

*To the Student Body of the greatest University in the world:*

*Sometimes, the simplest questions are the hardest ones to answer. So when people ask why we're running, it's tricky to choose a single reason. We have so many ideas to improve campus life, so many hopes for our shared future under the Dome, and have met so many fine people whom we'd be blessed to represent. But at the end of the day, there's only one answer. It's simple. We love Notre Dame. To us, Notre Dame is more than a school, more than a community of people. It's a way of life. And it's our home. From Carroll to Cavanaugh, Stepan to O'Shaughnessy—from four-year dorm residents to those who form our vibrant off-campus community—we are all Notre Dame. This home we share is why the three of us have come together, despite some differences, to humbly offer our ideas for a brighter future.*

*Our ticket features a conservative Presidential candidate, a liberal VP, and a moderate campaign manager. This ideological diversity is our greatest strength. By bringing different viewpoints to the table with an optimistic, collaborative attitude, we've created a campaign team and policy platform that represents every corner of Notre Dame's student body. And in doing so, we've put solutions over political divisions—to be honest, we've had enough divisive politics for a lifetime over the past year.*

*We believe that there's more that unites than divides us, and we believe in some simple, important ideas that we'll pledge to hold to if elected. We believe in making student government more fiscally responsible, instead prioritizing funding for the dorms and clubs that drive campus life. We believe in the unique strength of our Catholic heritage and in the special importance of religious life on campus for those of all faiths. And we believe in being a voice for the student body to the school administration—not the other way around—when the administration acts against our best interests and without meaningful student input, raising tuition and spending freely on expensive projects while neglecting dorm upkeep.*

*In these ways and so many more, we believe it's time for new leadership that strives to put students before government. We hope you'll join us as we work to make our great home an even finer place to learn, grow, and live.*

*Sincerely,  
Gates, Corey, and Mary*

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# **APPROACHABLE**

## COLLABORATIVE

## TRANSFORMATIVE

*Approachability 1: Social Media:* We will use our social media to connect with students and provide updates on all we are doing. This will include:

- **Open Inbox:** We will run our Facebook page ourselves in order to field and respond to any legitimate ideas, questions, or concerns.
- **Facebook Live Q&As:** Hold consistent Q&As to hold us accountable.
- **Policy Progress Notifications:** Post notifications on policy progress every other day.
- **State of the University:** Directly address frequently-asked questions in bi-weekly video updates.
- **Bi-Weekly Policy Polls:** Institute a bi-weekly facebook poll featuring current policy goals, where students will vote on the goals they find most important.
- **Hold Facebook Live Senate Meetings:** This will promote transparency in Student Government.
- **Continue “Onward”:** This is an anonymous platform for voicing student concerns.
- **Student Government Snapchat:** Create specialized Snapchat filters for special events and awareness campaigns, while also revitalizing Student Government’s use of Snapchat as a communication platform.

*Approachability 2: Transparency:* In an effort to make sure all students are aware of how student government impacts their daily lives, we will strive to be the most transparent administration in recent memory.

- **Open Door Policy:** Please come by the student government office to voice ideas, concerns, or even just to chat.
- **Non-LaFun Office Hours:** In addition to having time where you can meet with us, we will host office hours in each dorm and have Facebook polls for where and when office hours should be held.
- **End Closed Senate Meetings:** No information regarding a student issue should be kept from campus media or the broader student body. To increase transparency and accountability, Student Senate meetings will not be closed.
- **Downsize Student Government:** Currently there are various duplicative cabinet positions that can be eliminated or combined to help student government run more efficiently and create greater collaboration with current resources that exist on campus.
- **Continue Using Two Directors of Communication:** One communicates student government activity, and the other communicates University policy and news.

- **Student News Releases:** Establish a Policy with University Administration about news releases, publish a Student Government newsletter every two weeks, and maintain a tab/page on the website explaining student government funding.

