

Notre Dame Student Senate  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

August 30, 2000

Center for Continuing Education

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

Chairperson Brooke Norton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Invocation

Mr. Mark Leaheey, Student Senate Chaplain, led the Senate in prayer.

C. Roll Call

Mr. John Osborn was absent.

D. Approval of the May 6, 2000 Executive Summary

The May 6, 2000 Executive Summary was approved with a minor change.

E. Approval of Mr. Paul Sladek as substitute Parliamentarian

Mr. Brendan Dowdall moved to approve Mr. Paul Sladek as substitute Parliamentarian and this passed unanimously.

F. Introductions

The members of the Senate reintroduced themselves to the group and shared highlights from their summer vacations.

II. REPORTS

A. Officer Reports

1) Mr. Brian O'Donoghue, Student Body President

Mr. O'Donoghue began his remarks by welcoming the Senate to a new year. He announced that the Financial Management Board formally approved the Rector's Endowment Fund last night. President O'Donoghue also reported that the Campus Life Council met on Monday and voted to open a new session, thus ending the first session which has run continuously for 23 years. In doing so all standing rules and committees are disbanded and the Council will be able to have a fresh start. The Executive Cabinet also met on Monday night and discussed the technology fund, the Opening of School Year Mass, and the new procedures for Collaboration Fund requests. Additionally, the football ticket distribution system was discussed and a forum will be held at 5:00 p.m. in the Foster Room of Lafortune on Thursday. Other activities the Office of the President has recently been overseeing include the Opening of School year Mass, a voter registration drive, and an attempt to hold the Congressional Debates on campus.

2) Ms. Brooke Norton, Student Body Vice-President

Ms. Norton announced that she would make her remarks during her Podium speech.

3) Mr. Trip Foley, Student Union Secretary

Mr. Foley reminded the Senate to please send him any proposals or additions to the agenda well in advance of the meeting date. Mr. Foley also passed around a sheet so Senators could update their addresses for this school year.

4) Ms. Meredith Sonnycalb, Assistant Chief of Staff, Office of the President

Ms. Sonnycalb reported that the Office of the President was currently supporting a program to get absentee ballots for students.

5) Mr. Chris Andersen, HPC Liaison

Mr. Andersen announced that the first HPC meeting took place on Tuesday night.

6) Ms. Veronica Kessenich, St. Mary's Representative

Ms. Kessenich reported that St. Mary's Activities Night will be held on Thursday between 7 and 9 p.m.

B. Committee Reports

1) Committee on Academic Affairs

Ms. Katie Bufalino reported that the Academic Affairs Committee had met on Sunday to outline their goals for this year. Topics discussed included online DART, ways to improve study abroad, tutoring for upperclassmen, and experiential learning programs. Susan Roberts, the student Academic Council delegate, will also participate in this committee.

2) Committee on Diversity

Mr. Brendan Dowdall shared that the Diversity Committee met on Monday and discussed their major issues for the year. These include a survey regarding diversity issues, a review of the international student orientation program, and an investigation into the need for race classifications on TCE forms.

3) Committee on Ethics

Mr. Dan Barabas & Ms. Kelly Bush announced that the Ethics Committee had met on Monday and will review the student election process.

4) Committee on Gender Issues

Ms. Maggie Clarke announced that the Gender Issues Committee will investigate 24 hour space, and the possibility of including sexual assault and eating disorder information in the Concepts of Wellness curriculum.

5) Committee on Oversight

Ms. Audra Hagan reported that the Oversight Committee had a very productive meeting and set their agenda for this school year.

6) Committee on Residence Life

Mr. Ryan Becker & Mr. Kevin Berchou announced that Residence Life Committee will focus on LaFortune improvements, Security, Maintenance, and the Dining Halls this year. The Committee will also meet with the food service directors in the upcoming weeks.

7) Committee on University Affairs

Ms. Bethany Barker shared that the University Affairs Committee discussed ideas for this year, including an investigation of the Broadwing Long Distance service provided to students, centralized tutoring, transfer orientation, health services, and the Generations Campaign budget surplus.

III. PODIUM

Ms. Brooke Norton, Chairperson

Ms. Norton welcomed the Senate members back and shared her excitement that this year's Senate can be a positive force for the Notre Dame students. Ms. Norton reminded the Senate that its main goal should be to work cohesively and effectively

as it acts as a voice for students. Additionally, Ms. Norton reminded the Senators of the importance of attending their hall councils and seeking input from their dorms. Ms. Norton also announced that pizza will be served at next week's meeting and reiterated her excitement about this year's council.

#### IV. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to discuss.

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

Formal Nomination of Ms. Veronica Kessenich as St. Mary's Representative  
Chairperson Norton announced that Ms. Kessenich had been nominated to serve as the St. Mary's Representative. Though a nomination letter will be provided at next week's meeting, Ms. Norton expressed her confidence in Ms. Kessenich's ability to work with on the Senate.

#### VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Mr. Brendan Dowdall announced that the Dillon Hall Pep Rally will take place on Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
- B. Mr. Brendan Dowdall also announced that anyone who is interested in eating dinner with him in the South Dining Hall was welcome to do so.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Curt Roberts moved for adjournment at 6:45 p.m. The next meeting of the Notre Dame Student Senate will take place on Wednesday, September 6, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted

Trip Foley  
Student Union Secretary  
8/30/00

**Amendment**  
**-REMOVAL OF N.D. VIDEO-**

Drafted 9/6/00

Strike "N.D. Video" of Article V, Section III, #2.

Strike "the N.D. Video Manager" of Article V, Section III; #3.

Strike "N.D. Video" of Article V, Section III, #3,e,iii.

Submitted by the Senate Committee on Oversight