Vanderbilt University  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
September 6, 2007, 4:15 p.m.  
Room 140, Frist Hall

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of May 7, 2007

Introduction of Executive Committee, Standing Committee Chairs, and New Senators

Report of the Executive Committee  
Bruce Barry, Chair of the Faculty Senate

Remarks by Interim Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Regarding the Chancellor Search – Remarks by:
• Randolph Blake, Centennial Professor of Psychology and Chief of Staff for the Chancellor Search Committee
• James Hudnut-Beumler, Dean of the Divinity School and Chair of the Chancellor Search Advisory Committee

Summary of the State of University Athletics:  
David Williams, Vice Chancellor for University Affairs

Presentation of committee charges for 2007-2008

New business

Good of the Senate

Adjournment to reception (in the Atrium between Frist and Godchaux Halls)


Voting Members absent: Benbow, Bradford, Breyer, Carter (regrets), Christie, Conway-Welch, Fogo, Galloway, Lindquist, Moore, Rubin, Sandler (regrets), Shiavi (regrets), Slovis (regrets), Steinberg, Wait (regrets), Wasserstein (regrets), and Yarbrough.

Ex Officio Members present: Brisky, Fuchs, Gherman, Hall, McNamara, Sandler, Schoenfeld, Tolk, Williams, and Zeppos.
Ex Officio Members absent: Balser, Barge, Chalkley, Gotterer (regrets), Jacobson, and Outlaw.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Bruce Barry.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the May 7, 2007 minutes

Minutes from the 5/7/07 meeting were reviewed and Chair Barry asked for any corrections or adjustments. Hearing none, he stated that the minutes stand approved.

Next Item on the Agenda – Introduction of Executive Committee, Standing Committee Chairs, and New Senators

Chair Barry introduced the Executive Committee, Committee chairs and new senators (more information at: http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/execut07.htm).

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair Barry gave an overview of the Senate for newcomers. He said that the Senate can weigh-in or opine on anything and the administration is required to respond. He reminded all senators that they are a member of a standing committee within the Senate. He added that deans are voting members of the Senate, too. He stated that the Senate has its own Rules of Order and when an issue arises that the Rules of Order doesn’t address, we follow Roberts Rule of Order. He said that he will try to start and end the meetings on time. He said that the Senate also appoints a parliamentarian, and that Bill Damon is our new parliamentarian for the year. He introduced Andrea Hewitt-Gibson as the Senate Progam Coordinator. He mentioned that the committees have already started meeting and dealing with important issues. He reminded the senators that the October meeting is a special executive session. He mentioned that what we will be doing for most of the meeting is meeting with members of the Chancellors Search Advisory committee and members of the Board of Trust. Chair Barry then introduced Interim Chancellor Nick Zeppos.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by the Interim Chancellor

Interim Chancellor Zeppos said that the year is off to a great start. He emphasized that the most important thing is how the faculty and students are doing. There is a lot of excitement on the campus. He mentioned that parts of the Commons are now open. He mentioned the potential that the space has to build community. He also mentioned the lease with 100 Oaks, and that part of the medical center is moving to that location, and it will be the largest footprint off-campus. He said that Vanderbilt’s presence in the community is very important. Vanderbilt’s core mission is basic research and patient care at the highest level. He said that he has a very ambitious agenda ahead for this year, and he expects
that the Senate will be active and engaged. He asked for any questions. Hearing none, he thanked the Senate for the opportunity to speak.

Next Item on the Agenda – Regarding the Chancellor Search

Chair Barry then introduced Professor Randolph Blake, Chief of Staff for the Chancellor’s Search, and Dean Jim Hudnut-Beumler, head of the Chancellor’s Search Advisory Committee.

Professor Blake said that his job is to organize and coordinate all of the activities of the search. He gave the timeline for the chancellor search process. The goal is to have all of these activities completed by the end of October. He reminded the senators about the Chancellor Search’s web page (http://www.vanderbilt.edu/chancellorsearch/).

Dean Hudnut-Beumler passed out copies of the web-based survey. He said that the Committee will be holding listening sessions with select groups of faculty, students, and administrators over the next months. He said that the committee’s purpose is to provide a detailed report to the Board of Trust Search committee so that we can let them know what we think is good about Vanderbilt. He said that his committee is also going to be asking for suggestions for possible chancellor nominees in the world of research, medicine, and higher education. He then opened the floor for questions.

Senator Cynthia Paschal: Remind me of your different roles?
Dean Hudnut-Beumler: I am chair of the Advisory Committee. One other comment: the BOT members are remarkably interested in faculty and having the opportunities to attend these listening sessions.
Professor Blake: I am Chief of Staff of the Search. My job is to coordinate the activities and, if asked, to summarize what I’ve heard at the listening session.

Senator Jose Medina: Is the Senate going to be involved in the process beyond the October 11 listening session?
Dean Hudnut-Beumler: Our input is at the beginning of the process, and continues only if the BOT members come back and ask for additional input. We have a fairly narrow window to speak frankly.
Professor Blake: The consultants plan to meet with the Senate Executive Committee. But send any nominations to me personally. Or you can send them to the anonymous email address online.

Senator Ginny Shepherd: Our Senate chair, Bruce Barry, is also a member of the Advisory Committee.

Professor Blake reminded everyone that he is also member of the Search Committee.

Senator David Wood: Does the Advisory Committee have a sense of what sort of advice you are asked to provide?
Dean Hudnut-Beumler: We are not being asked to resolve all residual matters. We will do our best work if we give a clear and entire picture of any issue.

Chair Barry thanked Dean Hudnut-Beumler and Professor Blake for their presentation.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Summary of the State of University Athletics**

Chair Barry introduced David Williams, Vice Chancellor for University Affairs to give a summary of the State of University Athletics.

Vice Chancellor Williams said this past year was the best competitive year we’ve ever had. He said that the GPAs have remained the same. He said that student-athletes come during summer school and they have to get a 2.0 GPA in order to play in the fall. He said that this past year, for the first time ever, athletics turned a small profit. This is a huge change from four years ago when the budget operated at a $4 million deficit. He added that Lou Outlaw is our new Faculty Athletic Representative.

He asked for any questions or comments.

Dean Richard McCarty: Elizabeth Wright is great to work with in the Academic Advising office.

Hearing no other questions, he thanked the Senate for the opportunity to give his presentation.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation of committee charges for 2007-2008**

Chair Barry thanked David Williams for his presentation. He then asked the standing committee chairs to present their committee charges for 2007-2008 (more information at: [http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/commit.htm](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/commit.htm)).

**Next Item on the Agenda – New Business and Good of the Senate**

Chair Barry then called for any items under New Business or Good of the Senate. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and was seconded. He then invited everyone to attend the reception immediately following the meeting outside the room in the Atrium.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Emeson,
Vice Chair
Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of September 6, 2007

Report of the Executive Committee
  • Bruce Barry, Chair of the Faculty Senate

Update on national athletic reform issues, including activity at the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics.
  • Virginia Shepherd, Chair-elect of the Faculty Senate

Presentation on the Status and Future of Student Media at Vanderbilt
  • Chris Carroll, Executive Director, Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc.

