

- I. Opening Prayer - Derick Williams
- II. Roll Call – What are you most looking forward to over Spring Break? No repeats.
- III. Approval of Minutes - [01 March 2023](#)
- IV. Executive Announcements
  - A. Senate Reports
    1. Diversity and Inclusion - Race and Ethnicity
      - a) Eliza Smith ([esmith43@nd.edu](mailto:esmith43@nd.edu))
    2. South Bend Engagement
      - a) Quinn McKenna ([qmckenna@nd.edu](mailto:qmckenna@nd.edu))
  - B. Exec Cab Events
    1. Suicide Prevention Workshop: Thursday, 6:00-7:30PM
      - a) In partnership with the UCC, Student Government is hosting an “I CAN Help” Suicide Prevention and Mental Health literacy training. The program is designed to help students identify peers who are at risk, to interact with them in a compassionate and helpful manner, and to connect them with resources.
      - b) Please join us on Thursday, March 9th in Debart 113. Sign up [here](#).
    2. Coca-Cola Bracket Challenge
      - a) Nicole Baumann: Our friends at Coca-Cola have teamed up with us to host a March Madness Bracket Challenge. We will be one out of 30 schools participating, and we had the highest participation of all of them last year. The bracket will be broken down by dorm and

by school. Prizes include AirPods Pros, GrubHub gift cards, and a \$500 airline voucher. It is free to sign up, so why not?

V. General Orders

A. [SO2223-26](#): An Order to Amend Article XIII of the Constitution

1. Griffin McAndrew motions to move SO2223-26 from New Business to General Orders
  - a) The motion is approved.
2. Questioning
  - a) Sofie Stitt: This has been approved by ComCon.
3. Debate
  - a) Sofie Stitt: Point of Inquiry, what is the change being made here?
  - b) Griffin McAndrew: There is more flexibility on when a meeting for impeachment can be held. We were all there when the Bill of Impeachment was heard. That was a bit of a mess, and we had other items on the agenda in that meeting that didn't get heard. The Bill of Impeachment took up time and delayed those resolutions. This amendment would give the Senate more flexibility to call meetings outside of Senate to hear Bills.
4. Voting
  - a) The order is approved.

B. [SS2223-15](#): A Resolution to Ban Pornography on Campus WiFi Services

1. Paul Stoller motions to move SS2223-15 from New Business to General Orders.

a) The motion is approved.

2. Questioning

- a) Sofie Stitt: This resolution mentions some sensitive stuff, like sexual assault. If you want or need to step out, feel free to do so, and I will bring you back in after.
- b) Kate Jackowski: What other sites are currently banned by the University?
- c) John Soza: They don't restrict anything unless it poses a cybersecurity threat.
- d) Derick Williams: Can you give an update on what OIT or any other organizations that may be involved regarding feasibility?
- e) John Soza: They said that there is a research component that goes along with this. They have expressed that it may be difficult. If this were passed, we would work with them on this.
- f) Caston Murphy: Have you asked any students about this? Have they shown strong support for this?
- g) John Soza: Anecdotally, yes. This is something that was brought up in the past at Notre Dame, including in the 2018–2019 school year. There was a significant petition garnering a decent amount of signatures.
- h) Paul Stoller: Can you walk me through the process of how you came about this idea? Can you talk about any previous attempts for this to happen?

- i) John Soza: I asked OIT about why this didn't occur following past attempts to implement this. They didn't really give an answer.
- j) Connor McCloskey: Can you define a pornographic website?  
Would it be anything related to sex?
- k) John Soza: Generally, it's a site that posts explicit pornography as defined by the Catechisms, remaining true to the University's Catholic mission. This would be a discussion with OIT to ensure that there is no research risk to the University and creating that distinction in the event that academic freedom is in the discussion.
- l) Ayden Ellis: The Catholic University of America banned the top 200 pornography sites, not any other site that might have pornography, just the main ones that are only used for pornography. That would be a good model for us to follow.
- m) Griffin McAndrew: You brought up Holy Cross and Catholic University of America. Have any other peer universities implemented this?
- n) John Soza: Yes. The ones on the benchmarking list mostly didn't do this, but they are secular universities. Peer Catholic universities did implement such policies. That was the benchmarking we did, looking at Catholic, not secular, peer institutions.
- o) Max Feist: Did our peer universities like Holy Cross and Catholic University of America see a decrease in sexual assault and other incidents after the ban?

p) John Soza: We attempted to do research on that, but there was nothing easily accessible on the topic.

