

Notre Dame Student Senate

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

13 January 1999

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 at the meeting: Ms. Balchunas, Ms. Boselli, Mr. Costantini, Mr. Dittmar, Mr. DuWors, Mr. Ernst, Ms. Fortin, Mr. Foy, Ms. Gertken, Ms. Gloss, Ms. Guziec, Ms. Herlihy, Ms. Jacobs, Mr. Linster, Mr. Mamak, Mr. McCall, Ms. Mendoza, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Ogorzalek, Mr. Olejnik, Mr. Penton, Ms. Roberts, Mr. Shannon, Ms. Sonnycalb, Ms. Starman, Mr. Stefko, and Ms. Tomes.
- D. The following senator was absent from the meeting: Mr. Shannon (excused).
- E. The Executive Summary from 09 December 1998 was approved with correction: On the Executive Summary from December 09, 1998, Senator Mickey Doyle was incorrectly recorded as absent (I. Opening Business, letter E.)

II. REPORTS

A. Officer Reports

1. Student Body President Peter Cesaro
 - Mr. Cesaro announced the probably date for his second semester State of the Student Union address as January 27, 1999.
 - Mr. Cesaro announced the intentions of the Office of the President to continue the Academic Pride lunches, work on multicultural affairs presentations with the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, research the Big Ten Conference issue, and encourage the online booksale, work with the residence halls on the Hall Fellows' Program.
 - The Office of the President's online booksale was discussed. Suggestions were given to improve the program as well as a discussion of the apparent problems.
2. Student Body Vice-President Andrea Selak
 - Ms. Selak welcomed three new senators, who will serve due to vacancies left by their predecessors' decisions to go abroad. Meredith Sonnycalb, a sophomore from McGlenn Hall will serve on the Academic Affairs and Residence Life Committees; Kelly Starman, a junior from Pasquerilla Hall East will serve on the Academic Affairs and Gender Relations Committees; and Christine Jacobs, a sophomore from Howard Hall, will serve on the Gender Relations and Oversight Committees.
 - Ms. Selak read from two letters received over the Christmas holidays: Mr. Lyphout concerning the South Dining Hall backpack policy, and the Kellogg Institute concerning the recording of lectures.
 - Martin Luther King Jr. celebrations: Monday, January 18, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. in LaFortune, Tuesday, January 19, 1998 at 7
 - Student Senate T-shirts have arrived. The cost is \$8.00.
 - Big Ten ad hoc committee meeting immediately following this meeting.
3. Student Union Secretary Michael Palumbo
 - Mr. Palumbo informed senators of the new Senator Information spreadsheet as well as the new Committee Membership spreadsheets. If there are any changes, please let him know.
 - The second installment of the December 09, 1999 will be handed out at the January 20, 1999 meeting due to the large volume of information.

B. Committee Reports

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

- Mr. Costantini reported the Academic Affairs Committee would continue to meet on Sundays at 6:00 p.m. on the second floor of LaFortune Student Center.
 - Mr. Costantini welcomed the new committee members and discussed one of the first orders on his committee's agenda as tutoring services.
 - Mr. Olejnik elaborated on the tutoring service notion by saying the committee will try to formulate an ideal system (how much the service costs) of tutoring to present to the Board of Trustees in a supplement report for their February meeting in London.
2. Ethics (Senator Jason Linster, Chairman)
 - Mr. Linster reported the Student Senate T-shirts were in and were being sold at \$8.00. The Student Senate was planning on covering the additional eighty-nine cents in shipping costs per T-shirt.
 3. Gender Relations (Senator Sophie Fortin and Senator Tom Ogorzalek, Co-chairpersons)
 - Ms. Fortin reported the committee did not meet, but she did report that she would e-mail committee members concerning the day and time of the meetings.
 4. Multicultural Affairs (Senator Karen Boselli, Chairwoman)
 - Ms. Boselli reported that the Celebration of Cultures would take place on Thursday, January 21, 1999 in the LaFortune Student Center Ballroom. At 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Voices of Faith Choir will perform and pizza and soda will be served. At 6:30 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. Ms. Chandra Johnson will speak. At 6:40 p.m. to 7:10 p.m. six ethnic organizations will ask prepared questions to a panel of representatives in order to allow them to talk about their experience as a minority on campus, to explain the purpose and need for their organization, and to educate students on the prejudice that occurs on campus. At 7:10 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. time for each organization to briefly let student know how to get involved with questions from audience. Finally, at 7:50 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Ms. Iris Outlaw will speak about the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs.
 5. Residence Life (Senator Matt Mamak, Chairman)
 - Mr. Mamak reported the Residence Life Committee would continue to meet in 105 O'Shaughnessy Hall at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays.
 - Mr. Mamak encouraged senators to keep at their work, to execute all the ideas that are coming in because there are only ten Student Senate meetings left until the end of the term.
 6. Oversight (Senator Rhea Gertken, Chairwoman)
 - Ms. Gertken reported that she had been elected Oversight Committee Chairwoman.
 - At the committee's meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 1999, the Executive Cabinet Contingency Fund was discussed the results of which can be found in Bylaw S9899-51. 2.25% of the Student Union budget shall be placed in a contingency fund to be allocated by the Executive Cabinet for the purpose of co-sponsorship. The prerequisite for appealing for this fund is as follows: at least one club and another Student Union organization must be involved. This bylaw shall be reviewed by the Student Senate oversight committee and put up for final approval by the Student Senate in spring 2000. If it is not approved by the Senate, this bylaw will expire at the end of fiscal year 1999-2000.
 7. Big 10
 - Ms. Selak announced that the Big Ten meeting immediately after the Student Senate meeting today would be for electing a committee chair.

