Call to order

Approval of the minutes of May 7, 2012

Report of the Executive Committee

Remarks by the Chancellor

New business
a. Motions from the Executive Committee
   1) Motion to appoint Alex Hurder as Faculty Senate Parliamentarian
   2) Motion to appoint Doug Perkins as Vanderbilt representative to the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA)

b. Motions from the Provost’s Office to Amend the Faculty Manual
   1) Addition of Title: Principal Senior Lecturer
   2) Summer Pay Exception
   3) Tuition Benefit

c. Background Check Policy: Presentation by Timothy McNamara, Vice Provost for Faculty and International Affairs and David Raiford, Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs

Good of the Senate

Adjournment


Voting Members absent: Aschner (regrets), Atack (regrets), Barth (regrets), Benbow, Bond (regrets), Bradford, Calico (regrets), Conway-Welch, Dayan, Dever (regrets), Dow, Fountain (regrets), Gigante, Guthrie, Hughes (regrets), Hyman, Moore, Nanney (regrets), Powers (regrets), Ramanujam (regrets), Schwartz (regrets), Tansey, Tsinakis (regrets), and Wait (regrets).
Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Barz, Fife, McCarty, McNamara, Raiford, Sweet, Wcislo, Weintraub, and Zeppos.

Ex Officio Members absent: Bernard, Fortune, Miller, Stalcup, Wente (regrets), Williams, and Wright.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Sal March.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of Minutes of May 7, 2012

Minutes of May 7, 2012 meeting were approved.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair March introduced the new Executive Committee members. He also thanked the chairs of the Senate committees and task force.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Chancellor Nick Zeppos

Chancellor Zeppos said that campus safety is of utmost importance to him. He mentioned Chief August Washington as someone who is in charge of this issue every day. Striking the balance of safety and community is very important. Chancellor Zeppos said that he meets with Vice Chancellor Jerry Fife, Dean Mark Bandas and others regularly to talk about campus safety.

Security alerts: We do send out alerts via email, texts, etc. There are two types of alerts that we are obliged to send out (to be in compliance with Clery Act). There are mandatory reporting requirements about incidents that could endanger the community. Then, we also make a yearly report on our crime statistics to the federal government as part of this requirement. We also have requirements for emergency mass notifications (tornadoes, other bad weather, active shooter on campus, viral outbreak at hospital, etc.). 17,000 people have signed up for the text messaging service, and we are always looking for more people to opt in. There are also security notices (armed robbery, sexual assault on campus, etc.) that we are mandated to send out, as well. We send these security notices out via email. He said that he tends to be conservative on compliance issues, and errs on the side of notifications. He also mentioned that Vice Chancellor Fife is working on an FAQ on this issue.

He also mentioned background check issue, and said that it was brought about in part by the Penn State issue. He mentioned that the vulnerable populations on campus are a special consideration for us. We are working hard to figure out what risks we have as a university in this area. We do recognize the privacy and the good history of people who work at Vanderbilt. He said that he thinks the federal government will probably require this soon, and we need to be ahead of this issue. One of the issues is “what do we do
with this information that we gather?” He said that everyone’s insights and contributions will be valuable as they go through this process. Chair March thanked Chancellor Zeppos for his remarks.

Next Item on the Agenda – New Business

New business
d. Motions from the Executive Committee
   3) Motion to appoint Alex Hurder as Faculty Senate Parliamentarian: Chair March presented this motion. Motion is approved on a voice vote.
   4) Motion to appoint Doug Perkins as Vanderbilt representative to the Coalition on Intercolligate Athletics (COIA): Chair March presented this motion. Past Chair David Weintraub gave background on this position. Motion is approved on a voice vote.

e. Motions from the Provost’s Office to Amend the Faculty Manual
   1) Addition of Title: Principal Senior Lecturer: Chair March presented this motion. He gave the background on this motion—it is to be able to offer a longer contract term to a lecturer. Question: is the length of contract the only difference? Answer: yes. Richard McCarty: it also makes the lecturer track parallel with the tenure track. Motion passes.
   2) Summer Pay Exception: Chair March presented this motion. He gave the background on this issue. David Weintraub explained that this would not affect extramural funding. Motion passes.
   3) Tuition Benefit: Chair March presented this motion. He gave the background on this issue. Question: How much money will we save? Jeff Balser: It is substantial. David Weintraub: We are not debating the policy today, but we are making the Faculty Manual consistent. Motion passes.

