

Notre Dame Student Senate
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

January 24, 2001

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

Chairperson Brooke Norton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

B. Invocation

Mark Leaheey led the invocation.

C. Roll Call

There were no Senators absent.

D. Approval of the January 17, 2001 Executive Summary

The January 17, 2001 Executive Summary was approved unanimously.

II. REPORTS

A. Officer Reports

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

President Brian O'Donoghue was not in attendance.

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

Chairperson Norton announced that she would be conducting small group interviews with Senators and invited them to sign up at the conclusion of the meeting. John Osborn will also hold a Parliamentary Procedure review after next week's meeting.

3) Mr. Trip Foley, Student Union Secretary

Mr. Trip Foley reported that a new roster has been made and any changes should be reported to him.

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

Mr. Jay Smith was not in attendance.

5) Mr. Chris Andersen, HPC Liaison

Mr. Chris Andersen was not in attendance.

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

Ms. Veronica Kessenich was not in attendance.

B. Committee Reports

1) Committee on Academic Affairs

Katie Bufalino reported that the Academic Affairs Committee had laid out their five goals for the year. Additionally, they plan to draft a letter requesting the University to consider changing the fall exam schedule in seven years when there will be another change in study days.

2) Committee on Diversity

Nikki McCord reported that the Diversity Committee will hold meetings on Thursdays at 5:30. The committee is also continuing to work on TCE forms and the Celebrating Diversity Seminar.

3) Committee on Ethics

Kathleen Bush said that the Ethics Committee had nothing new to report but asked the members to stay after for a short meeting.

- 4) Committee on Gender Issues
The Gender Issues Committee will meet on Sundays at 7:30. Throughout the rest of the semester, they plan to continue to sort the Freshman Orientation reviews and will work to improve relations with St. Mary's College.
- 5) Committee on Oversight
Jessie Flores reminded the Senators that the names of next year's Senators are needed by March 1.
- 6) Committee on Residence Life
Kevin Berchou announced that the Residence Life Committee will meet on Mondays at 7:30. They will look into the snow removal policy. Kevin also reported that the Dining Hall will offer free cooking classes.
- 7) Committee on University Affairs
Bethany Barker reported that the University Affairs Committee will continue the work started on the new student center and hope to issue a new report by the end of the year.
- 8) Financial Management Board
Michael Pfaff said that the FMB had helped to conduct the spending review and that the Senate currently has no budget concerns.

III. PODIUM

John Osborn

Re: BOT Report

John Osborn said that the BOT Report Committee will be presenting a report next Friday in Washington regarding "Student's Ability to Understand and Articulate their Catholic Faith." This represents a major step in the student's relations with the Board since it is the first presentation at the Winter Board Meeting. John explained that the report will have an introduction and then discuss the range of Catholicism present at Notre Dame. Next, it will examine if students can articulate their feelings and whether students graduate with the idea that they can continue to work in a manner consistent with their faith. The Committee is also considering three recommendations: 1) Creating an option to allow students to take a catechism based Theo 100 instead of only the historical approach 2) Increasing interaction between the CSC and Campus Ministry and 3) Considering a service learning requirement for graduation. The Senate then discussed the issue that some service projects have certain costs associated with them. In closing John Osborn asked the Senate to seek feedback about these three ideas and to report back to him as soon as possible.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Student Union Allocations – Ms. Katie Reicher, Student Union Treasurer
Katie Reicher reported that the FMB had conducted the spending review last night, checking year to date account activity as well as future plans. While there was no misuse found, \$2,000 was taken from the Office of the President originally intended for SafeRide and \$2,000 from the Office of the Treasurer. Two additional

allocations were made, one of \$2,000 to the Class of 2003 for the Sophomore Signature Event, and \$500 to the Off-Campus Council to make up for a lower beginning allocation. The FMB also voted to approve the rotating Technology Fund schedule. Nikki McCord asked where the Technology Fund money came from and Katie said that \$10,000 was taken out before any allocations were made. Trip Foley then asked how the remaining \$1,500 would be used and Katie replied that it was put into the Contingency Fund. Finally, Kathryn McCarthy asked if the SafeRide money for the second semester might also be taken from the Office of the President and Katie replied that that was a possibility. Kathryn McCarthy then called pq and this was approved unanimously. The Senate then voted to unanimously approve the changes made at the Spending Review.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Michael Pfaff announced that Knott and BP will hold a Gender Relations Roundtable. There will also be a charitable 3 on 3 basketball tournament on February 28.
- B. Kathleen Brogan reported that the Honor Code committee will meet next week.
- C. Brendan Dowdall said that the Habitat for Humanity spring break trip has been rescheduled for Long Beach, California. A meeting will be held on Monday at 8pm in the CSC for more information.
- D. Brooke Norton said that she was still seeking help from anyone interested in helping with the conference for 8th graders. Additionally, the Office of the President will hold a talk on Feb. 4 with a former resident of the Center for the Homeless.
- E. Kurt Kurple announced that tickets for the Keenan Review will be distributed tomorrow at 2pm.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Bill Ferreira moved for adjournment at 6:48 p.m. and this passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Student Senate will take place on January 31 at 6:00 in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trip Foley
Student Union Secretary
1/28/01