*Approachability 3: Voicing Student Concerns:* As an administration, we will always put the interests of students first by:

- **Holding the Administration Accountable:** We will work with the administration to receive a better explanation of executive decisions and work to increase transparency on projects pertaining to University improvements and policy changes.
- **Public Spending Reports:** Request more information regarding financial decisions, then make the details public via a “university checkbook” module on InsideND that is only accessible to students and staff.
- **Detailed Dorm Maintenance Reports:** This will allow us to fight for a reasonable distribution of resources to every hall, house, and manor.
- **Remove Politics from Student Government:** Focus on tangible goals that improve the daily lives of students and work to keep partisanship and division out of Student Government.

*Approachability 4: Student Government Reform:* Structural inefficiencies have held student government back from its full potential. We will bring the focus back to students.

- **Executive Department Oversight:** Empower Senators by helping them specialize in varying interest areas, so they can review department organization. Also, we will give Senators communications training to better relay information to dorms.
- **Public Comments for Senate Meetings:** Allow students an open floor to voice opinions at the end of Senate meetings: a five minute maximum for student concerns with the ability to expand more thoughts after the meeting.
- **Greater Representation:** Add a senator for each college at the University.
- **Cross-Campus Collaboration:** Become a member of the American Student Government Association and invite student leaders from different schools to visit campus, tailgate, and collaborate on ideas.
- **Student Government Tailgates:** Host one tailgate during the Football season to allow greater accessibility and serve refreshments to students and Student Government leaders. We will also work to attend already existing tailgates with Student Government members from other Universities to increase awareness of Notre Dame and truly make the game-day weekend an experience for visiting student leaders.
- **Constitutional Review Commission:** Form a committee to update outdated language, policies and organizational structures within the Student Union Constitution.
- **Monday Senate Meetings:** This will streamline the Student Government to Hall Council communications pipeline. Given Hall Council meetings on Tuesday nights, this will give Senators time to formulate ideas from their respective dorms to bring to the Senate.

- As our primary means of dorm representation, Hall Presidents Council and the Student Senate are of utmost importance and must be integrated more fluidly with the existing structure of Executive Cabinet. This will strengthen each dorm's voice and provide for a more diverse range of feedback and opinions from around campus.
- **Continue Successful Student Gov Programs:** Some initiatives including Political Brew, It's on Us, and Walk the Walk Week have been highly successful. We will continue these programs and look for areas to expand and collaborate more.
- **Improve Relationship with Club Coordination Council:** We will work to improve CCC training for clubs and increase funding for all clubs on campus.
- **Club Leadership Training:** Work with CCC and SAO to more effectively train club leadership on event planning and navigating the University's approval process.
- **Direct More Funds through the CCC to Clubs:** This will allow club sports to schedule more games and social clubs to have the funding to pursue audacious new events, which will allow our community to thrive. With a greater need and ever-expanding student organizations, the funding must also increase for these student groups.
- **Role Transparency:** Clearly define roles of student government members and share detailed information regarding what they are accomplishing on a weekly basis.
- **Intragovernmental Communication:** Have a weekly all staff meeting with Executive Cabinet, HPC co-chairs, Sub Director, Class Council Officers, Club Coordination Council representatives, Off-Campus Council representatives, and Diversity Council to increase communication and collaboration on policy initiatives and events/programming.

# APPROACHABLE COLLABORATIVE TRANSFORMATIVE

## *Collaborative 1: Gather student developers to update the ND mobile app.*

- **Focus Groups Concerning App Efficiency:** Hold focus groups across the entire student body to determine what improvements are needed, and then work on behalf of students to provide solutions.
- **Allow Students to Add Print Quota on App:** Create a direct way to upload extra print quota, saving students a trip to OIT.
- **Basketball Court Sign-In Service:** Create a sign-in service based on the existing laundry machine sign-in tool. Additionally, we will explore an expansion of this sign-in service to other public areas of campus: pools, gyms, etc.
- **Textbook Exchange Feature:** This will promote a more reliable alternative to Facebook groups for students trying to sell used textbooks.
- **Peer-to-Peer Carpooling Feature:** This feature will be a direct and easy way to plan trips as simple as a jaunt to Target or as important as a ride to O'Hare during break.
- **Outdoor/Recreation Feature:** Build a new module for running/walking paths and outdoor/recreation opportunities on campus. This will feature defined running/walking paths that not only go around campus, but also into the South Bend community.