f. Background Check Policy: Presentation by Timothy McNamara, Vice Provost for Faculty and International Affairs and David Raiford, Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs

Associate Vice Chancellor Raiford and Vice Provost McNamara presented on the background check policy. Chair March said that we expect this to be an ongoing discussion. Associate Vice Chancellor Raiford said that he thinks that everyone understands that campus safety has skyrocketed as a major issue on university campuses recently. We made a decision to undertake a survey about good practices, risks, exposure, etc. It became clear that there were some populations that needed some protection (non-matriculating minors, patients, etc.). With the assistance of the deans, we looked at programs where faculty had interactions with minors (140+ different groups). We also sought consultation outside the university with a law firm about this. We decided to start with these groups where faculty/staff are dealing with minors. We put together a process to do this. And we made sure that the process included protections for faculty members’ personal information. Peabody faculty have been subjected to background checks for many years as well as other healthcare professionals.
We came up with the process for faculty and implemented it on August 1, 2012. Also, we made a decision to not include established faculty who don’t have any interactions with minors in this first group. We’ve begun the process on faculty members who work with minors, and we continue the process with healthcare professionals. Chancellor Zeppos put together a task force around this issue, and Tim and I chair this task force. Senate Chair-elect Donald Brady serves on that task force as a liaison from the Senate.

Vice Provost McNamara: We started the first checks in June 2012. The policy covers all faculty who expect to work with minors, all with healthcare appointments, and all new faculty. Explicit protections are that when a result is obtained via a background check—the only person who sees this is HR Chief Nordberg (besides myself and David). If she sees something criminal, she contacts either me or David. If I need help, I contact General Counsel’s office or the Police Dept.

Results are not kept on campus. The results are immediately destroyed.

The Fair Credit Reporting Act insures that the person is able to see the results and the institution cannot take any action without the person’s knowledge of the result. Also this protection is outlined in the Faculty Manual via the disciplinary process and the grievance process around this.

They then opened the floor for questions.

Question: What kinds of things might show up in a background check that would be irrelevant?

Vice Provost McNamara: Speeding tickets. Minor possession charges in college, for example. The policy spells out how the results will be evaluated.

Question: What if a faculty member coming from outside the US is a political dissident?

Vice Provost McNamara: We would need more information and context. International faculty members present a definite challenge. We would engage the person and try to use common sense.

Chancellor Zeppos said that having a good process in place gives him a peace of mind. And also the ability to grieve any disciplinary actions is important.

Question: Someone expressed concerns about racial issues around violations.

Vice Chancellor Jeff Balser: We have lots of experience with this at the hospital—we look for reasons to say “yes” not “no.” It’s our baseline attitude. Our posture is, “how can we find a way to say yes.”
Chair-Elect Donald Brady: We worry more about people lying on a form than the actual transgression itself.

Question: What is the objective of the policy? How much of this is informed by the Penn State situation or is there more?

Vice Provost McNamara: The objective is to make the Vanderbilt campus safe for everyone.

Chair March: The policy has not been widely distributed yet.

Vice Provost McNamara: The policy has been distributed to the deans on the university side and they are supposed to distribute to their faculty. We are now working on a policy for university programs that involve minors. We have a training component involved as well. We are centralizing our efforts so that we can know where all these programs are and we can monitor their participation in the training program.

Question: Does the faculty member have to give permission for the check?

Vice Provost McNamara: Yes. We can’t do them without your permission.

Question: Does HR do degree verifications?

Vice Provost McNamara: That is done through my office and directly by the university.

Question: For a check on a hire, if they say no, we don’t hire them. What do we do with a faculty member who says no? We have identified that as a problem that needs to be resolved. I think we need enunciate why we are doing these background checks.

Vice Provost McNamara: The policy only applies to new hires and to faculty who interact with minors. If someone says no, we engage them in a conversation. We have not made a decision yet about how to move forward with established faculty members.

Chair March thanked Associate Vice Chancellor Raiford and Vice Provost McNamara for their presentation.