Discussion: Integration of Faculty into the Intellectual Life of Students outside the Classroom. Panel:
  • Mark Bandas, Associate Provost and Dean of Students
  • Howard Sandler, Associate Provost for Special Projects
  • Frank Wcislo, Dean of the Commons

New Business

Good of the Senate


Voting Members absent: Armour (regrets), Benbow, Bernard, Bloch (regrets), Bradford (regrets), Braxton, Burk (regrets), Carter (regrets), Conway-Welch, Gabbe, Hudnut-Beumler (regrets), Kirshner (regrets), Lindquist (regrets), McLendon (regrets), Medina, Moore, Oliver, Retzlaff (regrets), Rubin, Sandler (regrets), Sharpley-Whiting (regrets), Shiavi, Steinberg, Wait (regrets), Wasserstein (regrets), Wood (regrets), and Yarbrough.

Ex Officio Members present: Brisky, Damon, Fuchs, Gotterer, Gherman, McNamara, Sandler, Schoenfeld.

Ex Officio Members absent: Balser, Barge, Chalkley (regrets), Hall (regrets), Jacobson (regrets), Outlaw, Tolk (regrets), Williams, Zeppos (regrets).
The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Bruce Barry.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the September, 2007 minutes**

Minutes from the 9/6/07 meeting were reviewed and Chair Barry asked for any corrections or adjustments. Hearing none, he stated that the minutes stand approved.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee**

Chair Barry gave an update on the Chancellor Search Advisory committee. The advisory committee has delivered its report to the Board of Trust Search committee and their work is done.

Chair Barry then gave an update from the standing committees. He said the APS committee is considering new degree proposals. Faculty Life is reviewing the technology transfer proposal. They are also looking at the results of the Faculty Survey. The Student Life committee is looking at student mental health issues, and the Executive Committee has been pushing to raise Vanderbilt’s profile on LGBT issues. PEAF is working on a few grievances. Senate Affairs committee is meeting w/Nick about communication issues.

Chair Barry said that the Executive Committee has had input into the University Athletics committee and the search committee for the new librarian. He mentioned that he is moving ahead on sustainability issues, and that there is a meeting tomorrow morning on this issue. He also mentioned graduate student transportation and the online posting of syllabi as issues that are important to students. Senator Ann Neely mentioned that APS dealt with the issue of online posting of syllabi last year, and sent a report to Associate Provost Lou Outlaw.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Update on national athletic reform issues, including activity at the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics**

Chair-elect Virginia Shepherd gave an update on the activities of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA). She is currently Vanderbilt’s representative to the COIA and also the co-chair of the national organization. She explained that the most recent recommendations from COIA have been published in the Framing the Future report (link to the report: http://www.neuro.uoregon.edu/%7Etublitz/COIA/FTF/FTFtext&appendix.pdf).

Senator Cynthia Paschal: Is the Framing the Future report available?
Chair-elect Shepherd: I will have Andrea Hewitt-Gibson post a link on the Senate website.
Chair Barry thanked Chair-elect Shepherd for her report and hard work.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation on the Status and Future of Student Media at Vanderbilt

Chair Barry then introduced Chris Carroll, Executive Director, Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc. and Glenna DeRoy, student and editor of the Vanderbilt Hustler. Chris gave an overview of the history of student communications at Vanderbilt. He said that the reason that the student communication was made independent was to shield the university from liability. But the other effect was that it gave the students an independent voice. He said that student media includes The Commodore (yearbook), The Vanderbilt Hustler (weekly paper), WRVU (radio station), Versus (Student general interest magazine), The Vanderbilt Review (student art, fiction, and poetry), Vanderbilt TV (seen only on campus), Orbis (student ideological publication—liberal slant), The Torch (conservative slant), The Slant (student publication—satirical magazine), and Inside Vandy, the new website. They are also the operators of the Tennessee High School Press Association.

Chris added that Student Media has a $1.14 million operating budget; 33.8% is from subsidies from student fees (the rest is self-funded). They are located in the Sarratt Student Center. He added that 1 in 10 undergraduate students are contributors. He ended by stating their three top priorities: 1) to provide the campus with a forum for discussion, 2) for student development, 3) to help students who want to become journalists.

Glenna DeRoy showed the new website for student media, Inside Vandy. She said that there were 45,000 unique visitors to Inside Vandy last month, and it won the Best Online news source in the south last year. Chair Barry thanked them both for their presentations.

Next Item on the Agenda – Discussion: Integration of Faculty into the Intellectual Life of Students outside the Classroom

Chair Barry then introduced the panel to discuss the topic, “Integration of Faculty into the Intellectual Life of Students outside the Classroom.” The panel consisted of: Mark Bandas, Associate Provost and Dean of Students, Howard Sandler, Associate Provost for Special Projects, Frank Wcislo, Dean of the Commons, and Sharon Shields, Peabody Senator and a Head of Household.

Chair Barry explained that this panel was not about The Commons per se, but about how to integrate faculty into intellectual life of students outside the classroom.

Associate Provost Howard Sandler: He stated that this will be a residential campus for freshman as of next year. He said that expectations have been created for these students, and the faculty will be expected to help meet these expectations. He mentioned that he needs help from faculty, departments, and schools in this area. One thing worth thinking about is, “how to expand programs that bring students and faculty together.” He said that the group that has been lagging is the faculty—he challenged the faculty to catch up.
Associate Provost Mark Bandas: He said that he thinks that the Commons and Vanderbilt Visions are indicative of a deeper change in Vanderbilt’s culture. He gave a series of examples as to what kinds of programs faculty are involved with that have to do with undergraduate students as a means to get faculty to think about how they can become involved, too.

Senator Sharon Shields: She said that as a member of the faculty, she thinks that there has been a lot said about the expectations placed on us, and that it is difficult to negotiate the different choices that are out there. She said that she has found it very rewarding to interact with undergraduate students. She says that she is seeing a more sustainable way to make these interactions. The Commons is the first step, but there is a 20 year plan that will change campus life to make it more residential. The heads of houses need your help—there will be a Faculty Associates program that she hopes you will participate in to be in community with these students. She will be calling and inviting you to our house and the other heads of house will be doing the same.

Dean Frank Weislo: Faculty will be experiencing students in different ways in the Commons. Vanderbilt is undergoing change in the way that we structure the university. As we think as faculty members about our role in the future, we need to keep in mind that we are modeling lives for our students. The big question: what does student life have to do with my research? We have to realize that we are modeling that behavior, and we need to find ways to value that contribution to the university. One time, once a year—get involved.

Next Item on the Agenda – New Business and Good of the Senate

Chair Barry then called for any items under New Business or Good of the Senate. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and was seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Emeson,
Vice Chair
Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of November 8, 2007

Report of the Executive Committee
   • Bruce Barry, Chair of the Faculty Senate

Remarks by Interim Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Motion regarding COIA Reforms in Intercollegiate Athletics
   • Sharon Shields, Chair of the Student Life Committee
   • Virginia Shepherd, Chair-elect of the Faculty Senate and Vanderbilt’s representative to the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA)

Presentation on the Finances of the University
   • Robert Spencer, Director of Financial Planning in Vanderbilt University’s Office of Financial Affairs

Discussion of Vanderbilt Efforts, Initiatives, and Challenges on Sustainability. Panel:
   • Mike Vandenbergh, Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Regulatory Program at Vanderbilt Law School
   • James Clarke, Professor of the Practice, Civil and Environmental Engineering and affiliated faculty in the Dept. of Earth and Environmental Sciences
   • Judson Newbern, Associate Vice Chancellor for Campus Planning, Construction, and Environmental Health and Safety.
   • Andrea George, Associate Director of Environmental Health and Safety and VU Sustainability Coordinator.

