

Notre Dame Executive Cabinet

Executive Summary

January 20, 2003

Foster Room, LaFortune

I. Opening Business

- a. The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.
- b. Matt Smith led the invocation.
- c. Jay Deimel, Joe Horton, and Andrew Oxenreiter were absent.
- d. Amy O' Connor motioned to approve the December 9, 2002 Executive Summary, Danielle Ledesma seconded, and it was unanimously approved at 6:08 p.m.

II. New Business

- a. CCC Appeal
 - i. Joyce DeLeon introduced the appeal to the members. AAA is sponsoring an event--In Focus 2003: Unlocking the Past, Shaping the Future—an annual conference to promote Asian awareness January 31-February 1, 2003. The appeal request was for \$2,200. A total of 5 sponsors are also supporting the event. All speakers are volunteering their time; however, AAA will need to pay for the airfare.
 - ii. Questions/Discussion: Dave Baron wondered what type of advertising was being done for this event. Joyce said that a program is being hung up around campus and there are advertisements in the Observer. Meghan O' Donnell inquired if there was a registration fee. Joyce answered that it is \$10. Matt Smith suggested that maybe the appeal could be increased, so registration fee could be lowered, thus increasing attendance. Steve Christ mentioned that the food expenses seemed high. Joyce informed that this expense covered a banquet dinner, a continental breakfast and lunch. Also, the \$10 registration fee would cover this. Dan Barabas wondered if changing the registration fee to a lower price would affect the food. Meghan O' Donnell was in support of making the event only \$5 and increasing the appeal. Jeremy Lao asked where the set \$10 number was coming from. Joyce replied that they were basing everything from last year. Erin Wirspa expressed that this event sounds like a great event that maybe could be free. Joyce said she did not want to speak on behalf of AAA, she could only suggest to them to lower the registration fee. Amy O'Connor emphasized consistency. If Executive Cabinet decides to cover the registration fee for this case, what about the other appeals further in the year? Steve Christ added that do we have the right to tell clubs how to run their events. If the club feels the \$10 will help, then they should know best. Joyce commented that Denise de la Rosa did not want to ask for a lot of money due to a bad experience from last year. Libby Bishop decided to direct the discussion to seeing if the cabinet wanted to lift the \$10 registration fee from the event. Matt Smith apologized and said that we should actually revise our thinking and direct the attention to giving support to a great event. Libby rephrased the topic of discussion to: should we give more money to support a great event. Dan Barabas asked if we could approve to give \$2,200 and add more if needed. Amy O' Connor said that in the Constitution there

cannot be 2 appeals from the same club and also there is not enough time. Jeremy Lao added that right now Exec. Cab has a lot of money, if this event needs more money, we have enough. Steve Christ reemphasized AAA is asking for a certain amount of money because they know their event and budget well. Amy O'Connor mentioned that in the past the CCC has given more money when they thought it was warranted. Trip Foley noted that we should grant money without exceeding costs; in other words, we should not over fund. Amy added that it would be a hassle for a club to give back money—plus it looks bad. Matt Smith noted that everything fluctuates, and he was sure that some clubs in the past have probably earned some money.

iii. A vote was taken on the appeal. With a vote of 9 in favor of the appeal, it was approved at 6:34 p.m. (Matt Smith left the meeting early.)

b. Discussion of new alcohol policy

- i. Libby Bishop wanted to get feedback and individual reactions/opinions on the new alcohol policy, specifically focusing on dances. She thought it might help with the Winter Board of Trustees report. Meghan O'Donnell said that she noticed that dance commissioners were having a hard time finding a place for the dances. Susan Longenbaker added that it is hard to find a place for larger groups. The only accommodating location would be the dining hall; however, it lacks appeal. Jeremy Lao wanted to eco the venue problem. He felt that since of the football season, there was a lack of Saturdays to work with. So many dorms wanted and competed for buildings to hold their dances. And sometimes the buildings were not available. He commented that if the administration is going to take away our dances, we are going to take away your buildings. Pam Ronson mentioned that if the dance commissioners do not book fast, the good locations are taken. Also, it is very difficult for smaller and larger dorms to find places. Susan said she saw a list of venues (30). Obviously, they are not all being used. However, lots of the places are only available at certain times. Jeremy Lao added that maybe transportation costs could be added to help lower the cost of planning dances. Dan Barabas switched the topic to alcohol incidents. He said he noticed that they have been going down. Amy replied that this was good, but questioned if attendance levels to dances were going up or down. Susan Longenbaker noted that McGlenn's dance attendance has dropped. Meghan O'Donnell stated that it was hard to determine if the incidents have been going down because there are two influences: ban of hard alcohol and dances located not in the dorms. Pam informed that garbage collectors for the dorms have reported lots more beer cans. Amy O'Connor stressed that with two variables nothing is stable. Dave Baron asked about the 50% rule for attendance. Susan said that if 50% of the people in the dorm do not sign up for the dance, it will be cancelled, which has happened many times this past semester. Erin Wirspa commented that sharing a dance is not as much fun. However, Lauren Fowler said her hall's dance with Knott hall was successful. She agrees that there is a problem with dance locations. Jessica Panza added that her hall's dance was outside and the weather was not permissible, so they all had a bad experience. Steve Christ's opinion was that putting restrictions on dance commissioners is silly and the dance attendance level has significantly dropped. Joyce DeLeon

inquired about drinking off campus. Dan Barabas said that there are more parties off campus with lower classmen and more incidents regarding muggings and missing peoples. Erin Wirspa told Libby to ask the Board of Trustees about bettering the South Bend community. Erin did not understand why the university has not so yet. Dan Barabas added that it would be nice to have some type of college town in which students could walk to and hang out at coffee shops and go shopping. Libby asked if people had seen more freshmen off campus. Dan commented that he saw more lower classmen at the bars. Joyce said that she has seen more students off campus, plus the parties have become rowdier. Jeremy Lao thought it might be valuable to look into the number of students getting sick off campus due to the changes implemented this year. Pam Ronson noted that the reason why there is an increase in students off campus is because many of those students were abroad. No person who was abroad wants to live on campus. Danielle Ledesma also added that dorms are reaching their dull capacity. Residence Life is encouraging seniors to live off campus. Amy O' Connor thought it would be helpful to get statistics on off-campus cited parties.

III. Announcements

- a. Peggy Hnatusko announced that Debbie is back from maternity leave.
- b. Lindsay Evans noted that St. Mary's campaigning has kicked off.
- c. Steve Christ stated that Second City will be performing at Washington Hall this Saturday. Tickets (\$8) are on sale now.

IV. Adjournment

- a. Jeremy Lao motioned to adjourn, and Amy O'Connor seconded. Libby Bishop adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The next Executive Cabinet Meeting will take place Monday, January 27, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. in the Foster Room, LaFortune.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Chin
Student Union Secretary

