

Senate Executive Summary
October 26, 2005
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- A. Lizzi Shappell called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.
- B. Nick Guzman led the invocation.
- C. Ben Gunty, Philippe Collon, Brad Tucker, Sarah Liu, Dan Bowen, and Chris Garibaldi were absent.
- D. Lindsay Meyer moved to approve the minutes; Christina Lee seconded. *The minutes from the October 12, 2005 meeting of the Student Senate were approved at 6:12 p.m.*

II. PODIUM

- A. Dave Baron, State of the Student Union
 - i. See attached speech

III. OFFICER REPORTS

- A. Mr. Dave Baron, Student Body President
 - i. Dave didn't have anything else to add.
- B. Ms. Lizzi Shappell, Student Body Vice President
 - i. Lizzi Shappell said that the BOT report went well and was well received. The new format was good because they were able to interact with the board members in a less formal setting.
 - ii. Last night at CoR, they talked with Katie Fox, last year's President of The Shirt about a variety of issues. Once they choose a new president, she wants to see more student input on The Shirt.
 - iii. Yesterday at CLC, they passed the activity fee increase and it will be going on to Fr. Poorman and should be supported.
 - iv. She will be looking at the number of tickets that are allowed to be exchanged for each home football games.
- C. Ms. Liz Kozlow, Chief Executive Assistant
 - i. Liz Kozlow reported that they had a Catholic Think-tank meeting and they have gotten some responses. They are also working on advertising.
 - ii. Happy hour is every day from 5-6 p.m., make sure and pick up some posters. Give them to your hall secretary to put up in the dorm.
- D. Mr. Philippe Collon, Faculty Senate Liaison
 - i. Professor Collon was absent.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Committee on Academic Affairs
 - i. Chris Harris reported that CLC did pass the resolution. Thanks to everyone for last week's spirited debate on the resolution.
 - ii. Regarding Majors Night, the community angle might be dropped because of difficulties that might ensue.
 - iii. There is a meeting next week about extending hours at the library.

- iv. If you have OIT sheets about InsideND, give them to Archita.

B. Committee on Diversity Affairs

- i. Sarah Liu was absent.

C. Committee on Gender Issues

- i. Ali Wishon reported that they are just focused on Eating Disorders Awareness Week which is coming up soon.
- ii. She is looking at how eating disorder problems are handled at the university.
- iii. She will be talking about the GSA resolution later in the meeting.

D. Committee on Residence Life

- i. Mark Seiler had a meeting with Gary Shoemaker before break about call boxes in D6. He said that Carroll's Crosswalk will be added. Lighting levels are being looked at in D6. There is a plan to attempt some paving to adjust the water levels in D6, and that will happen in the spring. Seven new call boxes have been installed due to the road projects and signs should be going up on those next week. They have also ordered replacement signs for all of the old call boxes.
- ii. Student center report by Pat Knapp is in print and they will be ironing it out this Sunday and it will come to Senate next week.
- iii. Ben Gunty will be meeting about getting more printers in dorms.
- iv. Carol Hendrickson's recreational facilities report is going well. RecSports has an extensive plan and will be adding some of our ideas.

E. Committee on University Affairs

- i. Matt Walsh sent a letter about requesting information on Notre Dame employees' wages.
- ii. There is a big basketball event tonight for tickets. There are plans for students who didn't get tickets about acquiring tickets after they are sold out. The event should be fun with tryouts, cheerleaders and prizes. Let him know if you have any questions.
- iii. Katie McHugh asked how much the single tickets are going to be. Matt replied that he couldn't really tell you that now. They will be getting a waitlist for students who are past the 2700 number. Tickets for the general public won't go on sale until early November. There is a chance that students will get a chance to buy individual tickets for games before the general public.

F. Committee on Oversight

- i. Suj Pandaya reported that they will be comprehensively going through the Constitution and looking at inconsistencies in transition dates; they will be primarily small changes.

G. Committee on Community Relations

- i. Nick Guzman said that before break that had meetings with people in the career center about local resources and opportunities and it went really well.
- ii. Meeting with Jackie Rucker went well and now the committee has a lot more contacts.

