

Notre Dame Student Senate
Executive Summary
February 4, 2004
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- a. Chairperson Emily Chin called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
- b. Brad Tucker led the invocation.
- c. Claire Berezowitz, Lindsay Evans, Ryan Finlen, JR Garcia and Mark Gerner were absent.
- d. Brin Anderson motioned to approve the minutes. Michael Maus seconded. *The January 28, 2004 Executive Summary was approved at 6:07 p.m.*

II. PODIUM

- a. Lee Svete, Career Center
 - i. Mr. Svete came to present a brochure to outline programs offered by the Career Center in Flanner hall. They look at employers and hiring cycles and know what students need. Anyone can come in daily from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. for quick help, or make an appointment for long term planning. The office is in 248 Flanner hall and open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Career Center also offers an interview center and job club.
 - ii. Lee Svete reminded the Senators that as student leaders, they have great access and the requirements needed to increase their resume. The Career Center can even do interest inventories to narrow down student aptitude. They can figure out how to pay to live in the city during an internship, and Mr. Svete encourages them to explore the many options involved.
 - iii. Also mentioned was that students need to get in touch with an alumni. The Alumni Network is now online. IRISH online provides an Alumni career Advisors Network. You can search for those employers who are alums, and can set up jobs and internships. There are more than 3000 volunteers involved in the project. The Career Center sets up a twenty minute workshop on how to contact Alumni, set up advisors, and extend these services to those alumni abroad. They have established Naselink Global Exchange with Stanford, Duke and other peer institutions to post 6,000 job opportunities.
 - iv. In addition, the Career Center staff is set up to represent all majors of undergraduates. They also have a website and email to get in touch with the Career Center. Lee is looking for feedback and information that would help their services.
 - v. Dan Zenker noted that many sophomores recently found out about going abroad. He is concerned with missing the internship fair and those opportunities. Mr. Svete said that they should come in early before you go abroad to get the opportunities early. Drew Sandstrum asked if they were planning to extend the alumni contacts to alumni, a few years after they graduate. Lee Svete mentioned that beginning with the class of 2001, the staff can help to get a job after graduation. Maybe they could pass a resolution to give Seniors this same access to Alumni before they graduate.
 - b. Erin Camilleri, Assistant Director of the Pre-College Program
 - i. Ms. Camilleri presented to the Senators an opportunity to work on campus over the summer. Rising high school junior and seniors are recruited to expose them to what college is like at college, and especially here. The session takes place from June 20 to July 3. The office is looking for resident councilors. Highly motivated students and representatives of Notre Dame
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are the best to help these students fully experience ND. She handed out packets with all the information. It is an intense 2 week period, so those with other commitments need to seriously consider the time period. The applications are due February 18. Ms. Camilleri encouraged the Senators to apply; she feels they are best qualified. If the Senators have prior commitments to pass these along to people in their dorms who they feel are qualified. She hopes to meet with the applicants before Spring break and make those decisions about that same time.

III. OFFICER REPORTS

- a. Ms. Emily Chin, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Emily announced that anything the Senators wanted to get on the agenda needed to be in her inbox no later than Monday night.
- b. Mr. Andy Vitt, HPC Liaison
 - i. Andy noted that the Executive Cabinet will hold their mid semester evaluations soon to review all dorm spending. Some have not used any of their allocated money. They need to talk about all the funding with the dorms. The presidents are aware of their situation.
- c. Ms. Cheri Smith, Faculty Senate Representative
 - i. Cheri reported that they have discussed an update for the Faculty Grievance Policy. The faculty senate also met with the Student senators and the Academic Council to discuss the TCEs and their concerns. She mentioned that they are moving along in the process.

Jordan Bongiovanni asked Brian Coughlin why the Student Body President debates were rescheduled. Brian responded that the Observer did not get the ad in on time. There was no publicity and they wanted good participation, so they moved to Sunday night. Elliot Poindexter, President of the Judicial Council wants the Senators to get the word out to the halls to talk about the debate. The election will be online and fully explained to the students.

