

Notre Dame Student Senate  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

September 25, 2002  
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- A. Call to Order  
Chairman Trip Foley called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.
- B. Invocation  
Paul Dockery led the invocation
- C. Approval of Pat Hallahan as acting Secretary  
Pat Hallahan was unanimously approved as acting Secretary.
- D. Roll Call  
Gail Thompson, Courtney Watson and Seán Williams were tardy. Emily Chin was absent.
- E. Approval of the September 18, 2002 Executive Summary  
The September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2002 Executive Summary was approved unanimously.

II. REPORTS

A. Officer Reports

- 1) Ms. Libby Bishop, Student Body President  
President Libby Bishop noted that the Office of the President was making good progress on the Board of Trustees Report. Libby also noted that she serves on a committee examining student ownership of laptop computers and welcomed comments from any Senators. Finally, Libby reported that the CLC had formed three task forces: Student Leadership, BASES, and Communication.
- 2) Mr. Trip Foley, Student Body Vice-President  
Chairman Trip Foley reported that the Executive Cabinet calendar, Everything Under the Dome, is being put up in all halls by Adworks. Trip also said that a display case will soon be installed in LaFortune to house a large version of the poster. Plans for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary are also nearly finalized. Finally, Trip asked all Senators to stay after the meeting for the State of the Student Union Address.
- 3) Mr. Pat Hallahan, Chief of Staff  
Pat Hallahan reminded Senators about the Cultural Fair this coming Saturday in North Quad. Many clubs will set up booths and there will be performances from 2:00-5:00.
- 4) Mr. Steve Holte, HPC Liaison  
Steve Holte reported that 13 dorms were having their dances this coming weekend. There are also many other hall-sponsored events going on this weekend.
- 5) Ms. Lindsay Evans, St. Mary's Representative  
Lindsay Evans announced that St. Mary's reading day proposal is nearly complete and will soon be presented to faculty and the Board of Trustees. St. Mary's Pride Week also begins next week featuring a run/walk for charity, ghost stories, a pep rally and an address from Mary Robinson, former President of the Republic of Ireland.

B. Committee Reports

- 1) Committee on Academic Affairs

- Jeremy Staley reported that the Committee on Academic Affairs was currently focusing their work on First Year advising and distance learning.
- 2) Committee on Diversity  
Courtney Kohout announced that last week's workshop for hall diversity coordinators was a success. She noted that the Committee was already preparing comments on the event for next year's transition report. Finally, if any hall commissioner did not attend they should pick up their binder from MSPS.
  - 3) Committee on Ethics  
Joanna Cornwell reported that the Committee on Ethics has no new business.
  - 4) Committee on Gender Issues  
Courtney Badgley announced that the Committee on Gender Issue was currently preparing a survey on First Year Orientation.
  - 5) Committee on Oversight  
Elliott Poindexter reported that the Committee on Oversight had met with the chair from last year and was still reviewing proposals.
  - 6) Committee on Residence Life  
Kevin Conley said that the Committee on Residence Life has begun to look at the status of Rugby as well as issues concerning the Huddle.
  - 7) Committee on University Affairs  
Gail Thompson reported that the Committee on University Affairs was looking into the OIT, painting the water tower, Senate T-shirts, the current state of SYRs, the expansion of TCE forms, foul water, and faculty/student interaction.
  - 8) Financial Management Board  
Jesse Norman reported that the FMB did not meet this week.

### III. PODIUM

#### A. Mr. Gordon Wishon, Chief Information Officer and Associate Provost

Re: Update from the Office of Information Technologies

Mr. Wishon began by noting that much of his first year at Notre Dame was spent assessing the current state of the Office of Information Technology. Following the conclusion of that process and a reorganization of the department, Mr. Wishon stated that his office is currently in the midst of strategic planning with the rest of the University. Of particular importance in this planning is the news that Hewlett Packard will no longer support the University's mainframe computer. Consequently, the University will have to replace payroll, enrollment, HR, and many other systems due to this change. Another issue Mr. Wishon said he is currently addressing includes capacity problems, particularly those associated with Webmail.

Furthermore, Mr. Wishon noted that he is examining academic issues such as the long login period associated with the AFS system and the current architectural setup of classrooms. Finally, Mr. Wishon said that OIT is also currently looking into a laptop requirement for all students as well as the implementation of wireless internet. In the discussion period that followed, Jeremy Staley asked if OIT was currently looking into distance learning possibilities. In response, Mr. Wishon noted that the Mendoza College of Business and ACE currently use a small type of distance learning that could conceivably be expanded. However, this issue has not yet been fully examined. Jesse Norman then asked about wireless computing and in Mr. Wishon explained that OIT was currently in the process of deploying this technology throughout the campus



while still considering the security of this technology. Following a question from Trip Foley, Mr. Wishon noted that LaFortune already has wireless computing and that he was even using it right before the meeting. Courtney Kohout then noted that often the OIT Help Desk is not very accommodating, especially at the beginning of the school year. Mr. Wishon noted that the start of school is a peak time for OIT with approximately 800 calls per day. However, his office will work to ease this problem by hiring more workers next year. Next, Courtney Badgley commented that many students must pay multiple times to have OIT repair the same computer problem. Mr. Wishon noted that some repairs are covered by warranties while others are not. Blake Haan questioned why OIT was eliminating support for older versions of Windows. In response, Mr. Wishon noted that this change is due to the need to limit the varieties of support in order to increase their effectiveness. Moreover, Microsoft itself will soon only support Windows XP. Gail Thompson then asked if firewalls exist to block students from downloading music. Mr. Wishon answered that there is no firewall to block specific sites. Instead, there is a load limit that stops large file transfers when the network operates above the limit. Moreover, Mr. Wishon urged students to follow the OIT's Appropriate Use Policy. Finally, Felipe Hernandez noted that some rooms in Morrissey Hall do not have enough ethernet jacks. Mr. Wishon said that he was not aware of this fact and will look into the hall upgrade program.

#### IV. OLD BUSINESS

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Election of Senate Representatives to Diversity Council  
Courtney Kohout and Neil Vargas were unanimously approved as Co-Senate Representatives to the Diversity Council.

#### VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Jake Teske announced that the Keough Hall Chariot Race will take place this Saturday.
- B. Joanna Cornwell announced that the SUB movies this weekend were *Sweetest Thing* and *Braveheart*.
- C. Multiple Senators made announcements in support of the Cultural Fair taking place this Saturday in North Quad from 1:30-5:00 pm.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

Blake Haan moved for adjournment at 6:58 pm and this was approved unanimously. The next meeting of the Student Senate will take place on Wednesday, October 2, 2002 at 6:00 pm in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick W. Hallahan