III. PODIUM

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Bylaw S9899-51: Executive Cabinet Contingency Fund for the Purpose of Co-sponsorship Bylaw
 - Ms. Gertken motioned to bring Bylaw S9899-51 to the Student Senate floor; Mr. Mamak seconded the motion.
 - Ms. Gertken stated that Bylaw S9899-51 was the product of a compromise plan worked out by Mr. Joe Cassidy and Mr. Peter Cesaro to place the additional 2.25% in a contingency for under Executive

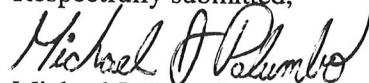
- Cabinet. There would be only one stipulation to applying for the funds, and that is at least one club and another Student Union organization must be co-sponsoring the event or program. In case this plan does not work, there is a safety catch: the 1999-2000 Student Senate must reaffirm this bylaw.
- If the fund does not get fully used, the money rolls over into the general Student Union account. This 2.25% is equivalent to approximately \$14,000.
 - Other branches of the Student Union approved of this plan as discussed at the December 09, 1998 meeting---Office of the President, Hall Presidents' Council, the Class Councils, and Student Union Board.
 - Mr. O'Donoghue objected to this bylaw because one member of the Executive Cabinet objected to it, and the bylaw was inconsistent with the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body. Therefore, Mr. O'Donoghue motioned to send this bylaw back to the Oversight Committee. Mr. Costantini seconded the motion.
 - Mr. Mamak spoke against the motion to send it back to committee. Last year, Campus Hook-Up money was allocated to the Executive Cabinet in order to pay for the paper. So, there is precedence for money being allocated to the Executive Cabinet.
 - The motion to send Bylaw S9899-51 back to the Oversight Committee failed 8 to 17.
 - Ms. Gertken stated that the 2.25% was not permanent but could be fixed next year by the new Student Senate.
 - Mr. Costantini proposed an amendment to the Bylaw: The amendment was seconded by Mr. Foy.
 - Mr. Linster opposed the amendment. He concluded that there was trust between the Executive Cabinet and the Student Senate. The Student Senate cannot oversee everything, but the clubs and other organizations are represented on Executive Cabinet, so they have a fair opportunity to attain more money through the contingency fund.
 - Mr. Stefko offers a friendly amendment to the amendment. "*The Student Senate has the power to approve decisions by the Executive Cabinet as it relates to this contingency fund.*" The friendly amendment was accepted by both Mr. Costantini and Mr. Foy.
 - Mr. Mamak and Mr. Cesaro concurred that the Executive Cabinet would not be given policy power but only power to make programming decisions as it was empowered to by the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body.
 - The amendment as proposed by Mr. Costantini failed 3 to 24.
 - Mr. Olejnik suggested placing the words "at least" before the statistic 2.25% but that change was not acted upon since the Student Senate could change the Bylaw in the future.
 - Bylaw S9899-51 was approved by the Student Senate by a vote margin of 22 to 3.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- The Student Senate adjourned at 7:10 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 1999. Its next meeting will be Wednesday, January 20, 1999 in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Palumbo
Student Union Secretary

