

Notre Dame Student Senate

Executive Summary

February 19, 2003

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. Opening Business

- A. Chairperson Trip Foley called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.
- B. The invocation was led by Paul Dockery.
- C. Roll call was taken; Josh Towns, Elliot Poindexter, Olga Urbietta, Rick Harris and Steve Holte were absent.
- D. The February 12, 2003 Executive Summary was approved at 6:13 p.m.

II. New Business

- A. Nomination of Donald Norton as Student Union Treasurer
 - a. Andrew Oxenreiter formally introduced Don Norton to Senate. He commented that he had confidence that Don would do an outstanding job.
 - b. Sarah Bates moved to suspend the rules, and Dave Brenner seconded. The rules were suspended. Dave Brenner moved to approve Don Norton as Student Union Treasurer; Katie Boyle seconded. **With a majority in favor, Don Norton was approved as the new Student Union Treasurer at 6:16 p.m.** He will begin his term March 1, 2003.
Congratulations Don!

III. Podium

- a. Joe Sweigart – Pillars Program. Joe explained the different services that Pillars, a peer education group advocating responsible use alcohol and drugs, provide on the Notre Dame Campus. It is a student group with the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education (OADE, which is located at 311 LaFortune and is a confidential/non-disciplinary group handling alcohol analysis. They also help with BOT. Pillars participate in Freshmen Orientation and hosts speakers and services. Next week, they will be sponsoring “Spring Break Pledge,” and soon will bring in a simulator (simulates driving drunk), which will be held in the JACC on April 4. He encouraged everyone to participate. Also, at Acoustic Café, Pillars provide “mocktails,” which are non-alcoholic/virgin cocktails. “Mocktails” are served at other campus events, so keep your eye out. Pillars also sponsors a program called “Broad 21.” When you turn 21 years of age, cards are sent to you with a listing of cab /safety number, an encouragement to drink responsibly, and a designated driver card, which allows you to get free soft drinks at local bars. These cards are also available to all students in many locations including dorms; however, they have a difficulty distributing them off-campus. The final service they provide is the personalized BAC card—it tells the blood alcohol level of a person who has consumed so many drinks. Right now you must be trained to get this card, but hopefully next year, they will be easily accessible. Joe mentioned they are restructuring Pillars to get a more of a campus appearance. He encouraged suggestions and ideas. He offered pillars assistance in any way.
- b. Questions: Ricky Sadowski said that he had called ND Saferide and they had no clue to their association with Pillars. Joe assured him that ND Saferide is off the

card. Sarah Blake inquired how people could get training to get the BAC card. Joe explained that since it is a liability issue, a doctor in the OADE has to be there when you get your training. Erin Cushing wondered if anyone considered making the cards into magnets. Joe said they would consider. Allison Childs inquired what kind of "mocktails" Pillars serves. Joe said to that they just received some new recipes, so he advised her and anyone else who was interested to go to Acoustic Café to try them. Sarah Bates wanted to know how many people were in Pillars. Joe replied that there are between 20-30 people who do stuff. Allison Childs asked if they were recruiting. Joe said they are accepting applications, and every applicant will go through an interview. Jeremy Staley wondered how Pillars was funded. Joe explained that is funded through the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education. Trip thanked Joe and encouraged all the Senators, as student leaders, that it is very important to let other students know of the services that Pillars provides. He stated that alcohol can be a serious problem on any campus, and it is pivotal that students should not deny this fact and educate others on the matter. He emphasized that the Senators promote and take part in the upcoming activities sponsored by Pillars.

IV. Reports

a. Officer Reports

- 1) Student Body President Libby Bishop reported that at Executive Cabinet meetings are finishing up club strategic plans and is receiving many CCC appeals. CLC is continuing its efforts in each taskforce. The online calendar is going well (underthedome.nd.edu), please spread the word. Erin Cushing is working on hard leading the Bases taskforce. She met with Laura Flynn, and Erin mentioned that there are 50 advisors for first year students, which she thought was low. Rick Harris heads the leadership taskforce, and that group has been working on a poster and email.
- 2) Student Body Vice-President Trip Foley reported that the online calendar will be launched this week. 3000 magnets have been ordered to advertise. The calendar looks awesome, so the senators were encouraged to check it out and spread the word. Also, Jeremy Lao will be sitting in on the last few Senate meetings as Student Body Vice President elect. Under the Constitution, each Senator must hold an informational meeting. Elections will be held the first week of March, so all meetings must be done before next week's meeting.
- 3) Chief of Staff Henry Scott reported that the last lecture series with Prof. Tillery was a big success. Student Appreciation Week starts March 17, shirts will be given out. The Spiritual committee in the Office of the President has sponsored a mass for student appreciation week on Sunday March 23 at 11:45 a.m. in the Basilica. In the next month or two, the Policy committee will begin a rotating discussion on controversial issue within the dorms. Henry also mentioned that Student Activities will pay up to \$2000 to have panel discussions in the dorms as long as there is a ND professor on the panel. He recommended that each Senator look into sponsoring a discussion.
- 4) HPC Representative Steve Holte was not present, but the list of events this weekend include:
 - a) Wed, Feb 19 – Cavanaugh Women's Concerns Week –Panel discussion at 6 p.m. in the Cavanaugh basement; Night of Faith with

Fr. Brian Daley on St. Ignatius and Ignatius at 9 p.m. in the Alumni Chapel.

