

January 29, 1997

Dear Trustees,

The Student Senate has recently finished discussing the possibility of increased student participation with the Board of Trustees. While the Board of Trustees currently receives input from the Office of Student Government, we believe student presence at each Board of Trustees meeting would provide members with more accurate information and heightened insight into the state of the University community. The Student Senate believes that student perspectives and viewpoints, when injected into the decision making process, would yield more informed discussions and more effective results.

The Student Senate recommends, through a unanimous resolution, that one student each year participate with the Board of Trustees at all Board of Trustees activities and meetings. Although this student would be included in all Board of Trustees discussions and debates, we suggest that he or she have no voting privileges and be held to strict standards of confidentiality. Understanding the paramount importance of the selection process, we have not attempted to make a concrete recommendation concerning this facet of our proposal. The Student Senate is willing to work with the Board of Trustees or university administrators to develop an appropriate selection process.

Our motivation is to provide the Board of Trustees with the best available information about our community and student life at the University of Notre Dame. We believe that student perspective would heighten the awareness of the Board of Trustees and contribute to the decision making process. Thank you for considering our recommendations.

Sincerely,

The Student Senate

