

Student Senate  
Executive Summary  
Wednesday, September 16, 2015

- I. Invocation
  - A. Meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM
  - B. Dylan McDonough led invocation
- II. Roll Call
  - A. 0 were late; 1 was absent
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Reynaldo Lopez moved to approve the minutes
    1. Jack Kil seconded
- IV. Officer Announcements
  - A. Mr. Bryan Ricketts, Student Body President
    1. Stadium water bottle prices are now \$1 for 12 Oz instead for \$2 for 24 Oz
  - B. Ms. Nidia Ruelas, Student Body Vice President
    1. General Orders are changed in order, Sustainability discussion will be first, followed by NOVO Registration, and we'll finish with the *Onward* Forum presentation
    2. Few guest speakers today, be mindful and respectful of their time.
    3. Whenever you get emails from Nidia, make sure you're reading through the agenda and the announcements. There will be announcement coming up about ALLY training with Moe Mckenney
    4. Accounting Test next Wednesday at 6:30, if you're taking this test and can not make Senate, email Sib and Nidia as soon as possible. It's important to make sure we can make proxy, and if we can't, we need to cancel Senate.
      - a) Talk to professors about rescheduling your meeting.
      - b) Email Nidia and Sib by THIS Sunday
  - C. Mr. Dan Sehlhorst, Chief of Staff
    1. CLC has met the last three weeks and has settled on its focus groups for the year. One is Diversity and Inclusion, and the other is Alcohol Culture. Please direct any thoughts/questions/ideas you have to your Senate representatives:
      - a) Kathleen Flavin
      - b) Kevin Coleman
      - c) Abe Jenson
      - d) Ethan Holland
- V. General Orders
  - A. Presentation and Discussion Re: Sustainability Initiatives
    1. *Linda Kurtos, Director of Office of Sustainability*
    2. Changes in cooperation with Food Services to remove styrofoam cups
      - a) Office has four professionals and six interns that come up with initiatives and work on outreach with students and staff

- b) this initiative was introduced by students, didn't initiate in Office of Sustainability
- c) approx. 230,000 styrofoam cups were used last year at ND. Only .8% of all polysterene is recycled, and 0.2% of all polysterene food service packaging is recycled.
- d) Styrofoam cups create a solid waste problem, about 157 lbs a year, taking almost 500 years to decompose
- e) Creation of the polysterene that is used in the dining hall each year leads to a greenhouse gas emission of 6141 Lbs of CO<sub>2</sub>.

### 3. Process of making the decision

- a) Sampled 348 students, 92% were in favor of removing styrofoam cups, and 82% were in favor of removing bags from Grab & Go.
- b) A portion of the money we're saving from not having styrofoam cups in the dining hall is being reallocated to have local dairy farms supply dairy products in the dining halls
- c) There is no longer a size restriction if you bring in your own cup
- d) It is almost certain that we will not be able to recycle styrofoam after this year because the contract is expiring and recycling styrofoam will almost definitely not be covered in the future contracts.
- e) This is something that students can do every day to reduce their footprint, this is where students can make a difference.

### 4. Questions

- a) Christine Zavakos: We're allowed to bring our own cups to take out food?
  - (1) You can bring your own cups for froyo, the rule about other foods still stay the same
- b) John Julien: Many people would use disposable cups from the huddle, which still supplies styrofoam cups. Would a possible alternative be to supply cardboard, etc. cups at the huddle instead of styrofoam?
  - (1) We looked at replacing with paper cups, but they were more expensive. This money would come from the money reallocated to the local dairy farms

## B. Presentation and Discussion Re: NOVO Registration

### 1. *Chuck Hurley: Office of the Registrar*

### 2. History of Registration at Notre Dame

- a) Initially, every grade had a day. They would go to south dining hall (later, stepan) and pick up a card from a table for each subject they were interested in.
- b) First online class search and virtual registration were introduced in 1996

