



## Student Senate Agenda

November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017

*Mission: As the women comprising the College of St. Benedict Senate we will develop strong, viable relations between the administration, faculty, and students of the College of St. Benedict community based on our Benedictine traditions. As the College of St. Benedict Senate, we will work to bring strong, ethical, service-based leadership as we represent the students of the College of St. Benedict, in conjunction with St. John's University.*

### I. Opening

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call (Ziemer)
- C. Opening Reflection (Stotz)
- D. Approval of the Minutes
- E. Approval of the Agenda

### II. Guests

- A. Jon McGee
  - a. Student Experience Senior Survey
    - i. 379 Students filled it out.
      1. 40% CSB students
      2. 30% SJU students
      3. Over 300 wrote something when given the opportunity to write something.
    - ii. About you
      1. Adjectives to describe yourself
        - a. Friendly
        - b. Open-minded
        - c. Driven
        - d. Fun
      2. Adjectives to describe the school.
        - a. Friendly
        - b. Supportive
        - c. Intellectual
        - d. Community
      3. Rate yourself in comparison to your peers
        - a. Most put above average or top 10%
          - i. Academically we had quite a gain by almost 10%
          - ii. Numbers are lower in social self-confidence
      4. How would you describe your political views?
        - a. Both liberal and conservative numbers rose this year.
          - i. CSB students are more liberal than SJU students
            1. 41% Liberal (CSB) ; 32% (SJU)
            2. 23% Conservative (CSB) ; 28% (SJU)
      5. How satisfied with your total undergraduate experience?
        - a. 91% said they were satisfied
      6. Describe campus community
        - a. 20% said it was poor (6% increase from last year)
        - b. There is a good amount of people that have sharply negative things to say about our sense of community.
        - c. Those who express that there is a good sense of community are the "modal" students that always come to CSB/SJU.
      7. Evaluate your social experience
        - a. Most say they are satisfied with it at CSB/SJU.
          - i. 1 in 5 said that they were dissatisfied.
          - ii. How do we reflect this as our world is changing.
      8. Evaluate student residential facilities.
        - a. Only 53% said they were satisfied.



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- b. 1 in 5 said they were dissatisfied.
        - 9. Has the value of your education justified what your family paid for?
          - a. 83% believe that it is justifiable.
      - iii. Experience
        - 1. "I have found a community where I feel like I belong."
          - a. 81% agree or strongly agree feel like they belong.
        - 2. Are students respectful when discussing controversial issues?
          - a. 60% (dropped 14% from last year).
        - 3. Who has served as mentors and role models?
          - a. 88% professor
          - b. 68% another student
        - 4. Relationships with other students?
          - a. 96%
        - 5. Relationships with professors
          - a. 91%
        - 6. Relationships with administration
          - a. 71%
      - iv. Oh the places you'll go...
        - 1. You'll be employed immediately after graduation
          - a. 56% say they will be
            - i. 75% really are
          - b. 24% say they will go to graduate school
          - c. 75% say they will obtain a graduate or professional degree in their lifetime.
        - 2. How optimistic are you about your future?
          - a. 94% said they are
    - b. Questions
      - i. Are we higher in the amount of students that graduate in 4 years?
        - 1. Yes.
          - a. Average amount of years for a 4-year college is 6 years.
            - i. Nationally, less than 50% will finish in 4 years.
          - b. It suggests that this is the right fit for students academically and socially and structurally.
        - ii. Jon's number is 5287 and he will direct you to data for any class or paper you need to write.
  - ~~B. Be the Match~~
  - C. Open Forum
    - a. Bridget is running for Club Auditor
      - i. First year
- III. Board Reports
  - A. President's Report (Steenberge)
    - 1. Those leaving us.
      - i. Transition notes due Fri. Dec 8<sup>th</sup> to VP Weekley.
      - ii. Return blouse and padfolio after Pizza with MDH
      - iii. Return Senate t-shirts as well.
    - 2. End of Semester Report
      - i. What worked
      - ii. What didn't
      - iii. How far did you get with your projects
      - iv. Any ideas for next semester



