

Notre Dame Student Senate
February 22, 2006
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- A. Lizzi Shappell called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.
- B. Lizzi Shappell led the invocation.
- C. Philippe Collon was absent.
- D. Mariana Montes moved to approve the minutes; Dan Mannion seconded.
The minutes from the February 15, 2006 were approved at 6:10 p.m.

II. PODIUM

A. John Affleck Graves, University Executive Vice President

- i. Mr. Affleck Graves said that this was the first opportunity to speak to the Senate. He walked us through a time picture tour of the campus to show the growth of campus buildings. If we want to fulfill the academic responsibility of the University, it involves the growth of campus. Many people were concerned about campus sprawl, so they came up with seven tenants of campus planning. They include: Catholic heritage and sacramental vision, campus is home, stewardship of the natural environment, stewardship of the built environment of the architectural form and brick (consistency), axes, focal points, quads and other exterior spaces (avoid congestion of buildings), the ceremonial focus of Notre Dame Avenue and other approaches to campus, the separation of pedestrian and vehicle traffic. They hired an outside company to plan for the campus and they spent two years planning. They have a 10 year plan and a 50 year plan, but flexibility is built into the plan for the future. There is an agreement with the city about the pedestrian nature of the campus and have agreed to the closing of Juniper Road. They drew a blue line around campus about not building an academic building beyond that. They will close Juniper Road this August. The campus is 280 acres today, but the blue line adds another 235 acres. There are no plans to increase the undergraduate population beyond 8,000.
- ii. In the short term they will be: expanding the law school by extending it to the old post office, building a new engineering facility, redoing an area south of DPAC called the Town Commons as an open landscaped area. In the long term they will be: building two new residence halls where Juniper is now, and possibly a third dorm at the end of McGlinn, building a new inn back by D6, building a center for social sciences south of the Hesburgh Peace Institute, the creation of an executive education building south of Mendoza, replacing Stepan and building more athletic facilities. Jordan Hall will be opening soon and it is the

biggest and most expensive building we've ever built. They are also renovating the student health center. They will put a traffic circle along ND Avenue.

- iii. The new Northeast neighborhood development will have one block be retail with offices, the second block will be retail with apartments, and the third block will be with townhouses and there will be more commercial development after five points. In terms of athletic buildings they are: renovating the JACC stadium, building a new ice hockey facility, building a separate soccer and lacrosse stadiums, new softball fields and in the long term creating a new track and field stadium.
- iv. Katie McHugh asked if there is any plan with the CSC building. Mr. Affleck Graves said that they are planning to take down the old CSC and put up a big four story building with faculty offices there. They will have a big home in the center of campus. Katie asked what will happen to the Robinson Community Center with the new development. Mr. Affleck Graves said that they have to decide whether or not to keep it there or move it. They will be building subsidized housing with the state on the next block over. Matt Walsh asked if the University owns all of the land in the development area. Mr. Affleck Graves said that they have been buying up the land along Eddy Street. Jim Grace asked with the campus expansion moving out south and east, if there are any ideas for Carroll Hall. Mr. Affleck Graves said that it will stay open, and won't be scheduled to close. Mariana Montes asked what would happen to D6 with the new hotel. He said that they will move D6 slightly by renovating the golf course to an executive course. There is no plan to build an elevated parking structure. Pat Knapp asked about the plan for the new student activates center by Stepan. Mr. Affleck Graves said they can only expand LaFortune on a minimal scale. It is hard to push it out at all. In the long term there could be internal restructuring. Brian Coughlin said that there is a lot of flexibility with new things in a new center. Chris Garibaldi asked what they are doing with Morris Inn. Mr. Affleck Grave said there are a couple of thoughts about turning the lower level into the University Club and using 2nd and 3rd floors as faculty offices or lower cost option for visiting families. Brian Klein asked if they are planning to use the same dorm formats in the new dorms. Mr. Affleck Graves said that the plan is for them to be single sex dorms, but not increase the number of students on campus. Brian Klein then asked if there are any plans for dorm renovations. Mr. Affleck Graves said that there is a plan in the next 10-15 years to go through every dorm on campus and redo them. They will create more social space, study rooms and a greater variety

of rooms that gives students choices. They currently have a plan for every dorm, and are just contingent on getting money.

