

Notre Dame Student Senate

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

09 December 1998

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- A. Chairwoman Andrea Selak called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
- B. Student Senate Chaplain Philip Donner led the invocation.
- C. The following senators were present: Ms. Balchunas, Ms. Boselli, Mr. Costantini, Mr. Dittmar, Mr. DuWors, Mr. Ernst, Ms. Esenwein, Ms. Fortin, Ms. Foster, Mr. Foy, Ms. Gertken, Ms. Gloss, Ms. Guziec, Ms. Herlihy, Mr. Linster, Mr. Mamak, Mr. McCall, Ms. Mendoza, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Ogorzalek, Mr. Olejnik, Mr. Penton, Ms. Roberts, Ms. Rompf, Mr. Shannon, Mr. Stefko, and Ms. Tomes.
- D. The following senator was absent: ~~Mr. Doyle~~.
- E. The Executive Summary from 02 December 1998 was unanimously approved.

II. REPORTS

A. Officer Reports

1. Student Body President Peter Cesaro

- Mr. Cesaro reported the Office of the President concluded its work with Project Warmth on December 04, 1998. The Office of the President is working on Irish Elves and social concern areas with the Center for the Homeless.
- Mr. Cesaro announced the Office of the President's intentions to provide the Board of Trustees with a supplementary report on behalf of the students updating them on the progress of work done already on the fall report for their February meeting in London, England (to dedicate the new London facility).
- Mr. Cesaro announced that the Office of the President is continuing to plan for the spring 1999 Semester.
- Mr. Cesaro decided to forgo his report concerning the Executive Cabinet meeting on December 07, 1998 until the second meeting began.

2. Student Body Vice President Andrea Selak

- Ms. Selak reported that Student Senate T-shirt money could be given to Mr. Linster.
- Ms. Selak reported that money for the Student Senate Christmas Dinner could be given to her. \$6.00 must be given to Ms. Selak in advance of the dinner.
- Ms. Selak read a response letter from Professor Carroll Westfall, Chairman of the School of Architecture.

3. Student Union Secretary Michael Palumbo

- Nothing to report.

B. Committee Reports

1. Academic Affairs (Senator Ryan Costantini and Senator Drew Olejnik, Co-Chairmen)

- Senator Costantini reported that the Academic Affairs Committee submitted S9899-46 for Senate consideration, a resolution requesting bulletin boards in DeBartolo Hall.

2. Ethics (Senator Jason Linster, Chairman)

- Senator Linster announced Student Senate T-shirt money could be delivered to 224 Dillon Hall or given to Ms. Selak.

3. Gender Relations (Senator Sophie Fortin, Chairwoman)
 - Senator Fortin reported the Gender Relations Committee's decision to elect a new co-chairperson of the Committee. The new co-chairperson to serve along with Senator Fortin is Senator Tom Ogorzalek.
 - Senator Fortin reported that the committee would work on campus security issues next semester as well as shuttles to Saint Mary's College and parietals.
4. Multicultural Affairs (Senator Stephany Foster, Chairwoman)
 - Senator Linster reported that the Multicultural Affairs Committee submitted S9899-47 for Senate consideration, a resolution expressing Student Senate's Endorsement of the Diversity Forum.
5. Residence Life (Senator Matt Mamak, Chairman)
 - Senator Mamak reported that the Residence Life Committee submitted S9899-41 for Senate consideration, a resolution in support of social space in the Library. He mentioned that this resolution would go directly to the Director of the Library if passed. The Campus Life Council approved a similar resolution on Monday, December 07, 1998 by a vote margin of 14 to 1.
6. Oversight (Senator Brian O'Donoghue)
 - Senator O'Donoghue reported that the Student Senate Executive Committee submitted S9899-45, a bylaw that states Student Senate committee chairs would report to the Hall Presidents' Council on a rotating weekly basis.

III. PODIUM

A. Faculty Senate Chairman Professor Michael Detlefsen

- Professor Detlefsen updated the Student Senate on happenings of the Faculty Senate for the fall 1998 semester: The Faculty Senate's Student Affairs Standing Committee has studied the actions taken by Mr. Joseph Cassidy, Director of Student Activities, which banned the Women's Resource Center. Led by Dean Ava Preacher, the committee is preparing a proposal calling for the removal of the ban on the Women's Resource Center. The Student Affairs Committee is also preparing a report on the University's Honor Code policies and Teacher Course Evaluations, both after thorough studies and research into these issues.
- Recently the Faculty Senate passed a resolution calling for the University to enter into negotiations with the Academic Consortium of the Big Ten Conference. This decision was based purely on academic reasons for this consortium provides enormous resources and talent in the areas of research. Principles guiding the Academic Consortium are as follows: no single institution can or should attempt to be all things to all people; institutional cooperation fosters experiment; and cooperation can enhance institutional diversity by freeing the institution and allowing it to focus on the aspects that make it distinctive. The Faculty Senate would have loved to investigate how joining the Big Ten Conference would have affected Notre Dame as a catholic institution, but the approved resolution does not recommend to the University to join the Big Ten Conference. It only calls for the University to enter into formal negotiations.
- Faculty Senate played an integral part in the eventual passage of the Non-Discrimination Clause by the Academic Council. The Faculty Senate moved in May 1996 to add the non-discrimination clause to the University's Non-Discrimination Clauses. It did so with partial success. The Senate then renewed its resolution in May 1997, which then was placed on the Academic Council's agenda. The resolution after two Academic Council meetings was passed (19 to 15 to 2), which now goes to President Malloy for his signature. President Malloy can not vote on it, simply allowing the Board of Trustees to make the ultimate decision.

