

Notre Dame Student Senate

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

28 October 1998

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- A. Chairwoman Andrea Selak called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
- B. Chaplain Philip Donner led the invocation.
- C. The following senators were absent: Peter McCall (Stanford Hall) and Kevin Shannon (O'Neill Hall).
- D. The Executive Summary from 08 October 1998 was approved with a correction: I. C. *Philip* Dittmar (Fisher Hall) was absent.

II. PODIUM

- A. Acting Director of Career and Placement Services: Dr. Russell Kitchner
 - Dr Kitchner came to Notre Dame two years ago to help graduate students find academic or private sector jobs.
 - As Acting Director of Career and Placement, Dr. Kitchner feels that his challenge is to maintain the course the University of Notre Dame set with regard to Career and Placement. He feels a responsibility to strengthen and enhance opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students in terms of their future careers.
 - The Career and Placement offices, maybe should be referred to as Career and Development, assists the student in the presentation and the marketing of oneself to various companies. One of the ways to make this process easier will be the installation of an Internet component into the Career and Placement Services. This component will allow students to register for an interview, watch deadlines, etc. It is the goal of Career and Placement to make this as user friendly as possible.
 - Although the Internet component will be an outstanding addition to the Career and Placement service, the offices located in Flanner Hall will still be there to assist students throughout the process. The facilities in Flanner Hall are probably one of the finest in the nation.
 - He is very unhappy when he hears that students cannot see a career counselor for two to three weeks. That is unacceptable; the problem is partly a staff issue, but he pledged not to hide behind that front. He will work to do everything within his power to strengthen Career and Placement and help it to work smarter.
 - For students who might be going to Career and Placement for this first time, Dr. Kitchner suggested that students use the Career Library utilizing the Career Guide to identify the hot professions, consider which resources are available in that profession, and just to become acclimated with the facility. If you would like to talk to a career counselor, do not wait too long. Schedule an appointment. Once the Internet is functional, that will be an excellent place for information such as what companies are coming to campus, what majors are companies interested in hiring or interviewing, etc.
 - Job and career counselors review an individual's resume: refining it and tailoring it to meet specific criteria for a particular job. They also assess an individual's strengths as pertains to a particular job. Also, counselors develop the job market for students. Notre Dame has done an excellent job preparing its students for the job market. Students are the product of the supply

side equation; counselors have not developed the demand side all that well yet for many companies do not know enough to come to Notre Dame to seek our students.

- Career and Placement has decided not to purchase new computer software for resumes and other such things because they are waiting for the Internet phase to be functional. The version currently in use is five or six years old. Notre Dame Career and Placement looked into another option: an online resume provider one with no cost to the students or to the employers, but the web site sells third party advertising.

III. REPORTS

A. Office Reports

1. Student Body President Peter Cesaro

- Student Body President Peter Cesaro repeated the Office of the President's intention to setup an online book-selling machine on the Student Government Webpage. The hope is for the book's to be cheaper due to the high cost students must pay for books at the Bookstore. President Cesaro has been talking about this with the Office of the President's Webpage designer; the Webpage designer's friend actually designed the program in one of his classes. President Cesaro talked with the Office of Information Technologies who would be willing to donate significant resources (software as well as hardware) towards this project, but it would require future student governments' consent. President Cesaro asked for Student Senate feedback on this requirement.
- The Online Book-selling Program will cost nothing for the Office of the President.
- The Office of the President will have no problems implementing the program before next semester's booksale.
- Next week is Academic Pride Week, November 3rd through November 6th. The College of Arts and Letters is on Tuesday; the College of Business Administration is on Wednesday; the College of Science is on Thursday; the College of Engineering, the First Year Studies Program as well as the School of Architecture are on Friday. This week the deans, assistant deans, and program directors will be in the Hospitality Room of South Dining Hall. President Cesaro encouraged the senators to get their friends and hall residents to attend.
- Parking Appeals Board will be holding its first office hours on Thursday, October 29th. Ticket Appeal forms will be available in the Office of the President.
- The Office of the President is sponsoring a bonfire before the Louisiana State University football game on Thursday, November 19, 1998

2. Student Body Vice-President Andrea Selak

- Student Body Vice-President reminded senators of the lunch tomorrow with Mr. Kirk, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Shumaker at the Hospitality Room of South Dining Hall.
- Andrea invited Student Government representatives involved with Campus Improvements to the lunch as well.
- Andrea announced an event happening in the Montgomery Theater entitled "You Too Can Have Fun in South Bend." The event begins at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 1998.

3. Student Union Secretary Michael Palumbo

- Nothing to report

B. Committee Reports

1. Non-Discrimination Clause (Senator Pat Foy, Chairman)

- Senator Foy announced that the Non Discrimination Clause had held a meeting which elected him as Chair.