- b) Thurs, Feb 20 – Knitting and *Pretty Women* at 8:30 p.m. in the Cavanaugh basement.
 - c) Fri, Feb 21 – Walsh and Fisher Formal at the Riverside Terrace; Alumni/McGlenn at the College Football Hall of Fame.
 - d) Sat, Feb 22 – Badin dance in the Oak Room, Pangborn at the Warren Golf Course, Howard at Main Building and Pangborn 21st Century Phox.
 - e) Sun, Feb 23 – Justin Brumbaugh 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament at 8 a.m. at the Stepan Courts sponsored by Knott Hall; Spanish Mass at 1:30 p.m. in Zahm Hall.
 - f) Mon, Feb 24 – Howard Hall Disabilities Week – pick up ribbons at CSC.
 - g) Tues, Feb 25 – Keenan Hall Medical School night, 8 p.m. in Keenan Hall.
- 5) St. Mary's Representative Lindsay Evans noted that the reading day proposal was passed. The Student trustees set up a meeting with Board of Trustees in order to bridge the gap between administration and students. There will be an all school formal this Saturday. The St. Mary's dinner will take place either next week Wednesday or the following, watch for the invitation. Next week is eating disorder week, and campaigning begins tomorrow for class elections.
- 6) Library Faculty Liaison Cheryl Smith had no news to report.
- b. Committee Reports
1. Committee on Academic Affairs – Jeremy Staley reported that the committee will be receiving TCE information from many top universities very soon. Jeremy met with the former Arts and Letters Dean who instituted the TCEs—it was a very insightful conversation. Kevin Conley and two other Senators will be researching which other schools have a ROTC minor. The committee thought that would be a good idea to review the other presidential candidates' ideas; Joanna Cornwell will be compiling all the platforms. Jeremy wanted to publicly remind all students that Senate is an open meeting.
 2. Committee on Diversity – Courtney Kohout noted that her committee has an amendment that will be discussed later in the meeting. Also, she had Steve Holte send out an email a survey to the hall presidents regarding the multicultural commissioners and what they have done this year. They are hoping to make any improvements in dorm diversity. The committee is also thinking of putting a coalition together of hall presidents, student government, and multicultural clubs to get together on a monthly basis to see how they can all work together. Finally, Allison Childs and Gail Thompson are working to get facts about Black History Month on table tents.
 3. Committee on Ethics - Joanna Cornwell reminded all Senators to keep up with their attendance and to check with Emily Chin to see how many absences they might have. Also, they are discussing the Michael J. Palumbo Award.
 4. Committee on Gender Issues – Courtney Badgley stressed to get the Frosh O surveys back by next week. She also met with Kevin Conley to discuss the parietals issue and quiet hours. They are continuing their efforts with safety issues and seeing who they can collaborate with. Jeremy Staley was wondering if someone could send him an electronic copy of the survey so he

could just forward it to his freshmen. Gail Thompson suggested sending a voicemail out saying the survey was required/mandatory.

5. Committee on Oversight - Elliot Poindexter was not present and there was no news to report. The committee was involved in the amendment that will be presented later.
6. Committee on Residence Life – Kevin Conley reported that the committee set a timeline for their dealings with in-hall dances, and Sarah Bates and Neil Vargas have met with most of the Rectors on CLC. They are hoping to get a letter written before spring break, and have a resolution after. Katie Boyle is still working on workers' rights; please get the questionnaires back to her. Kaitlyn Redfield is working on the airline issues, Ricky Sadowski is working on dining hall issues, Dave Brenner met with the dining hall management, and Jesse Norman met with OIT. Finally, Kevin wanted to echo what Jeremy had mentioned earlier and invited all students to attend Senate meetings. Sarah Bates asked Senators to ask their rectors about how many people can fit in the dorm's social space—would the space be able to accommodate all the people attending the SYR at one time? Erin Cushing mentioned that the Rectors could use the lack of space as an issue to support the ban of in-hall dances. Kevin emphasized that when asking; remember to take into account all rooms being utilized.
7. Committee on University Affairs – Gail Thompson stated that the committee reflected on the purpose of the committee. They are looking into social security numbers and exploring the possibility of having the manager of Reckers come speak. If anyone is interested in being apart of a Reckers focus group, let Gail know. Today, there will be a report on LaFortune. Lastly, the committee researched the Copy Shop's new hours. They determined that the new hours are not an inconvenience. The Copy Shop stated it is here for the students.
8. Ad-hoc Committee – Jake Teske stated that they will be meeting tomorrow at 5:30 p.m. There will be a meeting with Dr. Paige next Friday at 1 p.m. They also are sending a letter to the Rectors. Jake reported on ACASL – they discussed results of First Year college survey and re-doing/re-formulating the activities of Freshmen Orientation.
9. Financial Management Board – Jesse Norman reported they did not meet.