### 3. Debate

- a) Jake Lowry: I can just say what I want, right? I think the intent of this amendment is amazing with the goal being to decrease rape and sexual violence. I just don't like this way of going about it, especially because people will find other ways. Taking pornography sites off the WiFi won't change people's habits.
- b) Ayden Ellis: We completely understand that people can still use their phone and cellular data. As a Catholic university, we can't be the one supporting that, though. We want it to be banned on campus WiFi to say that we are against it and should be at the forefront of this huge problem. We aren't saying to ban it on the IP.
- c) John Soza: To add, a lot of this creates a better culture on campus, a culture that is positive about getting rid of violence towards women and being in accordance with the Catholic values we cherish here. This is a symbolic measure towards other programs as well as this one to eradicate violence.
- d) Jake Lowry: I think passing this as something symbolic defeats the entire purpose if you want to do something that decreases sexual violence. Also, there have been studies that show that campuses that are permissive of alcohol and drugs make people more responsible.

- e) Megan Mikuen: This sets us down a tricky path when it comes to supporting the teachings of the Catholic Church. It doesn't always align with the students we're representing. If someone on campus is queer, and the Catholic Church doesn't support that, what do you do?
- f) John Soza: To that point about inclusivity, Bishop Barron had a good point last week that we should follow our teachings. Other Catholics values, like justice and love, can prevent those negative effects of exclusivity. In terms of phrasing with regard to the resolution being symbolic, it is more to the fact that this would be the start of our campus revealing how we are going to solve these problems. It is a symbol that we are a Catholic institution that is committed to eradicating these problems.
- g) Jack Davies: Two points of concern. The language in this bill is dangerous and sets a bad precedent. Tying this to the Catechisms is dangerous. Could we ban anything related to the LGBTQ+ community on campus, then? Could we ban any form of inclusivity? Having a sex positive culture on campus wouldn't be a bad thing. We don't sell condoms in the Huddle. We could use this to open up a dialogue about this.
- h) Ayden Ellis: As we put in the bill, pornography and premarital sex are banned on campus.
- i) Sofie Stitt: We are all adults here and can handle this conversation.

- j) Ayden Ellis: Regarding the statement that it would be dangerous to set this precedent, we want the University to be consistent with its rules. The goal is for less people to view pornography. It is dangerous and addictive. People are coming to Notre Dame because it is a Catholic University. We don't have a sex positive culture at this university. We want to set the correct precedents aligned with our values as a leading Catholic university.
- k) Sofie Stitt: There are points being made about sex positive and sex negative culture on campus. We are debating the resolution, not the morals around sex on campus.
- l) Paul Stoller: From the perspective of decreasing violence, I am fully on board. On that regard, I want to second what others are saying. I don't think that this is the issue. It would be arrogant to claim what the issue really is, but I think that this isn't it. I don't know if this will do anything much.
- m) Lane Obringer: I agree with Paul. As someone who works in violence prevention as the Director of Title IX and Women's Initiatives, I would with the GRC and other departments about sexual violence often. The statistics in this resolution are accurate, but this is not the only solution. There are many other ways to get involved with violence prevention on campus.
- n) Griffin McAndrew: I want to start by saying I appreciate the perspective you are coming from and that you want to work

towards getting rid of pornography because it is addictive and because of the mental health issues that stem from that. Would it be better to bolster counseling services that would alleviate the coping mechanism that pornography provides, which would then translate to these sexual violence results? That would get more to the root of the problem.

