

# NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

## Executive Summary

October 7th, 2009

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

### I. OPENING BUSINESS

- i. Cynthia called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.
- ii. Andy led the invocation.
- iii. Nika, Bradley, and Ted were absent.
- iv. Cynthia entertained a motion to approve the new September 30th, 2009 executive summary. Chase motioned first. *The September 30th, 2009 executive summary was approved at 6:12 p.m.*

### II. PODIUM

### III. OFFICER REPORTS

- i. **Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body President- Senate Address**
  - a. Today, Grant reflected on the past, present, and future. Grant feels that it is everyone's role to keep student government on the level it is at.
  - b. Last year, the commencement was controversial in terms of speaker selections. Several weeks ago, Fr. Jenkins supported creating a pro-life task force and everyone who is passionate about this topic ought to join this force to continue the discussion of relevant issues.
  - c. Ryan Hall, new CSC building, new engineering building, new athletic facilities, Eddy's Street Commons continue to beautify campus:
    1. Keeps green space while also improving campus resources
  - d. Eddy Street:
    1. Though initially skeptical, Cynthia and Grant have been in constant contact with the realty organization on improvements.
  - e. Game-Day:
    1. The environment has improved with limited arrests.
  - f. Off Campus Safety
    1. This remains a pressing concern for students and the university
    2. Grant presented a graph that identified burglaries, murder, rape, drug violence, home invasion, etc...
    3. Just in the month of September, it is evident that crime is prominent in the area
    4. Grant mentioned that with the new campus developments off campus, it only encourages students to go off-campus yet the threat levels remain high
      - i. Off-campus students have not opted out of residential life but have chosen an alternative lifestyle
      - ii. Even those who live on-campus still experience off-campus life and the threats that come along with it.
    5. To summarize, students should to experience off-campus life.
    6. A week from tomorrow, Grant and Cynthia will be presenting the topic of off-campus safety.

g. Overview of Discussion:

1. Student government has worked with the mayor, police, taxi companies, etc...
2. The university has created a new position for Tim Sexton in Student Affairs and has invested 5.5 million dollars for the future
3. The vision for the Transpo project is important in order to allow students to go on and off-campus safely.
  - a. There has been a lot of thought put into this process
  - b. Number one objective: safety
    - i. Taxis are not always the best option for students, primarily due to costs and time concerns.
4. There is obviously no easy answer and every solution that student government comes up with has its pros and cons.
5. In response to the abduction in the past weeks, SB police has been very prompt in response.
  - a. Student government will continue to work with SB police for improved surveillance
6. Student government will continue to work with NDSP and work on jurisdictional limits and improving off campus safety.
7. The administration has made this its priority as well and it is imperative for the student body to be proactive in being aware of crimes.
8. Grant encouraged senators to get really fired up about the USC game.

**ii. Ms. Cynthia Weber, Student Body Vice-President**

- a. None

**iii. Mr. Ryan Brellenthin, Chief Executive Assistant**

- a. None

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**i. Committee on Academic Affairs [Austin Holler]**

- a. Austin's group did not meet

**ii. Committee on Campus Technology [Walker Anderson]**

- a. Walker will be working on student content for iTunes U
- b. The revisions for the student pages are being made and drafts are currently underway and hopefully there will be a launch over Fall Break.
- c. Course registration usability tests will be finished by this week and there will be an executive summary soon
  - i. Walker hopes to meet with the top executives from Sun Guard to give a summary as to how the student body feels about its products
- d. November 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> : Tech Week; handouts + free stuff

**iii. Committee on Community Relations [Denise Baron]**

- a. Denise mentioned that there are a few things going on:
  1. October community event: Mystery at the Mansion tickets are not sold out yet
  2. With off-campus recycling, Denise met with several of her committee members to discuss off-campus recycling facilities and they came up with a few ideas.
  3. Community-based learning has been put on pause until after fall break
  4. The committee is still working on the community project with IUSB at Salvation Army
  5. Fall Festival (end of October) and off-campus safety are the two big issues the committee is currently working on.

**iv. Committee on Gender Issues [Patrick Tighe and Robyn Grant]**

- a. Patrick mentioned that tonight there will be a presentation at Geddes Hall at 7 o'clock. Tomorrow is Love your Body Day and there will be yoga at 6:35 in LaFortune. Open Mic at Reckers tonight.
- b. Patrick and Robyn are pleased with the poster distribution.
- c. The committee is still working on the sexual assault policy

**v. Committee on Multicultural Affairs [Nika Giger]**

- a. Nika was absent.

**vi. Committee on Oversight [Kevin Kimberly]**

- a. Oversight did not meet this past weekend but Kevin hopes to have the amendments for next week.

**vii. Committee on Residence Life [Nick Ruof]**

- a. Nick met Sunday and is still looking into the lights issue at McGlinn fields.

**viii. Committee on Social Concerns [Rachel Roseberry]**

- a. Rachel mentioned there will be a Global Water T-shirt sale (pre-ordered) sometime over Fall Break:
  - a. Matt suggested selling those T-shirts in LaFortune
- b. On October 29<sup>th</sup>, there will be a film showing
- c. Rachel mentioned that the Farmer's Market is going to be on October 15<sup>th</sup> outside on Fieldhouse Mall from 3-5:30.
  - a. Vendors: Local bakery, pumpkins, apples, jewelry, salsa

**ix. Committee on University Affairs [Jeff Lakusta]**

- a. Jeff mentioned that Transpo advertising is ready to go so distribution will probably occur next week.
- b. Jeff also worked on the issue of academic environment (i.e. comparisons to other institutions).

**x. Wall of Ideas [Ellie Metz]**

- a. more outlets in Lafortune
- b. Posters near LCD Screens in Lafortune should have websites listed.

## **V. GENERAL ORDER**

### **i. Approval of Board of Trustees Topic**

- a. Cynthia wanted to bring out a discussion to formally approve the topic of campus-safety:
  - 1. Andrew asked Cynthia to perhaps to talk about the goals of coming out of the meeting
    - a. Cynthia said the goals are to:
      - i. Inform them with reasonable statistical and anecdotal evidence
      - ii. Convey that this is an issue of concern
      - iii. To show them what student government is doing and what the positive steps that the have taken
      - iv. Understand (short-term) and (long-term) goals
    - b. Grant mentioned the majority is to talk about Transpo and in Grant's opinion, Grant hopes to learn more about talking about grants to improve security off-campus.
  - b. Cynthia would like to take the motion to approve the topic Daniel first. Colin seconded
  - c. The I's have it and the motion has passed.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- i. Taylor asked about forming an ad hoc committee for senate shirts.
- ii. Discussion:
  - 1. Colin said it's a great idea because t-shirts are awesome!
  - 2. Cynthia motioned and everyone Id; the committee has been formed
- iii. Chase mentioned that the Keenan Revue will be earlier and there will be a ton of people there and was wondering if this could be a venue to take donations for the Global Water Initiative.
- iv. Mara Fox run is coming up.

## **VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- i. Patrick mentioned Keough chariot race is this Saturday starting at 11 o'clock

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

- i. Cynthia entertained a motion to adjourn. Megan motioned. *The October 7th, 2009 Student Senate meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Tej Mudigonda  
Student Body Secretary

BC ♡ this meeting

Who is red scarf girl?

Robin always looks so happy!

~~Gus  
for vector  
a that stuff  
meeting~~

OMG