

Notre Dame Student Senate
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

March 21, 2001

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune Hall

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

Chairperson Norton called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

B. Invocation

The Chaplain led the invocation.

C. Roll Call

Senators Sablich and Thompson, Mr. Foley, and Mr. Anderson were absent.

D. Approval of the Executive Summary for March 7, 2001.

The Executive Summary was approved as printed by unanimous consent.

The Senate then considered agenda items V. D. and V. E.

1) Nomination of Adworks Manager for Student Business Board

Melissa Gormley, Adworks Manager-nominee, informed the Senate of her decision to withdraw her nomination to accept the Co-Presidency of the Hall Presidents' Council. Richard Holcomb, Student Business Board General Manager, and Andrew Fitzgerald, Adworks Manager, nominated Jeff Cusson in Ms. Gormley's place.

2) Nomination of Judicial Council President

Mr. Tony Wagner, Judicial Council President, spoke in support of the nomination of Timothy Jarotkiewicz for Judicial Council President. Mr. Wagner noted Mr. Jarotkiewicz' experience in a variety of campus activities, and that he is enthusiastic and willing to accept the time commitment. Senator McCord asked when the nomination had been determined. Mr. Wagner remarked that he had determined his nomination earlier today after a long personal search, since no applications for had be submitted for the position. Senator McCord inquired why Mr. Jarotkiewicz had not applied for the position. Mr. Jarotkiewicz responded that he had applied to be a Resident Assistant, but had not been selected. Ms. McCord inquired further into Mr. Jarotkiewicz' experience with Judicial Council and elections. Mr. Wagner responded that the President of the Judicial Council is not expected to engage directly in advocacy or elections, since there are Vice Presidents for those activities. Mr. Jarotkiewicz noted his experience running an election campaign, and his understanding of the need for clarity and consistency in the process. Ms. Norton noted the lack on interest among current members of the Elections Committee. Ms. Reali spoke in support of the nomination. Mr. O'Donoghue paid kind remarks to Mr. Wagner and thanked him for his hard work.

II. REPORTS

A. Officer Reports

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

President O'Donoghue reported that the Campus Life Council would not be meeting this week, but is expecting a resolution from the Task Force on Consistence in Residence Hall Policies next week. 1200 student surveys were tallied in creating that resolution. Mr. O'Donoghue also expressed his gratitude to Mary Edgington, Director of Student Activities, for her support of and work on the behalf of the Student Senate over the last year.

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

Chairperson Norton reminded the new senators of the transition meeting immediately following the conclusion of tonight's meeting. Ms. Norton also reminded the Senate of the Celebrating Diversity Workshop. Visitation Weekend begins on March 29, and Ms. Norton requested that all senators sign up for an hour welcoming the visiting students between noon and 5pm on that afternoon. Ms. Norton reported that Food Services is conducting an external review of how they operate compared to other schools. David Prentkowski, Director, is requesting that five or six senators attend a meeting at 3pm on April 30 to provide student input and feedback to the reviewers. Ms. Norton updated the Senate on the status of football ticket distribution. At this point there are two options: one, students get applications before leaving school and mail them back to school with their check between July 1 and August 1; two, modify the on-campus lottery by holding it in the spring and having students return their applications to the ticket office by April.

The Senate engaged in a discussion of this issue. Chairperson Norton expressed her concern about students mailing applications and checks over the summer. Senator Barker agreed, suggesting that a lottery be held next fall, and that a new system be implemented the following spring. Ms. Norton remarked that the decision needs to be made by next week. Senator Dudley also spoke against the summer mail-in, since not only might students forget, their applications may also be lost in the mail. Concern was voiced about finishing ticket distribution before April, since band tryouts are held in August. Having general admission by section was suggested. Senator Cosse noted that Naval ROTC students are asea over the summer and would not be able to easily participate in the mail-in. Ms. Norton felt these students could be accomodated. Senator Hagan felt that since football is a fall activity, so should ticket distribution. In April students are draining their bank accounts and may not have enough money to buy tickets in the spring. Ms. Norton suggested that the event could be a fall activity but an all-sport rally. First year students and transfers would also have to have a lottery. Ms. Norton stressed that the campout is not an option, and she is seeking a long-term solution.

Ms. Norton continued her report by asking for senators interested in serving on the Bookstore and First Year Advisory Committees.

3) Mr. John Foley, Student Union Secretary

Mr. Osborn reported for Mr. Foley, who had nothing to report.

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

Mr. Smith introduced Jonathon "JJ" Jorissen, who is the Chief of Staff-designate. Additionally, Mr. Smith reminded the Senate of the 3 pm, Friday deadline for the Irish Clover and Frank O'Malley award nominations. Professor George Lopez will deliver the Last Lecture this evening. Next week's lecturer is to be announced. Posters supporting the tennis team are being made. Student Discount Cards will be available April 1. Four or five businesses will be participating. Next Wednesday is Student Appreciation Day. The Johnsonville Bratwurst truck is coming. Finally, Mr. Smith noted that the transition had begun and was proceeding smoothly.

- 5) Mr. Chris Anderson, Hall Presidents' Council Representative
Mr. Anderson was not in attendance.
- 6) Ms. Veronica Kessenich, Saint Mary's College Representative
Ms. Kessenich noted that this would be her last meeting, but she would be bringing the new Saint Mary's representative next week. The Saint Mary's student government is in the middle of their transition. Take Back the Night will be held on the Saint Mary's campus in the next few weeks. Ms. Kessenich also gave the Senate an update on the Vagina Monologues issue. The Monologues were banned from performance on campus by President Eldred in October, and the Campus Alliance for Rape Elimination (CARE) agreed not to sponsor future performances of the play. Contrary to the ban, the play was performed on February 19, national "V-day," celebrating non-violence against women. President Eldred and Vice President Timm were off campus during the performance, but asked for a formal apology from the CARE officers, which they received. No disciplinary action was or will be taken against CARE or its officers. The issue was dropped after that incident, although the incoming Board of Governance will likely discuss it.

