

## NOTRE DAME STUDENT SENATE

### Executive Summary

Wednesday, March 23, 2011

Notre Dame Room, LaFortune

#### I. Opening Business

- a. Andrew called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.
- b. Andrew led the invocation.
- c. Brigitte, Casey, Conor, Elizabeth, Emily, Mark, Matt, Michael Ryan, and Tim were absent; Jack was late.
- d. Andrew entertained any motions to change the March 9, 2011 executive summary. *The March 9, 2011 executive summary was approved at 7:11 p.m.*

#### II. Podium

- a. Ali Vos, Student Chair for the Relay for Life
  - i. Ali introduced the Relay for Life charity and hopes to make the Notre Dame event a great representation of the cause to raise money for cancer.
  - ii. She hopes that every dorm can make a team along with the student clubs that are making charges; there will be prizes for teams that raise the most money.
    1. Teams can sign up online.
  - iii. The event will take place on April 29-30, 2011 in the Notre Dame Stadium.

#### III. Officer Reports

- a. Ms. Catherine Soler, Student Body President
  - i. The commitment establishing a constant communication between students, Student Government, and law officials is almost complete.
- b. Mr. Andrew Bell, Student Body Vice President
  - i. A collection effort for Japan is going to occur this Sunday evening through the dorms and Masses; Senators should aid in collection efforts.
- c. Mr. Nicholas Ruof, Chief of Staff
  - i. Student Government gives out three awards – two Irish Clovers (anyone) and one Frank O'Malley (professor) – to those who aid in Student Government efforts; please send in nominations to him as soon as possible.

#### IV. Committee Reports

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs [AJ McGauley]
  - i. The final Last Lecture will be this Thursday at 7pm in Washington Hall; Anre Venter will be speaking.
- b. Committee on Campus Technology [Casey Cockerham]
  - i. Progress on the TRANSPRO locator application is ongoing.

- c. Committee on Community Relations [Claire Sokas]
  - i. CommUniversity Day is right around the corner; be sure to encourage people to sign up.
- d. Committee on Gender Issues [Mariah McGrogan and Timothy Castellini]
  - i. To wrap up the term, Mariah will be working with CORE Council to establish better relations between the Committee and Council for the future.
- e. Committee on Multicultural Affairs [Brigitte Githinji]
  - i. Brigitte was not present.
- f. Committee on Oversight [Paige Becker]
  - i. The Committee is currently planning the transition workshop for the incoming senators.
- g. Committee on Residence Life [Matthew High]
  - i. Matt was not present.
- h. Committee on Social Concerns [Patrick McCormick]
  - i. The Food Summit will take place on Friday.
- i. Committee on University Affairs [Ellen Carroll]
  - i. The lights proposal for adding more lights on the road between Notre Dame and Saint Mary's will be submitted tomorrow (Thursday).
- j. Ad Hoc Committee on Off Campus Concerns [Emily LeStrange]
  - i. Emily will be meeting with more officials about the installation of the heated bus stop at Library Circle.
  - ii. New companies have signed onto the Students for South Bend Discount Program and more are hopefully coming.

## V. General Orders

- a. SS1011-15: Amending the Method of Allocation of Funds

### *Introduction*

- i. Eric introduced himself as the Student Union Treasurer.
- ii. The proposed amendment will change the way allocation procedures occur including a proposed hardline change for clubs and organizations.
  - 1. This change would allow the CCC to know upfront how much money will be received.
- iii. Paul then described the procedure the CCC currently has to go through to allocate and reallocate funds to the numerous clubs on campus.
  - 1. These changes eliminate any uncertainty about how much a club will receive, particularly at the beginning of the spring semester.
- iv. Eric described how the revenue from different accounts and monies is distributed to organizations.
  - 1. With the changes increasing the student enrollment and endowment return, the total revenue increase would be \$16,755.00.

2. With the total revenue changes and the proposed increased hardline, money available to other organizations increases significantly.
- v. Eric mentioned that several members of several different Student Government organizations are in favor of the proposed changes, including the CCC.
- vi. Alex and Tegan talked to their Hall Presidents about the proposed changes and were told that the proposed changes would decrease the amount of funding available to dorms.
  1. Tegan mentioned that the HPC does not have a proposed hardline and many dorms struggle to get money for their events through the HPC.
    - a. Eric and Paul mentioned that the CCC is hardlined because of how big the allocation process is and how much complexity is involved.