New Business

Good of the Senate

Adjourn

Voting Members present: Ahner, Barry, Blair, Bloch, Braxton, Breyer, Calico, DeHart, Eisenberg, Emeson, Gabbe, Hiebert, McCarty, McLendon, Medina, Moore, Neely, Oliver, Paschal, Rousseau, Sandler, Shepherd, Stone, Weller, and Wood.
Voting Members absent: Armour (regrets), Benbow, Bernard, Bradford (regrets), Carter, Christie, Conway-Welch, Dowdy, Ernst (regrets), Fogo (regrets), Galloway (regrets), Hudnut-Beumler (regrets), Jennings (regrets), Kirshner, Lindquist, Norden (regrets), Piston (regrets), Reisenberg, Reschly (regrets), Retzlaff, Roberts, Rubin, Sharpley-Whiting, Shiavi, Shields, Slovis, Steinberg, Wait, Wasserstein (regrets), Wcislo (regrets), and Yarbrough.

Ex Officio Members present: Brisky, Christianson, Gherman, Outlaw, Sandler, Schoenfeld, and Zeppos.

Ex Officio Members absent: Balser (regrets), Bandas, Barge, Chalkley, Damon, Fuchs, Gotterer (regrets), Hall, Jacobson, McNamara, Tolk, and Williams.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Bruce Barry.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the November 2007 minutes

Minutes from the 11/8/07 meeting were reviewed and Chair Barry asked for any corrections or adjustments. Hearing none, he stated that the minutes stand approved.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair Barry said that the standing committees continue to do their work. One specific issue he mentioned was Behavioral Health. Last spring, the Senate sent recommendations to the administration. Some of these have been adopted and some are still in progress.

He mentioned that there were an unprecedented number of faculty award nominations this year. The Consultative Committee met and will be sending those nominations along to the iChancellor soon.

After asking for questions, and hearing none, he recognized Interim Chancellor Nick Zeppos.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Interim Chancellor

Interim Chancellor Zeppos agreed that Behavioral Health is an important issue. He said that he has increased the staffing to meet these needs at a leadership level and counseling level. He added that they have moved to a matrix organization to address these issues as they involve family members, financial issues, academic issues, legal issues. He said that we are putting together a team approach that looks at big issues, but also focuses on individual students. He said that we are working on 24 hour services, and we have a 24 hour hotline, but it is not staffed full-time by Vanderbilt. He said that training is a critical issue, and his hope and dream is that every faculty member would take time to do an
online module on this important issue. He said that we will be putting these up soon. He finished by saying that we are working on undergraduate students first, but then Medical Center students and faculty will come next.

He said that our financials are stronger than ever, and that we have an outstanding financial team. We got through the first quarter very strong. Our biggest business is healthcare and it looks good. Philanthropy is moving along very well. He predicts that there will be 15,000 applications for 1500 spots in next year’s freshman class. He said that among undergraduate applications, diversity is way up and SAT scores are up 14 points.

He asked for any questions. Hearing none, he thanked the Senate for the opportunity to speak.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Motion regarding COIA Reforms in Intercollegiate Athletics**

Chair Barry then introduced Student Life Committee Chair Sharon Shields to introduce the motion regarding COIA Reforms in Intercollegiate Athletics. Senator Shields said that the Student Life committee supports this motion. She introduced Senator and Chair-elect Ginny Shepherd as the Vanderbilt COIA representative to the floor in order to answer any questions. Senator Shields asked for a second for the motion and it was seconded. Chair Barry then limited the discussion of the motion to 5 minutes.

Interim Chancellor Zeppos asked how this motion would work with the NCAA regulations. Chair-elect Shepherd responded that the NCAA regulation book is thick, and that the intention is not to add to that thick book. They will take our recommendations and see where they will fit. COIA has met with Myles Brand of the NCAA, and he is working with his staff on these issues.

Interim Chancellor Zeppos also asked if this motion takes into consideration and allows Lou Outlaw (as Vanderbilt’s Faculty Athletic Representative) to be the point person in collating and working in an integrated way. Chair-elect Shepherd said that these recommendations are focused on having each university working together, including the FAR, the Faculty Senate, NCAA, etc.

Senator Joy Calico brought up a concern of the student who has baseball games on the weekdays. Does finding a solution to this problem fall into this coalition’s goals? Chair-elect Shepherd responded that, yes, these issues are in our goals.

Interim Chancellor Zeppos said that we also look into these issues at our level, too. We have a Student Wellness Committee that looks into this. If you have a student who has a concern, please send him to this committee.

Senator Ann Neely asked Chair-elect Shepherd if she could see only one of these reforms adopted, which one would it be? Chair-elect Shepherd responded that the COIA is really interested in the student welfare aspect, so the scheduling of events is important. The other one is merging academic and athletic advising.
Chair Barry then called for a vote on the motion. Motion passes without objection.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation on the Finances of the University**

Chair Barry then introduced Robert Spencer, Director of Financial Planning in Vanderbilt University’s Office of Financial Affairs to give a presentation to the Senate about the Finances of the University. He said that this is an abbreviated version of the presentation that is given to the Board of Trust each year.

Robert Spencer said that this report is available on the web (link: [http://www.vanderbilt.edu/divadm/finrprt2007/FY2007_VU_Financial_Report.pdf](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/divadm/finrprt2007/FY2007_VU_Financial_Report.pdf)). He said that credit rating agencies are the prime audience for this report, along with current and potential donors and the Board of Trust.

**Highlights:**

- Total net assets increased $692 million. Endowment net assets increased to $3.5 billion.
- Positive operating results totaled $81 million. Health care services remained strong.

He asked for any questions. Senator Robert Weller asked about the asset allocation of the endowment. Associate Vice Chancellor Betty Price said that 60% is in venture capital, real estate, and hedge funds. More information is online in the financial report.

Senator David Wood asked if there are any ethical restraints on the endowment. Vice Chancellor Lauren Brisky responded that the Board of Trust has not put any restrictions on investments on the endowment.

Chair Barry thanked Robert Spencer for his presentation.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Discussion of Vanderbilt Efforts, Initiatives, and Challenges on Sustainability**

Chair Barry then introduced the panel to discuss Vanderbilt’s Efforts, Initiatives, and Challenges on Sustainability—James Clarke, Professor of the Practice, Civil and Environmental Engineering and affiliated faculty in the Dept. of Earth and Environmental Sciences; Mike Vandenergh, Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Regulatory Program at Vanderbilt Law School; Andrea George, Associate Director of Environmental Health and Safety and VU Sustainability Coordinator; and Judson Newbern, Associate Vice Chancellor for Campus Planning, Construction, and Environmental Health and Safety.

James Clarke mentioned that the Senate passed a motion last year on sustainability. He said that the committee welcomes suggestions for new and different potential committee members.