- o) Jake Lowry: Two things. I want to clear up the true intent of the amendment. Aiming to decrease rates of sexual violence and decreasing rates of watching porn are two different things. Lane and Griff have given great alternatives. You are coming from the right place, but there are better alternatives. People here would be happy to contribute to ideas like that, but this is not the best way.
- p) Patrick Lee: It might be accurate that there may be more fruitful ways to address sexual violence. However, if we only look at the best way to solve it, the Student Union would be paralyzed. We attack from all sides. This would be a positive step forward in decreasing sexual violence. We have worked on this problem all year. Maybe this won't completely eliminate porn usage on campus, but students may ask, why is this banned? Is this a positive thing for me to be doing? I think that this resolution would be very positive.



- q) Kate Garcia (Proxy for Abbey Donahue): I second that idea. Banning pornography on the WiFi isn't going to stop anyone, so we should look at alternatives, like better counseling services.
- r) Marshall Smith: We don't have to pick one option or another. It is not a tradeoff between whether we should incite this ban or invest in counseling. Both can be done. This resolution might not be as impactful as we would want, but it's a reminder of what this university stands for. We don't have to agree with every part of our Catholic identity, but this is something we can agree on.
- s) John Soza: I second Patrick and Marshall's point. You take a wall down not by taking out one stone. There are lots of solutions, but you don't go with one of them, you go to take them all out. To Marshall's point—this is not us trying to control people's internet usage. The real intent is to say that this University pays for the WiFi and will not use its resources to enhance something that statistics show result in high rates of negative sexual behaviors, not to mention that there are thousands of women being exploited in the pornography industry.
- t) Ayden Ellis: Thank you for mentioning that. This is one of many solutions. The counseling sessions you are talking about already exist. The "Let's Talk" posters have pornography as a topic on them—I don't know the effectiveness of that. People are still watching pornography. To the point of why we should ban this if

people will still watch—why would we ban anything that people can circumvent? We should still try to ban and limit it—that is still a good act. We can do the good things even if people will still circumvent the laws. We should follow through with Notre Dame’s existing rules that say that pornography is banned.

- u) Caston Murphy: I think this bill is not the best idea. Part of our job as Senate is to advocate for the Student Body. This bill takes something the Student Body can do and gives it back to the University. This would give the University more power to take things away from the Student Body. This would just make a lot of people mad. They might think that the Senate is enforcing a porn ban because they think they’re so high and mighty. This is motivated purely on your own beliefs as a Catholic and forcing them upon the rest of the Student Body.
- v) Jake Lowry: Talking about what people brought up about approaching this in different ways, I agree that problems require multiple solutions, but we want to make sure that we go with ones that will make a substantial effort. Like I said before, banning something tends to promote the behavior more. Studies like this have been done with alcohol and marijuana.
- w) Caroline Potts: To the point that this might not be the most popular decision, I don’t think we should consider our popularity as a reason to not vote yes. Doing the right thing isn’t always the most

popular thing. Statistics show that reducing pornography usage can prevent violence and would intrinsically work towards the betterment of the Student Body.

- x) Luca Ripani: I want to echo what Jake and Jack said. The purpose of Student Government is not to restrict things in student life. I have been involved in Student Government for a long time and haven't seen this being attempted. I think for Student Government to restrict something would send a worse message about our school culture.
- y) Jared Schlachet: Points have been made talking about Student Government enforcing a ban. This bill is not forcing Student Government to do anything. All this is as a resolution is calling upon the University and OIT to look into doing this. Student Government doesn't have the power to force anyone to do anything.
- z) Eliza Smith: Point of Inquiry, did OIT say that they would be able to do this?
  - aa) John Soza: They said they would need to develop a technological solution, but they do have the ability to restrict certain sites. They already do this.
  - bb) Lane Obringer: Point of Inquiry, what sites are currently banned?
  - cc) John Soza: Sites that present a clear cybersecurity threat to the University.

dd) Connor McCloskey: About the popularity thing. As Senators, we are elected to represent our dorms, and our personal beliefs cannot factor into this. Think about what the people in your dorm would say.

ee) Griffin McAndrew: I would like to yield by time to a constituent, Spencer.