H. Committee on Minority Affairs

- i. Rhea Boyd reported that they meet with their working group on Monday. She and Steve Cartwright are working on the proposal for the diversity requirement. The Barrak Obama letters are ready to go out; they are just waiting to get approval.
- ii. Rhea talked to Iris Outlaw and the committee will be planning a remembrance service for Rosa Parks, which will probably happen early next week.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. GSA Resolution SS0506-09

- i. Matt Walsh reported that they took changes from the last meeting and incorporated them into this resolution. It starts with a summary of the events last week and goes into things that were discussed at last week's Senate meeting. The resolution talks about the standing committee and there are two major recommendations at the end: 1) allowing the standing committee to function as an advisory body, and 2) create a separate student-controlled organization to relieve the standing committee of excessive programming duties. Ali Wishon explained that the standing committee was created as an advisory body to Fr. Poorman. They have begun to do a lot of programming as well and haven't had an opportunity to look at what is needed on campus and report to Fr. Poorman. This resolution supports the creation another committee that would take over the programming aspect of their job. She wants students involved because it is our issue and we are in tune with what students are feeling and what they need. Lizzi Shappell clarified that the GRC now technically programs for these issues as well, but they are the only ones that staff it, so they are stretched thin.
- ii. Carol Hendrickson asked if the standing committee is going to be a part of student government. Ali explained that she doesn't want to put limitations on it, but it could possibly come out of student government. There is a need for this organization on campus. Matt said that in the past there have been attempts to address this issue through the creation of a club, others have tried under GRC, but this time they didn't want to get into specifics about it. Katie McHugh said that since we are representing the student body, it is important to recognize that because we are so homogenous it hurts everyone on campus to ignore diversity and avoid those issues. Lindsay Meyer said that she thought that the syntax was a little ambiguous about who is responsible for forming the committee. Lindsay asked who would be creating it. Matt said that he agreed that it is not as clear as it could be. They want the administration to recognize the dire need to have a discussion about this on campus. The standing committee right now it is not doing the job that it is supposed to be doing. They are trying to steer clear of where to take this, just want the issue addressed. Ali reiterated that they don't want to put limits on this group and want to put the decision in the hands of the administration. Carol asked where the idea of the new committee came

from. Ali said that it came from a lot of discussions and is a theme that has consistently been brought up with the GRC people, other students, etc. Christina Lee understands that this is the first step and thinks it is a good one. If this resolution was to pass, she asked what the next step would be. Ali thought that this is an issue to talk to the GRC about and this would be the most likely spot for the resolution to come out of in collaboration with the administration. She couldn't really speak to what will happen. Lizzi Shappell clarified that the GRC is starting task groups and one of the issues is GLBTQA. So, GRC is pursuing these types of issues and asking some students to share the burden of the Standing Committee. Anything passed will go back to the GRC because that is the vehicle to enact changes. Pat Knapp asked if the GRC is behind this 100%. Lizzi couldn't really speak for that, but they are working for dialogue and tolerance on these issues. Ali worked with Heather on this resolution. Dave Baron asked if the changes being made in the GRC cover what we are trying to do here, and should we just support that. He also has a problem with it being ambiguous. Ali thought that it is bigger than the GRC. It's a discussion that needs to be in the administration, especially the questions that deal with theology and there are quite a few questions. Jim Grace asked if by not putting limits on the resolution they are expecting more to be done about it. He didn't really see how this will open eyes and make it more important than last year. Matt said that this isn't really just about making the club. This addresses more issues like theology, homophobia in the dorms, etc. More work can be done to make this more pointed and direct. The approach is different in that they are asking more. Jim said that by making it all encompassing it might make it more difficult at the next step for them to do something about it. Carol said that a concern of hers is that the administration might say that the task groups might fulfill the purpose of this already. Brenna Doyle moved to send the resolution back to committee; Lisa Rauh seconded. *Resolution SS0506-09 was sent back to committee for revision with a vote of 14-yes, 8-no and 3 abstentions at 6:59 p.m.*

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Lyons Hall is having its annual Maura Fox run. Maura Fox, a Lyons resident, was hit by a drunken driver. It's a 3 mile fun run. Saturday registration is at 10 am
- B. Rhea announced that this Friday there is a film at DPAC at 7 and 10 and the director of the film will be coming to campus in February.
- C. Katie McHugh said that there is a Common Ground discussion about pro-life and pro-choice positions in the LaFortune ballroom on November 1.
- D. Christina Lee said that on November 9 the women's boxing club is doing a "power hour" of pushups, sit-ups and jumping jacks in an hour. You can make a

pledge to a boxer and the money will add up fast, Christina is a machine. All of the money will go to education in East Africa.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Rob Lindley moved to adjourn; Steve Tortorello seconded. *The October 26, 2005 meeting of the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.* The next meeting will take place on November 2, 2005 in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alyce Baumgartner
Student Body Secretary