- c) Problems introduced to improve the darting system by Student Government
  - (1) grid like schedule
  - (2) new class search
  - (3) swap feature
- 3. NOVO registration
  - a) New grid like schedule and class search
  - b) Conditional add/drop introduced as a swap feature
- 4. Discussion and Questions: Where would you like to see registration go?
  - a) Jack Kill: Are there going to be information training sessions to prepare students?
    - (1) There were two the first week of this school year, but there was a very low turnout
    - (2) The system was built to be intuitive, but there will be training sessions after October break, leading up to the November registration period
  - b) Bridget Rickards: Are you considering putting out a document that has the information that will be covered in the session for students who can't make it?
    - (1) One already exists, it's on the website (and will be sent out to Senate). We're also working with Michael McRoskey to develop a training/education video for students as well
  - c) Michael Finan: The old DARTing system is still active, will it be active for the November registration system?
    - (1) It will be taken down before November registration. We kept it active just in case students wanted to use it during the start of this semester, but it was barely used
  - d) Wilson Barret: Has something been done to improve DARTings crashing problem?
    - (1) That wasn't a problem with DART until last year's spring semester. We've been talking to OIT, and we think that more people will use the new feature (Browse Classes) instead of the Old Class Search program. Browse Class feature was load tested by OIT and can handle a pretty significant load
  - e) Marissa Thompson; Is there a plan in the future to introduce the SIF information to Browse Class? Also, what does NOVO mean?
    - (1) NOVO means new in latin
    - (2) SIF information will be added to Browse Classes feature eventually. Also, Browse Classes currently doesn't default to main campus but that will be changed in the future as well

f) Isabel Fox: Will the current pattern of registration time continue where you get a good time one semester and a bad time the next semester?

(1) it's done by if your ID ends in an odd/ even number. Open to suggestions about how to approach this. We could put a class all at the same time, but there are problems with that because everyone would log on the first few minutes of registration time. Time used to be two and a half hours, now it's one hour. It's hard to find a way that works for everyone

g) Sarah Kim: When I tried to use the conditional add/drop to switch to a different section of the same class, it wasn't working. Is there a reason why?

(1) If it's a class with a co-requirement, you need to put the coreq with it, otherwise it should work.

### C. Presentation and Discussion Re: *Onward*

#### 1. *Onward* Forum Steering Committee

- a) *Bryan Ricketts; Student Body President*
- b) *Jack Kill; Director of Constituent Service, St. Edward's Hall Senator*
- c) *Michael McRoskey, Director of Campus Technology*
- d) *Sibonay Shewit, Student Union Secretary*
- e) *Madi King, Director of Communications*
- f) *Dan Sehlhorst, Chief of Staff*

2. Bryan: Wanted to create a way that every student can have their ideas be heard. Students expressed dissatisfaction about whether or not people in LaFun and the Dome actually cared about students needs. Want to reduce the idea of "Distance from the Dome." This led to the creation of *Onward*, an online forum where students can express their ideas.

3. Platform is ideascale, similar to yikyak but not anonymous. Will be tied to Notre Dame ID

4. Popular tab is the most upvoted ideas, hot tab are the most popular posts in a time period

5. Submitting idea

- a) Forum alerts you if your idea is similar to one already submitted
- b) tags have been created to relate your idea to other similar ideas

6. Commenting:

- a) Commenting is not anonymous, keeps you accountable for your ideas

7. Problem Solution Forum

- a) Falls under ideation to probable action
- b) Forum is moderated by students in a Moderation team, made up of members of Constituent Service department