## *Collaborative 2: Work with Campus Dining to Improve Food Services.*

- **Trays and Utensils:** We will prioritize moving trays and utensils, specifically in South Dining Hall, to more accessible locations to improve convenience and student traffic flow.
- **Food Selections:** Expand quality of food options in both North and South, by ensuring the consistency of the carving station and by bringing back All-Day Waffles to South Dining Hall. We also plan to improve other food options (e.g., frozen yogurt selections, increasing the frequency of students' favorites: shrimp poppers, chicken tenders, etc.).
- **Duncan Student Hours:** We hear your concerns about the new Duncan Student Center restaurants and promise to make positive changes concerning hours and late-night food options.
- **Bring Back 24-hour Options:** We miss Reckers. We want to reinstate a 24-hour restaurant on campus—and we will demand answers concerning changes to Reckers, which is a staple for West and South Quad dorms.
- **Waste/Compost:** Work with Campus Dining to improve the current practices for waste, recycling, and compost, and look into expanding programming in this area.

*Collaborative 3: Diversity and Inclusion:* Work with underrepresented groups and clubs to improve day-to-day life for all students.

- **Pregnancy Resource Training:** Collaborate with Residential Life to ensure that Pregnancy Resource Training is annually given to RAs, ARs, and Rectors.
- **Accessible Feminine Hygiene Products:** We will prioritize installing feminine hygiene products in as many female bathrooms as possible, beginning with the busiest buildings (e.g., DeBart) to set a new benchmark for student care.
- **Priests in Female Dorms:** Connect female dorms without a priest-in-residence to their very own priests.
- **Install a Breastfeeding Station on Campus:** This station will be extremely beneficial, providing a space at LaFortune Student Center for new mothers to privately breastfeed.
- **Pro-DACA Stance:** Our team is focused on DACA students and those who support the program. We will ensure that our policies also reflect this stance and advocate for DACA with the University Administration and Board of Trustees. We will meet monthly with DACA students to discuss improvements and changes that we can advocate to better the lives of all students and stand up for their right to an education.
- **LGBTQ:** Our team fully supports the LGBTQ community and will always advocate on their behalf.
  - We will fight to recognize GALA ND as the official LGBT alumni group on campus, thus allowing more resources and opportunities for LGBT students.
  - Work to reform the University's nondiscrimination clause to include sexual orientation.
  - Partner with PrismND to have Welcome Weekend events for LGBTQ students.
- **Office of Student Enrichment:**
  - Fight for official University funding for the Office of Student Enrichment to better serve students of low socioeconomic status.
  - Locate options to subsidize the cost of Junior Parents Weekend to increase the opportunity for attendance.
- **Admissions:** Work with University Admissions to showcase involvement opportunities for prospective students that are underrepresented on campus.
- **Intellectual Diversity:** We will always promote free-speech on campus and will not promote or condemn certain political ideologies over others.
  - We believe that when we expose our own ideologies and beliefs to those that differ from us, our arguments and supporting statements are made stronger and are more educated.
  - As an educational institution, Notre Dame should never hesitate to expose its students to an uncompromisingly diverse and varied range of viewpoints.
- **Veterans:**
  - Partner with Veterans Services to implement the following programs/plans:
    - Create reserved parking spaces near entrances to buildings for veterans.
    - Design a new seat in Notre Dame stadium for POW-MIA, signifying our respect for those lost in combat and symbolizing the true sacrifice they made for our nation or their home nation.

