

Notre Dame Student Senate

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

10 February 1999

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- A. Chairwoman Andrea Selak called the meeting to order at 6:01 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. Doyle, Mr. DuWors, Mr. Ernst, 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, Ms. Sonnycalb, Ms. Starman, Mr. Stefko, and Ms. Tomes.
- D. The following senators were absent at this meeting: Ms. Fortin and Mr. Shannon.
- E. The Executive Summary from 03 February 1999 was unanimously approved.

II. REPORTS

A. Officer Reports

1. Student Body President Peter Cesaro

- Mr. Cesaro reported that the Office of the President is working on the Academic Pride Series. Letters were mailed out to the deans and department secretaries this week. The Academic Pride Series is focusing on all the majors across campus. A schedule of lunches will be brought next week. Mr. Cesaro encouraged senators to talk this program up.
- The Office of the President is continuing its work with the Office of Information Technologies on two issues: the improvement of the online booksale and the process of the updating students on Y2K issues.
- The Office of the President is also working with the Office of Student Affairs and the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs on diversity education programs.
- The Office of the President is working with some senators and the Board of Trustees' Report Committee on topics for the Spring 1999 report.
- The Office of the President is working on the Neighborhood Roots Program. Sign-ups are February 10, 1999 through February 12, 1999 in the dining halls or the Center for Social Concerns.
- The Office of the President is working with financial life skills sessions.
- Mr. Cesaro encouraged the Student Senate to prepare legislation for more student involvement on Commencement discussions and encouraging professors and deans on collaborative learning.
- The Office of the President is sponsoring a Saint Patrick's T-shirt Contest in which applications are being taken for the best design.

2. Student Body Vice-President Andrea Selak

- Ms. Selak reminded the Student Senate that T-shirts were still on sale for \$8.00
- Mr. Stefko introduced Mr. Patrick Bedell as the new Zahm Hall Senator.

3. Student Union Secretary Michael Palumbo

- Mr. Palumbo thanked all of the senators who helped with the Murphy/Palumbo election campaign.

B. Committee Reports

1. Academic Affairs (Senator Ryan Costantini and Senator Drew Olejnik, Co-chairmen)
 - Mr. Costantini reported that the Academic Affairs Committee is working on several resolutions and letters. He hoped that the left-handed desk resolution would be ready for the February 17, 1999 meeting.
 - Mr. Olejnik reported that the Academic Affairs Committee would work closely with the Office of the President more on Career and Placement services as well as a trip to the Harvard University Writing Center.
 - Mr. Olejnik mentioned that no one attended the informational meeting for the Board of Trustees' Spring 1999 Report. Possible topics, which shall be submitted to the Student Senate next week, include a look at the International Studies' Programs and Experiential Learning.
 - While attending the Hall Presidents' Council meeting on February 09, 1999, Mr. Olejnik was asked to look into higher parking lot signs. Parking lot signs are still in the works for D6.
2. Ethics (Senator Jason Linster, Chairman)
 - Mr. Linster had nothing to report.
3. Gender Relations (Senator Sophie Fortin and Senator Tom Ogorzalek, Co-chairpersons)
 - Mr. Ogorzalek reported that the Gender Relations Committee is working with the Office of the President on a Gender Relations Week.
4. Multicultural Affairs (Senator Karen Boselli, Chairwoman)
 - Ms. Boselli reported that the Multicultural Affairs Committee was looking into the possibility of Hall Presidents' Council attending a Prejudice Reduction Workshop.
5. Residence Life (Senator Matt Mamak, Chairman)
 - Mr. Mamak reported that the Residence Life Committee had compiled an agenda for the reminded of the Student Senate's 1998-1999 term. First, parietals in the form of the Parietal Surveys which would be mailed out on Thursday, February 11, 1999. The return date is February 26, 1999. A few years back, three resolutions were sent to the Campus Life Council regarding parietals: one asked rectors to push forward the morning parietal; the other two were expansion of night parietals. Also, the Residence Life Committee is looking at the strange hours of parietals during Junior Parents' Weekend and during breaks. The Committee is drafting a letter to be sent to rectors urging them to reconsider this policy since the University sets no restriction on these occasions.
 - Second, the Residence Life Committee is looking at the Bookstore: one for the Office of the President to continue the online booksale, and one to the Faculty Senate encouraging professors to send in their book request forms on time.
 - Third, the Residence Life Committee is looking at the Flex 14 and Grab-n-Go programs.
 - Fourth, the Residence Life Committee is looking at University policies regarding dance regulations.
 - Fifth, the Residence Life Committee is looking into the process where students can complain about their rector without facing backlash in the residence hall.
 - Finally, the Residence Life Committee is looking into the Reckers problem and how to contain the alcohol problem there.
 - Ms. Gloss
6. Oversight (Senator Rhea Gertken, Chairwoman)
 - Ms. Gertken reported that the Oversight Committee is continuing its work on Bylaws.

III. PODIUM

A. Board of Trustees' Spring 1999 Report Topic: Non-Discrimination Clause

- Mr. Linster did not think that the Non-Discrimination Clause was an appropriate topic because the University officers and Board of Trustees already voted it down. Also a majority of students are against the clause. Students should not push an issue that the students know the Board would not pass.
- Ms. Roberts stated that the Board of Fellows met on December 01, 1998 to discuss the Non-Discrimination Clause. They decided not to support the addition of the clause, and at the February 05, 1999, the Board of Trustees followed the recommendation of the Fellows.
- Mr. Steven D'Avria addressed the Student Senate asking them to look into the shuttle service. He stated that he was not arriving to class on time because of the route that the shuttle takes.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Cesaro asked to see all Campus Life Council senators after the meeting.
- Ms. Gloss thanked all senators and people who helped with the Parietals Survey.
- Mr. Linster thanked all those who participated in the Irish Iron Classic.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- The Student Senate adjourned at 6:29 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 1999. Its next meeting will be Wednesday, February 17, 1999 in the Notre Dame Room, LaFortune at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Palumbo
Student Union Secretary

