

Notre Dame Student Senate
Executive Summary
September 10, 2003
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- a. Chairperson Jeremy Lao called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
- b. The invocation was led by Mike Anderson.
- c. All members were present.
- d. Ryan Finlen motioned to approve the September 3, 2003 minutes. Jack Laskowitz seconded the motion. The minutes were approved at 6:07 p.m.
- e. Brin Anderson motioned to invert the agenda and allow New Business to be placed ahead Podium. There were no objections, and the agenda was inverted.

II. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Letter of Nomination for Freshman Class Council Advisor (letter #1).
James Leito, President of the Class of 2006 requested that Kate Distler to the position of Sophomore Class Advisor to the Freshman Class council. Brin Anderson motioned to suspend the rules so that a vote could go into affect immediately. David Osburn seconded the motion. The rules were suspended. Jack Laskowitz moved to approve. The motion was seconded by Aaron Zielinski. Kate Distler was approved as Advisor to the Freshman Class Council.

III. PODIUM

- a. Elliot Poindexter, Judicial Council President, spoke about the freshman class elections. Freshmen are allowed to seek petitions to run for freshman hall representative. They need ten percent of their class to sign. They have until Monday, September 15 to turn this petition in. Elections will be held Monday, September 22. If no one wins fifty percent of the vote, a run-off will be held September 24. Each Judicial council representative will have all of the information. All voting will take place in the dorm. Ryan Finlen asked when they will announce if there needs to be a run-off. Elliot responded that the announcement will be made within the halls. There is no required petition form for this event.

IV. OFFICER REPORTS

- a. Mr. Jeremy Lao, Student Body Vice-President
 - i. Jeremy stated that the St. Edward's Hall Senator is set to resign, so soon there will be a new representative in the Senate.
- b. Ms. Emily Chin, Chief of Staff
 - i. Emily informed the Senate that there will be a September 11 Mass in the Basilica at 5:15 p.m., and a Rosary ceremony at the Grotto at noon. She also reminded the group to R.S.V.P to the Irish Inquisition.

- c. Mr. Andy Vitt, HPC Liaison
 - i. The HPC has developed a system to let Hall Presidents know how to reserve a facility, for any purpose. There is also a form for funding, showing what funds are available to each dorm so that all monies could be used. There was also a proposal to amend the Hall Presidents Council Constitution. It states: that the total amount of Presidents for one year cannot exceed three. There must be at least two Presidents on campus each semester in which they serve as co-Presidents. At least one of the Presidents must be a Junior or Senior; one President must be on campus for the entire year. All Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers must reside in the Resident Halls during the time which they serve. It will be voted upon next week.

V. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs: Jack Laskowitz and Ryan Finlen
 - i. Ryan mentioned that the committee was looking to reestablish contacts from last year. Some things in the work are a revamping of the Bookstore, a better class search on IrishLink, and the possibility of distance learning. They are also looking to establish a new policy on re-taking a course for poor grades.
- b. Committee on Diversity Affairs: Laura Feeney and Lauren Williams
 - i. Laura reported that the group had scheduled for September 24 is a Multi-Cultural workshop held from 7-10. They are working with MSPS, Office of the President, ISSA and the ADOPT team to set up this workshop.
 - ii. The new table tents will be available in the dining halls soon.
- c. Committee on Ethics: David Osburn and Molly Griffin
 - i. Those Senators who missed the Diversity Seminar last spring will have to make that session up on October 3-4. He needs to know which Senators missed last year.
- d. Committee on Gender Issues: Kaitlyn Redfeild
 - i. Kaity said that the group has been researching Women's resource centers in other schools that were comparable to Notre Dame. They have found that Notre Dame is way behind other schools. They will meet with Ava Preacher from the WRC to hear suggestions on ways to help out the institution. The assault posters will be arriving in Residence halls next week.
- e. Committee on Oversight: Claire Berezowitz
 - i. Claire said that they are working on a new resolution coming soon. They are in the process of reviewing the composition of the CLC. And they are looking to further relations with the Faculty Senate.
- f. Committee on Residence Life: Brin Anderson and Jana Lamplota
 - i. Brin stated that the RA training research still continues. They will meet with Bill Kirk on Tuesday. She asked all Senators to talk to

- their RA's, Rectors and AR's to get an understanding of what they feel about the situation
- ii. They are looking to get the menus printed for the dining halls printed a day before they are served.
 - iii. They are looking into SYR issues for the dorms and Ticket-Aid.
- g. Committee on University Affairs: JR Garcia
- i. JR mentioned the group's effort to improve water issues and address the security problems on campus.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Kaity Redfield announced that The Pangborn Crossfire will occur Friday 8:30-10:30.
- b. Andy Vitt said that Fisher Hall will hold it's annual Roof-Sit. All the money collected will go to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in the name of Chad Sharon. It will happen the weekend of September 19. All the Rectors should have received information in the mail. This will begin Friday night at 7:50 p.m. and end 9:50 p.m. on Sunday night.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Brin Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting, Ryan Finlen seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m. The next Student Senate meeting will take place Wednesday, September 17 in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meg Smith
Student Body Secretary