- Senator Mamak suggested the creation of an ad hoc Big Ten Conference Committee to investigate into the options of the University and the effects of possible membership on the University of Notre Dame.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Formal Approval of Mr. Stephen Sanchez as Student Senate Parliamentarian

- Senator Olejnik motioned to bring the nomination on the floor of the Senate; Senator O'Donoghue seconded the motion.
- Senator Esenwein motioned for unanimous consent on the nomination.
- Hearing no objections, Mr. Stephen Sanchez was formally approved as Student Senate Parliamentarian.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution S9899-41: A Resolution in Support of Social Space in the Library

- Senator Mamak motioned to bring Resolution S9899-41 to the Senate floor; Senator Gertken seconded the motion.
- Senator Foy offered a friendly amendment to Resolution S9899-41: in the first Whereas Clause, correct the spelling of "WHERERAS" to "WHEREAS." Senator Mamak and Senator Gertken both accepted the friendly amendment.
- Senator Linster motioned for unanimous consent of Resolution S9899-41.
- Hearing no objections, Resolution S9899-41 was unanimously approved.

B. Bylaw S9899-45: Student Senate Chairs Reporting to the Hall Presidents' Council Bylaw

- Senator Linster motioned to bring S9899-45 to the Senate floor; Senator Olejnik seconded the motion.
- Senator Linster noted that the reason for this bylaw was the lack of communication between Hall Presidents' Council and Student Senate. It would be done on a rotating basis between the standing committee chairs.
- Senator O'Donoghue offered a friendly amendment to Resolution S9899-45: insert the word "standing" between Senate and committee ("The Student Union Senate *standing* committee chairs..."). Senator Linster and Senator Olejnik both accepted the friendly amendment.
- Senator Shannon motioned for previous question if no objections. Resolution S9899-45 was approved with a vote margin of 27 to 0 to 0.

C. Resolution S9899-46: A Resolution Requesting Bulletin Boards in DeBartolo Hall

- Senator Costantini motioned to bring Resolution S9899-46 to the Senate floor; Senator Olejnik seconded the motion.
- Senator Costantini noted that there are no public bulletin boards in DeBartolo Hall or College of Business Administration Building, two buildings that are heavily frequented by students.
- Senator Costantini replied to Senator Rompf's question by stating that the Academic Affairs Committee would handle the academic buildings, which Residence Life Committee would handle the residence halls in an attempt to acquire more bulletin board space.
- Senator Gertken motioned for previous question if there were no objections. Resolution S9899-46 was approved with a vote margin of 27 to 0 to 0.

D. Resolution S9899-47: A Resolution Expressing Student Senate's Endorsement of the Diversity Forum

- Senator Linster motioned to bring Resolution S9899-47 to the Senate floor; Senator Olejnik seconded the motion.
- The Diversity Forum is on Thursday, January 21, 1999 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

- Senator Foster offered a friendly amendment to Resolution S9899-47: in the Therefore Clause, correct the tense of the verb from “are” to “is.” (...endorses this event and *is* willing to attend”). Senator Linster and Senator Olejnik both accepted the friendly amendment.
- Senator Foster noted that Student Government and Zahm Hall were funding the event financially.
- Senator Olejnik motioned for previous question if there were no objections. Resolution S9899-47 was approved with a vote margin of 26 to 1 to 0.

E. Formal Approval for the Creation of the Big Ten Conference Ad Hoc Committee

- Senator Gertken motioned to bring the matter to the Senate floor; Senator Mamak seconded the motion.
- This committee will work with the Faculty Senate and the Athletic Department to accumulate information for the Student Senate. A resolution is not the end goal of this committee, but it can be the result.
- Mr. Cassidy suggested the precarious timeline of this committee considering the Board of Trustees’ meeting in February and the first Student Senate meeting of the year.
- Senator Gertken motioned for previous question if there were no objections. The Big Ten Conference Ad Hoc Committee was created by a vote margin of 27 to 0 to 0.

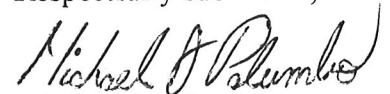
VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- This upcoming recess will be a five-minute recess. Senator Gertken urged all senators to read over the packet of information before the next meeting.
- Senator Linster congratulated Senator Ogorzalek for being a finalist in the Quiz Bowl.
- Senator Foster thanked the Student Senate for a wonderful time during this semester.
- Mr. Cassidy announced that the deadline for applying to the 7 Habits of Highly Successful People Program is Friday, December 11, 1998.
- Senator Foy thanked Badin Hall for finally having a successful brother-sister hall event.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- The Student Senate stood in recess at 6:57 p.m. on Wednesday, December 09, 1998.

Respectfully submitted,


 Michael J. Palumbo
 Student Union Secretary