(1) Spencer Koehl: How's it going? I'm a senior and an RA in Knott. I was a Senator my freshman year and Hall President sophomore year. The reason God created evil was to give human beings the power of free will. There is no power in good action if one cannot do evil. Shouldn't the temptation of watching porn—

(2) Sofie Stitt: I am so glad you are speaking. Let's keep what God wants and doesn't want out of the conversation for those who are Catholic or religious of any kind.

(3) Spencer Koehl: There is value in the free will to choose not to watch porn instead of having someone else choose for you.

ff) Bobby Spence: This will in no way affect one's ability to watch pornography, anyone can go on ND Guest or use cellular data. It is about sending a message as a University.

gg) Kate Brandin: Point of Inquiry, under the things from OIT, Chegg and ChatGPT are not banned sites even though it is banned under Du Lac.

hh) John Soza: Yes.

ii) Kate Brandin: So why should we ban pornography sites, specifically?

jj) John Soza: The component of us being a Catholic University.

kk) Kate Garcia (Proxy for Abbey Donahue): I think there is an economic disparity in this. It favors those who can afford unlimited data. This does not take into consideration those who rely on the WiFi.

ll) Ayden Ellis: We don't want people watching porn. That's the answer to that.

mm) Marshall Smith: I think this boils down to Article 2.5 on responsible use of resources. The school shouldn't use any of its resources to do anything related to pornography. This resolution is a direct follow up to that.

nn) Caroline Potts: Regarding economic disparity, there are other options like ND Guest and other free WiFi networks. I think while that's important, economic disparity can be applied to things like underage drinking a lot more than this.

oo) Hunter Brooke motions to move into a closed vote.

(1) The motion is approved.

## 4. Voting

- a) The resolution fails.

## VI. New Business

A. [Upcoming Topics & Collaboration](#)

1. Sofie Stitt: Does anyone have anything to bring forward? Has anything been brought up in hall councils? Any updates on current resolutions?
2. Luca Ripani: I have been in contact with ResLife about a bill to extend senior housing credits to junior transfer students. If anyone wants to join in on that, let me know.
3. Derick Williams: Connor McCloskey and I are attempting to contact Chef Larson. We got a response from Luigi recently.
4. Connor McCloskey: It was the same email I received three weeks prior.
5. Sofie Stitt: I am happy to hop on that email thread.
6. Hunter Brooke: I am curious as to the status of ARF and am hoping for an update.
7. James Baird: I was busy with an election, rigging the vote and everything. I learned from the best. I am working on a big resolution. You will see something about that come up in the last meeting we have.

## VII. Announcements

## A. HOTY Presentation Grading

1. [Mandatory Grading Trainings](#)
2. [Sign Up form for Presentations](#)
  - a) For Senators only (including off-campus senators)

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- b) Do not sign up for your own hall, we will be checking
  - c) Please feel free to sign up for multiple slots
3. Lauryn Pugh: Thank you to everyone who signed up. We need more of you to sign up for trainings. Feel free to sign up for more gradings. We will be having another grading training at 7pm in DeBart. Feel free to come even if you didn't sign up, it will be 15 to 20 minutes max.
  4. Luca Ripani: Will there be another training after Spring Break?
  5. Lauryn Pugh: If you can't make it, we will reach out to you individually if you marked that on your form.
- B. Connor McCloskey: There are 352 days until the Keenan Revue.
  - C. Rachel Dorfner: Here is your SUB Update for the week! There is a Spring Break Send Off tomorrow in the LaFun lobby. We are giving away visors and sunglasses. Tomorrow is Acousticafe!
  - D. Sofie Stitt: No Senate dinner tonight. Honors Corporate Finance is giving me work.
- VIII. Adjournment
- A. The meeting is adjourned.