Becca Saunders motioned to add the Student Union Treasurer approval to the agenda. Michael Maus seconded. *Without opposition, the approval of the Student Union Treasurer was added to New Business, item E was added to the agenda at 6:30 p.m.*

Meghan Hanzlik motioned to invert the agenda, and take the approval of the new Student Union Treasurer before Committee reports. Dave Osburn seconded. *Without opposition, the agenda was inverted at 6:31 p.m.*

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- e. Don Norton, current Student Union Treasurer presented his letter recommending Claire Fidel for the new Treasurer because he will be leaving by March 1. The letter is presented to institute a transition period. Don would like her to shadow his duties then be fully prepared to take over. Brin Anderson motioned to suspend the rules. Drew Sandstrum seconded. Meghan Hanzlik motioned to vote. Laura Feeney seconded. *Without opposition Claire Fidel was approved as Student Union Treasurer at 6:33 p.m.*

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs
 - i. Jack Laskowitz reported that they are working on distance learning. They have spoken with the MBA school on video conferencing, and creating a list of all interested faculty. Regarding printing in the cluster, Jack is trying to find out how it works and get the awareness out there to students on how to

a link on the Student Government Website as well. In the resolution, the President is allowed to appoint a person to keep up with the account. Jack suggested Meg Smith for this position. Jeremy Lao concurred. Brin Anderson motioned to end discussion. Karsten Steinhäuser seconded. Laura Feeney motioned to vote. Brin Anderson seconded. *Without opposition, the email account was approved at 6:40 p.m.*

c. Approval of Board of Trustees Topic

- i. Jeremy Lao presented the letter. The topic revolved around an update to the Trustees about what they present in the spring. This includes a programming endowment. They will give an update also of what the student government has done in the constitution thus far. Jack Laskowitz asked to clarify the endowment and when they should address that topic. He thought that the issue can only come up every four years. Emily Chin said that the endowment is a big topic, and they want to do it in the best way. Therefore, they plan to go to the Board in the spring with a full and detailed report. Jeremy added that he wanted a complete report with sample budgets and lots of research. Kaity Redfield asked for a basic outline for the responsibility campaign. Jeremy said that the students should reach their full potential regarding social concerns. This includes social issues and alcohol consumption. Patrick Corker stated that they want to focus on the more important issues of responsible drinking. They will plant the seed in the Observer through the Communication office of the President. They will present posters to the same effect. This includes BAC cards and alcohol awareness week to promote responsibility.
- ii. Jordan Bongiovanni pointed out that until recently, the Board Report topic was different. The plan was the endowment, but she wondered about the government update, and how much time was actually spent. Jeremy Lao reiterated that it was just an update and a preview to the report in the spring. Kaity Redfield wanted to clarify that the two major initiatives were alcohol consumption and social awareness. Jeremy said that they were getting undergraduate students involved in the social issues on campus. The advertisement for a Call to Solidarity is an example of such issues. Jordan asked if the goals are switched, then they are wasting a Board of Trustees Report. She wondered how this can help them in the future. Jeremy said that they are planning on getting the endowment. They want the guarantee for ensuring the funding. He thinks this will be a good update and get positive feedback.
- iii. Jack Laskowitz motioned to approve the BOT topic. Jordan Bongiovanni seconded. The motion failed. Jordan Bongiovanni motioned to make a friendly amendment with the wording "to use" Jeremy accepted. Jack Laskowitz motioned to approve the topic. Sujal Pandya seconded. *Without opposition, the BOT topic was approved at 6:49 p.m.*

d. Suggestions for LaFortune's Lounge

- i. Emily Chin opened the floor for the suggestions. Lauren Williams noted that Reckers has been renovated often, and the lounge needs the same attention. She also mentioned they needed comfy couches. Jana Lamplota offered that there needed to be more seating options. They need more chairs and shorter couches. Chuck Anthony said that they need to keep the lounge functional but make it prestigious because it is a highly visible area for prospective students and visitors. Laura Feeney added that it should be similar to the

get the connection. The TCE is moving along. They do have communication on Academic Council and Faculty Senate. They are researching against other peer institutions and figure out the best approach for this school—but something will be done.

