

Notre Dame Student Senate

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

January 17, 2001

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

Chairperson Brooke Norton called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

B. Invocation

Mark Leaheey led the invocation.

C. Roll Call

Kelly Bush was absent.

D. Approval of the December 6, 2000 Executive Summary

The December 6, 2000 Executive Summary was approved with some spelling changes.

II. REPORTS

A. Officer Reports

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

President O'Donoghue reported that his office was gearing up for a new semester and expressed his hope that the final nine weeks of this term would be fruitful.

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

Chairperson Norton welcomed the Senate back from break and introduced the new and returning senators.

3) Mr. Trip Foley, Student Union Secretary

Mr. Trip Foley had nothing new to report.

4) Mr. Jay Smith, Chief of Staff, Office of the President

Mr. Jay Smith announced that there would be a panel discussion on Martin Luther King week on Wednesday night at 6:00 in the Library.

5) Mr. Chris Andersen, HPC Liaison

Mr. Chris Andersen was not present.

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

Ms. Veronica Kessenich reported that the BOG has moved its meetings to Monday at 4:30.

B. Committee Reports

1) Committee on Academic Affairs

Katie Bufalino reported that the Academic Affairs Committee was continuing to look into online DART, as well as tutoring for sophomores, a central scholarship office and the use of dorm test files.

2) Committee on Diversity

Nikki McCord and Brendan Dowdall announced that the Diversity Committee was currently planning the celebrating diversity workshop and looking into the ethnicity box on TCE forms.

3) Committee on Ethics

Dan Barabas reported that the Ethics Committee had no new business to report and then discussed the role that the Ethics Committee plays.

4) Committee on Gender Issues

Luciana Reali and Colleen Clarke announced that the Gender Issues Committee had a successful fall semester including working on sexual assault presentations, 24Hour Space Policy, a Healthy Living Guide and Freshman Orientation Weekend. In the coming weeks, the Committee also hopes to look at improving Notre Dame, Saint Mary's College relations.

5) Committee on Oversight

Jessie Flores announced that most of the Oversight Committee's work centered on constitutional revisions approved last semester.

- 6) Committee on Residence Life
Kevin Berchou reported that he was looking for a new co-chair and then discussed the role that the Residence Life Committee plays in the Senate.
- 7) Committee on University Affairs
Bethany Barker and Kathleen Brogan highlighted their work from last semester including alcohol policy, telephone issues and Honor Code revisions. This semester the University Affairs Committee also hopes to look into the Bookstore prices, solicitors calling campus, and the possible creation of excused absences for seniors seeking jobs.
- 8) Financial Management Board
Michael Pfaff said that the FMB had nothing new to report.

III. PODIUM

Brooke Norton

Re: Welcome Back

Chairperson Norton expressed her desire to continue to build on the successful work from last semester. She also encouraged all senators to be mindful of their attendance at committee meetings. Regarding the *Observer* column, Brooke explained that she is currently checking on Senate funds but would welcome any help on the design of the page. Brooke also reminded all senators that they should regularly attend their hall government meetings. Finally, Brooke said that she had received a favorable response from Mr. Bill Kirk regarding the Healthy Living Packet.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Confirmation of Executive Members of Election Council

Nick Fonte moved to approve the members of the Election Council en masse and this was approved by unanimous consent. The Senate then voted unanimously to confirm the members of the Election Council.

B. Election of Senate Liaison to the Judicial Council

Kevin Berchou nominated Seth Whetzel to serve and this was approved unanimously.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. John Osborn announced that a workshop on Parliamentary Procedure will take place next week.
- B. Bill Ferria announced that Habitat for Humanity would be sponsoring a spring break work trip to San Juan.
- C. Brooke Norton reported that a Service Conference for 8th graders will take place on campus on February 7 from 9 – 3:30. Anyone interested in helping speak to Brooke.
- D. Trip Foley announced that he would be holding a celebratory party for the Inauguration for the 43rd President on Saturday at 11:30 a.m.
- E. Brendan Dowdall invited anyone interested to join him for dinner in the SDH.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Nikki McCord moved for adjournment at 6:40 and this was approved unanimously. The next meeting of the Senate will take place on January 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trip Foley
Student Union Secretary
1/23/01