

Senate Executive Summary
September 28, 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. Fred Thwaites, Sarah Liu, Suj Pandaya, and Phillippe Collon were absent.
- D. Chris Garibaldi moved to approve the minutes; Mariana Montes seconded. *The minutes for the September 21, 2005 meeting of the Student Senate were approved at 6:06 p.m.*

II. PODIUM

- A. Dan Skendzel, Business Operations
 - i. Matt Erste from FedEx/Kinko's also joined him.
 - ii. Dan Skendzel said that he is interested in our feedback on our experiences with copy services at Notre Dame. The new center will be opened from 8 am -4 pm and you can use Domer Dollars there. Another convenience is that you can submit your projects online from insideND. There are many benefits to having FedEx/Kinko's on campus; they have expertise, pricing is lower than the old copy shop, you will still be receiving student group discounts and there is 24/7 access at the State Road location. In the future, course packets will be available for purchase through the bookstore if the professor goes through FedEx/Kinko's.
 - iii. Matt Ertze stressed that Domer Dollars can't be used at the State Road location, but only on campus.
 - iv. Lindsay Meyer asked if they have weekend hours. Dan Skendzel said they have weekend hours at the off campus locations and they are working on expanding hours on campus. Pat Knapp asked if you can use your student charge. Dan replied that was only possible at the bookstore. Pat Knapp asked when FedEx will be providing service. Matt said that it should be before the end of the semester. Jacques Nguyen asked if DHL had anything to say about this. Dan replied that DHL is still ND's preferred shipping company, but non-university shipping can be done through FedEx.
 - v. Dan Skendzel then talked about the new TRANSPO routes. They have expanded the hours on route 7 on Friday and Saturday until 2am. Route 7 no longer goes to main circle, but just library circle. He hopes that this will help students do service and is a great way fro student to be more active in the community.
 - vi. Blake Jackson asked if there is any discussion on adding Castle Point to route 7. Dan Skendzel replied that it would be a good idea to petition Transpo. Matt Walsh asked about a sign at main circle with the Transpo route on them. Dan replied that there is an old sign that they are working on getting changed. You can email him at skendzel.1@nd.edu if you have any more suggestions. Dave Baron mentioned that they are planning on publicizing the Transpo routes more with the help of Steve Miller.

III. OFFICER REPORTS

A. Mr. Dave Baron, Student Body President

- i. Dave started out by praising Mr. Skendzel for his cooperation and said that this is a perfect example of how administrators and students can work together.
- ii. Thank you to all that participated in the inauguration events, a lot of students attended.
- iii. BOT report is coming along stupendously. The final copy will be ready on Monday.
- iv. Dave will be taking suggestions about Transpo, because he has a meeting with them on Friday.
- v. They will be working on getting the bus schedules out to dorms.

B. Ms. Lizzi Shappell, Student Body Vice President

- i. Dave went to HPC last night and they will both be going to hall councils in the future. They will be contacting senators about scheduling those.

C. Ms. Liz Kozlow, Chief Executive Assistant

- a. Liz is meeting with "the Matts" tonight about NDBay. Last night there was a meeting about Catholic Think-tank.
- b. She asked Senators to make sure that the stall notes get put up and if they don't, please talk to your Hall President.

D. Mr. Philippe Collon, Faculty Senate Liaison

- i. Professor Collon was absent.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Committee on Academic Affairs

- i. Chris Harris announced that Majors Night will be held in the JACC Concourse and Monogram Room. Rob Lindley and Carol Hendrickson will be working with deans on that.
- ii. Next week the committee will be making a proposal to increase the student activity fee. Chris yielded the floor to Archita Patel who asked all senators to take a form to hall council and ask their dorm residents what they think of ~~the activity fee increase.~~ *inside MP.*

B. Committee on Minority Affairs

- i. Sarah Liu was absent, but she sent the revised candle letter for discussion.

C. Committee on Gender Issues

- i. Ali Wishon said that the planning for Eating Disorders Awareness Week is going well, and they hopefully will have a fundraising total next week. They will be speaking to HPC in the next few weeks to discuss dorm participation. They will hopefully have one event each day
- ii. She is meeting with Phil Johnson and the Residence Life committee on the blue light issue.
- iii. They are continuing to research the possibility of a gynecologist on campus.

D. Campus on Residence Life

- i. Mark Seiler expressed his disappointment that Ali Wishon “stole his thunder” on the blue light issue. They have split up the D6 issues into separate resolutions; one on safety and one on drainage.
 - ii. Mark yielded the floor to Pat Knapp who announced that he is conducting a needs assessment for the new student center over the next few weeks. He is hoping to have focus groups in various dorms.
 - iii. The tennis lighting issue was put together with James Leito on the CLC to work on a report about recreational facilities to be ready in December or January.
 - iv. Mary McVeigh will be the point person on the dorm Signature Charities.
- E. Committee on University Affairs
 - i. Matt Walsh said the Sarah Liu and he are meeting on Sunday about getting club status for Alliance NC, if you want to help please let him know.
 - ii. There will be a resolution about rugby out in the next two weeks. They are setting up a meeting with RecSports about getting club recognition for that group.
 - iii. Tomorrow at 5:15 pm there will be a rally for the Living Wage Campaign at the Father Sorin statue on God Quad.
- F. Committee on Oversight
 - i. Suj Pandaya was absent. Jim Grace said that the committee is working on the amendment about committees programming.
- G. Committee on Community Relations
 - i. Nick Guzman said that he spoke with Jackie Rucker about her role in community relations for the community. They committee currently has five projects: 1) a South Bend Opportunities Guide, 2) the off-campus legal seminar, 3) an ND host program through local elementary schools, 4) campus-community publicity, and 5) an off-campus resource guide.
- H. Committee on Diversity Affairs
 - i. Rhea Boyd said that the committee is working on putting together the BOT presentation. It will consist of a slide show about the committee and will include an open invitation for Board support.
 - ii. They are looking into sending a letter to Barack Obama about speaking during Martin Luther King Jr. Week. Hopefully they could use the leftover money to bring in Maya Angelou.
 - iii. It is currently Hispanic Heritage Month, and her committee missed the boat on this one. There are a lot of events being held on campus, try and attend some!