Mike Vandenergh said that research and teaching is important. His suggestions are to fill the gaps with extramural funding and faculty appointments in these critical areas. Also, he is interested in possibly forming an energy and environmental institute.
Andrea George said that she is going to give the piece that has to do with what Vanderbilt is doing in this area. Sustain VU (http://www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu/) is the main website that pulls all of these initiatives together. She mentioned that many of the sustainability programs are cost-effective. She has identified 10 different student groups and 8 faculty groups that deal with environmental and sustainability issues. She mentioned the Think One campaign, which is an energy conservation awareness campaign that her office will be rolling out soon. There will also be a research study around this awareness campaign.

Judson Newbern said that LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) has become an industry standard for buildings. He said that the students were the tipping point; they were the impetus to get the LEED certification for the new Commons buildings. If you get this certification, you have to have a LEED certified planner in on the process from the beginning. Our goal is to do as much as we can towards this certification for more buildings.

As time was short, Chair Barry thanked the panel for sharing this important information with the Senate.

**Next Item on the Agenda – New Business and Good of the Senate**

Chair Barry then called for any items under New Business or Good of the Senate. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and was seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Emeson,
Vice Chair
Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of December 6, 2007

Report of the Executive Committee
  • Bruce Barry, Chair of the Faculty Senate

Remarks by Interim Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Standing Committee Report:
  Academic Policies and Services Committee:
  Motion for Senate approval of the new degree of Doctorate of Nursing Practice
  • Michael McLendon, Chair of the Academic Policies and Services Committee

New Business:
  Proposed Medical Center Campus Smoking Ban
  • Joel Lee, Associate Vice Chancellor for Medical Center Communications

Good of the Senate:
  Presentation: An Organized Approach to Simplifying Work: The STOP Task Force
  • Anna Letchner, Director of Administrative Strategy and Planning in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administration

Adjourn


Voting Members absent: Ahner (regrets), Benbow, Bernard (regrets), Bradford, Carter, Christie, DeHart, Dowdy (regrets), Ernst, Fogo (regrets), Gabbe (regrets), Hudnut-Beumler (regrets), Jennings (regrets), Lindquist (regrets), Medina, Reisenberg, Reschly (regrets), Retzlaff, Rubin, Sandler (regrets), Sharpley-Whiting, Shields (regrets), Slovis, Steinberg, Wait, Wasserstein (regrets).
Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Brisky, Christianson, Damon, Fuchs, Gherman, Sandler, Schoenfeld, Tolk, Zeppos.
Ex Officio Members absent: Balser, Barge, Chalkley, Gotterer (regrets), Hall, Jacobson, McNamara, Outlaw, and Williams.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Bruce Barry.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the December 2007 minutes

Minutes from the 12/6/07 meeting were reviewed and Chair Barry asked for any corrections or adjustments. Hearing none, he stated that the minutes stand approved.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair Barry gave brief comments about the work of the Executive Committee and the standing committees. Academic Policies and Services has been busy vetting new degree programs. Also, they are working on an issue about class scheduling and time between classes. Faculty Life has been contemplating the results of the faculty survey that was completed in fall of 2006. Associate Provost Tim McNamara’s office has been working on results, and they should be available soon. Student Life is continuing their work on faculty involvement in The Commons. At the next Senate meeting, Chair Barry said that he expects some Faculty Heads of Houses to attend and participate in a panel discussion. Senate Affairs has been engaged in a benchmarking exercise with peer universities.

The Executive Committee requested and held a short meeting with Denny Bottorff, the chair of the Chancellor’s Search Committee. Not much information was forthcoming, but they said that interviews had not started yet. The Executive Committee has continued to meet with the interim Chancellor and associate provosts. One of the issues that has been discussed is the committee that had been formed to look at GLBTQI issues on campus. Chair Barry said that a report should be available soon.

The Senate speaker’s luncheon will be held on April 3.

Chair Barry turned the floor over to interim Chancellor Zeppos for his report.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Interim Chancellor

Interim Chancellor Zeppos thanked Chair Barry. He then gave an update on the state of the university. He said that they have closed the books on the second quarter, and philanthropy is up 10-12%. There is a new financial team in the Medical Center, and there has been significant change in the culture of philanthropy there. We have received 16,900 applications for undergraduate admissions, and this is a 31% increase from last year. He said that faculty recruiting is going very well, and they have just made a new hire for the director of Ingram Cancer Center.

He then opened the floor for questions.
Senator Ann Neely: Are there plans to help the people at Union University after the recent tornado?

Associate Provost Mark Bandas: We are waiting until the first response is over. We will be working through the Red Cross. We are offering to give them old furniture and also to take a busload of students over to help out.

Dean Conway-Welch: We are supplying healthcare professionals across the state.

Senator Richard Shiavi: There was a planned expansion for the Student Recreation Center, but it hasn’t happened yet. What are the plans for this?

iChancellor Zeppos: We built a small recreation center over at the Commons instead. We have looked at expanding more, but want to look at usage pattern in Commons first. Also, we put Health Plus over at the Stadium Club two years ago. It is on the agenda, but slightly on the backburner.

Chair Barry: I’ve noticed that the campus has a new street over by the hospital. How does the university name a new street?

iChancellor Zeppos: Michael Schoenfeld said that this is a city street, not a Vanderbilt street.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Standing Committee Report: APS**

Chair Barry recognized Senator Ann Neely who presented the motion from APS to approve the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program. She said that the program came to the APS back in October 2007. The committee was impressed with the program, but had some questions, and Linda Norman from Nursing provided the answers. Chair Barry asked for any discussion or questions. Hearing none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously after a show of hands by voting members. Chair Barry thanked the APS committee for their hard work.

**Next Item on the Agenda – New Business: Proposed Smoking Ban**

Chair Barry explained the motion from the Executive Committee concerning this issue (that it is supporting the principle of the issue rather than the specifics of the proposed ban). The motion reads, “MOTION: The Faculty Senate endorses the principle of a smoke-free campus at the Vanderbilt Medical Center.” He turned the floor over to Joel Lee from the Medical Center. He said that there are three main points in this proposal: 1) What is our responsibility to our patients? 2) What is our responsibility to our employees? 3) What is our responsibility to the community at large? He said that they expect that the ban will go into effect on 9/1/08, and they plan to have town hall meetings before then about this issue. They are setting up smoking cessation benefits for employees. He asked for any questions.

Senator Cynthia Paschal: What do we know about other Medical Centers that have done this? What will stop employees from coming to the university side to smoke?

Joel Lee: We are unusual in that we are so close to the university side and not separate. We have looked at other universities like us in this regard—for example, University of
Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). We have had smoking areas and have had smoke patrolmen, and now we will have to have them regulate the smoking traffic. We are also working with the VA on this—they are working on a ban of their own, too.

iChancellor Zeppos: There are difficulties with banning smoking on the entire campus. We will be working on this slowly, but it is very difficult as there are safety concerns with students smoking outside, etc.
Associate Provost Bandas: We do have areas outside of residential halls where students can smoke, and we don’t want to drive them out of the university to smoke.
iChancellor Zeppos: Most of our peer universities have not completely banned smoking.

Senator Jeanne Norden: I simply have a comment: leadership in departments will be vital. This will affect the workplace—and with people getting along as this is a serious addiction.
Joel Lee: This is an excellent suggestion.