Next Item on the Agenda – Good of the Senate

Chair March asked for any news under good of the Senate. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.
Next Item on the Agenda – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.
Call to order

Approval of the minutes of September 13, 2012

Report of the Executive Committee

Remarks by the Chancellor

New Business

1. Progress on Honor System Report
2. Progress on Student Alcohol and Prescription Drug Use Task Force
3. Motions from the Executive Committee
   a. Faculty Manual Change: Motion on Parental Leave Policy
   b. Faculty Manual Change: Conflict of Interest and Commitment Policy
4. Annual report of inspection of faculty electronic communications/records from Vice Provost Timothy McNamara

Presentation by Vice Chancellor Doug Christiansen on undergraduate admissions

Good of the Senate

Adjournment


Voting Members absent: Atack, Bradford, Braxton (regrets), Cannon (regrets), Clark, Conway-Welch, Dayan, Dow (regrets), Enterline, Fauchet (regrets), Fischer (regrets), Gervais (regrets), Gokahale (regrets), Guelcher (regrets), Guthrie, Hall (regrets), Horberger, Hughes (regrets), Johnston (regrets), Lim, Moore (regrets), Mulvaney, Ramanujam (regrets), Skaar (regrets), Smrekar, Tansey, Turner (regrets), Wait (regrets), Watters (regrets), Wayman (regrets), and Winder (regrets).

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Barz, McCarty, McNamara, Miller, Stalcup, Weintraub, Wente, and Zeppos.
Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of Minutes of September 13, 2012

Minutes of September 13, 2012 meeting were approved.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair March gave the report of the Executive Committee. He mentioned that Vice Provost Tim McNamara sent him a link to the FAQ on the Clery Act. It is also posted on the Vanderbilt website.

Chair March said that the USAC (University Staff Advisory Council) has developed an initiative for breastfeeding mothers (faculty and staff). Anna Thomas from USAC will talk to the Senate next month about this initiative.

Managing email and support services—we are discussing this. Purchasing issues—we have followed up on this concern that was brought to us by a faculty member.

Committees: SPAF is working on the online education issue. Vanderbilt is working with Coursera now, and SPAF is discussing the strategic planning around online education.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Chancellor Nick Zeppos

Chancellor Zeppos gave a history of his involvement with online education starting in the nineties. He said that he is glad to be partnered with Coursera to be making knowledge available freely to the world. He said that we should be part of this noble mission. He also mentioned the possibility of capstone experiences for in-house use. He said that we will be glad to offer the courses for free, and are not interested in revenue-generating websites. But we may be able to leverage some programs in that direction. He is skeptical about tuition-generating online courses.

Chair March thanked him for his remarks

Next Item on the Agenda – New Business

1. Progress on Honor System Report: Chair March referred to the attached documents with the email that was sent out about the update on progress on this report.
2. Progress on Student Alcohol and Prescription Drug Use Task Force: Chair March mentioned that there are resources for faculty through Cognito about student alcohol use. The training is free and available to all Vanderbilt faculty members. He asked all senators to look at the training and go through this training as faculty leaders. Senator Mary Yarbrough asked everyone to use it even if you don’t interact with students much—people you work with, etc. It is helpful for everyone. Chair-elect Donald Brady said that we have a responsibility to our students as well as our colleagues.

3. Motions from the Executive Committee
   a. Faculty Manual Change: Motion on Parental Leave Policy (Tabled): Chair March said that this has been tabled and further discussion will happen with Vice Provost Tim McNamara and Associate Vice Chancellor David Raiford. Email any suggestions you have to Chair March or the Senate office.
   b. Faculty Manual Change: Conflict of Interest and Commitment Policy: Chair March presented the changes to the Faculty Manual. He said that the changes are necessary to have the wording be in synch with the other university documents. He opened the floor for discussion. He said that this will be voted on at the November meeting.

4. Annual report of inspection of faculty electronic communications/records from Vice Provost Timothy McNamara: Chair March reminded everyone that this is the first year for the annual report of inspection of faculty electronic communication/records. Vice Provost McNamara gave this data to the Faculty Senate. Chair March thanked him for the report.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation by Vice Chancellor Doug Christiansen on undergraduate admissions

Chair March introduced Vice Chancellor Christiansen to speak about enrollment issues at Vanderbilt.

Vice Chancellor Christiansen presented enrollment management data. He said that he thinks that the recent increase of applications was due to the Commons, the “no student loan” program, and better outreach by the admissions office. He also mentioned the emphasis on leadership abilities. He also said that loans have definitely gone down over the last few years.

