

Student Senate
January 29, 1997

I. Meeting called to order at 4³³ by Seth Miller

II. opening prayer by Seth

III. ~~Roll Call~~ Roll Call

Members absent: Brendan Tobin, Bill Hammonds, Alfonso Kennard, Peter Meyer, Roy Gallagher, & Joe Cassidy.

IV. Old Business

(A) Academic Issues / SACC

Brendan Kelly: There is a student representative on the SACC and 3 undergrads and 1 law student on the University's academic council. SACC has met to discuss its priorities and we have met w/ Nathan Hatch who is very student-oriented. We have also met with the Keneb Center for teaching on issues of how to improve teaching methods here. We have been working on re-focusing the TCE's. We are discussing the possibility of publishing the TCE's in the form of The Guide - that would make it more statistical. We ran a survey on academic advising and those results are not public yet but probably will be eventually. The University is doing a lot to reform the advising systems and student input is key. The focus is the undergraduate programs at ND.

Mike Tobin: who ran the survey?

Brendan: The Academic Council

Mike Irvine: Were there any issues for students abroad?
Brendan: Just that there was not a lot of

consistency amongst the programs.

Aaren: How do you find out who your advisor is?

Brendan: It depends on your major. Architecture

is great, A&L is a little different.

Mike Tobin: Is there something Senate can do?

Brendan: Just to let your constituents know that

something is being done now and if there are

any serious problems to go to the Kanab Center.

B Student Trustee

Ryan: Between last meeting and now, some people

have come to me asking about male/female

representation. This letter is just a draft - please

add your ideas (see attachment)

Mark: I'm not sure that we should discuss

what the representative will be able to do -

vote, confidentiality, etc.

Ryan: I included that because I want the proposal

to seem well-thought-out. It is a guess that we

will not have a vote, so I see no problems with

that statement.

Seth: I know that I have been accused of making

committees, but I feel that one would be

appropriate in this case so that we are well-

prepared to debate the issue.

Megan: This letter could serve as a pre-cursor to the Spring Board of Trustees Report. We have an hour and a half with them and it is a great time to present our case. Ryan could be there, many of you could be on the committee.

Ryan: First, I see it as a timely issue. Second, I see it as separate from Student Government - it is a Student Senate issue. Separating the issue from Student Government gives it some strength.

Brendan: If we are going to play devil's advocate, then let me dispel a rumor: the trustees don't have a lot of discussion and debate - they defer to the administration.

Ryan: If it mis-represents the Board, then clearly it should be changed. But I don't mean to say that the student would simply sit there.

Mark: I'm afraid that if the report comes solely from the office of the Student Body President then it is taken away from Senate.

Seeth - you are right. It would be more powerful coming from this representative body. I was thinking that we would set back and let you take control.

Julie: I'm afraid that if we give them just a little of the information then they have a lot of time to think about why we can't do it. It might defeat us before we have a chance.

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Mike Levine: I hate to leave this until May when it just becomes part of a lot of important issues. I think we should move on it now.

Shane: We shouldn't assume that a letter would be

received negatively.

Tony: They want us to do our homework. Maybe we

should make this later more of an inquiry so

we know exactly what information they need.

Egan: This letter is very concrete - student

trustee, no vote, participation in subcommittees. I

don't know if there is a lot of homework to do.

Tony: How will this person be elected? How will

they get to Florida? Etc. There are a lot of

unanswered questions.

Egan: I don't want our "suggestions" to get shared

down their throats.

Mike Tobin: I agree with Egan. I don't really think

that we are in the position to make such a

suggestion now. We don't want to offend them.

Egan: Then let's send a letter to them saying that

we are working on a proposal for a student

trustee and we will have our complete presentation

ready in May as a presentation from student

Senate during student government's time with

the Board of Trustees.

Shane: The more time they have to talk about this the better for us. They can start working on what they think.

Mary Slatt: If they are interested in what students have to say, then we should get this going. Ryan is right.

Devon: Getting a letter together by next week is tough. May is more manageable. I like the idea of introducing the Trustees to it, ~~but~~ ^{but} the time constraint bothers me.

Ryan: Let's vote on sending a letter to the Board in Florida that mentions a student trustee w/ more info to come in May.

Seth: And I want to ask for time in May only - so we don't open ourselves up to objection.

Ryan: I call my statement to question \neq Mark Leen seconds.

Roll call vote: 8 yes, ~~7~~ 8 no
Motion defeated.

(C) Budget Committee

Erin: Budget committee just finished a spending review and budget allocations. I am looking for approval on the spread sheet labeled "Budget allocations". (See attached)

Matt Griffin: I move for unanimous consent
Erin seconds.

Budget allocations approved.

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D) Back to Trustee Ryan: I withdrew my motion and move that we form a subcommittee to draft a letter to send within the month that requests time at the Spring presentation.

-Mike brought moves for unanimous consent

-Mark seconds.

-Motion carries.

E) Bill's letter to Administration

-Mark moves for unanimous consent of the letter with grammatical corrections. (see attached)

-Aron seconds.

-Motion carried.

F) Trustee Sub-Committee

Surrey: I nominate Ryan as the committee head. ~~and~~ Aron seconds. Unanimous consent.

G) Parking Lots

Tom Hattie: The fate of D6 is as follows:

female South Quad members, Carroll Hill,

South Quad male seniors, and Juniors according to lettering will be in D6. Everyone else in D2.

Closing Prayer by ~~Thomas~~ Mary Gillard.

Meeting adjourned by Seth at 5:52.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas Hattie