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- v. Due on Study Day
3. Speeches
  - i. Tomorrow at 6:30 in Fireside
  - ii. Wear Senate attire
4. Tabling opportunities
5. Senate bonding
  - i. December 10<sup>th</sup> please block out that evening
6. Pizza with MDH
  - i. December 11<sup>th</sup> 5pm
  - ii. Wear Senate attire
7. FiRED up picture after the meeting
- B. Advisor's Report
  1. Use what you didn't accomplish as a motivator for next semester.
  2. We are still working to answer all of your questions about the Alcohol Task Force.
  3. Lunch with Advisors
    - i. We would love to get together with you so reschedule if you need to!
  4. End of the year reports
    - i. Think about if you had to give a presentation, would you have stuff to say?
- C. Executive Board (Weekley)
  1. Did not meet this week!
- D. Co-Funding Board (Stotz)
  1. Did not meet this week!
- E. Budget Update (Iteghete)
  1. \$18,801.32
- F. Saint John's Senate
  1. No funding requests
  2. Goals check-in to see our progress this semester
    - i. This will be going on our webpage so students can see it.
  3. Our office is almost renovated!
    - i. Please come see it.
  4. We have spent 63% of our budget so far.
    - i. \$17,742
- G. Open Forum (Weekley, Flores, Angarag)
  1. Weekley
    - i. Spring retreat agenda
    - ii. Culinary Services
      1. They let us know that papers were flying in the bus stop doors because of the wind.
    - iii. Project Management platform
    - iv. Promotion for Exec. Assistant
      1. Tell people to apply if they are interested.
  2. Thomas
    - i. FOC
      1. There was not a big turnout from CSB Senate
        - a. Dissappointing to see and try to focus on that our goals are to be inclusive and build relationships with all students.
  3. Robinson
    - i. Meeting with Richard Ice
      1. Focus group to work on getting cords for graduation for any Community Service, Honorary, or Government Groups on campus.
  4. Angarag



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- i. Christmas Cards are here and will be sent out soon!
    - ii. Alumnae Brunch
      - 1. March 18<sup>th</sup> and March 25<sup>th</sup>
        - a. Keep both of them open but I will know one of them by the end of the semester.
  - 5. Weber
    - i. FOC event would be helpful to be clearer with what to do and what was expected of students.
  - 6. Stotz
    - i. Chipotle and Words of Affirmation at Senate Bonding.
- H. Constitutional Review
- 1. Funding Guidelines
    - i. We are changing it so we are endorsing collaborating with clubs.
  - 2. Donations
    - i. We should define if it is going directly to charity or if we are donating to events that help charities
    - ii. Since all of our requests for funding are so situational it's hard to put a definite guideline.
      - 1. Terhaar-it's illegal to donate to charitable organizations so we should add that.
  - 3. Freshman elections
    - i. There were some freshman very upset that they did not know that freshman could run in special elections.
      - 1. Steenberge-it does clarify that ANY member of the student body can run during special elections.
    - ii. I believe we should have brought this all up in the first place to make sure that everyone was in the loop so we can make sure that everyone feels like they are welcome and heard.
      - 1. Thomas-we should make sure that we are really clarifying rules and expectations to freshman and not make any assumptions about them.
        - a. Weekley-there's only so much that we can do, but we also need to require their accountability if they are truly interested and passionate.
        - b. Webster-We have really been working to improve our election process. Specifically, we have had Bennies be nominated which really helped our candidate numbers.
      - 2. We have to make sure that we are really taking time to consider different ways that we can improve this specific issue and something that we are missing even if we are doing other things very well.
- IV. New Business
- A. Motion to approve the changes to the Saint Ben's Senate Constitution (Angarag).
    - a. VOTE: 14-0-0
- V. Announcements
- A. The next meeting of the Saint Ben's Senate will be on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM.
  - B. Senator Weber will attend the next St. John's Senate meeting on Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:20 PM.
- VI. Adjournment