

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

Minutes

September 17, 2008

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I) **Opening Business**

- a. Grant called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
- b. Bob led the invocation.
- c. Austin Holler and Kevin Kimberly were absent.
- d. Grant entertained a motion to approve the September 10, 2008 executive summary. *The September 17, 2008 executive summary was approved at 6:07 p.m.*

II) **Podium**

III) **Officer Reports**

- a. Mr. Bob Reish, Student Body President
 - i. Bob says that CLC met on Monday and will meet every other Monday. They decided on three task forces, which are student safety, introduction to Notre Dame, and Technology/study space in dorm. If any of you want to be on taskforces then please let him know.
 - ii. He says that he talked with Jeff Shock about regulations on alcohol on game days.
 - iii. Michigan State sent regulations on tailgating, and he will be sending an email out to everyone.
 - iv. Flex is off to good start. They had over 40 applicants, and they will start interviewing on next Sunday.
- b. Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Grant says that he worked with people on the amendment and mock election of which will talk about later.
 - ii. He will be meeting with the Chief of NDSP and Chief of South Bend police to talk about at way to approach problems going on. It is nothing controversial.
- c. Ms. Karen Koski, Chief Executive Assistant
 - i. She says that programming board met last Monday, and they want to have two members of student activities to come and talk about Google –planning and getting the word out.
 - ii. Student government 101 went very well, and they had over 60 freshmen attended.
 - iii. They are receiving student senate applicants, so will be seeing new faces.

IV) **Committee Reports**

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs
 - i. Ryan says that the committee has met three times, and they have done some important work. They have been discussing what they want to do for the Last Lecture series. They have also been working on trying to get excused absences for business students. They have also be working on Majors Night, which is coming up soon. He says that he has been

going to meetings with the deans of colleges and advisors, and everything is looking good.

- b. Committee on Community Relations
 - i. Gus says that they did not have a meeting on Sunday due to the weather. They have been conducting business by email. They have been working on event for the fall. Their biggest concern right now is off campus safety.
- c. Committee on Gender Issues
 - i. Pat introduces himself. He says that they met twice and have submitted 5-6 questions to SAO to include on a survey. He says that they are now helping to determine how to work on LTBN.
- d. Committee on Multicultural Affairs
 - i. Ally says that they have been working on dorm multicultural training. They have also been working on Hispanic Heritage month. She has met with Dean Hugh Page to talk about the cultural competency.
- e. Committee on Oversight
 - i. Ian says that they have been working on the amendment that is on the general order.
- f. Committee on Residence Life
 - i. Joy says that they have been working on the website program. They discussed the rule and running of the website. She also met with FLEX board.
- g. Committee on Social Life
 - i. Michelle says that she wants to make sure that the printer issue is solved. She also attended a CSC meeting.
- h. Committee on University Affairs
 - i. Ashlee says that they have been working on the mock election. The tentative schedule for this is October 7. They have been discussing the events for that week such as political debates.
- i. Ad Hoc Committee On Student Outreach
 - i. Sarah says that her committee continues to work on the survey and meeting with other chairs. She says that everyone can still send questions until tonight.
- j. Ad Hoc Committee on Campus Technology
 - i. Devin says that had meeting with OIT. He also met with the chief of Technology Officer of AT&T about the 3G service last Monday. He says that they will be formulating a letter to send to Bob, Grant, and Karen to get the students that don't use AT&T or Verizon to call their service provider to improve your cell phone reception.
 - ii. They will be sending out a survey to see where the bad reception is on campus.
 - iii. They are starting to work on revamp of the Lafortune computer cluster.
 - iv. They also want to work on getting a general purpose computer in the computer lab beside the printer station in the dorm.

- v. They are also working on an OIT mobile help desk one day in the fall and spring semester to help with computer issues.
- vi. He also met with OIT to increase the knowledge of them to the students.
- vii. They are getting a committee to revamp the course selection website, which can be integrated with Ryan's committee on the idea of the online TCE's.
- viii. OIT asked them to look at their tasks and prioritize.
- ix. Part of committee went out to try to get a cluster in Jordan.
- x. He announces that Wednesday, October 1st, Google will be coming.
- xi. He says that as for the concerns about link to Gmail, OIT can't directly fix it. It would take a considerable amount of work to get it done.

V) **GENERAL ORDER**

- a. Resolution SS0809-09 Political Activities Amendment
 - i. Grant direct attention to amendment.
 - ii. Ian says that before this amendment the only thing in the constitution about political activity included SAO and university policy. As the constitution reads now, the political clubs are forbidden to use funds for a direct contribution to any candidate. The club can use their money from FAB to purchase t-shirts.
 - iii. Grant says that the reason that they are being formal is because it is a big change. When they campaigned the campus was not political aware, and he thought about how they could go about getting more thought about how to get more politically involved. They looked at the three political parties on campus- liberal, republican, and democratic. Their sole purpose is to support the candidate. They are given 2, 606.04. They will be able to use this money allows the groups to have t-shirts, bumper stickers. They are also allowed to put up signs.
 - iv. Ian says that the key to this is that all three groups get the same amount of money. The purpose of these groups is to educate the students on the candidates. The key to this is that all three groups to get all the same amount of money. Before the amendment the three groups have to go through many steps to get money for this group.
 - v. Zach says that he agrees with the amendment. He adds that the Democrats wanted to hold a rally, but they did not know if SAO would allow them to.
 - vi. Robin says what if a member from any one of those groups wants to pass out information would they still have to follow the same rules that the group has to follow. Ian says that they would still have to sign up for a table; they are not allowed to just pass out anything.
 - vii. Bob says that they would still have to represent the club.
 - viii. Maggie asks if a club is formed for a conservative party, would they be given the same opportunities. Grant says yes.
 - ix. Karen says that a club will not be formed in a month. It is almost a two year project.

