

Notre Dame Student Senate

Executive Summary

April 10, 2003

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. Opening Business

- a. Chairman, Jeremy Lao, called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.
- b. Chaplin, Mike Anderson, led the invocation.
- c. Christie Bolsen, Meghan Hanzlik, Tom Healy, Becca Saunders, Cheri Smith, and Dan Zenker were absent.
- d. Brin Anderson motioned to approve the March 26, 2003, the April 2, 2003, and the April 6, 2003 minutes. It was seconded. They were approved at 6:14 p.m.

II. Podium

- a. Brin Anderson, Letter of Support for In-Hall Dances
 - i. Brin Anderson, asked the Senators to send a letter to the CLC in support of the resolution for in-hall dances approved by the outgoing Senate members. This letter recognizes the time and effort put forth by the previous Senate members on the in-hall dance issue and supports the idea of having a probationary year that allows in-hall dances, given there are some restrictions. The resolution passed by the outgoing Senate will be presented to the CLC on Monday, April 14, 2003 and Brin hopes this letter can accompany it to add support for the resolution.
 - ii. Discussion/Questions: Brin asked if everyone knew what the in-hall dance resolution was about. Everyone said yes. Jeremy Lao added that everything that passes in Senate that regards Student Life goes to the CLC. If a rule passes in the CLC it serves as a recommendation to Fr. Poorman to change something in DuLac; however, it does not mean that Fr. Poorman will change it.

See Letter for Further Details

III. Officer Reports

- a. Mr. Pat Hallahan, Student Body President
 - i. Pat Hallahan mentioned that he and Trip Foley met with Faculty Senate members to discuss getting the TCE's published. Progress is good. He is hoping to have TCE's made public by the end of next semester or at the end of two semesters.
 - ii. Pat also mentioned that this Monday is the last CLC meeting for the school year. In the past it has been helpful to have the support of the students and new Senate members. He hopes that everyone can make to the CLC meeting on Monday, April 14, 2003 at 3:30 in the Notre Dame Room. Along with the in-hall dance resolution, a resolution on extending weekday parietals until 1:00 a.m. will also be presented. Also, next week Senators for the CLC will be chosen. If anyone is interested in this position, it might be helpful to go and see how meeting are conducted.
- b. Mr. Jeremy Lao, Student Body Vice-President
 - i. Jeremy Lao informed members that everyone should have received an email from IrishLink regarding the online referendum for in-hall dances. It closes tomorrow April 11, 2003 at noon, so please vote and have your friends vote. He would like to have an accurate representation of the students wants. You do have to use your AFS-ID, but it is in no way tied to your answers. It is only used as verification so that no one can vote twice.
- c. Ms. Emily Chin, Chief of Staff, Office of Student Body President

- i. Emily Chin reported that today there was a University's Officer's/Student Leadership Reception. It was great! There were a lot of authority figures present.
- ii. Emily also reported that the Office of the President is offering a total of \$1500 in funds to any service orientated project(s). Any organization may apply. Applications are available in the Student Government Office and due May 1, 2003.
- d. Mr. Wyatt Maxwell, Hall President's Council Liaison
 - i. Wyatt Maxwell stated that last year's HPC supported Brin's proposal for the return of in-hall dances. They too wrote a letter of support. HPC feels that Hall Presidents have the most direct contact with dances and almost all of the Hall Presidents from the last term were against the dance policy. This year HPC hopes to work with the Senate to improve the current situation.
 - ii. Wyatt also added that the second meeting for HPC was canceled because of a dinner for last term's members. The second meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2003. Also, upcoming events are the Fisher Regatta and the Alumni Wake.
- e. Lindsey Evans, St. Mary's Representative
 - i. Lindsey Evans had no news to report.

IV. Committees

- a. Selection for Ethics Committee
 - i. Jeremy Lao mentioned that the selection for the Ethics committee members will take place after the meeting. It was later decided, however, that Jeremy will chose the members names from a hat on his own time and email the Senate the names of Ethics committee.
- b. (Co)Chairs for the committees
 - i. Jeremy Lao reported that this Sunday, April 13, 2003 there is a mandatory Diversity Celebration workshop from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the CSC building. If you will be out of town see Jeremy. After this meeting the committees will elect committee chairs.