B. Committee Reports

- 1) Committee on Academic Affairs
Senator Bufalino reported that the committee is currently considering a resolution on experiential learning which it will bring to the floor next week, along with a letter regarding sophomore advising. Senator Ferreira reported that the Scholarship Office will be opened in the fall. The Provost's office is seeking student input on what should be included in the office. Senator Ferreira noted that this issue will carry over to the new senate. Mr. O'Donoghue remarked that the office needs to have a paid adviser, and that the current staff is not satisfactory to student needs. The Scholarship Office is intended to get more national scholarships for Notre Dame students and provide interested students with good advice on the process.
- 2) Committee on Diversity
Senator McCord reported that all new senators will be required to attend the Celebrating Diversity workshop to be held March 25, beginning at 8 am in the Center for Social Concerns. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. The committee is also working with the Provost's office to remove race identification from Teacher/Course Evaluations, and will meet with Susan Roberts, Academic Delegate, next week to discuss the issue.
- 3) Committee on Ethics

Senator Bush reported that her committee will bring their nomination for the Palumbo Award to the floor later in the meeting. Committee chairs are reminded to complete and submit their transition reports.

4) Committee on Gender Issues

Senator Reali reported that she will be speaking on gender issues during Podium. The committee will be reporting a letter on a women's retreat for Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students and a resolution on parietals next week. The committee is currently completing its transition report.

5) Committee on Oversight

Senator Hagan reported that her committee will be running a transition meeting for all new senators immediately following tonight's meeting. The committee will meet next Tuesday at 8 pm.

6) Committee on Residence Life

Senator Berchou reported that Senator Pfaff met with Mike Danch, Assistant Athletic Director, about reopening the weight room at the Joyce Center to students. Mr. Danch did not feel there was not enough student interest nor demand for the facility, so that meeting was not productive.

7) Committee on University Affairs

Senator Brogan noted that her committee was reporting a resolution to the floor later on the agenda.

8) Financial Management Board

Senator Hagan reported that the allocation meeting will be held on April 1. Club officers should pick up packets from the Treasurer's Office as soon as possible. The allocations will be presented to the new senate at their first meeting for their approval.

III. PODIUM

Luciana Reali

Eating Disorders

Ms. Reali read a prepared statement regarding eating disorders.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Student Business Board Managers

Ms. Norton presented the slate of nominees for the Student Business Board:

Stephanie Lee – General Manager

Rebecca Kiefer – Irish Gardens

Matt Wilkerson – Dome Designs

Senator Dowdall asked that the nominations be approved by unanimous consent.

Senator Whetzel seconded, and the nominees were approved.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Senator Whetzel moved to take SS0001-33 from the table. Senator Hagan seconded, motion carried. Senator Hagan presented the amendment. Senator Hagan called for the previous question, Senator Dudley seconded. The amendment was approved by a vote of 22-0.

B. SS0001-35: Resolution regarding the Inclusion of Eating Disorders Support Services Information in du Lac

Senator Reali read a prepared statement on the resolution. Senator McCarthy felt that this issue is very important and affects both men and women. She then offered a friendly amendment to add "and males" to the first clause. Senator McCord called for the previous question, seconded by Senator Dudley. The resolution was approved as amended by a vote of 22-0.

C. SS0001-36: Letter regarding a New Student Center.

Senator Barker explained the results of the survey conducted by the committee. The letter will be sent to Fr. Poorman and Fr. Malloy to express student feelings and make a request for a new student center. Senator Brogan explained the letter and attached report. Senators Flores and Dudley offered several corrections. The Senate then began debate on the resolution. Senator Caponi felt that the Music Department would object to losing Crowley. Mr. O'Donoghue noted that the building was being vacated by the Music Department was is slated to be occupied by a variety of other offices. Senator Dudley felt that it is the perfect time to propose a new student center. Mr. Osborn commented that the report to the Board of Trustees is going to discuss social space, and that this report will be used in that discussion. Mr. O'Donoghue thanked the committee for their efforts and remarked that this letter and report was the culmination of a year and a half of hard work. Senator Whetzel moved to end debate, seconded by Senator Berchou. The letter was approved by a vote of 21-0.

VI. ANNOUCEMENTS

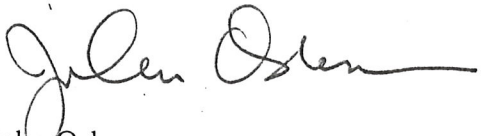
- A. Senator Reali asked that the CLC senators meet Sunday at 5 pm.
- B. Senator Bufalino said that the Arts and Letters Majors Fair would be held on March 28 from 5-7 pm in the library.
- C. Senator Dowdall apologized for his absence at last week's meeting. He also said that he could not have dinner after the meeting.
- D. Senator Dudley announced the National Right to Life Collegiate Conference is being held at Notre Dame on April 6-7. Several national speakers will be attending.
- E. Mr. Smith announced that a tree will be planted in memory of Conor Murphy, followed by Mass at the Basilica and a reception in the Main Building.
- F. Chairperson Norton reminded senators to comment on football ticket distribution and to volunteer for committees, if interested.

Senator Berchou moved to close the meeting to the public to consider the nomination for the Michael J. Palumbo Award, seconded by Senator Whetzel. Motion carried, and the meeting was closed at 7:25 pm.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Norton declared the meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm. The next meeting of the Student Senate will be held March 28, 2001, at 6 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Osborn". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

John Osborn
Acting Secretary
March 27, 2001