Vice Chair Ron Emeson: One of the issues that the Executive Committee has discussed is about the “slippery slope” and how one judges the smell of smoke on an individual’s clothes.
Joel Lee: It is a clinical judgment as to what triggers a pulmonary response.

Vice Chancellor Brisky: Staff means “physicians and faculty?”
Joel: Yes.

Senator Richard Shiavi: Has everyone adapted to smoking areas?
Joel Lee: Yes, and this is the next step. There are a number of national organizations that are pushing this. This sends the right public health message.

Senator Mary Yarbrough: Our staff and faculty have fairly low smoking rates. But even so, I support this issue.
Joel Lee: Another reason for moving smoking areas off-campus is that it decreases smoking overall.

Senator Paschal: There is a perceived issue of staff vs. faculty—we have to be a team on this issue. The language has to be inclusive of all employees.

Senator Piston: When this ban goes into effect, the VA will be a smoking paradise. This will be a very important thing to consider.
Joel Lee: We acknowledge this, and we are talking about this with them.

Senator Peter Rousseau: Can you elaborate on pre-employment testing?
Joel Lee: That is not a part of this proposal, but it was just a part of the general discussion.

Chair Barry called a vote on the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
Chair Barry asked for any other new business. Hearing none, he introduced Anna Letcher to give a presentation from the STOP group.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Good of the Senate**

Anna Letcher said that STOP stands for “Simplify the Operating Process.” Members are nominated by their deans, and serve 3 year terms. They look for irritants in the system or recent breakdowns in process with examples to diagnose. They also look at new areas of work where processes may not yet be known or defined. She gave some examples for the work that they have done. She said that they’d love for you to share your ideas with the task force at their website ([www.vanderbilt.edu/stop](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/stop)). She asked for any questions.

Senator Bob Weller: Why doesn’t Vanderbilt use per diem?
Anna Letcher: It is a federal regulation that if you use per diem in any department, you have to use it for all. The complexity and cost to the university would not be in Vanderbilt’s best interest.

Hearing no further questions, she thanked the Senate for their time.

Chair Barry then called for any other items under New Business or Good of the Senate. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and was seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Emeson,
Vice Chair
Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of February 7, 2007

Report of the Executive Committee
  • Bruce Barry, Chair of the Faculty Senate

Remarks by Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Panel: A Discussion of the Changing Role of Faculty with Inception of The Commons
  Featuring four Faculty Heads of Houses in The Commons:
  · Gregory Barz, Associate Professor of Musicology, Anthropology, and Religion (North House)
  · Tony Brown, Associate Professor of Sociology (Hank Ingram House)
  · Tiffany Patterson, Associate Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies (Stambaugh House)
  · Sharon Shields, Professor of the Practice of Health Promotion and Education (Murray House)
  · Moderator: Larry Dowdy, Professor of Computer Science and Computer Engineering

Standing Committee Report: Academic Policies and Services Committee
  Motion for Senate approval of the degree of M.A. in Medicine, Health and Society
  • Michael McLendon, Chair of the Academic Policies and Services Committee

New Business

Good of the Senate

Adjourn


Voting Members absent: Armour, Benbow, Bernard, Blair (regrets), Bloch (regrets), Bradford, Eisenberg (regrets), Gabbe (regrets), Galloway (regrets), Hudnut-Beumler (regrets), Jennings (regrets), Kirshner (regrets), Lindquist (regrets), Medina (regrets), Moore (regrets), Piston (regrets), Reschly, Roberts, Rubin, Sandler (regrets), Shepherd (regrets), Shiavi (regrets), Steinberg, Stone (regrets), Wait, Wasserstein, Weller (regrets), and Yarbrough.
Ex Officio Members present: Barge, Damon, Fuchs, Gherman, McNamara, Sandler, Schoenfeld, Tolk, and Zeppos.

Ex Officio Members absent: Balser, Bandas, Brisky (regrets), Chalkley (regrets), Christianson, Gotterer, Hall, Jacobson (regrets), Outlaw, and Williams.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Bruce Barry.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the February 2008 minutes

Minutes from the 2/7/08 meeting were reviewed and Chair Barry asked for any corrections or adjustments. Hearing none, he stated that the minutes stand approved.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair Barry gave the Report of the Executive Committee. He first reported that Interim Chancellor Nick Zeppos has been named Vanderbilt’s new chancellor. Chair Barry said that the Executive Committee met with him early this week. He mentioned that the topic of effort reporting has been discussed recently—faculty members who are on the university side and who have a nine months contract have recently been informed that the summer vacation policy will be changing. Chair Barry said that the Executive Committee has heard from some faculty members about this issue, and they are alarmed. Associate Provosts Tim McNamara and Dennis Hall have been working on this issue, and have made several presentations across campus. Chair Barry will be attending one of the information sessions on this issue, and the Executive Committee will wait and see what sort of action might be helpful for the Senate to take.

Chair Barry then turned to the Faculty Survey, which was completed in the fall of 2006. He said that preliminary results are being shared with the deans, and the Executive Committee. He said that we hope to present some of the findings from the survey during one of the last two meetings of the Senate this year.

Chair Barry gave an update on the COIA (Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics) representative. He said that the Executive Committee has received many nominations, and will propose a nominee for the Senate to confirm at the April meeting. He mentioned that the Executive Committee has invited Matthew Wright, Vice Chancellor for Investments to come and speak at the May Senate meeting. He also mentioned that the Consultative Committee has been asked to help generate nominees for the University Standing Committees; he said that he will send out a reminder for those nominations soon.

Chair Barry reminded senators that the yearly election for chair-elect and vice chair-elect will be coming up at the May meeting. He discussed the constitutional process for nominations, and said that the Nominating Committee needs a senator from Nursing and Engineering in order to be representative of all schools. Cynthia Paschal and Cathy Reisenberg volunteered to serve on the committee from their respective schools.
Finally, Chair Barry reminded senators of upcoming events: April 3 Senate luncheon, April 10 Senate meeting, and the Spring Faculty Assembly on April 17. He then turned the floor over to Chancellor Zeppos.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Chancellor Zeppos said that it was with great pleasure that he accepted this position. He said that he is proud that “one of us” will be leading the university. He looks forward to working with the Senate and faculty colleagues.

He then gave an update on various issues. First, he mentioned that the second round of the Academic Venture Capital Fund is coming up soon, and will use a model of investing in transinstitutional centers. He said that his primary goal is to make sure that this is funded well. He stated that we are going to come up with a new financial aid policy for students. He mentioned that we are searching for a new librarian, and once we get that person on board, we can start the process of thinking about a new library. He said that we are going to have to look at the whole library system and not just Main Library. There are three searches that will need to happen soon: a search for Provost, one for the Vice Chancellor for Development, and, finally one for the Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs. He said that the Provost search will happen first, and that this search will be mainly internal. He will appoint a faculty advisory committee, and they should have a nominee by the end of the semester. He said that the search for the Vice Chancellor for Development should also happen soon. The search for Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs will be launched in the fall. Beth Fortune will serve as interim until then, as he doesn’t want to have three simultaneous searches.