V. New Business

- a. Letter of Nomination for Judicial Council President, Elliot Poindexter
 - i. Danielle Ledesma, the current Judicial Council President was not able to attend the meeting; therefore, Pat Hallahan presented the nomination for Elliot Poindexter. Elliot is currently a Junior in Carroll Hall and served as the Chairman of the Oversight Committee and as the senate liaison to the Judicial Council last year. His skills and knowledge make him a great candidate for this position.
 - ii. There were no objections. **Elliot was appointed Judicial Council President at 6:24 p.m.**
- b. Letters of Nomination for SUB Programmers
See sheet for more information about the nominees
 - i. Charlie Ebersol, SUB Board Manager, presented the nominations for Taylor Clary-Sophomore Literary Festival Programmer, Ashley Sinnott-Dorm Representative Operator, Heather Kimmins-Operator, Ricky Nieto-SUB Movies Programmer, Michael Subialka-SLF Programmer, Elliott Zakem-Controller, Erika Bramley-Antostal Programmer, Matt Tara-Concert Programmer, Karrie Koski-Special Events Programmer, Greg Salzler-Collegiate Jazz Festival Programmer, Lauren Fowler-Collegiate Jazz Festival Programmer, Jan

Vijayaraghavan-Controller. Charlie mentioned that a lot of students applied for these positions, but these nominees fit the positions the best. They have also already done a great job with the two events recently put on (Janet Reno and Everclear) and the newly elected SUB Board feels that these nominees will help SUB go in the direction of its goal.

- ii. Discussion/Questions: Ryan Finlen inquired what concerts Matt Tara helped to put on while at Boston College. Charlie responded that Matt worked as Assistant Programmer on a Bon Jovi concert and one with hip-hop group. Both events brought 5,000-12,000 people. It was also inquired what a dorm representative operator does. Charlie responded that SUB hopes to implement a new marketing strategy because this past year they spent over \$12,000 in marketing. SUB is working with the HPC and Ashley Sinott's position would work directly with each one of the Hall's President to work with a member of each of the Hall's Councils to serve as SUB representative and advertise for SUB. SUB is also developing a new method of having movies. Each quad will vote each week on the internet on which movie they would like to have out of five choices.
 - iii. Ryan Finlen moved to suspend the rules to vote. There were no objections. **All of the nominees for SUB were approved at 6:29 p.m.**
- c. FMB Budget Proposal, Don Norton
See Budget and cover letter
- i. Don Norton, the Student Union Treasurer and Chairman of the Financial Management Board, stressed that this year's Financial Management Board tried to stress Fiscal Responsibility in next year's administration. For the allocation of money, the Board reviewed the organizations spending during the previous year and the amount of money left over. They tried to be as objective as possible. Don alone spent three weeks meeting with groups to help them prepare before presenting their proposal to the Board. The FMB tried to do their best to represent the students' interests in the allocation of funds. Don added that every group that presented their budget was informed that they were able to appeal the allocations they received. The only person to do so was Jasmine Garcia, Class of 2004 President, because she wondered why their class received less funding than all the other classes. Don told her that the funding that can be allocated comes from the Student Activities Fee, which increased from \$65,000 to \$80,000 and from the shirt project. This year's FMB was also able to allocate a larger amount of money because last year's Board had to pay off debt created by the Business Board, which gave them an additional \$70,000. As a result, almost every group besides the Senate and OoP received an increase in funding. The FMB cut funding of groups that had a surplus of funding at the end of this year to force them to be as efficient with their money as possible. He also added that the requests made were twice the amount that was available to allocate and those with a well researched and convincing proposal were most likely to receive the funding.
 - ii. Questions/Discussion: Ryan Finlen inquired the amount of surplus the Class of 2004 had. Don answered \$1500. Don also added that the money raised from the Student Activities Fees and the shirt year should be spent in that year and there should not be carried over. The money raised by the students should be spent on the students that year. However, classes almost always have some money to carryover and this cannot be totally controlled by the FMB. Don also stated that the Class of 2004 received an extra \$2,000 compared to last year and is in the process of receiving an additional \$5,000 from Fr. Poorman, plus the \$1,500 in carryover. Don also mentioned that the Class knows that the FMB has \$13,875