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Candle Letter from Diversity Committee
 - i. Brian Klein said that the committee took suggestions from the last discussion and made some changes.
 - ii. Lindsay Meyer said that the letter was a vast improvement from last one, and everyone should be proud of it. Steve Tortorello felt that the language could still be tweaked because people might have a problem with the “football and catholic” statement. He pointed out a misleading

sentence in the third paragraph of the 2nd page: “rallying the old guard”. He feels that administrators might get confused and not know what that means. Steve also pointed out that the phrase; “fails to represent the best of Notre Dame” might cause some people to think that this means that Catholicism isn’t the best of Notre Dame. Lisa Rauh said that they wanted to show that a commercial about football and Catholicism is redundant. Brad Tucker asked if the commercial is even being shown. Brian Klein said that it will be shown during the next game. Steve Tortorello meant to clarify his previous statement. He didn’t say that everybody doesn’t know that Notre Dame is Catholic, but that “those outside the Notre Dame community” might need to be clarified. Rhea Boyd stated that Notre Dame is a household name and a lot of the country doesn’t know a whole lot about ND, but what they do know is football and our Catholicism. Christina Lee thought that it would be better to phrase it as, “Catholicism and football are inferred when you think about Notre Dame.” The inversion might make it better. Christina moved to change “Notre Dame is a household term across the nation when it comes to two subjects—Catholicism and football” to “Catholicism and football are often associated with Notre Dame”; Lindsay Meyer seconded. *A motion changing “Notre Dame is a household term across the nation when it comes to two subjects—Catholicism and football” to “Catholicism and football are often associated with Notre Dame” passed at 6:48p.m.*

- iii. Rob Lindley commented that the substance of the spot shows nothing about Notre Dame’s character. His strong basis in faith causes him to think that this is too strong of wording, because prayer is a central part of the Catholic faith. Brian Klein takes issue with the fact that it isn’t a Notre Dame student showing their faith and the wording is supposed to be strong. Drew Beatty thought that the whole letter is missing the point. The point of commercial is to attract an applicant, that’s why they are showing it, it is simply a marketing tool. Our main audience is middle class, white Catholics. Jim Grace thought that the term “superficial form of Catholic” is a bit strong, and doesn’t come off right. Although, he mentioned that the majority of students are Catholic, and this ties the Notre Dame family together. Matt Walsh thought that the letter is great. The commercial is marketed at what kind of student we have, but we don’t want just white, middle-class Catholics. It is not a problem to market Catholicism, but the commercial doesn’t do it the right way. Katie McHugh said that the biggest problem is that we are targeting white, middle-class Catholics and we don’t have a shortage of those. If the main target is donors, there should be a way to find the middle ground. Katie McHugh moved to limit discussion to 5 minutes; Jacques Nguyen seconded. *A motion limiting debate to 5 minutes passed at 6:55 p.m.*
- iv. Pat Knapp pointed out the hard work that has gone into the letter. He suggested mentioning the statistic about 90% of students being

Catholics. He works in the admissions office and knows that Notre Dame makes a lot of effort to recruit diversity applicants. Steve Tortorello asked if we have gotten any feedback from alumni or applicants. He thought that it might be a good idea to get other people's opinion. Chris Garibaldi pointed out that a commercial isn't going to make or break an applicant's decision to come here. Blake Jackson said that the bottom line is that the commercial could be better. It is not good and we shouldn't sell ourselves short. Rhea Boyd said that the letter is important because as leaders we need to critique the face of Notre Dame that we put out there. *Debate was ended at 7 p.m.*

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Matt Walsh wanted to reiterate that there will be copy services in basement of LaFortune the entire year.
- B. Matt Walsh's second announcement was that the coal plant got voted down at the council meeting last week.
- C. Rob Lindley said that the Keough Hall chariot race is in 10 days. This year, Keough will help you build your chariot.
- D. Brenna Doyle announced that there will be a block party tomorrow between 8-10 pm on the road near West Quad.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Chris Garibaldi moved to adjourn; Rob Lindley seconded. The motion failed
- B. Erin Hankins added another announcement that Walsh Hall Wild Week is coming up and the Mr. ND pageant is on October 6.
- C. Chris Garibaldi moved to adjourn, Rob Lindley seconded. *The September 28, 2005 meeting of the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.* The next meeting will take place on October 5, 2005 in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alyce Baumgartner
Student Body Secretary