFortune. You can now use Domer Dollars and the prices are almost cut in half. They will be setting the committee agenda at the next meeting.
- H. Committee on Oversight
  - i. Suj announced that the era of reform on the constitution is over. They are now looking into redefining the mission statement.
- I. Ad Hoc Committee for the Off Campus Safety Seminar
  - i. Dave Baron said that the Off Campus Safety Fair was on Monday and went very well. The fair combined safety information, convenience services, etc. There was free food and hopefully the fair will become a regular event.
  - ii. Blake Jackson attended the fair and had a great time.

#### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. There was no old business.

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. There was no new business.

#### **VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Andrew Beatty announced the Alumni Hall is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- B. Steve Tortorello brought free t-shirts advertising The Show.
- C. Lizzi Shappell announced that next week’s Senate meeting will be in the Montgomery Theater. They will be hosting Father Poorman and members of Student Affairs at the meeting and will be holding a reception following the meeting.
- D. Blake Jackson revealed that he was feeling a bit left out because he is not on the listserve and doesn’t have a mailbox in the student government office.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A. Libby Hopp moved to adjourn; Dan Bowen seconded. *The August 24, 2005 meeting of the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.* The next meeting will take place on August 31, 2005 in the Montgomery Theater of LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alyce Baumgartner  
Student Body Secretary