- Give Veteran Students priority registration for class scheduling.
- Increase offerings and celebrations for veterans on special days.
- Encourage veteran recruiting for employment at ND.
- **March for Life:** Right to Life is one of Notre Dame's premier student groups. Every year they represent us well, defending the sanctity of life at the March for Life in Washington, D.C. Naturally, we will continue to support them in all their efforts.

*Collaborative 4: Sustainability:* Collaborate with the Sustainability Community to ensure the following goals are met:

- **Zero-Waste Stadium Initiative:** Work with the Athletics Department and University Office of Sustainability to make all athletic stadiums and arenas zero waste (recycle, compost, donate.).
- **Campus-Wide Days of Service:** (one per semester, optional) Partner with GreeND and other environmentally-oriented clubs to pick up litter, tour the power plant, and perform other environmental service projects on campus.
- **Sustainable and Reusable Cups:** Continue and expand the use of sustainable and reusable cups by coffee shops and restaurants around campus. We will incentivize this by partnering with Campus Dining to give discounts for students and staff that bring reusable cups/mugs.
- **Bigger Recycling Bins:** Provide bigger recycling bins in dorms.
- **More Trash Cans:** Every high-traffic area on campus should have some form of waste repository to prevent litter—for example, the front of South Dining Hall.
- **Reduce Food Waste:** Create a campaign to reduce food waste in dining halls by collaborating with Campus Dining and the University Office of Sustainability.
- **Recycling Labels:** Work with Campus Dining, Residential Life, and University Maintenance to standardize recycling signage and labels across campus.
- **How-To for Students:** Create a sign for dorms to inform residents of everyday actions they can take to be more environmentally conscious and sustainable.
- **Office of Sustainability:** Work with the Office of Sustainability to increase awareness and transparency of current initiatives, goals, and plans.
- **75% Renewable:** Advocate for the University to consume at least 75% of its energy from renewable sources by 2050, an attainable goal and realistic vision.

*Collaborative 5: Student Safety, Sexual Assault and Violence Prevention:*

This is an extremely serious topic—we must partner not only with on campus resources and initiatives but also with regional and state ones to truly promote strong advocacy and policy for survivors and to increase prevention.

- **Parietals Amnesty Campaign:** Institute a campaign such that when students are in an unsafe situation after parietals, they can leave without fear of repercussions from OCS, similar to the Good Samaritan policy regarding alcohol.
- **Bars 4 GreeNDot:** Work to create a certification program for Bars to become certified for GreeNDot.
- **Stand4IX:** We fully support and will always advocate for the Stand4IX Movement.

- **ICESA/Step In:** Partner and collaborate with the Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault to truly fight this awful crime and increase prevention efforts on our campus.
- **Cleary Act Reporting:** Work with University Administration and the Title IX office to establish a clear and concise timeline for Cleary Act reporting to increase student safety and improve the timeliness of the process for survivors.
- **60 Day Timeline:** Work with the Title IX Office to uphold a 60 day timeline of concluding cases.
- **Blue Light Safety Evaluation:** Work with Campus Safety and NDSP to evaluate the current Blue Light system and potentially add locations for Blue Light emergency phones, as well as improvements/repairs to current Blue Lights.
- **Dangerous Paths:** Work with University Maintenance to cut back brush/honeysuckle along running/walking paths, thus increasing visibility and safety features, especially along Twyckenham Dr. and Bulla Rd.
- **Bike Safety:** Work with long-term campus planners, the City of South Bend, and the University Architects to identify possible areas for bike-lanes on main thoroughfares and roads to protect bikers, especially those commuting to campus.
- **Bike Repair Stations:** Purchase numerous outdoor/permanent bike repair stations to allow greater access to resources for bikers.
- **Crosswalk Safety:** Work with the City of South Bend and Notre Dame Maintenance to repair crosswalk lines, improve signage, and add lighting at crosswalks, especially towards Eddy St. on Angela Blvd.