set aside in the Contingency Fund for any group to apply for if they can demonstrate a need for the money. Therefore, if the Class of 2004 spends all the \$8,000 allotted they can apply to this fund. He feels that the resolutions to take money from any other group now rather than having the Class of 2004 apply for money later if they need it, would not be best way to go about things. Brian Agganis asked whether HPC had considered the new dance policy in their budget. Wyatt Maxwell replied that this has been discussed because currently dances are under funded which brings strain to dorms. He feels that the HPC needs more money; last year they only funded 52% of the requests made by the dorms. In response, Don added that the Halls collect \$333,000 in hall tax each year and the FMB allotted them \$50,000. However, to put on bigger concerts more funding needs to be allocated to that area. Also, Kevin Thomas sat on the FMB and said that \$50,000 was more than sufficient. Also, the HPC has not requested additional money from the Contingency Fund in the past years, but it is available to them. Recently, the CCC has requested funding for the unexpected expense of sending teams to nationals. Brian Coughlin, the Senate Advisor, added that there has been debate in the senate to place in the Constitution something that mandates an increase in Student Activities Fees based on tuition increases or cost of living increases. However, it was never decided and left up for debate. Ryan Finlen also inquired that close to \$70,000 was allocated to SUB for concerts, but does SUB plan to do 2 or 3 small concerts. Charlie Ebersol said it will be determined after seeing how much is made on the other concerts. *Sinner and Saints* is a non-profit event that SUB hopes to build a non-profit fund out of as an endowment for later years. The third concert would be an opening/closing concert for Bookstore Basketball and the funding would come from outside sources. The money allocated is for the first two concerts and for insurance purposes only on the third, which is about \$7,000. Claire Berezowitz asked the purpose of the Executive Cabinet Collaboration fund. Don responded that it is a fixed allocation established by the constitution of 2.25% and is used to get groups to work together by using funding from Executive Cabinet. Pat Hallahan added that any club that wants to co-sponsor with another organization can apply for this fund. It is additional money outside their original allocation and it usually all gets used by the end of the year. David Osburn asked who decides when and how much each group gets from the funds. Don stated that the two clubs get together to discuss the event and how much money they have in their budgets to put forth and how much they need. They then take this budget to Executive Cabinet where it gets voted and if passed it goes to the FMB. Seth O'Donnell added that the groups usually appeal to the CCC, which would then make a recommendation to the Executive Cabinet. Ryan Finlen asked the difference between the two Contingency Funds (on the first page and last page). Don said that they are the same fund. The \$5,000 is the hardline fund usually set each year but the FMB decided to increase the Contingency Fund for next year to fund events such as Class tailgates, because currently the Student Activities Policy does not allow classes to budget for that. Student Activities is working to change that policy therefore, this allows classes the ability to appeal for money if necessary. Don also added that unless a request is over \$5,000 the FMB would not handle the request, instead the CCC would. Claire Berezowitz inquired the reason the CCC was allocated an additional \$20,000 than last year. Don said that the allocation of funding from the CCC to the Clubs came right before Spring Break and 63 clubs were not allowed to receive an allocation or did not complete the process in time, but will need funding next year. Seth added that the process

for the CCC is that each spring each club submits a budget of their planned events for next year, what they spent money on this year, how the money allocated last year was spent. The club is then interviewed. There are also two appeal funds within \$20,000 that clubs can receive money from if there is an unexpected events or a great conference/speaker that they just learned of and want to bring to campus. These clubs appeal to the CCC and the CCC votes. Last year the total funds were \$15,000; \$10,000 of which went into a general fund that any single club could apply for and \$5,000 went into a collaboration fund. Most of the money was spent and this is why the CCC is appealing to the FMB Contingency Fund to send the group to Nationals.