Chancellor Zeppos mentioned that the university is strong financially, and that we are appropriately ambitious for the future. He said that the next phase of the College Halls project will be a knockdown of Kissam, and we have received a $25 million naming gift for that recently. He added that we are in an election year, so we will probably see very little increase in federal funding. He said that this is, in part, what we are working to address with AVCF.

He said that faculty recruiting this year is stupendous, and hiring is going very well. It is time to revisit graduate education at Vanderbilt, and to discuss the question: “what is the next stage of investment for graduate education for Vanderbilt?”

He asked for questions. Hearing none, he thanked the Senate for its time.

Chair Barry thanked the Chancellor. He then asked if there were any objections to reordering the agenda to have the motion from the standing committee come before the panel. There was no objection to reordering the agenda. Chair Barry then introduced Senator Michael McLendon.
Next Item on the Agenda – Standing Committee Report: Academic Policies and Services Committee--Motion for Senate approval of the degree of M.A. in Medicine, Health and Society

Senator McLendon, chair of the Academic Policies and Services Committee, presented a motion to approve the degree of M.A. in Medicine, Health, and Society. Chair Barry asked for questions or discussions. Chancellor Zeppos asked if one of the aims of the program was to offer a PhD. Arleen Tuchman, director of the program, said that there was not a market for PhDs in this field at present, but they might revisit it later. Hearing no other questions, Chair Barry put the motion to a vote. The motion was passed unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Panel: A Discussion of the Changing Role of Faculty with Inception of The Commons

Featuring four Faculty Heads of Houses in The Commons:

- Gregory Barz, Associate Professor of Musicology, Anthropology, and Religion (North House)
- Tony Brown, Associate Professor of Sociology (Hank Ingram House)
- Tiffany Patterson, Associate Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies (Stambaugh House)
- Sharon Shields, Professor of the Practice of Health Promotion and Education (Murray House)
- Moderator: Larry Dowdy, Professor of Computer Science and Computer Engineering

Senator Larry Dowdy moderated the panel. He asked the panel members to give a brief introduction.

Tony Brown: He said that there will be 276 students in Hank Ingram House. He is excited to take on this opportunity. He is enthusiastic to work with undergraduates. He said that is daunting and there is pressure to succeed. He said that he enjoys the back and forth with the other 9 FHOHs. He has had difficulty managing research, teaching, and service before, and he is worried about balancing his private and professional lives.

Greg Barz: He will be the Head of House for North House. He has two children who will move with him and his wife into the house. He said that the Heads of House have had many opportunities to help invent and create this system. He is developing a soundscape for the Commons—there will be music in the Commons almost every night drawing on Nashville’s music scene. He said that he has to constantly remind himself to be patient with the progress on the vision. He’s also trying not to overprescribe opportunities for these students.

Sharon Shields: She will be the Head of House for Murray House with 120 students. This is something that she has wanted to do for a long time, because she wanted to have a better picture of student life and how students today are living life outside of the classroom. She said that what has become difficult is that this is an exciting time, and navigating the excitement is something that she has spent time thinking about—how will everyone be engaged? (ex. Staff, other faculty, Chancellor, etc.) How do we make all of this happen? She said that she is hoping that the Senate will help us to engage other faculty and to think long term about the experiences in the Commons. She said that we have to think beyond the freshman year. It is good to know that the renovations to Kissam will be a commitment to that vision. Courtney
Williams will be her head RE and he is going to be great as she has known him for 4 years, and already has a great working relationship with him.

Tiffany Patterson: She will be the Head of House for 165 students in Stambaugh House. She is a historian, and she came to Vanderbilt for three reasons: 1) Tracy Sharpley-Whiting brought her here, 2) she was at Hamilton College before and starting hearing then about the changes at Vanderbilt, 3) she talked to Frank Wcislo and heard about the opportunity to make a real difference for the next generation of leaders. She also mentioned that she loved working with the other Heads of House. She sees three challenges: 1) to challenge the students intellectually, 2) the challenge to create a new type of undergraduate, 3) the challenge of parental expectations about what the students will learn in this kind of environment.

Senator Dowdy opened the floor for questions.

Past Vice Chair Norman Tolk: How will the Visions classes help to support the Commons efforts? Will they be only from one house?

Professor Shields: Vision groups will be across houses for more opportunities to network. It’s going to be important to see if it strengthens what we do, or if it would be better to have these groups within one house.

Past Vice Chair Tolk: I am surprised by this, as I thought that every Vision group would be affiliated within one house only.

Professor Shields: This is one of the issues that we will have to look at as the Commons evolves.

Professor Barz: Another way to look at it is: this is a Commons experience as well as being a house experience, and Visions is a part of the larger Commons experience.

Chair Barry: Understanding the need for balance of research, teaching, and service—is the university giving you what you need to manage that balance?

Professor Patterson: One of the challenges is that students need to see us as researchers. It would be a mistake to give it up. But I won’t know the answer until we have finished a year in the houses.

Chancellor Zeppos: There is a two course release for Heads of House.

Professor Brown: The creative themes I’ve chosen work with the graduate courses I’m teaching, so I hope that will help me balance my professional life.

Hearing no further questions, Senator Dowdy thanked everyone on the panel for sharing their experience and viewpoints.

**Next Item on the Agenda – New Business and Good of the Senate**

Chair Barry then called for any other items under New Business or Good of the Senate. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and was seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Ron Emeson,
Vice Chair
Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2008

Report of the Executive Committee (Bruce Barry, Chair of the Faculty Senate)

Remarks by Nick Wells, President, Human Rights Campaign at Vanderbilt

Remarks by Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Remarks by Mark Bandas, Associate Provost and Dean of Students

Executive Committee Motion

Motion to name Senate representative to the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA)
  • Virginia Shepherd, Chair-elect of the Faculty Senate

Standing Committee Report: Academic Policies and Services Committee

Motion to approve new degree: Master of Management for Health Care Professionals
  • Michael McLendon, Chair of the Academic Policies and Services Committee

Standing Committee Report: Senate Affairs Committee

Presentation on Faculty Senate Benchmarking at Peer Institutions
  • D. Catherine Fuchs, Executive Committee Liaison to the Faculty Life Committee

Motion regarding President’s Climate Commitment
  • D. Catherine Fuchs, Executive Committee Liaison to the Faculty Life Committee

New Business

Good of the Senate

Adjourn

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Bruce Barry.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the March 2008 minutes**

Minutes from the 3/13/08 meeting were reviewed and Chair Barry asked for any corrections or adjustments. Hearing none, he stated that the minutes stand approved.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee**

Chair Barry reported that the Nominating Committee has selected the nominees for the chair-elect and vice chair-elect and more information will be forthcoming about them before the May meeting.

He also mentioned the issue of effort reporting and that Associate Provosts Hall and McNamara have both made presentations to many schools and colleges. He said that he doesn’t think the Senate will take up this issue at this point, but it may come up again next year.

Chair Barry thanked senators for sending in nominations for the University Standing Committees. He also reminded senators about the April 17 Faculty Assembly and the May 5th Senate meeting.