- Senator Foy established the time in which the Committee will be meeting which is on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.
2. Academic Affairs (Senators Ryan Costantini and Drew Olejnik, Co-Chairmen)
 - Senator Costantini stated that Academic Affairs had an order under New Business on the agenda: the Office of the President begin an investigation into the need for an educational program for students to prepare them for handling their own finances after graduation; and, if the Office of the President finds such a program necessary, that it work to implement one as soon as possible.
 - Senator Olejnik encouraged senators to take back to their halls the information provided by Dr. Kitchner concerning the Career and Placement Services.
 3. Ethics (Senator Jason Linster, Chairman)
 - Senator Linster had nothing to report.
 - No progress on the Student Senate T-shirts.
 4. Gender Relations (Senator Sophie Fortin, Chairwoman)
 - Senator Fortin stated that the Gender Relations Committee had met with Student Government Executive Coordinator of Gender Relations Kim Gibson to discuss last year's progress and the brother-sister dorm issue. Also the Women's Resource Center issue came up; the committee decided to talk with the officers of the WRC about this issue.
 - Senator Fortin announced a meeting of Hall Gender Relations Commissioners Thursday, October 29, 1998 at 6:30 p.m.
 - Senator Fortin raised concerns over the D-Tex problem; she is compiling questions to be presented to Mr. Kirk.
 - Senator Fortin announced the possibilities of joint-sponsorship of Gender Relations Week with the Women's Resource Center.
 5. Multicultural Affairs (Senator Stephany Foster, Chairwoman)
 - Senator Foster stated that a different multicultural center model is being investigated; the one mentioned was at the University of Southern California. Information will be presented on that research to the appropriate people.
 - Senator Foster reminded the Senate that Mr. Kevin Huie would return to update it on the progress of events regarding the proposal.
 6. Residence Life (Senator Matt Mamak, Chairman)
 - Senator Mamak told the Senate that Resolution S9899-31, which was passed three weeks ago, asked for student involvement in the process to create more social space. The resolution passed by the Campus Life Council goes even further. It asks the Office of Student Affairs to involve students when discussions and decisions regarding the type of social space and its location are to be determined and that Professor Patricia O'Hara, Vice President for Student Affairs, inform the Board of Trustees and Officers of the University of the Campus Life Council's recommendation regarding social space on campus.
 - Senator Mamak stated his belief that the Thursday lunch meeting with Mr. Kirk, Mr. Shumaker, and Mr. Smith would be the driving force for the rest of the semester.
 - Senator Mamak said the Bookstore Resolution should be on the floor of the Senate next week.
 - Senator Esenwein, Vice-Chair of the Residence Life Committee, presented to each senator a copy of the dining hall's response to student concerns. Senator Esenwein further noted the dining hall's willingness to work with students and their responsiveness to student complaints.

- Senator Olejnik suggested that since the dining hall was so receptive, why not have senators or even dining hall managers, if they were willing, set up a table by the dining hall suggestion box to answer student questions.
7. Oversight (Senator Brian O'Donoghue, Chairman)
- Senator O'Donoghue stated that the Oversight Committee was in the midst of receiving transition reports and evaluation reports from the various Student Union entities.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Order S9899-33: Financial Education Order
- Senator Costantini motions to bring Order S9899-33 to the Student Senate floor; Senator Mamak seconds the motion.
 - Senator Costantini asked Peter and Andrea to meet with the Academic Affairs Committee to brainstorm about this order. Senator Costantini mentioned that he had intentions to give Peter and Andrea ample leeway on this, but he thought the Committee might have some good ideas.
 - Senator Stefko motioned for unanimous consent; Senator Balchunas objected.
 - Senator Olejnik motioned for previous question; Senator Costantini seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a two-thirds vote.
 - Order S9899-33 was approved by the Student Senate with a vote of 23 to 1 to 0.
- B. Letter of Nomination for Mr. Garrett Skiba as 1998-1999 The Shirt Project Coordinator
- Mr. Maus stated that he had been Coordinator for the past three semesters. But due to him going abroad next semester, Mr. Maus would be unable to fulfill his capacities as Coordinator. He thus nominated Mr. Garrett Skiba as the 1998-1999 The Shirt Project Coordinator.
 - Mr. Skiba, according to Mr. Maus, has worked with him in such capacities as delivery, warehousing, making contacts, etc.
 - Last year, Mr. Ryan Harding nominated Mr. Maus as The Shirt Project Coordinator since Mr. Maus was returning to the post. Thus, Mr. Maus nominated Mr. Skiba for the post according to precedent.

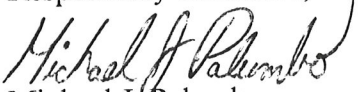
VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. April Davis, Co-Coordinator of the Learning to Talk About Race Retreat, asked the Student Senate if there was anyone else still interested in attending the LTR. The retreat begins on Friday, November 13th at 5:15 p.m. and lasts till Saturday, November 14th at 5:00 p.m.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- The Student Senate adjourned at 7:10 p.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 1998. Its next meeting is Wednesday, November 04, 1998 in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Palumbo
Student Union Secretary