He also talked about data on transfer students.

Question: Diversity—what about the drops in Hispanic and African American population?

Vice Chancellor Christiansen: As we are becoming increasingly more competitive, it is becoming more difficult in the admission process to attract these highly desirable students.
Question: Affirmative action or diversity as a criteria for admission. Your thoughts?

Vice Chancellor Christiansen: What we believe in is holistic admissions on the individual level. We will see what happens once the Supreme Court makes their ruling.

Chair March thanked Vice Chancellor Christiansen for his presentation.

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

Chair March asked for any news under good of the Senate. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.
Call to order

Approval of the minutes of October 11, 2012

Report of the Executive Committee

Remarks by the Chancellor

Old Business
  Motion from the Executive Committee: Conflict of Interest and Commitment Policy

New Business
  1. Presentation by Anna Thomas, University Staff Advisory Council (USAC), Breastfeeding Support and Resources for New Mothers
  2. Presentation by David Williams, Vice Chancellor for Athletics and University Affairs and Athletics Director

Good of the Senate

Adjournment


Voting Members absent: Attack, Baker, Bradford, Calico (regrets), Clark, Conway-Welch, Dayan, Dever (regrets), Fauchet (regrets), Fischer (regrets), Fogo (regrets), Fountain (regrets), Gervais, Gigante, Guthrie (regrets), Hall, Harrington (regrets), Hemingway, Hughes (regrets), Hyman (regrets), Johnson (regrets), Kirshner (regrets), Moore (regrets), Niswender (regrets), Rohde (regrets), Schwartz (regrets), Smrekar, Southard-Smith, Tansey, Wait, Wayman, and Winder.

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Fife, McCarty, McNamara, Raiford, Weintraub, Williams, and Zeppos.
The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Sal March.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of Minutes of October 11, 2012**

Minutes of October 11, 2012 meeting were approved.

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

Chair March gave the report of the Senate Executive Committee. He mentioned their work on the parental leave policy changes in the Faculty Manual. He said that the committee has met with Vice Provost Tim McNamara and Associate Vice Chancellor David Raiford about this issue, and the Faculty Life committee will be working on this later in the year.

He also reported that Vanderbilt is developing a policy of record retention, and the Senate’s records will be involved in this initiative.

The Executive Committee has agreed to partner with the Vanderbilt Commons to invite a guest speaker next fall 2013—Professor Andrew Delbanco (Columbia University). Chair-elect Donald Brady and Past Chair Greg Barz will be the liaisons for this event.

Finally, Chair March asked how many senators had taken his challenge to complete the Cognito challenge that he posed to them at the last meeting. He said that it is a great training, and he hopes that everyone will take the time to do it.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Chancellor Nick Zeppos**

Chancellor Zeppos mentioned the issues with Hurricane Sandy and our students affected by it. He congratulated the Faculty Senate for partnering with the Commons to bring Professor Delbanco to Vanderbilt next year.

He also mentioned the “New Ideas” grant program, and said that it will be the beginning of a period of engagement with the faculty about where we are going—what are the big ideas that we need to think about as a university. This will start in the fall 2013, and we’ll get some guidance on a grants process that we can use. Also, we want to bring the faculty into a conversation about the direction of the university, and this is one way to do it. He asked for any questions, and hearing none, he thanked the Senate for their time.
Next Item on the Agenda – Old Business--Motion from the Executive Committee: Conflict of Interest and Commitment Policy

Chair March mentioned that there is a motion from the Executive Committee from last month’s meeting. He said that the information was sent out last month and this month. He asked for any further discussion.

Hearing none, he asked for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation by Anna Thomas, University Staff Advisory Council (USAC), Breastfeeding Support and Resources for New Mothers

Chair March introduced Anna Thomas, president of USAC, and she gave her presentation about USAC Breastfeeding Proposal Overview. She said that their desired outcome was a culture of support for breastfeeding mothers. She gave a history of how this issue came up. She said that they did a thorough review of the current policies and then did some benchmarking of other universities. She outlined the concerns that were brought to them and that they discovered in their study. She outlined their recommendations from USAC:

1) Standardized Terminology,
2) Review of HR policy language for unpaid “nursing breaks,”
3) Designated breastfeeding spaces around campus,
4) Centrality of resources for new mothers (including a statement of affirmation about breastfeeding),
5) Resources for managers.