He asked for questions. Hearing none, he turned the floor over to Nick Wells, president of Vanderbilt’s Human Rights Campaign.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Report of HRC President, Nick Wells**

Nick Wells said that his group is halfway to their signature goal. He said that 33 of 36 fraternities and sororities support them, and they are supported by the student government association. He said that he feels like there is campus-wide support for this initiative to adding transgenders individuals to the nondiscrimination policy. In addition, he said that there is a compelling legal argument for this change. He said that he wanted the Senate to support this policy. Vanderbilt would be the first SEC school to adopt this policy. He then asked for any questions.
Senator Margaret Blair: Asked where she could sign the petition.

Nick said that it would be available in the back of the room.

Senator David Wood: Can it also include welcoming diverse modes of gender expression? I want the motion to affirm things and not prohibit them.

Nick Wells: The non-discrimination policy in the community creed doesn’t mention sexual identity. He hopes to change that. He also defined “transgendered” as anyone who doesn’t conform to gender norms.

Chair Barry thanked Nick Wells for his presentation. He then turned the floor over to Chancellor Nick Zeppos.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Report from the Chancellor**

Chancellor Zeppos thanked Nick Wells for bringing this issue before the Senate. He said that we need to get beyond simply professing tolerance, and moving toward acceptance. He mentioned the report on GLBTQI issues that will be released next week—this report speaks to this issue of acceptance and celebration (beyond tolerance). He said that this issue originally came up on the student side, but these policies will also affect the many faculty and staff at Vanderbilt. It is important to change the culture institution-wide. It is the right thing to do. There will be an announcement about this issue next week.

Chancellor Zeppos said that we are headed toward commencement, and he has the privilege to address the faculty at the Faculty Assembly, and he will also announce the new AVCF2 and other initiatives then.

He asked for any questions.

Senator Margaret Blair: She asked about the university’s investments in hedge funds. Chancellor Zeppos: We are invested in quality hedge funds, and we have a very active and engaged investment committee.

Chair Barry: Reminded everyone that we will have Matthew Wright speak at the May Senate meeting about this issue.

Senator Anne Moore: Asked about the search for a new dean of the Medical School?

Chancellor Zeppos: Harry Jacobson and I have been talking about appointing a search committee, and there will be broad outreach to Nursing and Medical School (students, faculty and staff). This will happen sooner rather than later.

Chair Barry thanked the Chancellor for his remarks. He then turned the floor over to Mark Bandas, Dean of Students.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks from the Dean of Students**
Dean Bandas gave the history of the controversy over JuicyCampus.com. He said that we invented “We Are Vanderbilt”—a week of sessions about the problems that the website has caused. We already had a multicultural awareness week planned, and we worked with this existing event. He asked for any questions concerning this issue.

Senator Cynthia Paschal: Do we know that the comments are coming from the Vanderbilt community?
Dean Bandas: No, they are anonymous posts so there’s no way to know exactly.
Senator David Wood: Is this happening at other schools?
Dean Bandas: Yes. Residential campuses are especially at risk since the students all know each other.
Senator David Wood: What are other schools doing?
Chancellor Zeppos: Most are not blocking the site. They are ignoring the site, and trying to work with their students to build culture where this doesn’t happen.
Senator Ann Neely: Another issue, in light of other on-campus murders, I have noticed an increase in police presence. Is there anything else we should be doing to be more proactive?
Dean Bandas: VUPD have been doing more patrols for a long time. You are probably just noticing their presence more.

Chair Barry thanked Dean Bandas for his presentation. He then turned the floor over to Chair-Elect Ginny Shepherd.

Next Item on the Agenda – COIA Motion

Chair-Elect Shepherd said that the Executive Committee presents a motion to nominate Prof. David Weintraub as Vanderbilt’s COIA representative for a two-year term.

Chair Barry asked for any discussion. Hearing none, he asked for a show of hands, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – APS Committee (degree program motion)

Chair Barry then turned the floor over to Senator Michael McLendon, chair of the APS committee. Senator McLendon presented the following motion from his committee: “The Faculty Senate approves the Master of Management for Health Care Professionals degree program.” He then asked for any questions.

Senator Jeannette Norden: I’m interested in the buy-in from faculty. How do faculty members feel about this program?

Dean Jim Bradford: There is already had buy-in from faculty. The core faculty are from Owen, and they are on board. It will not be an overwhelming burden to them. We have also added more faculty members recently with healthcare experience.
Chair Barry: The school is shrinking the full-time MBA program and creating more one-year programs like this.

Hearing no other questions, Chair Barry asked for a vote on the motion. By a show of hands, the motion was approved.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Senate Affairs Committee**

Chair Barry recognized Past Chair Cathy Fuchs to give a report from the Senate Affairs committee.

**Senate Benchmarking**

Past Chair Fuchs said that committee chair Agnes Fogo conducted a survey of other universities. After looking at best practices at other universities, the committee members recommend that the Senate should look at having faculty representation on Vanderbilt’s Board of Trust. They also recommend that there be faculty representation on all upper level administrative searches.

**Climate Commitment**

Past Chair Fuchs presented the motion from the Senate Affairs committee: “The Faculty Senate urges the Chancellor to sign the American Colleges & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment.” Chair Barry opened up the floor for questions and discussion.

Senator Bob Weller: I am concerned that one of the commitments we are asking the chancellor to make, he cannot make. One of the commitments is about changing the curriculum, and only the faculty can do this. Also, I’d like to hear from Judson Newbern and Lauren Brisky about this issue. And I’m concerned about the cost of some of these commitments.

Chancellor Zeppos: Is there a cost associated with this? If I sign something, I want to be able to do it. I think many of these presidents who have signed this already are not really adhering to the commitments. I think there needs to be more discussion from the faculty about this.

Senator David Wood: I appreciate what the Chancellor is saying. I suggest that we postpone a vote on this over the summer and revisit it in the fall. In the interim, we could look at ways to achieve this. Signing this would be a public declaration, and there are not many other ways to do this.

Senator Cynthia Paschal: At first, I was worried that this was an unfunded mandate, but I think that these are achievable commitments and I want to encourage our movements forward. I think that a motion to table would be a good idea, though.

Senator Ann Neely: Didn’t Gordon Gee sign this?
Chair Barry: No, not this.

Chancellor Zeppos: A proposal for strategic hires in engineering, social sciences, etc. is making its way to my desk.

Senator John Braxton: Have most of our peer institutions signed this?
Chair Barry: Some have and some have not.

Chair Barry responded to Chancellor Zeppos’ comment that he didn’t want to sign something that he couldn’t commit to 100%. Chair Barry said that by supporting the motion, the Senate is asking the administration to figure out how best to respond to this commitment.

Senator Bob Weller moved to table the motion. There was a second for this motion. The motion to table passed unanimously.

**Next Item on the Agenda – New Business and Good of the Senate**

Chair Barry then called for any other items under New Business or Good of the Senate. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and was seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Emeson,
Vice Chair
Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of April 10, 2008

Report of the Executive Committee (Bruce Barry, Chair of the Faculty Senate)

Remarks by Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Remarks by Vice Chancellor for Investments Matthew Wright

Elections for Senate Chair-elect and Vice-Chair-elect

Report of the Academic Policies and Services Committee (Michael McLendon, Chair)
  • Motion on the creation of a task force on scheduling and university calendars.

Report of the Professional Ethics and Academic Freedom Committee (Paul DeHart, Chair)
  • Motion for Senate approval of change to grievance procedure in Faculty Manual.