#### *Collaborative 6: Civic and Community Engagement:*

- **Irish Readership Program:** Provide physical and online subscriptions for students as well as new readership stands in both dining halls, both students centers, and the library. The subscriptions will be, but are not limited to, The Observer, Scholastic Magazine, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and The South Bend Tribune.
- **The Leadership Circle:** This will be a “Book Club” type program where a certain book, article, or essay is read by the campus community and then the author comes to campus to have a roundtable discussions on the chosen topic.
- **Political Brew:** Continue the current improvements with Political Brew and its meaningful dialogue.
- **Voter Registration:** Work with ND Votes to set a goal that every student be registered to vote by the end of the year. To do so, we will have a week-long voter registration drive where we create a public display to showcase new voter registrations.
- **2018 Election Resource Center for Students:** Collaborate with the Department of Political Science, BridgeND, and ND Votes to create a resource center for students interested in voting and participating in the political process.
- **Forum:** Host one monthly discussion on a topic such as sexual assault, media reporting, etc. Partner with BridgeND. For example, host a movie watch for “The Hunting Ground” and then break out into small groups to talk about it and reflect, possibly invite a guest speaker to discuss it.



# APPROACHABLE COLLABORATIVE TRANSFORMATIVE

*Transformative 1: SAO:* Work with staff and administration to accomplish the following ideas:

- **Institute a Campus-Wide Audit of SAO:** Bring together leaders of clubs and halls to provide positive feedback to improve SAO operations.
- **Fight for University Venmo Usage:** We believe that Venmo is an integral asset to the future of clubs and hall events.
- **Universal List of Available Rooms:** Provide clubs with a list of available rooms to those planning events, instead of allowing endless back-and-forth email chains between groups and SAO.
- **Veto Check:** Give club advisors/rectors a veto role on club/dorm events, but don't require them to approve every single event on SAO. This holds up the process, especially on pre-approved events, such as Signature Events that occur annually.
- **Aggressively Hold SAO Accountable:** SAO must be accountable. Timeliness must be a priority. We also will ensure that SAO events will never conflict with Dorm Signature Events, as recently took place with McGlinn's signature Casino Night.
  - SAO is supposed to facilitate and support student initiative. Instead, it has become an overly-powerful and self-possessed organization which too often impedes campus life instead of enabling it.
  - SAO should serve students, not act as an obstacle. We need to reshape our priorities. SAO's job is to find ways to support campus leaders—campus leaders shouldn't have to find ways to appease SAO.
- **Student Leader Directory:** Create a directory for dorm, club and student government leaders to connect and collaborate on events.
- **SAO Staffing:** Work with the Administration to make sure that SAO is fully staffed.

*Transformative 2: Dorm Inequality and Residential Life*

- **STAND AGAINST THE NEW UNIVERSITY HOUSING POLICY AND REPEAL IT IMMEDIATELY!**
- **Stress disrepair of major dorms to Administration:** There are dorms that currently have major problems, including bug infestations, discolored water, and more. We must address these problems NOW. (e.g., Stanford, Lyons, Fisher, Cav, Howard)
- **Future Dorm Plans & Transparency:** Communicate with the Administration that we, the student body, would like to be informed of the decisions being made that concern the building of new dorms. Transparency with University projects is essential for student input and support. This is especially pertinent considering that

new dorm construction devastates well-used common areas around campus—for example, McGlinn Fields, a central part of West Quad life, is currently being destroyed.

- **Three Years on Campus Decision:** Represent students' opinions to the administration concerning this new issue and stand firmly against the new policy, which will financially and socially limit students while having a negative effect on dorm culture.
- **Housing Waivers:** While we advocate against the new policy, we will work to at least create a Housing Waiver System in which students can apply for and get approval to move off campus. The approval process will be through a committee that brings together students, Student Affairs staff, and specifically two representatives from the office of Residential Life.

