

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE
Executive Summary
September 9, 2009
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- i. Cynthia called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.
- ii. Andrew led the invocation.
- iii. Nika, ~~Ashley~~, Elise, Erika, and Ted were absent.
- iv. Martha from Ryan Hall was sworn in as senator
- v. Cynthia entertained a motion to approve the new September 9th, 2009 executive summary. Daniel motioned first. Taylor seconded. *The September 9th, 2009 executive summary was approved at 6:11 p.m.*

II. PODIUM

III. OFFICER REPORTS

- i. **Mr. Grant Schmidt, Student Body President**
 - a. Grant met with the CCAC Coalition and discussed the following:
 1. Transpo Initiative was mentioned
 2. Off Campus website.
 3. Jeff will talk about security at Notre Dame Gates.
 4. There was a presentation on Eddy Street Commons.
 5. Chipotle and Five Guys will be done by the end of the month.
 - b. Grant mentioned that one of the complaints was regarding the time when students should put out their trash because a lot of off-campus students don't know when their trash is picked up.
- ii. **Ms. Cynthia Weber, Student Body Vice-President**
 - a. Cynthia announced that at 4:00PM tomorrow, MSPS will be having their opening picnic:
 1. The multicultural dimension is important for the senators.
- iii. **Mr. Ryan Brellenthin, Chief Executive Assistant**
 - a. Ryan mentioned that tonight in the ballroom, there will be eager freshmen coming to learn more about student government.
 - b. Ryan will be starting meeting with the Programming Board next week.
 - c. Ryan mentioned there will be a new faculty senate liaison because Ms. Lewis is on maternity leave.
- iv. **Ms. Kristin Lewis, Faculty Senate Liaison**
 - a. Ms. Lewis was absent.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- i. **Committee on Academic Affairs [Austin Holler]**
 - a. Austin had a meeting this past week to discuss Major's night and Last Lecture.

- ii. Committee on Campus Technology [Walker Anderson]**
 - a. Walker met with Gordon to discuss the reputation of OIT with students.
 - b. Walker also met with the head of the agenda.nd.edu revisions and starting next week, there will be a task force assembled with students, staff, and faculty to start working on the revisions.
 - c. Walker had an iTunes U meeting. With regard to the private side to view iTunes U content, Walker is seeking out SAO's help to view that student-generated content.
 - d. Walker's committee member met with OIT to discuss a Tech Night proactive event for OIT and campus tech to demonstrate to students as to what is out there for students.
 - e. Walker and Rachel will be meeting with Office of Sustainability as to where campus technology overlaps with the office's initiatives.
 - f. Walker hopes to form a subcommittee for things like mobile.nd.edu and iPhone applications.

- iii. Committee on Community Relations [Denise Baron]**
 - a. Denise mentioned she will be introducing a tour of South Bend and Eddy Street commons
 - b. Denise mentioned she will be assisting with an upcoming arts exhibit in downtown South Bend.
 - c. Denise is also helping with the Robinson Center picnic late September.
 - 1. The Robinson Center is connected with the ND; it is an after-school program for students to volunteer.
 - d. Denise also mentioned that based on her meeting last night, the issue of off-campus safety will be relevant in the coming weeks.
- iv. Committee on Gender Issues [Patrick Tighe and Robyn Grant]**
 - a. Patrick came up with ideas for an upcoming poster campaign ("thin exhibit" affirming positive body image).
 - b. Patrick will be meeting with the Gender Relations Center to get up to date with events and discuss the campaign.
- v. Committee on Multicultural Affairs [Nika Giger]**
 - a. Nika was absent.

- vi. Committee on Oversight [Kevin Kimberly]**
 - a. Kevin has been working on two big things:
 - 1. Strategic Plan and Statement of Goals: a document that will ease the transition for student body presidents and vice presidents to cover basic areas (scholarship, role of student union, role of student government)
 - 2. Introducing student government to freshmen: Kevin hopes to create a 5-7 minute video with interviews from student government members and hopefully introduce freshmen.

vii. Committee on Residence Life [Nick Ruof]

- a. Nick met this past Sunday and met with Paul Turner with regard to iTunes U
- b. Nick brought up the dining hall passports in which students can get them stamped and enter to win in a prize drawing.
- c. Word of the Day: avuncular

viii. Committee on Social Concerns [Rachel Roseberry]

- a. Rachel has been working on off-campus recycling as to where students can recycle
- b. Rachel has also been working on bringing Farmer's Market back in October
- c. Rachel also had a meeting with a member from the CSC (Center for Social Concerns) to discuss future objectives.

ix. Committee on University Affairs [Jeff Lakusta]

- a. Jeff's committee instituted "whine time" in meetings to get more input
- b. Jeff is working on the intellectual environment issue.
- c. Progress on the Alumni Lecture series is going great!
- d. OADE will be sponsoring an upcoming drunk-driving safety issue meeting