- x. Julie says that she is just having a problem with the wording in C3 and C4. The words can be misleading.
- xi. Grant says that in meeting when discussed the wording was a big concern. He says that down the line if an organization comes out to support a group then they will have to look at the process again. They sought this amendment for the groups that were formed.
- xii. Ryan says that he sits on ND votes and they have different rules as far as passing out stuff is concerned.
- xiii. Maggie says what if the other groups were to hold fund raisers and then give the money to republican, democratic, or libertarian groups. Grant says that is not allowed.
- xiv. Gus says that everyone should realize that this is under a time constraint. November is around the corner. He adds that this is a big stepping stone to bigger things to come. He says that in the other clubs everyone in the club will not be a democrat, republican, or libertarian. The people that are in the Democratic, Republican, or Libertarian clubs are tied to their groups.
- xv. Nick says that this is in terms of political office, but what about the congressional races. He says that he is from California, so why should his money be spent on Indiana government.
- xvi. Grant says that when CCC allocates the money it will come from student activities fees. That will be kept in mind if they allocate the funds.
- xvii. Pat says that this maybe looked at as the ND supporting a particular candidate. Grant says that Brian and a group of other people met with the Controller officer, and they said that by not directly giving the money to the candidate so ND not endorsing the candidates. He adds that the groups must have their name on whatever they do.
- xviii. Ben says that it is an important and big point for us and should encourage dialog on campus.
- xix. Ryan asks if the Libertarian is allocated money too will this affect the amount that the Republicans and Democrats get.
- xx. Ian says yes.
- xxi. Grant asks for any amendment. Gus says that under b it only applies to candidates, and that he moves to change it to say political candidates, elected officials, or surrogates. Zach seconded.
- xxii. Grant says is there debate to the change.
- xxiii. Grant moves to voting. Approved 26-0-0. At 6:45 p.m.
- xxiv. Ryan section C paragraph 2, moves to strike what it says now and change to what Gus said. Ryan seconded. Grant proceeds to voting. Approved with a vote of 26-0-0 at 6:47 p.m.
- xxv. Robin subsection C paragraph 3, she moves to strike out distributing to say posting.
- xxvi. Grant says if they change it to posting then they can only distribute when approved for posting.
- xxvii. Ian says that it must be approved by SAO regardless.

- xxviii. Grant asks her if the reason that she wants to change to distributing because just can't hand stuff out.
- xxix. Ben asks if Democrats wanted to distribute fliers then can they. Grant say if it as approved by SAO.
- xxx. Devin asks what if Obama come out with poster that says three main stances, and one is pro-choice will they be able to post.
- xxxi. Amy says that she does not think that they are in the business of approving contents, so she does not think that it will be an issue.
- xxxii. Pat says that if they leave it as it is now then this includes bumpers. They will have to have it approved anyway. He asks why should they add post. It is redundant.
- xxxiii. Robin says just to reiterate that it must be approved. It just clarifies.
- xxxiv. Grant says that the change is to clarify that students cannot pass out information, but it does not prohibit them from distributing fliers in an approved location.
- xxxv. Ryan says that he see no problem with the way that it is worded. He says that they are going to have to get the postage approved by SAO regardless, so just keep the wording as it is.
- xxxvi. Grant says that the only reason that they left it out was because they wanted to keep them from thinking that they can walk around and pass out information.
- xxxvii. Grant moves to voting. The vote is 0-27-0. The amendment was denied at 6:59 p.m.
- xxxviii. Grant asks are there any more amendment. Ryan motions to change to posting after developing in subsection C paragraph 3. Robin seconded.
- xxxix. Grant goes to voting. The vote was approved with a vote of 27-0-0 at 7:01 p.m.
 - xl. Grant moves to approval of the resolution. Zack asks can they move to voting. Gus seconded. Pat objected. Julie seconded the objection.
 - xli. Pat says that change to say allocated to subsection 1, 3, and 4. HE asks can they not say unallocated. Ian says that he would oppose such a motion because that would be talking a step back from where they want to go.
 - xlii. Grant proceeds to voting. The resolution is approved with a vote of 27-0-0 at 7:05 p.m.
- b. Mock Election Discussion
 - i. Grant just wants some opinion about the mock election. The tentative date is October 7, but it may be after fall break.
 - ii. He says that they are going to have various stands. He asks should they have laptops or paper.
 - iii. Zach says that some people will stop at the stand, but is it possible to open the vote online after it is over.
 - iv. Megan says that they should have laptops instead of paper, and make sure to have a lot of laptops.

VI) **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Andrew says that the clocks in O'Shag are off from other clocks in classroom.

VII) **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Grant introduces Ben.
- b. Grant says that once the three groups get money can start purchasing and distributing.
- c. Bob announces a Block Party at 5:30 at Robinson center on Friday.
- d. Bob ask if everyone knows how to use Google calendar.
- e. Bob says that if anyone wants to work with CLC let him know

VIII) **ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Grant entertained a motion to adjourn. Gus motioned. Ryan seconded. *The September 17, 2008 Student Senate meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Whitney Toole
Student Body Secretary