d. SS0304-04: Resolution Amending the 2003-2004 Budget

See resolution for more details

- i. Ryan Finlen stated that the Class of 2004 received less funding than the other classes because FMB stated they had more events than they could handle. However, he feels that it is feasible. He proposes \$450 be allotted to the Class of 2004 from the Contingency Fund of \$8,064 and an additional \$450 be allotted from the \$20,000 requested by the Clubs and Organizations since this year the Clubs and Organizations already received an increase of \$8,064 making it a \$28,064 increase this year, not \$20,000. This additional \$900 would allow the Senior Class to host another proposed event.
- ii. Questions: Lauren Williams asked Ryan if he considered that the Class of 2004 can apply for the Contingency Fund. Ryan said yes, but that there is no guarantee that they will receive that money. Chuck Anthony asked what class Ryan was from. Ryan stated 2006. Kaity Redfield asked how much carry over the class had. Ryan said \$1500.
- iii. Discussion: Elliot Poindexter in defense of FMB stated that of the voting members, 4 of the 8 were incoming seniors. They believe that adhering to the idea of fiscal responsibility, this is a just allocation. In addition, the Senior Class also receives money for Senior week. Don added that this years Senior Class is receiving an additional \$2,000 from last year. He also reminded everyone to remember that the Class has carryover and money from Fr. Poorman. Also, the CCC only received about a 10% increase in funds, while the Seniors received about a 30% increase. Additionally, if the classes receive more money than they can use they will not be as responsible with it, and if they receive less it forces them to spend it wisely. Also, there are funds there if the money if needed. Charlie Ebersol added that the Senior Class is working with SUB and will take over \$6,000 to fund an event. It is not in the budget because he and Jasmine Garcia, Class of 2004 President, just met after last weeks Executive Cabinet meeting and decided that they will be putting on a Senior Class Concert. JR Garcia added his support for the FMB Budget because the Class of 2004 can apply for additional funding and the previous class did not take advantage of this opportunity. Chuck Anthony added that if \$450 is taken away from the CCC that is one clubs budget. He feels more students participate in clubs than in a class event. Aaron Zielinski commented that he feels money going to a class will benefit more students. For example, sending students to Nationals is important; however, it affected a small number of students. Also, \$450 spread out over the 200 plus clubs at Notre Dame will not make difference. Seth O'Donnell added that with over 200 clubs, there is something for everyone to participate from and 70% of students do participate. The class has a less number of students. Don compared this to taking away a clubs budget to charge Seniors \$3.00 instead of \$4.00 for an all you can eat dinner at BW3's. Plus, the Seniors budgeted for

close to ten class dinners. If the money is in the CCC it will go further. Jordan Bongiovanni agrees with the FMB. She stated that the FMB has the experience with dealing with these issues and has time to do research. New Senate members would need lots of time to research these numbers, including last years funding and spending. Therefore, she supports their allocations.

- iv. Voting was taken by voice at 7:01 p.m. The Resolution Amending the 2003-2004 Budget failed.
 - v. Aaron Zielinski decided based on the previous discussion not to bring the second resolution to the floor.
 - vi. There was no more discussion. **The 2003-2004 Budget was approved unanimously by voice at 7:02 p.m.**
- e. CCC Budget Proposal, Seth O'Donnell
For additional information see handout
- i. Seth O'Donnell introduced Tim Lavelle as the new CCC Controller. This position as well as a Vice-President was added this year as part of the restructure of CCC. He also added the amount of money is not being debated; instead he is answering questions regarding the individual allocations to clubs. The structure of the allocation process is the club come to the CCC in the beginning of February to submit a budget, every club is then interviewed, then each division gets together to make a proposal which is sent to the FMB, the FMB provides the CCC with money which is then reallocated to each division. Those divisions then break down funding to the clubs within their division. The main divisions are Academic, Athletic, Cultural, Performing Arts, Social Service, and Special Interest.
 - ii. Questions: Ryan Finlen asked why the Senators just received this budget information. Seth stated he emailed it to Jeremy Lao on Tuesday. Chuck Anthony asked what the clubs with dashes meant. Tim Lavelle stated that the clubs did not submit a budget in time or were not looking for funding. Seth added that the instead of using a paper budget, this year they tried doing it online. This along with a few items outside of the CCC control created some problems such as not meeting deadlines or not interviewing before Spring Break. Therefore, clubs that usually submit budgets were not able to do so. That is also why the CCC requested an additional \$20,000 from the FMB. Christie Bolsen asked if clubs that received \$0.00 such as the Texas Club did not come in for an interview. Tim said that they came in for an interview, but did not receive any money. The reason they usually did not receive funding was because they were granted a concession stand to raise money or because they were not responsible with the money they had received last year. Seth added that they could have also had carryover. Karsten Steinhäuser added that some clubs received more than they requested for example IEEE and Campus Fellowship. Tim responded that this is an error; no club received more than they requested. Seth believes the amount should be \$1,000 requested by IEEE. However, they do have a hard copy on a desktop. Jana Lamplota asked what is considered in allocating funds. Seth stated that they look at how funds were spent this year, what is planned for the spring, how much of a carryover they have, and the events planned for next year. It is also a requirement for Social Service clubs to charge dues or they cannot apply for an allocation. This year they also installed the requirement that all clubs must do a fundraiser to help subsidize funding. David Osburn asked if Academic Clubs have to charge dues and if so what do they spend their money on because he felt that some academic clubs wasted money. Seth said yes they do charge dues and every fall there is a financial review to see if clubs are using

their funds properly. Also, since the CCC has added Tim he will be reviewing the clubs budget continuously throughout the year. They do factor in that some clubs use food to secure members. However, that is limited to \$75 a semester. Brian Coughlin added that GLIQ used by Tim to review the accounts is the same accounting database used by the University.