V. GENERAL ORDER

i. Global Water Initiative

1.) Presentation by Rachel

- a. Rachel felt that student government can play an important role in water development issues
- b. Rachel will be working with a non-profit organization and the Ford Family program to educate students as to why water development is so important
- c. $\frac{1}{4}$ deaths of children under five deal with water sanitation issues and deficiencies.
- d. Rachel added that water is the foundation of poverty, education, and hunger issues.
- e. Rachel emphasized that student government can play an integral role
- f. Rachel mentioned that on September 29th, there will be 3 events:
 1. introductory meeting in the morning
 2. a concert in the afternoon,
 3. Faculty lecture discussing the important role of water and catholic social teaching.
- g. In the future, Rachel hopes to increase forums, presentations, and fundraising events such as:
 1. Water challenge- drink water only 3 times and donate rest of the money to the organization
 2. Rachel hopes to put a benefit CD of student-performers as a potential fund-raising opportunity.

2.) Presentation by Justin Phan

- a.) Justin mentioned that the partners that they are working with are very holistic and good hosts
- b.) Justin felt that student government was the best organization to get the word out at Notre Dame and build the foundation.
- c.) Justin has been contacting many clubs and special interest groups as will to emphasize the word that this would be a service initiative.

3.) Discussion:

- a.) Claire suggested turning off Stone-Henge
- b.) Mark Anthony Rosa suggested starting a competition among dorms to raise a certain amount of money.
- c.) Maria inquired to see whether there is data as to which dorms save the most water.
- d.) Rachel mentioned that Grant and Cynthia started that the Global Water Initiative in their campaign
 - 1.) Cynthia felt that during her campaign, she recognized that there are a lot of socially-active students at Notre Dame.
 - 2.) Cynthia mentioned that this issue would be a simple, uncontroversial issue: We're Notre Dame, and people in the world still don't have water.
- e.) Matt suggested a penny drive for dorms as a fundraiser.
- f.) Marc Anthony asked how student government is sure that all the money is being sent to the proper locations.
 - 1.) Rachel mentioned that the non-profit organization, Water Profit.org and that she partnered with over the summer guarantees and provides a tracking record as to ensure that 100% of that money is being reached.
- g.) Taylor asked whether there could be an entire Global Water Initiative Week.
- h.) Claire mentioned two quick questions/suggestions:
 - 1.) Website?
 - i.) Rachel mentioned that there was not a website but the waterproject.org
 - 2.) Claire suggested a potential exhibit about the Global Water Project
 - i.) Grant suggested a human mannequin drinking water
- i.) Kevin suggested including the monetary goals in the exhibit.
- j.) Jeff recommended perhaps similar to how the Pro-life campaign week puts crosses on South Quad, perhaps the Global Water Initiative can do something along the lines to bring awareness.
- k.) Patrick suggested a walk-a-thon twist involving carrying jugs of water to get money.

- l.) Taylor suggested the idea of selling bottles of water that perhaps explains the statistics and logistics of the initiative.
- m.) Denise feels that this initiative looks really worthy and commendable because it brings those social awareness to the core of the ND student body.
- n.) Marc Anthony requested if there was any way to integrate South Bend.
 - 1.) Rachel hopes to integrate South Bend in the future.
- o.) Jeff suggested selling those water bottles, which Taylor suggested could be sold at football games and pep rallies.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- i. Grant mentioned that tomorrow, there will be a student-only pep rally in Stepan Center:
 - a.) Cynthia and Grant have been in charge of the logistics and there are only 24 hours to put out the word.
 - b.) Students-only; The Observer, UND.com, the team, ND Band, Pom Squad, and cheerleaders
- ii. Cynthia explained that volunteers will show up at 6:30pm and the gates will open at 7:15pm
 - g. Football players will arrive later and in order for this to occur, students ought to hold ropes to construct an isle for players to walk through
 - h. Band, cheerleaders, and pom squad will be coming at 8:15pm
 - i. Dan Collins will be there 2 minutes before 8:30pm. Dan Collins will also be sending out an email tonight.
 - j. There will be 3 speakers and Coach Weiss will talk.
- iii. Cynthia emphasized that for years, students have wanted a pep rally in Stepan, and it has finally happened this year.
- iv. Grant clarified that there perhaps will be a maximum capacity and recommended that students ought to get there early.
- v. Cynthia mentioned that the speakers will be Sergio Brown, Brian Smith, and Michael Floyd
- vi. Grant opened the floor for suggestions and ideas:
 - a. Marc Anthony asked if students can wear a gorilla suit
 - 1. Call Grant if you have a suit.
 - b. Martha suggested that students should go to the dining halls early and head to the pep rallies immediately after.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

i.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- i.** Cynthia entertained a motion to adjourn. Daniel motioned. *The September 9th, 2009 Student Senate meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted, .

Tej Mudigonda
Student Body Secretary