

Notre Dame Student Union Executive Cabinet

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

October 8, 2001

Foster Room, LaFortune

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

- A. Call to Order  
Judicial Council President Tim Jarotkiewicz called the meeting to order at 6:04.
- B. Invocation  
Casey Fitzmaurice led the invocation.
- C. Roll Call  
Peter Rossmann was absent.
- D. Approval of the October 1, 2001 Executive Summary  
The October 1, 2001 Executive Summary was approved unanimously after a motion from JJ Jorissen.

**II. REPORTS**

- A. Student Senate Update
  - ✦ The Student Senate meeting has been rescheduled from Wednesday to Thursday, October 11, 2001 at 5PM in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune. This change of time is due to the U2 concert.
  - ✦ The first dining hall discussions will take place on Monday. In North Dining Hall, the forums will be labeled Roundtable discussions. They will be called Fireside Chats in South Dining Hall. An article in the Observer will raise awareness on the event.
  - ✦ Nick Williams updated the cabinet on the status of the freshmen class council. Officer elections will be October 14, 2001. The Class of 2005 council will be more open to interaction with the entire class. The council will also be working closely with the sophomore class council.
- B. St. Mary's College Update
  - ✦ The Board of Governance is researching possible ways of curbing email abuse on campus without limiting students' freedom of speech.
  - ✦ The head of the Intercultural Leadership Center for Women will be giving a talk at 12:15 in LeMans Hall entitled, "Why do they hate us?" to address the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.
  - ✦ In the future, one section of a St. Mary's residence hall will be dedicated to intercultural relations.
- C. Student Activities Office Update
  - ✦ Hard copies of the Source are available now. You can still view the Source as a .pdf file on the SAO web site.
  - ✦ La Fortune Open House is 11AM to 2 PM on October 31, 2001. All student union organizations with an office in LaFortune are encouraged to decorate their respective offices in a Halloween theme.
  - ✦ Applications for Dollars for Innovative and Creative Entertainment (DICE) are due on Monday, October 15, 2001. This funding program is intended to enhance existing programs or to help new initiatives.
- D. Calendar Collaboration
  - ✦ Unfortunately, we must think of another email address for the calendar collaboration.
  - ✦ Matt Smith announced that the Junior Class will be sponsoring a late night grill early Saturday morning at 1:30AM on Fieldhouse Mall.
  - ✦ Matt Smith and Keri Oxley reported that their respective class councils will be hosting their class Masses in the near future.

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

Club Recognition

- ✦ Brian Coughlin met with Executive Cabinet to discuss his reasons for not approving Outreach ND for club recognition. Although this group has applied for recognition numerous times, this is the first time that Brian has had the chance to review the case.
- ✦ Executive Cabinet members asked a variety of questions on the club recognition denial:
  - ✓ Does the Student Activities Office feel that Outreach would do more harm than good for the student body? (Katie Hammond)
  - ✓ Outreach does exist despite the dismissal of their request for club recognition. Why should we not give the posting privileges, room rentals, and funding? What is the drawback? (John Hagan)
  - ✓ Do you think the Club Coordination Council should be more involved in the club recognition process? (Brian Clemency)
  - ✓ Is Outreach willing to exist as a division of an existing structure, like Campus Ministry? (George Remus)
  - ✓ Do you think the group has any chance of being recognized as a club in the future? (Amy Sellers)

- ✓ Is the school treating Rainbow ND as more of a ministry setting than a social setting? (Amy)
  - ✓ Is the group being denied because it does not fit the University's mission statement? (Matt Smith)
  - ✓ Has the Student Activities Office taken into account what Outreach already does on campus? (Carlos Siu)
  - ✓ If student leaders left those Campus Ministry programs dealing with gay/lesbian issues, would that situation necessitate a club? (Brian)
  - ✓ Is there anything that we, as students, can do to help the club gain recognition? (Casey Fitzmaurice)
- ♣ (To summarize Brian Coughlin's answers to these questions) Brian responded that his decision to deny the group recognition revolved around the fact that numerous structures are provided by the University to serve the needs of our gay and lesbian student populations. The University provides committed and trained professional and pastoral contacts for students as is. Already, the group known as Outreach ND or Rainbow ND works with the Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian needs. This committee provides resources and opportunities that Outreach, even as a club, could not facilitate. Despite student unrest concerning the decision, the SAO feels its decision was best. Freshmen attend a mandatory meeting on the spirit of inclusion. There is special training regarding the issue for resident hall staff. There are Campus Ministry retreats, speakers like Judy Shepherd, and retreats for non-homosexual students interested in understanding issues that surround homosexuality. Brian cited all these programs as existing structures that eliminate the need for a student club like Outreach ND.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ♣ The Board of Trustees meets October 18; the BOT report will focus on campus residence and how it is affected by students moving off campus.
- ♣ Founders Day is Thursday, October 11. There will be a cotillion style motif and a special menu in the both dining halls to celebrate the day.
- ♣ There will be a special Blue Mass for and in memory of the New York fire departments in the Basilica at 5PM on Thursday.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

John Hagan adjourned the council at 7:14. The next meeting of the Executive Cabinet will be on Monday, October 15, 2001 in the Foster Room, LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Tai Romero*

Tai Romero  
Student Union Secretary  
October 8, 2001

**Thought for the week:** All men desire peace, but few desire the things that make for peace. – *Thomas A Kempis*

#### **Prayer for Peace in Our Time:**

Mother Mary,  
I live in a world filled  
with hatred and violence.  
Sometimes I wonder why God made us  
in the first place.  
Please help me to see  
the good in our world.  
There is love and happiness;  
allow me to be a poet of it.  
Most of all, help me to spread that love  
and happiness to others.  
I want so much to live in a world full of peace.  
I know through your grace, and the grace of God,  
peace can be made a reality.

-*Matt Stecher, Dillon Hall*  
from *The Day Awaits: The Notre Dame Book of Prayers*