

Notre Dame Student Senate
Executive Summary
February 25, 2004
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- a. Chairperson Emily Chin called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
- b. Chaplain Brad Tucker led the invocation.
- c. Claire Berezowitz, Jeremy Lao, Kaitlyn Redfield, and Peter Terilli were absent.
- d. Meghan Hanzlik motioned to approve the minutes; Karsten Steinhäuser seconded. The Executive Summary from February 18, 2004 was approved at 6:07 p.m.
- e. Meghan Hanzlik motioned to inert the agenda, and move New Business Item A to now. Aaron Zielinski seconded. *Without opposition, the agenda was inverted at 6:08 p.m.*

II. NEW BUSINESS

- a. FMB—Approval of Office of the President's budget reallocation
 - i. Claire Fidel, the new Student Union Treasurer presented the letter, along with Don Norton, referring to the issue of the Office of the President. Claire stated that during the spending review in December, they reallocate funds to those clubs and organizations who need additional funding. They need to find the money to approve their appeals. The office of the President had a lot of money that was not going to be refunding. They would be left with \$840 of their remaining budget to complete their semester project, but due to the fact that they failed to present their budget in a timely manner, that extra money would not be given back to them; rather, reallocated to active groups throughout the Student Union.
 - ii. Emily Chin stated that Andy Vitt would now take over as Chair, because she was to speak on behalf of the Office of the President. Ryan Finlen asked if the Office of the President can appeal for more money. Claire said that they have some time to do so, but now in the same magnitude as when they had reallocation meetings. Dan Zenker asked where the breakdown in communication was. Claire responded that Mario Braz, the office controller, didn't have he firm budget proposal. They decided to table the discussion and then still did not have a complete budget the second time. Mike Marshall added that they were given multiple times to present their case at the reallocation meetings. Patrick Corker noted that he had the responsibility; however, they were in transition and they had to focus on their own responsibilities. In the past two weeks, he has complied the detailed records for the events this semester, and he presented that budget sheet.
 - iii. Meghan Hanzlik stated that as a Senator on the FMB, they have looked at spending and asked for this budget many times, but it has not come until now. Sujal Pandya asked where there money was going. Don Norton said that it would be divided among HPC, SUB, the class of 2006 and other projects. The reallocation process started in December. The FMB has given them three chances to work this out o; but it is the FMB decision to take this to Senators (per the FMB by-laws) to decide what is fair. They feel this is a good indicator of who will spend the money. He understands that they were in transition, but it was not improbable for them to create a budget. Don added that their controller did not have to transition. These groups who have appealed for the money are in a better position to do the events. This will not limit office of the President Events, just scale them down.
 - iv. Becca Saunders noted that Mario Braz sits on the FMB as well, and it wasn't that the FMB made a decision and the Office of the President wasn't involved. Amy Chambers argued that there are many items in the Office of the President budget that had to be discussed amongst many committee members before they made a decision. There is sufficient reason; she feels that this did not come in a

timely manner. They wanted to make sure it was correct. Emily Chin added that they just found out the cost for t-shirts. They knew they had it in their budget to have the money available, but they didn't know precise numbers. The events will happen. Patrick said that he only received one email and has been working on this spread sheet since then. He has had two directors step down at the same time. It was late; there were extenuating circumstances. Jana Lamplota asked if there was money in the Contingency fund to cover the office spring events. Don Norton said that they have to take into account other things within contingency fund. Since anyone could apply, there is no guarantee that money will be there. If this doesn't pass, the events of others will not happen. He has more faith that the other clubs will do a better job; especially since they have had more planning. The office of the President can do events, but not to the same magnitude. Jana asked if the SUB debt had to be paid by the FMB. Don said there was no question. The debt incurred at the David Spade concert was supported by the FMB. They made a decision to support the event, and when it was unsuccessful, they have the responsibility to cover their bet. Brin Anderson yielded her time to Sarah Bates. Sarah said that working in the office of the president, the scaling down of events is a bad idea. It will hurt the entire student body. The money, if left in the office, will be used towards good events.

- v. After some discussion regarding the budget spread sheet, Don added that last night was the first time he was presented with that version of the budget. He cannot cut a deal with the office. There are other groups, who followed the rules, and planned their events well ahead of time. They deserve to get that money. Amy Chambers said that they should not be punished for the losses incurred by other groups. Don said that SUB is the programmer for the entire campus. The office of the president is not established to program events. They shouldn't do entertainment. That is the reason why the reallocate; the office came in at the last second. Chuck Anthony motioned to limit debate to 5 more minutes. Drew Sandstrum seconded. The debate was limited at 6:30 p.m. The vote was out lined. NO-reallocate the funding to other groups. YES-the office keeps the money. Brin Anderson yielded her time to Adam Istvan. He said that this reduces his budget. He will begin his term and his hands are tied. He can't get anything done. Don corrected him saying that his allocation of money doesn't start until June 1. He will have money at the beginning of his term, but the expenditures will be for things like office supplies. Adam asked if he inherited this debt. Don said he did not, and if there were extra things they needed to spend, they could apply to the contingency fund. He does not automatically get the last years' money.
- vi. Emily Chin said that they have already been programming for An Tostal on April 28 and have money that is preparing to be spent for the rest of their term. They want to leave money for Adam and Karla as well. Becca Saunders reminded them that she and Meghan Hanzlik sat on the FMB, and there has been lots of discussion regarding this matter. The money goes to important things like signature events, the class councils. These events also affect large amount of students. Either way, the events are ready to happen. There is a lack of communication between the Mario and FMB. The groups who applied did so a long time ago, and were prepared for this. Patrick noted that he was not made aware of all this discussion until 2 or 3 weeks ago. His responsibility couldn't have come up sooner. He officially took over in January, and he should have been informed then. Meghan Hanzlik motioned to extend debate 2 minutes. Laura Feeney seconded. Debate was extended. Laura Feeney then asked if this does not pass, what happens next. Don said that they will try to work out a deal within the FMB. This needs to happen quickly. If it is not settled by next week, they might run out of time to fund all the other events. Meghan Hanzlik asked how Mario didn't know about the spending review if he is at every meeting. Patrick said that he was not involved in the process. Becca Saunders called for