- b. Committee on Diversity Affairs
 - i. Laura Feeney noted that the new table tents have a rough draft. The focus this time is on racism. They have talked to the concerned students regarding affirmative action and the issues voiced on campus. In addition, the African Insider came out today in the Observer, outlining the trip to Nigeria. On Sunday at 5:30 at the CSC there will be a meeting regarding helping out further.
- c. Committee on Ethics
 - i. Molly Griffin reminded the Senators that in the Constitution, Section IV makes it mandatory to attend Hall Council meetings. Jeremy Lao echoed that statement and encouraged them to all go to hall council. Andy Vitt added that he did tell the hall presidents at HPC to allow their Senators to speak at hall council.
- d. Committee on Gender Affairs
 - i. Kaity Redfield stated that Fr. Poorman is set to speak about the Gender Resource Center at the next CLC meeting.
- e. Committee on Residence Life
 - i. Brin Anderson reported that the resolution is on the floor tonight that they have been working on. They are going to discuss further the Pass and Review and work to increase attendance. The date is April 14 at 3:30 p.m. and will make table tents to advertise. They want to find a way to honor the University and the President and Armed Forces. Jana Lamplota added that she would like to make the event more visible. She is looking for more ideas to publicize.
- f. Committee on University Affairs
 - i. Molly Griffin said they are working on the survey. They might expand the reach. Sujal Pandya is doing a water report—the University says that they are within the legal standards but he would like to meet to improve the quality. They are also focusing on getting office supplies in the clusters, and possibly more clusters on South Quad.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. SS0304-21: Resolution for Dissolving the Ad-Hoc Committee on Faculty/Senate Interaction.
 - i. Lauren Williams presented the resolution. She noted that the work that was left does not warrant a full committee and could be moved to the Academic committee. Jack Laskowitz motioned to approve. Karsten Steinhäuser seconded. *The Ad-Hoc committee was dissolved at 6:39 p.m.*
 - b. SS0304-22: Resolution Requesting the Creation of a Senate Student Union Suggestion Box
 - i. Jack Laskowitz mentioned the idea that creates an email account--ndsenate@nd.edu-- that allows students who want to talk to Senators and get feedback a chance to directly communicate to the committees. They will get
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Library basement, which is very popular in her dorm. Emily noted that more suggestions should be directed to Brin Anderson.

VII. DISCUSSION

- a. Discussion of Language Requirement for College of Business Students
 - i. Brian Agganis began saying that in comparison to the other colleges, they know that additional language skills are good to have, but there are other ways to spend credits. They should look to the Business school and open this up for discussion in the Senate. Jordan Bongiovanni expressed her support for the requirement added to the Business School, but her concern is that the curriculum is very strict, especially through sophomore year. It may not be feasible. Dave Osburn noted that as a Business student, it would be great to do, but he does have many requirements. He will never be able to take a class outside of his major. Dan Zenker remarked that it was up to the individual if they are to take a language. You can make time to do so, but some might not feel it is necessary. Chuck Anthony, said speaking as Japanese major, he realizes that it creates a large hole into his schedule. Maybe they could find a way to make it less intensive on the beginning levels, so all could find time to take a language. Becca Saunders stated that Arts and Letters students have the same complaints as Business Students. Andy Vitt said that there is room to take a language, but he did give up some opportunities to take other classes. It is a difficult personal choice; maybe they should strongly recommend it. Molly Griffin suggested making the requirement less than three semesters. Laura Feeney noted that in AL, there is less required for the college. That's why many double major and have many minors. Their goal is to get a more liberal education. Foreign language fits in here. Brin Anderson said they should look into what other colleges are doing and those who have the same requirement and how that works. Lauren Williams concluded that business majors are not happy, and science majors are angry that they have the requirement as well.

VIII. COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES UPDATE

- a. Dan Zenker reported on some of the general changes that the policy side is looking to implement. One discussion topic was heads of policy committees and outside staff sitting on these committees. Laura Feeney expressed her concern that any one committee would be too large. Dan said that the President would be able to check this number. Jordan Bongiovanni added that they might look to past Senators, or someone they know is qualified for the job. The committee meetings are open now, and it would just be better known in the future. She yielded some of her time to James Leito. James responded that they have to be approved by the COR. It is not a random selection. He hopes that someone from inside the Senate would apply, so that projects carry over. There was some further discussion as to who should head the committee chairs: appointed members, or senators themselves. Drew Sandstrum reminded them that the idea was to combine the efforts of the office of the President with the Senate committee work. The more manpower will help the research. Dan Zenker reported that he will take these sentiments back to the Council.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Jana Lamplota said that PW Carnation Sale is February 8 after mass in all dorms. The cost is \$1 and the proceeds go to charity.
 - b. Jack Laskowitz reminded the Senate of Dillon Hall "Stash Bash" for charity. He is collecting pledge money for cancer research.
 - c. Jordan Bongiovanni noted that Cavanaugh Women's Concerns Week kicks off next week.
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- d. Kaitly Redfield said that V-Day week is coming with Monday prayer in the Log Chapel, Tuesday law panel on rape, and Wednesday benefit performance at Reckers. The Monologues are Saturday at Stepan Center.
- e. Emily Chin announced that Elections are Monday, and a letter from Elliot Poindexter is attached.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Brin Anderson motioned to adjourn. Jana Lamplota seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m. The next meeting of the Notre Dame Student Senate will take place Wednesday, February 11, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meg Smith
Student Body Secretary