V. Old Business

- a. Formal Approval of Henry Scott as Chief of Staff
 - i. Jeremy Staley commented that he has no doubt that Henry will do a great job. Senate moved into voting procedure. **At 6:49 p.m. Henry Scott was approved as Chief of Staff. Congratulations Henry!**
- b. SS0203-20: Resolution Bestowing Emeritus Title Upon Patrick W. Hallahan
 - i. Gail Thompson asked if Patrick would get emeritus title already. Trip clarified that he would probably receive emeritus title at the end of his presidential term next year, but this resolution gives him the emeritus title for being Chief of Staff, which he would not receive at the end of this term. Courtney Kohout wondered if people who resign get emeritus usually. Jesse Norman explained that the definition of emeritus does include retirees.

- ii. Gail Thompson proposed an amendment to add: that Pat's face is incorporated on the University seal. Sean Williams seconded. Jeremy Staley moved to end discussion on the amendment. He stated that last week amendments like this were funny, but this week not so much. Senate moved into voting procedure on the amendment. With the majority against the amendment, it failed.
- iii. Sarah Blake motioned to end debate on the resolution. Trip Foley moved Senate into voting procedure on the resolution. **With 16 in favor, 2 opposed and 6 abstentions, Resolution Bestowing Emeritus Title Upon Patrick W. Hallahan passed at 6:52 p.m.**

VI. New Business

- a. Report on Current State of LaFortune – Courtney Badgley and Sarah Bates
 - i. Sarah Bates stated that the University of Affairs committee brought up the issue of the arcade in the basement and its purpose. She and Courtney met with Mary Edington and discussed the arcade. The money made (\$2000-4000) goes to pay workers at ND Express and the games; however, LaFortune was open to any suggestions. The space is very limited and another food venue would be too much for the basement. They also asked if ND Express could extend their hours; but they do not have the funding to staff. Furthermore, the Info desk upstairs in the TV lounge will eventually be replaced by computers to check your email. However, there are no funds right now, so they are not sure when this transition can be made. LaFortune will constantly be looking for ways to improve the basement. Brian Coughlin commented that a sound system is planned to be installed. He asked if people liked the lounge. Everyone answered definitely. Courtney Watson mentioned he uses the arcade at least twice a week. Kevin Conley applauded the improvements and inquired if ND Express could shift its hours later. Sarah and Courtney said they would look into it. Ricky Sadowski wondered if people really used the facilities of ND Express. Erin Cushing said people do. Kevin Conley remarked that he liked having nice facilities. Trip thanked Sarah and Courtney and concluded that overall, students enjoy/like the improvements to LaFortune
- b. SS0203-21: Amendment Regarding Celebrating Diversity Workshop
 - i. Courtney Kohout introduced the resolution stating that in the Constitution it is mandatory for Senators to attend the workshop in April; it is also mandatory for new Senators who enter later in the term. However, since all the other Senators have attended before, the attendance level for the second workshop is low. The resolution today proposes to void the mandatory workshop for the new Senators who join later, but also leaves the possibility to have another one besides the April one. Sean Williams wondered if there was a punishment for not attending the mandatory workshop. Trip replied that the Senator would probably be referred to the ethics committee; there really is no punishment set because every Senator has attended. Ricky Sadowski mentioned that the amendment falls under the Bylaws not Articles on page 27. There was no debate/discussion, so Senate moved into voting

procedure. **With a majority in favor SS0203-21: Amendment Regarding Celebrating Diversity Workshop, it passed at 7:05 p.m.**

- c. Changes in the Economics Department – Trip Foley
 - i. Trip noted that he thought this was an important issue because many good professors might decide not to stay at Notre Dame. He encouraged everyone to survey students about the handling of the change in the department.

VII. Announcements

- a. Jeremy Staley asked if anyone was interested in a brief State of the Senate discussion. Trip said he would add a discussion section to a Senate meeting.
- b. Jesse Norman stated that the College Bowl is this Saturday at LaFortune—tailgating is encouraged.
- c. Joanna Cornwell announced that this Friday at 9 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom, SUB is sponsoring a comedy event about Irish Catholics.
- d. Katie Boyle reminded everyone to get their Frosh O and workers' rights surveys back ASAP.
- e. Jason Creek encouraged everyone to sign up or spread the word about the Justin Brumbaugh 3-on-3 basketball tournament. All proceeds will go to Habitat for Humanities, and everyone receives a shirt.

VIII. Adjournment

Jesse Norman motioned to adjourn. Kevin Conley seconded the motion, and the meeting ended at 7:11 p.m. The next Student Senate meeting will take place Wednesday, February 26, 2003 in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Chin
Student Union Secretary