III. OFFICER REPORTS

A. Mr. Dave Baron, Student Body President

- i. Dave Baron said that they will continue to do research on what students want in the Northeast neighborhood development.
- ii. On Monday, February 27 they will be going to the South Bend Common Council and will have six speakers regarding the noisy house ordinance.
- iii. He, Lizzi and Chris met with members of CCC who are here tonight and will be speaking about their concerns with the fee increase. Dave pointed out that he did address these concerns before, and he will be in the office between 10-5 on Friday to go over the numbers with anyone who has questions.

B. Ms. Lizzi Shappell, Student Body Vice President

- i. Lizzi said that she sent out an email about meeting with Fr. Jenkins next Friday at 4pm. It will probably be in the Notre Dame Room. She would like each of the Senators to come with a comprehensive statement from their dorms regarding academic freedom. If you are unable to attend the meeting, send her your ideas or statement. She wants to make sure that Fr. Jenkins is hearing from every dorm
- ii. She and Dave will be meeting with Jenkins about their personal opinions as well.
- iii. She will be working on a resolution about sexual assault and will be working with the Gender Issues Committee on that.
- iv. Lizzi echoed Dave's concerns about CCC, and she feels that they have addressed these concerns, and believes that we have made the right decision.

C. Ms. Liz Kozlow, Chief Executive Assistant

- i. Liz Kozlow said that she hopes that the Senators picked up the various award forms which are due during next meeting.
- ii. Bishop Gumbleton will be here tomorrow night and they are very excited. He will be speaking on Catholicism and war.

D. Mr. Philippe Collon, Faculty Senate Liaison

- i. Philippe Collon was absent. Dave Baron said that they are working on the academic freedom issue and putting together a statement that they can all agree on. They are meeting with Fr. Jenkins next week as well.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Committee on Academic Affairs

- i. Chris Harris said that Katie McHugh threw a bash for all of the academic commissioners last night and they talked about ways to incorporate academic discussions in the dorms. About 15 people showed up, so there is an interest.

- ii. He is meeting with OIT on Friday about insideND concerns.
- B. Committee on Diversity Affairs
- i. Sarah Liu said they will be selecting two people to sit in on Campus Ministry committee meetings on religious survey discussion groups.
 - ii. They are working on the budget for the Stand Against Hate.
- C. Committee on Gender Issues
- i. Ali Wishon said that they are meeting with Annie Kleeva about women's health nights at the end of March and early April.
 - ii. There has been a lot of work on Sexual Assault Awareness Week.
 - iii. She and Matt have gotten good news on GLBTQA report, they will be passing a resolution, and there will be more news next week.
- D. Committee on Residence Life
- i. AAW/Safe Spring Break Week is coming up. He asked Senators to take the posters and put them up.
- E. Committee on University Affairs
- i. Matt Walsh said that he is very happy about changes made on GLBTQA stuff.
 - ii. He has been talking with CLAP about trying to get them to speak to Faculty Senate.
 - iii. In regards to the academic freedom debate, they are looking into the possibility of holding a larger forum. They think that the best format is to invite the student body and break people into small groups and have people talk about academic freedom and have a group leader to explain what was discussed. They might invite people from the administration or Student Activities to clarify certain details.
- F. Committee on Oversight
- i. Suj Pandaya reminded Senators to hold meetings with perspective candidates soon. They have to tell candidates about the importance of the position and time commitments.
 - ii. He is still working with James Leito to rework rules about elections.
 - iii. His committee is also working on the apathy letter.
- G. Committee on Community Relations
- i. Nick Guzman said that he is talking to Bob Jones about the off campus legal seminar and it is moving forward quickly
 - ii. They are also looking at interest in South Bend TRANSPO tours for freshmen.
- H. Committee on Minority Affairs
- i. Rhea Boyd said that they are working on a celebration for Caesar Chavez day with a bunch of different groups. They will have a week long series of events that will incorporate labor issues.