- c) Moderation team is the bridge between students and faculty.
  - d) Ideas that are taken to faculty or student government are based on feasibility and popularity
  - e) Moderation team is not a policing force, but is there to maintain the constructive atmosphere of the forum
  - f) Moderation team is also prepared to respond to and pick out posts that are not appropriate for the forum (ad hominem, attacks, etc.)
8. Still working with OIT on technical details, but we're launching next week. All students will be able to access this through the Student Government website. We're currently in the Beta Testing period. If you're interested in being part of the Beta team, please email Jack Kill.
9. Questions:
- a) Marrissa Thompson: Can anyone see what you post, or just site administrators?
    - (1) Everyone who is on the site can see what you post, but it's only available for ND undergrad students (No faculty members, St. Mary's/Holy Cross students, etc.)
  - b) Kevin Coleman: How do you get to it?
    - (1) [studentgovernment.nd.edu/onward](http://studentgovernment.nd.edu/onward)
  - c) Christina Murphy: Have you thought of launching this in app form
    - (1) People don't use separate apps as much at Notre Dame, but the website is mobile friendly and will be available on the ND Mobile app
  - d) Amy Smikle: Can you be downvoted off?
    - (1) No, it will remain on the forum indefinitely. There is an archiving process, but only harmful posts are removed.

## VI. New Business

- A. Isabel Fox: About the concession stand pricing, is there a graphics that includes all the deals that can be sent out?
  - 1. Bryan: We're waiting on a new version that includes the updated water prices. It'll be prepared before this weekend and sent out soon.
  - 2. Dan: the old version is currently up on the SG twitter and Facebook

## VII. Announcement

- A. Amy Smikle: Next Thursday at 5:00 is the start of toddler for water. Giant teeter tot on the center of South Quad
  - 1. Like a 24 hour dance marathon
  - 2. 6:00-7:00 PM on thursday is a free for all for everyone who wants to participate
  - 3. Money that's raised from the t-shirt sale goes to Engineers Without Borders
  - 4. Krispy Kreme and Chic Fil A will be provided

- B. Katelyn Markley: First week of October is Think Pink week to raise money for Breast Cancer research
  - 1. Monday: ribbon distribution
  - 2. Tuesday: Five guys fundraiser
  - 3. Thursday: 5k
- C. Reynaldo Lopez: Morse Manor Lazor Battle this Thursday at 5:00 PM
- D. Louis Bertolotti:
  - 1. Acousticafe on Thursday at 10:00 outside of recker's, first 75 people in line get a free smoothie
  - 2. Inside Out this Thursday at 8:00, Friday at 8:00 and 10:30, and Sat at 10:30 in Debart 101
- E. Sean Kent: Keough Hall Chariot Race October 3rd around 2:00
  - 1. Dorms can register through Keough's president, or talk to Sean
  - 2. build day is the Friday before
- F. Christine Zavakos: Lewis Hall of Pancakes is October 9th from 10:00 PM-1:00 AM
- G. Sarah Kim: Walsh is having Mr. ND, still looking for people to sign up to represent their dorm. Email Sarah or Charlotte Hogan
- H. Marissa Thompson: SAO is having their fall club information meeting
  - 1. Monday the 21st at 7:30: Athletic clubs
  - 2. Monday the 21st at 8:30: Culture clubs
  - 3. Tuesday the 22nd at 7:30: Special Interest clubs
  - 4. Tuesday the 22nd at 8:30: Social Service clubs
  - 5. two representatives from each clubs must be in attendance
- I. Tommy Schneeman: There were some issues with overcrowded sections during the football game against Texas, all class councils will send out emails about which section each grade is suppose to go to and the importance of being in your section. Also will send out information about new concession prices
- J. Ariana Zlioba: Voter Registration starts next tuesday. 5:00 Geddes will be the kickoff event for ND Votes
- K. J.P: Gatsby Dance is October 2nd
  - 1. Thursday before: Great Gatsby will be shown (details to come)
  - 2. Friday before: ND Swing Dance will be teaching people how to swing
- L. Zach Waterson:
  - 1. Looking for Senate representative for Ethics Commission, it is an important role. Another senator will be randomly picked tonight, it's not a huge time commitment, so if you're contacted, please consider before denying the role.
- M. Kevin Coleman: GOP presidential debate tonight 8:00 in LaFun

#### VIII. Adjournment

- A. Kevin Coleman motioned to adjourn
  - 1. Reynaldo seconded
  - 2. adjourned at 7:00