

Senate Executive Summary  
January 25, 2006  
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

- A. Lizzi Shappell called the meeting to order 6:09 p.m.
- B. Ben Gunty led the invocation.
- C. Sarah Liu, Brad Tucker, Carol Hendrickson and David Thaxton were absent.
- D. Erin Hankins moved to approve the minutes; Lindsey Meyer seconded. *The minutes from the January 18, 2006 meeting of the student Senate were approved at 6:11 p.m.*

**II. PODIUM**

- A. Career Fair Representative: Meghan spoke about the upcoming Winter Internship and Career Fair, which will be held on February 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be over 200 employers coming to the JACC. This is a good way to get full-time jobs, summer internships, contacts and face time with the employers. She asked that students go to the Career Center website to see what employers are there and for tips about preparing your resume.
- B. Rob Lindley moved to invert the agenda, placing New Business before the Officer Reports; Lindsey Meyer seconded. *The agenda was so inverted at 6:13 p.m.*

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Resolution SS0506-19: Increase in the Hours of Operation in the Library
  - i. Jim Grace said that the resolution comes out of contact with people from the library. They feel that there is a need for students for an increase in library hours. Chris Harris added that he has heard concern from students that the library isn't open long enough. Students are literally being swept out of the library at 2am. He hopes that the library does this, but they are also willing to compromise. The resolution also calls for the library to be open for 24 hours during "midterm week".
  - ii. Lindsay Meyer asked about money issues, anticipating a likely argument by library representatives. Jim Grace said that the library people they wanted a proposal from us before they looked into any finances. Steve Tortorello asked if this affects the maintenance plan. Jim Grace said that it hadn't been mentioned. They suggested having one floor open only, but that would be impossible with fire codes. Carol Hendrickson pointed out that over finals week, when the library is open for 24 hours, they have a system of maintenance. Dave Baron asked who they wanted the resolution sent to if it passes. Chris Harris said that it would go directly to Nigel in the library. Pat Knapp asked if the library has agreed to this. Jim Grace said that over three meetings, they said that they wouldn't look or plan for this until we have proposed it. Brian Klein moved to vote; Pat Knapp seconded. *A motion to move to voting was passed at 6:17 p.m.*
  - iii. *Resolution SS0506-19 was passed unanimously at 6:18 p.m.*

**IV. OFFICER REPORTS**

- A. Mr. Dave Baron, Student Body President

- i. Dave Baron said that they talked about specific community relations initiatives in CoR. The Disorderly House resolution from Senate was talked about it and they planned going to a City Council meeting during the “privilege of the floor” time on February 27<sup>th</sup>. CoR is not going to spring this on them, but will let them know when and why they are coming. They will have a systematic argument for this. CoR also talked about the recent break-ins at off campus housing. They looked at Project MARC, neighborhood watches, as well as alarm systems and informing students about that.
  - ii. Fr. Jenkins has brought up issue of academic freedom and Catholic character. Dave hoped that we, as student leaders, will participate in this discussion. He has asked that the University Affairs, Gender Issues and Academic Affairs committees to talk about this. He wants to hear as many arguments as possible. Dave may put together a resolution to give an official position of the Student Senate.
- B. Ms. Lizzi Shappell, Student Body Vice President
- i. Lizzi Shappell echoed Dave’s sentiments and encouraged Senators to compose an email to Fr. Jenkins. On Thursday, transcripts and web casts will be available online.
  - ii. She and Dave are working on writing a letter about the state of the Student Union to the Board of Trustees, who are meeting in Rome. The letter will address community relations, eating disorders awareness week, cultural competency, and the Catholic Think Tank series.
- C. Ms. Liz Kozlow, Chief Executive Assistant
- i. Liz Kozlow announced that stall notes are back.
  - ii. She said that we have a new website administrator and the website will be updated soon.
  - iii. The first Catholic Think Tank lecture went very well and she thanked her committee for their hard work.
  - iv. Bishop Gumbleton will be speaking on February 23 about Catholicism and War.
- D. Mr. Philippe Collon, Faculty Senate Liaison
- i. Philippe Collon said that the diversity letter will be presented next Wednesday at their meeting.
  - ii. Academic freedom is a major issue right now. He stressed that this is one of the most important discussions that we can have. He encouraged the Senate to add their voices. The faculty will make their voices heard.