*General Questions*

- i. There were no general questions.

*Grammatical Changes*

- i. There were no grammatical changes.

*Debate/Discussion*

- i. Tierney thought it was a good idea to hardline the process and make sure funds are available.
- ii. Jess echoed sentiments about hall presidents not being in favor of the change.
  1. Tegan agreed and thought it would be a good idea to hear from HPC.
- iii. Eric mentioned that this disconnect came about because there was a misunderstanding at CoR when it was first presented.
- iv. Erin suggested that the presentation was not given with the PowerPoint so things were a little more shady.
- v. John had the same situation but explained that the changes were good.
- vi. Alex thought it was a good idea because everyone seems to get more money overall.
- vii. Tegan suggested establishing a hardline for the HPC in order to ensure fairness and to make the process more complete.
- viii. Eric mentioned that this would be a good thing to look into.

*Voting*

- i. Tierney moved to vote on the resolution; Alex seconded.
- ii. By a hand vote of 24-0-1, the resolution passed at 6:44pm. [applause]
- b. SS1011-16: Codifying the First Undergraduate Experience in Leadership (FUEL)

*Introduction*

- i. Ricky introduced the amendment as a way to establish the First Undergraduate Experience in Leadership Program (FUEL), a successful

way for freshmen to get involved in the policy side of Student Government.

- ii. This amendment will make FUEL a more legitimate opportunity for freshmen that really do care about Student Government and guarantees future freshmen the opportunity.
- iii. Ricky pointed out the purpose clause as the primary one to really establish the organization; the rest of the amendment is organizational structure since the FUEL Directors will determine most of how things are run.
- iv. Alex asked why the members of FUEL need to be confirmed by the Student Body President; Ricky mentioned that this would ensure there was a fair process and a check on the Directors.
- v. Kevin asked why FLEX or FUEL was never included in the Constitution; Ricky mentioned that the purpose of FLEX was different than that of FUEL and with the new changes, it is more actively involved in the policy branch of Student Government.

#### *General Questions*

- i. There were no general questions.

#### *Grammatical Changes*

- i. Alex moved to take off the additions to the dates; Kevin seconded. This change was made without objection.
- ii. Alex moved to add 'while classes are in session' to the end of the clause in I.a.3.A; Kevin seconded. This change was made without objection.
  1. Paige explained that this is to ensure that the clause is clear and accounts for holiday breaks.

#### *Debate/Discussion*

- i. Erin mentioned that FUEL under Ricky and Claire has been more organized and accessible than FLEX was, which she was a part of her freshmen year.
- ii. Kevin mentioned having freshmen on the committees did help the work.
  1. Yiting saw it differently and did not think the freshmen were substantial to the committee work.
- iii. Tegan saw the amendment as a way to establish FUEL in the Constitution without necessarily giving them power.

#### *Voting*

- i. Alex moved to vote on the resolution; Dan seconded.
- ii. By a hand vote of 22-0-1, the resolution passed at 7:10pm. [applause]

## **VI. New Business**

- a. Michael J. Palumbo Award
  - i. Marcelo presented the nominees for the Michael J. Palumbo Award, given to an outstanding student who has represented the Student Body in a most outstanding way.
    1. The nominees had to leave the room.

2. Ben was appointed as Chair for a moment of glory to handle the approval of the nominee for the Michael J. Palumbo Award.
- ii. The proposed winner was presented to the Senate by Marcelo, the Judicial Council President and Ethics Commission Chair.
- iii. Name and information about the proposed nominee is withheld.
  1. Senators expressed support for awarding the nominee.
- iv. By a hand vote of 25-0-0, the proposed nominee was approved by the Senate at 7:15pm. [applause]

**VII. Announcements**

- a. Ellen announced that Badin Hall and the Career Center are hosting a talk on how to balance a career and family life at 7pm in the LaFortune Ballroom tomorrow (Thursday).

**VIII. Adjournment**

- a. Andrew entertained a motion to adjourn. Dan moved to adjourn. Kelsey seconded. *The March 23, 2011 Senate meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Kimberly  
Student Body Secretary