New Business
  • Motion to approve a resolution regarding gender identity at Vanderbilt.

Good of the Senate

Adjourn (reception to follow)

Voting Members present:  Armour, Barry, Blair, Bradford, Breyer, Burk, Calico, Christie, DeHart, Dowdy, Emeson, Ernst, Galloway, Hudnut-Beumler, Jennings,
McCarty, McLendon, Medina, Moore, Neely, Norden Oliver, Piston, Retzlaff, Roberts, Rousseau, Sandler, Shepherd, Shields, Slovis, Steinberg, Trigo, Weller, Wood.

Voting Members absent: Ahner (regrets), Benbow, Bernard (regrets), Bloch (regrets), Braxton (regrets), Carter (regrets), Conway-Welch, Eisenberg, Fogo, Gabbe (regrets), Hiebert (regrets), Kirshner, Lindquist, Paschal (regrets), Reisenberg, Reschly (regrets), Rubin, Sharpely-Whiting (regrets), Shiavi, Stone, Wait, Wasserstein, Wcislo (regrets), and Yarbrough (regrets).

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Brisky, Damon, Gherman, McNamara, Schoenfeld, Zeppos.

Ex Officio Members absent: Balser, Barge, Chalkley, Christianson, Fuchs (regrets), Gotterer, Hall, Jacobson (regrets), Outlaw, Sandler, Tolk, Williams.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Bruce Barry.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the April 2008 minutes

Minutes from the 4/10/08 meeting were reviewed and Chair Barry asked for any corrections or adjustments. Senator Joy Calico noted that the date was wrong (2007). Chair Barry then asked for any other changes. Hearing none, he said that the minutes stand approved.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair Barry thanked the Executive Committee and the Standing Committee chairs for their service this year. Chair Barry asked for any questions about the year-end committee reports. Chair Barry also noted and thanked Michael Schoenfeld for his service to Vanderbilt (he is leaving to go to Duke University).

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Chancellor Zeppos thanked Mike Schoenfeld for his service to the university as well. He also said that they have been discussing the mental health initiative, and this is a priority for him (the faculty education and training component).

He asked for any questions. Hearing none, he thanked the Senate for its time.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Vice Chancellor for Investments Matthew Wright

Chair Barry turned the floor over to Vice Chancellor Wright. He said that Vanderbilt’s endowment was $3.758 billion at the end of calendar year 2007. The true endowment is
59% of total assets, and the quasi-endowment represents 41% of total assets. The mission of the endowment is a balancing act. Current spending rate is 4.5% based upon trailing three calendar year market values. He then gave an overview of his office. He said that Vanderbilt’s investment philosophy is based on three tenets: 1) institutionalized framework, 2) global focus, and 3) risk management. He then asked for any questions.

Senator David Wood: Can you tell us about the monitoring of any social investing at Vanderbilt?
Vice Chancellor Wright: We don’t have a current social investing policy. Many of the funds are commingled, and they can’t be separated out. Also, there is no formal policy of the investment committee of the Board of Trust.

Chair Barry: What about at our peer institutions?
Vice Chancellor Wright: Some do and some don’t have social investing policies.

Senator Dave Piston: What about investing in internal opportunities at Vanderbilt?
Vice Chancellor Wright: We are not in a position to accept internal investing.

Senator Ronnie Steinberg: We might investigate the types of investments that Vanderbilt can make to its community in the greater Nashville area or in Tennessee with regard to the issue of sustainability.

Vice Chancellor Wright: Our goal is to maximize our return on our investment. This provides more funding for programs and initiatives in the university.

Chair Barry thanked Vice Chancellor Wright for his presentation.

Next Item on the Agenda – Elections for Senate Chair-elect and Vice-Chair-elect

Senator Cynthia Paschal was elected Chair-elect and Senator Jack Roberts was elected Vice Chair-elect.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Academic Policies and Services Committee (motion)

Senator Michael McLendon, chair of the APS committee, presented the following motion:

“The Faculty Senate requests that the Provost appoint a task force co-chaired by a Faculty member and the new University Registrar to address all aspects of scheduling including course meeting times and times between classes, academic calendars, and class room utilization.”

He said that the motion today does not call for any specific changes, but just that the administration look into this issue. He opened the floor for questions and comments.
Senator Ann Neely: I want to make sure that classes meet Monday-Friday to deal with the incidents of binge drinking.
Chancellor Zeppos: I wasn’t aware that some schools don’t have many classes on Fridays.

Hearing no other questions, Chair Barry then asked for a vote. With a show of hands, the motion passed unanimously.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Professional Ethics and Academic Freedom Committee (motion)**

Senator Paul DeHart, chair of the PEAF committee, presented the following motion:

“The PEAF Committee seeks the approval of the Faculty Senate for the addition of a provision to the ‘Section B’ grievance procedures that govern PEAF’s handling of faculty grievances. The relevant passage of the Faculty Manual (Part IV, Chapter 2, Section B, p. 117) currently reads:

‘The University representative whose actions form the basis of the complaint shall be asked to respond to the grievance in writing, briefly explaining his or her position on each major element of the complaint. In addition, the University representative shall be asked to supply in a timely manner any supporting documents not previously filed by the grievant.’

The proposed change would add, immediately after this passage, the following sentence: ‘The PEAF Committee chair shall provide a copy of the response(s) to the grievant.’”

Senator DeHart gave an overview of the issue, and said that this procedure already exists in Section A grievance, and this change simply makes Section B grievance parallel with Section A. He asked for any questions.

Associate Provost Tim McNamara: Does the response refer to the written responses or to the supporting documents?
Senator DeHart: Not sure. It doesn’t specify in Section A.
Chair Barry: I don’t think so.
Associate Provost McNamara: Why is “response” plural?
Senator DeHart: There may be more than one administrator involved.
Senator Martin Sandler: It seems to me unfair that the grievant does not have access to all of the information.
Chair Barry: The grievance procedure was designed to not be a trial-like environment.
Chancellor Zeppos: As a lawyer, I would like to say that there are many things that are privileged and confidential.
Dean Jim Hudnut-Beumler: I am sympathetic to a grievant hearing what a university official has to say about tenure and promotion cases. I would like additional language to specify the limits of the response.
Hearing no other questions or discussion, Chair Barry asked for a show of hands. The motion passed.

**Next Item on the Agenda – New Business and Good of the Senate**

Chair Barry then introduced a motion to approve a resolution regarding gender identity at Vanderbilt that was presented to the Senate earlier:

“The Senate Executive Committee recommends to the Senate passage of the resolution regarding gender identity policies at Vanderbilt.”

Chair Barry said that Vice Chancellor Lauren Brisky’s office has signed off on a new policy to put this issue to the university’s human resource office. Chair Barry then opened the floor for discussion.

Chancellor Zeppos: I thank those who served on the committee about this issue. The policy has already been implemented. I have signed off on this policy, and it has been sent on to the Board of Trust. The easy thing is to adopt this motion, but we have to live this every day as one of our core values.

Chair Barry asked for any further discussion or questions. Hearing none, he asked for a show of hands. The motion passed.

Chair Barry then called for any other items under Good of the Senate. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and was seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Emeson,
Vice Chair