## V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Committee on Academic Affairs

- i. Chris Harris said that on February 8<sup>th</sup>, they will have representatives from USA Today to come to Senate to talk about the Collegiate Readership Program. They will be on podium in a question and answer session.
- ii. February 2 is Majors Night from 7-9 p.m. in the JACC. If there are any questions, contact Chris, Rob or Carol. They need help if anyone is willing to help out. Rob Lindley asked that everyone put the flyers up. There will be a campus wide email about this as well.

B. Committee on Diversity Affairs

- i. Sarah Liu was absent.

C. Committee on Gender Issues

- i. Ali Wishon echoed Professor Collon's sentiments. Make your voice heard on the academic freedom issue.
- ii. They are working on GLBTQA report with the University Affairs committee. She has met with Heather from the GRC about that.
- iii. They are currently working on Sexual Assault Awareness Week, which will be on Tuesday, March 28. There will be another performance of "Sex Signals". Fundraising letters were sent out last Friday and they have over \$1000 raised so far.
- iv. They are working with the health center and will have a resolution regarding that soon.
- v. The Health center and Feminist Voice, etc will have four programs on women's health coming this semester.

D. Committee on Residence Life

- i. Mark Seiler said that Alcohol Awareness Week is a major initiative and they are working with Ali Wishon and OADE on hosting this from March 6-10.
- ii. In regards to the College Town south of campus, he has been working with Dave, Lizzi and an MCOB professor to make a comprehensive study on what students would want to see there.
- iii. They have opened up a channel with OIT and ResLife to start trouble shooting for the "dark periods" that dorms are experiencing with the transition to wireless access.

E. Committee on University Affairs

- i. Matt Walsh prioritized the goals of the semester. One was GLBTQA. They will be writing it this weekend
- ii. There is an academic freedom meeting tonight in Welsh Family at 9 p.m. about free speech.
- iii. There will be a resolution about rugby and reinstating them coming soon.
- iv. He is hoping to get the people from Living Wage to come to senate to answer questions and explain what they are doing.
- v. His committee is composing a letter to the President's office regarding more student involvement in the selection of commencement speakers.
- vi. They are also writing a letter to the DPAC director to set up a meeting for student group usage.
- vii. They are following up on Transpo and Kinkos.
- viii. They will be making an ad hoc subcommittee to deal with the ticketshare for basketball ticketing.

F. Committee on Oversight

- i. Suj Pandaya said that they will bring two amendments next week.
- ii. One would allow programming for committees.
- iii. The second one involves making transition binders to make continuity go smoother.

G. Committee on Community Relations

- i. Nick Guzman thanked people from the "Senate shake-up" for the new ideas.
  - ii. They are working with the law schools and have the names of professors who are willing to go to the seminar. This will be a good way to bring information about security and leasing issues.
  - iii. Talks about Transpo tours of South Bend are going well. They will bring a resolution making sure that this would happen for next year.
  - iv. On Tuesday, he will be meeting about other security issues, especially the break-ins.
- H. Committee on Minority Affairs
- i. Rhea Boyd said that Chuck D is coming and she is so excited! He will be speaking on February 2 at 8:30 pm in DeBartolo 141. There will be Jimmy Johns after, as well. The Black History Month poster went out today, so look for those. She apologized for failing to list all of the people who sponsor it. (MSPS, SUB, Shades of Ebony, etc)
  - ii. The Native American letter is in revision.
  - iii. They are working with the spring visitation coordinators about an information campaign.
  - iv. She will be sending Faculty Senate the new and improved definitions and a listing of the authority of the committee which they are asking for.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

## VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Dave Baron said that Ryan Willerton asked for one or two volunteers to get on a taskforce to look into the new student lounge that was converted from the laundry room. Brian Coughlin explained that the laundry room was redone for group study space and it connects to the computer lab. It is designed to provide a quiet, but not silent study area especially for groups. Jim Grace, Lisa Rauh and Brenna Doyle volunteered.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Christina Lee moved to adjourn; Brian Klein seconded. *The January 25, 2006 meeting of the Student Senate was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.* The next meeting will take place on February 1, 2006 in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alyce Baumgartner  
Student Body Secretary