the vote. Laura Feeny seconded. Jordan Bongiovanni called for secret ballot. Becca Saunders seconded. *With a vote of 17-6-2, the reallocation passed at 6:41 p.m.*

III. OFFICER REPORTS

- a. Ms. Emily Chin, Student Body Vice-President
 - i. Emily reminded the Senators to hold an informational meeting for election to Senate next year. They need to be elected by March 19, so that they can attend a new meeting before transition.
- b. Mr. Patrick Corker, Chief of Staff
 - i. Patrick noted that the Notable Irish program will appear in the newspaper. This recognizes two outstanding people on campus who have great leadership. Sex Signals program is Friday night in the Hesburgh Auditorium. It is an improv dating show with scenes that make fun of ND dating.
- c. Mr. Andy Vitt, HPC Liaison
 - i. Andy said that they sent a list of who needs to be elected in the dorm and the descriptions of their positions.
- d. Ms. Cheri Smith, Faculty Senate
 - i. Cheri announced that the next Faculty senate will meet Tuesday. ^{H's} ~~Their~~ time will be devoted to a speech by Provost Hatch from 709 in the Law School.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs
 - i. Ryan Finlen noted that the Table Tents regarding printing services, library drop-offs, and cluster information will come next week. Jordan Bongiovanni asked if they have considered how this will clog up the computer clusters. Ryan said that they will look into it.
- b. Committee on Diversity Affairs
 - i. Laura Feeny stated that they will present a resolution on Monday to the COR, and are meeting with the Diversity Council to express more concerns.
- c. Committee on Residence Life
 - i. Brin Anderson noted that the Elliptical machines and treadmills are on order for the Rockne building. There will be soup spoons in North Dining Hall. And, there is an opportunity for Senators to sit on interview for the new head chef of the dining halls. Apartment guide is still in the works--they need to add a disclaimer. The rugby issue, dog book and scholastic changes are done. They will now focus on promoting the suggestion box email.

V. COR UPDATE

- a. Drew Sandstrum reported the major discussion topics.
 - i. Basketball tickets: they are reluctant to give more tickets to student because of high no-show rate. They have many ideas on how to help alleviate the situation.
 - ii. Rock the Vote: a voter registration drive is in works on campus, supported by the CLC.
 - iii. Faith Rocks: they came with a CCC collaboration fund request. They need \$18,000 to do their non-profit concert. The COR gave them \$12,000. The Concert will take place on April 25, sponsored by Iron Sharpens Iron.
 - iv. Policy Changes to Senate: there are proposed changes that make the Senator present on campus for the entire year. It might not take effect until the next year. The committee chairs rights were also discussed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Academic Committee—Distance Learning Letters

- i. Jack Laskowitz presented the three letters to different people. They will going to send a List Serve out as well to learn about the program and the demonstration that they will have prepared to explain the process. After many friendly amendments were made regarding spelling and grammar, Brin Anderson motioned to table the letters and allow the committee to make the changes. Jordan Bongiovanni seconded. *With a vote of 13:6:5, the letters were tabled at 6:59 p.m.*
- b. Residence Life Committee—Dog Book
 - i. Patty Rose presented that they have submitted their list of suggestions, telephone numbers, safety tips, student government information, dining hall information, how to do grab & go, liturgical schedules, and a map of South Bend. They are working to get the name of the dorm under the picture as well. Jordan Bongiovanni stated that the Scholastic summer issue is a valuable resource, so they want to redistribute that copy around campus at the beginning of the year, and during Frosh-O. Patty did meet with the heads of Frosh-O, so that they could have their booklets standardized.
- c. Residence Life Committee—Rugby Team
 - i. Molly Griffin said that they have looked into the Rugby issue, but they now submit a report that they can take it into their won hands. They have also sent this report to Bill Kirk.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Karsten Steinhauer announced that Christmas in April rebuilding project sign ups are downstairs and due in by tomorrow at 8:00 p.m.
- b. Drew Sandstrum thanked the Senators for their work in writing to the Troops. He is working on getting more groups so that this effort can continue.
- c. Brin Anderson reminded them of Operation Rice Bowl and to promote it through the dorms.
- d. James Leito thanked everyone for attending Casino night last Saturday. He reminded them that there are positions for SUB open now, and the open house is tonight to 8 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Jana Lamplota motioned to adjourn. Lauren Williams seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m. The next meeting of the Notre Dame Student Senate will take place Wednesday, March 3, 2004 in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meg Smith
Student Body Secretary