

Notre Dame Executive Cabinet

Executive Summary

February 3, 2003

Foster Room, Lafortune

I. Opening Business

- a. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.
- b. Jeremy Lao led the invocation
- c. Libby Bishop, Trip Foley, Pat Hallahan, Emily Chin, and Matt Smith were absent.
- d. Meghan O'Donnell motioned to approve the January 27, 2003 Executive Summary, Amy O'Connor seconded, and it was unanimously approved at 6:08 p.m.

II. New Business

- a. Dave Baron, Class of 2006 Strategic Plan
 - i. Dave began by stating that the theme of this year's freshman council is "Building on Tradition". The past six months have been a process of recognizing Notre Dame tradition and orienting goals toward building upon it. Dave offered thanks to all the older classes for showing the Class of 2006 the tradition and spirit of Notre Dame. Dave described the activities of last semester's council as a success, mentioning such things as a Halloween Dance, University Park Babysitting, and a Luminary Project. The class support for these projects was very good, however, there have been some problems recognized by the council that they are attempting to address this semester. Firstly, Dave emphasized that publicizing the class events will be of the utmost importance this semester. If the class knows what is going on, they care about the events. In conjunction with added publicity, Dave's council will attempt to address the problem of student apathy toward class council, which he believes to be rooted in a lack of understanding of the council mission. Another issue Dave mentioned was that too many of the class activities last semester involved only the twenty-seven members of the council, a problem they will attempt to address this semester with better advertising. There were some creative events that fell through the cracks because of a lack of follow-through, and the council will try to address this issue during the coming months. Finally, Dave mentioned the Class of 2006 is deeply concerned with the disappearance of their classmate, Chad Sharon, and would like to address the issue of student safety on campus. The '06 council this semester would also like to build upon the successful events of last semester with advertising such as table tents, observer ads, and the 2006 class website which will feature polls, useful phone numbers, and a "freshman of the week". Dave would also like to create a 2006 "think tank", whereby freshmen freshmen can come up with more events that will target the whole

class. Dave also mentioned the possibilities of taking better advantage of the DICE fund this semester, conducting an open forum before a council meeting to gauge student opinion, and creating an Active Student Database for students who would like to be informed of class and other activities. In response to the disappearance of Chad Sharon, the class plans for this semester will include a campaign for safety on campus and off campus. Dave will try to spark freshman interest in Legends, because he does not want freshmen to feel as though they are being pushed off campus because of a lack of something to do on campus. The council is in the process of planning more service events in the community, trips to Chicago and Michigan, and a Q&A panel/brainstorming session with freshmen and seniors. Dave plans to improve internal organization by having two chairpersons for each class event and more responsibilities delegated to class committees. Finally, the class council is looking forward to continuing successful projects such as the class prayer and luminaries on South Quad, as well as working with ResLife to improve roommate placement for the class of 2007 and creating a book of useful ND info for next year's freshmen.

- ii. Questions: Jeremy Lao commented that he liked the idea of the expanding beyond 2006, and that it was a great idea to think of the bigger picture. Dave thanked Jeremy in reply, stating that he will be glad to help the class of 2007 much in the same way that the class of 2005 helped his class. Lauren Fowler asked Dave how the class was planning to improve safety, and Dave responded by saying that they would use various forms of publicity to raise awareness and remind students to travel in groups, as well as to have periodic masses for Chad Sharon to pray for his return. Amy O'Connor said that she liked the idea of having a better ResLife roommate criteria, and suggested that Dave look to other schools for examples. Amy also suggested that the class work with service clubs for opportunities with existing projects (especially Circle K!), because they are always looking for more people. Dave replied that more and more clubs are coming to with projects, and Amy said that the CCC would be glad to put people in touch with more clubs. Jeremy commented that he is particularly interested in responding to the problem of apathy, and wanted to know how Dave saw this problem at present, as well as any possible solutions. Dave mentioned that an NDToday poll indicated that many students did not know the purpose of student government, and that he is working to make the members of the class of '06 more aware of what the council does. He will try to employ the Active Student Database to reach students that care, and hopefully they will talk to more students to get their interest as well. Amy wanted to know how Dave is planning to get students to sign up for the database, and he replied that they will advertise for their database through the new '06 website. Jeremy reiterated that the problem of apathy is more than just problem of publicity, and that Dave should consider it as part of a bigger picture. Dave responded by saying that the council is actively considering many issues that are of importance to students, and that

they will tackle the issues one step at a time. Amy suggested that Dave make use of the collaboration fund as a way to combat apathy by bringing in outside clubs, which would also decrease the cost of events.

- b. Andrew Oxenreiter, Financial Management Board
 - i. Andrew outlined FMB's purpose as monitoring and managing student accounts, with monies primarily coming from the Student Activities fees each year. Andrew currently works with two assistants, and is looking to hire two sophomores for next year. The board meets in April to allocate funds to groups on campus. These amounts are based on the past amount of money given to a group, as well as what they are asking for at present and the quality of the budget they present. FMB meets weekly or bi-weekly if needed to discuss any budget amount that is over five thousand dollars. FMB is connected with the Shirt Charity Fund, and Andrew is hoping that more students will become aware of the fund in the future. FMB also works closely with "The Shirt", acting as advisors to the project, which brings in between two and two-hundred fifty thousand dollars. A controller or treasurer from every major group on campus has a representative on FMB.

III. Announcements

- a. A message from Trip Foley and the Senators to remind Executive Cabinet members that they are invited to attend the Celebrating Diversity workshop on February 9th from 9 am to 2 pm, along with the Senate, HPC, and Office of the President.
- b. Danielle Ledesma reported that trial online elections will continue today until 8 p.m.
- c. Amy O'Connor mentioned that the results of the CCC election are in, with congratulations offered to Seth O'Donnell as the new CCC President, and to Jessica Panza as the new CCC Vice President.
- d. Steve Christ announced that the Sophomore Literary Festival will begin this Wednesday, February 5th, and encouraged everyone to attend the events.
- e. A very happy birthday to Matt Smith ☺

IV. Adjournment

- a. Amy O'Connor motioned to adjourn, and Jeremy Lao seconded. Danielle Ledesma adjourned the meeting at 6:29 p.m. The next Executive Cabinet Meeting will take place Monday, February 10th, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. in the Foster Room, LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Longenbaker
Calendar Coordinator