- iii. Discussion: Jordan Bongiovanni asked if they would receive a final copy without the errors. Tim stated that they only errors mentioned were the two in the requested column; however, they could print more out if wanted. She said it was not necessary.
- iv. **The CCC Budget Proposal was approved by voice at 7:16 p.m.**
- f. SS0304-05: Letter of Support for In-Hall Dances
See Letter for more details and Podium
 - i. Pat Hallahan spoke on Brin Anderson's behalf. On Monday, April 14, 2003 the proposal in support of in-hall dances will be presented to the CLC asking for a probationary period. The OoP will work on a more thorough proposal that they will try to present on Monday along with the resolution. Last years Senate sent a letter and a resolution and Pat feels it is important to show the Senate's support by sending a letter. Also, please talk to students in the dorms and encourage them to vote on the referendum. Pat feels administration did a poor in including students in the process, however, we need to show them that we are interested in being involved and that we recognize that there may be an alcohol problem but taking in-hall dances away is not the solution.
 - ii. Discussion: Wyatt Maxwell added that this years Senate can make a huge impact. HPC is totally behind re-establish in-hall dances because without them there is not enough money, it is taking away dorm spirit, and is ruining the reason he came to Notre Dame...tradition. Brian Agganis asked what exactly is the probationary period...we don't have a say in it do we? Pat answered that it is very vague but the OoP is working on presenting a more thorough letter along with it. An idea is to set it up next fall saying that spring is the probationary period, along with certain restrictions addressing their concerns. Jordan asked if there will be verbal support at the CLC in favor of in-hall dances. Brian Agganis added that he is on CLC next year and he is very passionate about in-hall dances; however, the CLC does not rotate over until next school year, not April 1st like Senate. Pat added that there are members on it this year that support it and will probably be vocal. The CLC meeting is at 3:30 on Monday, April 14, 2003 in the Notre Dame Room. Karsten Steinhäuser added his strong support for the letter. Carroll Hall, because it is a small dorm, faces many financial problems with trying to hold dances outside the dorm.
 - iii. Karsten Steinhäuser also offered a friendly amendment to the third paragraph, to make dance plural:
We ask for a probationary period during which students will be aware of the jeopardy in which the in-hall dances reside.
 Chrisie Bolsen added that the rest of the letter speaks of *the* dance. Jana Lamplota said the second paragraph had the word *dance*. Jordan Bongiovanni agreed she liked it singular. The vote was taken by voice at 7:27 p.m. The sentence will remain unchanged.
 - iv. Discussion: Brain Agganis asked if anyone had spoken to the Rectors over this matter. Pat answered that a little bit within the last few days; however, they may not be comfortable with the current form. The Rectors concern is lowering alcohol abuse. The challenge now is to have a good showing on Monday and then next year present something stating here are your concerns...here are the

solutions. Kaity Redfield asked if there were plans to address the alcohol concern in a formal fashion. Pat replied that he believes so, but it is not his address. Last year in April, however, over half the campus signed a petition in 2-3 days. One statement was that there needed to be an increase in funds for drug/alcohol education and a greater effort on the students' part to take responsibility. Kaity asked if they are going to communicate this in the proposal. Pat said that in the letter they will include that a more through proposal addressing the CLC's concerns will be offered in the fall. Patty Rose supports the idea of sending a letter in support of in-hall dances to show unified student support. Chuck Anthony added that because he is an RA he cannot vote, however, he said that there are other concerns besides alcohol abuse to consider. Pat stated that they do realize there are other concerns and do have answers for these concerns.

- v. Jana Lamplota moved to approve the letter in support of the in-hall dances. Ryan Finlen seconded it. **The letter was approved by voice at 7:34 p.m.**

VI. Announcements

- a. Jeremy Lao reminded everyone of the mandatory Diversity Workshop on Sunday, April 13, 2003 from 9:00-2:00 p.m. in the CSC. Also, after the workshop the committee chairs will be chosen.
- b. Jana Lamplota asked everyone to hang a poster on an upcoming lecture in their dorm.
- c. Sujjal Pandya invited everyone to come to the Fisher Regatta on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. There will be free food.

VI. Adjournment

- a. Jack Laskowitz motioned to adjourn. Kaity Redfield seconded the motion, and the meeting ended at 7:36 p.m. The next Student Senate meeting will take place Wednesday, April 16, 2003 in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tiara Nelson
Student Union Secretary