### *Transformative 3: Notre Dame Academics*

- **CIFs**
  - **Change CIF Dates:** Make CIFs available before, but due after, finals. It is hard to entirely evaluate a class when the class is not entirely over. They should be due at the same time that professors have to turn in our grades. We must hold all members of our community, including students and faculty, to the same standard.
  - **Make CIF Data Available during Class Searches:** We deserve to get to know what our peers think of professors. CIF results should be provided to students in some form, and will stay private to only students searching classes.
- **Testing Before Finals:** Work with the Faculty Senate to establish a rule that classes cannot give a test within 5 days of an official finals/midterms week.
- **Moreau:** Despite its noble intentions, the Moreau First-Year class has been at best controversial and at worst ignored and ridiculed by first-year students. Perform a student-run audit of the Moreau FYE to update and review the most effective curriculum modules and methods.
- **First Year Advisors:** Work with the First Year of Studies to explore and analyze the opportunity to organize the Advisors by major/college, rather than by name. This will allow the advisors to build greater expertise and relationships within their respective majors/colleges.

### *Transformative 4: Student Finances*

- **Expand Flex Point Usage:** We think Flex Points should be more widely accepted on campus (vending machines, stadium, dorm restaurants, etc.). At a school as wealthy as ours, no student's financial means should prevent them from taking advantage of basic on-campus amenities.
- **Stadium Refreshment Costs:** Partner with vending and athletics to lower student costs for refreshments in the Football Stadium.
- **Laundry:** Fight for the ability to use flex points for laundry. Considering Notre Dame's 11-figure endowment, this is an unacceptable example of the University's odd habit of nickel-and-dime her students.

- **Financial Literacy Program:** Create a financial literacy program for students to learn about balancing checkbooks, savings, loans, investing, etc.
- **Lockers:** Create more locations on campus for Student Lockers, allowing off-campus students to use flex points to rent a locker space out for a day/week/month. Location ideas include LaFun, the Library, and DeBartolo hall.
- **Continue Professor Coffee Hours:** Continue to provide gift cards for students interested in going to “coffee hours” with their professors.
- **Quad Markets:** Work to improve Quad Markets by adding more vendors and emphasizing affordability and sustainability.
- **Printers in Duncan:** Provide students the opportunity to use printer money throughout campus by installing printers in the new Duncan Student Center.

### *Transformative 5: Mental and Personal Health*

- **Headspace:** Work with McWell and UHS to purchase a campus subscription to Headspace to improve access to mindfulness and personal wellness opportunities for students and staff.
- **Mindfulness Rooms in Duncan:** Half of campus is too far from the UCC, and this distance creates a lack of participation. By creating rooms for mindfulness easily accessible to new parts of campus, we make mental health a clear priority for the University.
- **Hire Additional Sports Psychologists:** There are currently not enough psychologists for all 750+ student athletes at Notre Dame. The present support for student athletes is insufficient, and we will push for at least the immediate hiring of another psychologist to ensure that mental health resources are available to athletes.
- **ULifeline:** Partner with ULifeline to provide and connect students with wellness and mental health resources and make them readily available for students.
- **Health Services Booths:** Work with UHS to have a Health Services Booth at large University events, in the hopes of spreading awareness of current resources available to students.
- **Active Minds:** Work with the Notre Dame Chapter of Active Minds to increase awareness of mental health issues on campus.
- **Out of the Darkness:** Host an Out of the Darkness walk to call attention to and fundraise for youth suicide prevention, promote student outreach, and encourage a safe environment. Collaborate with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) on this initiative.
- **Eating Disorder Hope:** Partner with EDH to create awareness of eating disorders’ impact as well as current resources available for students.
- **Anonymous Student Blog:** Create an anonymous student blog where *approved* posts are shared to show students that they are not alone and that they have fellow community members who are sharing in their experiences.