- ii. They are redirecting their efforts of how to get the picture of Fr. Hesburgh and MLK Jr. up.
- iii. They are having focus groups for MAC binders and will be meeting with different ethnicities and doing a needs assessment about what they need and what can be done.
- iv. Dave Baron asked Rhea to clarify that the road blocks regarding the picture of MLK has nothing to do with Student Activities or the LaFortune people.

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Stand Against Hate Campaign Letter

- i. Sarah Liu said that everyone is aware that minority students are unwelcome, especially gay and lesbian. By putting up rainbow flags in every dorm, it will increase the sense of welcome. The different colors of the flags have different meanings. She showed an example of the flag.
- ii. Erin Hankins proposed an amendment. She proposed adding, at the very end of the letter, "Your response to sliu@nd.edu by Friday March 3rd is greatly appreciated"; Christina Lee seconded. *The amendment, as written above, passed at 7:03 p.m.*
- iii. Liz Brown said that she brought it up at hall council. She asked if this is up to the discretion of the rectors. Sarah said that essentially it is up to rectors and this is why it is necessary to get support. They are also planning to go to HPC for support as well. Liz said that there is no guarantee of getting the flags up and if the spirit inclusion flag is only up in some of the dorms that doesn't really create spirit of inclusion. She is also concerned about vandalism of the flags. There is not currently a flag on any of the dorms, and if there is one flag on the dorm it should be the American flag. She didn't really see what the flag achieves. There should be more efforts put towards programming and not put up to flags. Sarah said that they are aware that not all of the dorms are going to put up the flags. That is why they came up with an alternative; they are going to have posters of rainbow designs for students who want to put it up on their doors. Not everyone gets discriminated against here at the university and it is an issue when people are discriminated unfairly and it is a big issue. The flag is an easy way to say that we welcome them. Rhea Boyd asked for Sarah to be more specific about "minority status", it doesn't give the idea of gay/lesbian students. She thinks that the primary identity of the dorm should be that dorm or ND. She said that maybe we don't want the flag in the most prominent place. Steve Tortorello said that if some dorms don't do it, it will create bad connotations for

that dorm. He is concerned with the precedent that this will cause, what if dorms become covered in flags? Erin Hankins said that the entire point is to make a positive statement and our lives revolve around the dorms and many people don't feel safe in them. If you just do individual rooms, you get the same problem. Jim Grace said that agrees that rooms without signs on their door will be looked at negatively. Drew said it is a good idea to have it in the dorms, just not on the outside. He also said that he doesn't foresee his rector wanting to hang a flag for aesthetic reasons. Chris Garibaldi said that many dorms do not allow things hanging out the window because it looks tacky. This doesn't mean that a dorm isn't inclusive. Putting up a flag won't create an inclusive environment. Christina Lee said that she doesn't think that students will really think this way. She said that this will create awareness of all students, not just minority students. Pat Knapp asked if this will really change the dorm culture. Sarah said that the dorms are central to life. Chris Garibaldi said that if some people don't do it, it will look tacky. Matt Walsh said that he thinks it's a great idea, but maybe it would make sense to direct this at CLC or turn it into a resolution. This is a huge problem on campus. Maybe rectors can talk about ways to address this in their dorms. Jessica Zarra said that this is a way to include more students in the discussion and to think about it more. The old forums and events are always attended by the same students. Erin Hankins added that she wouldn't think that the flags would be up indefinitely. Pat Knapp moved to send the letter back to committee; Steve Tortorello seconded. *With a vote of 19 yes and 7 no, the letter was sent back to committee at 7:20p.m.*

B. Rob yielded the floor to Beth O'Shaughnessy President of CCC

- i. Beth O'Shaughnessy said that she is asking the Senate to raise the hard-line of percentage of funds to the former hard-line. She was asking to look for a new way to fund the college readership program. She said that the Senators are here to represent their constituents and learn how to represent them. The clubs act the same way by performing functions and learning how to lead. Her resolution goes through and enumerates the reason that clubs are important. Beth said that the clubs are shouldering the burden of decreases in hard-line. She would like to remove the percentage of CoR from 4-0%. It would distribute the cost of college readership equitably around the student union.
- ii. Lizzi Shappell said that this would be discussion only and is passing gavel to Ali Wishon so that she can participate in the discussion.
- iii. Katie McHugh said that after being on FMB last year she knows how money is distributed. CCC has enough money to distribute

to the clubs, they haven't used the collaboration funds over the year and groups aren't asking for more money. They are also getting \$13,000 next year; she asked why they need more money. Beth replied that the CoR fund is set aside for discretion of CoR to give to clubs if they work with other groups and people don't ask for it. The CCC has its own pot of money that they emptied last year. The CoR collaboration isn't working for clubs. Beth said that there is a process to review spending. Mark Seiler pointed out that they are getting more money. Beth said that she would like to increase the clubs' hard-line. Suj asked Beth to clarify her claim of the decrease in fixed allocations, and whether she meant absolute numbers or percentages. Beth said she is talking about fixed allocations. Lisa Rauh said that EDAW week was funded through CoR collaboration.

- iv. Dave Baron said that he appreciated Beth's comment about responsibilities to constituents. We have a constituency of 8000 students and the other areas of student union board. We took into account each club and organization and they have increased the number of funds. By increasing hard-line you would be increasing your funding by \$50,000 while SUB; HPC would be lowered by \$10,000, even with destruction of CoR collaboration. He said that he can't do that in good faith. There is available funding available and it is your responsibility to make sure that people know about money. Dave pointed out that CCC didn't request money at FMB reallocation. He said that we did talk about it in CoR and it seemed that after we raised money and got it through, Beth didn't have a problem with it during earlier discussion. The percentages were entirely arbitrary, they were looking at hard numbers and overall you are getting more money. The money is going to you and giving you benefits. Lizzi Shappell said that the role of senators is representing constituents. This was something that was brought to you for 2-3 weeks and you were representing your people then. I believe that everyone was representing well. Blake Jackson yielded the floor to Beth. Beth said that at the winter allocation request they didn't need to go because they had a guaranteed percentage. They were given a percentage of the reallocation. The clubs asked for \$80,000 and were only able to give \$23,000. It took them a long time to catch on, and she didn't get it right away. Since the passage, they have been looking at a way that the clubs could get their hard-line back. To be blatantly honest, she doesn't think that CCC should bear the burden of the cost. Chris Harris said that the midyear allocations are for this year. There is not a new way to fund this program, we have been working on this for 12 months and this is the fairest most equitable option. He knows you are looking out for your constituency, but this is

the best option. You can ask for more money at allocation meeting in April. Section III, number 4 says that you can ask for more money after fixed percentage and take it to FMB. Pat Knapp moved to end debate; Lisa Rauh seconded. *Debate was ended at 7:48 p.m.*

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Lizzi Shappell said that the applications for next year's government committees are due before spring break.
- B. Steve Tortorello said that tomorrow night at 9 p.m. in the library there is an improv and sketch comedy.
- C. Dan Bowen thanked Ali for handling the gavel and added that he was temporarily suffering from gavel envy.
- D. Dave Baron said that next week will be his last state of the student union address and it will be partially on his position on academic freedom.
- E. Liz Brown said that on Friday night from 5p.m.-1am in LaFortune ballroom it is Cavanaugh's dance marathon.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Drew Beatty moved to adjourn; Lisa Rauh seconded. The February 22, 2006 meeting of the Student Senate was adjourned at 7:51 p.m. The next meeting will take place on February 29, 2006 in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alyce Baumgartner
Student Body Secretary