She mentioned that some of their recommendations have already been implemented (website updated, updated list of lactation spaces, Provost McCarty providing support for finding spaces on campus, etc.). She requests the endorsement and support of the Faculty Senate on this proposal.

She asked for any questions. There were none.

Vice Chair Judy Aschner asked what the next steps are. Chair March said that Faculty Life committee has been involved in these discussions and he expects that they will put forth a motion of support for this initiative. Past Chair David Weintraub thanked Anna Thomas for her presentation and all her work, and also Traci Nordberg for their responsiveness. He said that the Senate next month will vote to endorse this proposal.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation by David Williams, Vice Chancellor for Athletics and University Affairs and Athletics Director

Chair March introduced Vice Chancellor David Williams. Vice Chancellor Williams gave his presentation on the state of athletics. He said that their main focus is academics first. He presented data on their students’ academic performance. He mentioned that the athletes are all involved in community service. He mentioned the facility upgrades, as well. He also presented data on fundraising and on rankings.
He asked for any questions. Hearing none, he thanked the Senate for its time.

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

Chair March asked for any news under good of the Senate. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.
Call to order

Approval of the minutes of November 1, 2012

Report of the Executive Committee

Remarks by the Chancellor

New Business

1. Approval of Lillian Nanny to serve the remainder of Judy Aschner’s term as Past Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate
2. Motion: Endorse the Report of the University Staff Advisory Council (USAC), Breastfeeding Support and Resources for New Mothers
3. Presentation by Dennis Hall, Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, Professor of Physics and Professor of Electrical Engineering

Good of the Senate

Adjournment


Voting Members absent: Atack (regrets), Balser (regrets), Benbow, Braxton (regrets), Cannon (regrets), Conway-Welch (regrets), Dayan, Dever (regrets), Enterline, Fauchet (regrets), Fountain (regrets), Gigante, Gokhale (regrets), Guthrie, Harrington (regrets), Hemingway, Hornberger (regrets), Hudnut-Beumler (regrets), Hughes (regrets), Hyman (regrets), Lim (regrets), Morrill (regrets), Mulvaney (regrets), Niswender (regrets), Schoenfield (regrets), Schwartz (regrets), Smrekar, Southard-Smith, Tansey, Tsinakis (regrets), Wait, Wayman, Wikswo (regrets), and Winder.

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Barz, McCarty, McNamara, Miller, Wcislo, and Weintraub.

Ex Officio Members absent: Bernard, Fife, Fortune, Raiford (regrets), Stalcup (regrets), Sweet, Wente (regrets), Williams, Wright, and Zeppos (regrets).
The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Sal March.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of Minutes of November 1, 2012

Minutes of November 1, 2012 meeting were approved.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

1. Chair March shared that Judy Aschner is leaving Vanderbilt, and thanked her for her service on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.
2. Chair March thanked the Chancellor’s office and Dean Mark Bandas’ office for developing the Chancellor’s letter emphasizing the importance of the Cognito training for faculty to help underline their responsibility for students and their mental health.
3. Chair March reminded everyone about the January Elected Senators Only meeting. He asked senators to send any items for that meeting to him.
4. Chair March shared that the Senate Executive Committee has been in conversation about the budget with the administration. One thing that came out of the meetings is that faculty members still have questions about how the budget issues affect them. He said that we have invited the Chancellor to speak about this issue today, but he couldn’t make it, so the Provost has graciously agreed to step in. We have also invited CFO Brett Sweet to speak at the February Senate meeting about this topic.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Provost Richard McCarty

Chair March turned the floor over to Provost McCarty (standing in for the Chancellor). He said that we are doing a CIO search—the first time Vanderbilt has had a CIO. The interviews will occur between now and the end of the calendar year. There is a real push to have this work done quickly, and the Chancellor is chairing this search. This position will be a Vice Chancellor and will be a member of the senior leadership team. This is being done in parallel with the Bain & Co. study of our technology issues. They are doing an excellent job and have reached out to you in your role as faculty members to find out more about these issues. CFO Brett Sweet is chairing the search for General Counsel. The last of 5 interviews was finished yesterday and it is now in the Chancellor’s court to make the final decision. Don Brady was the Faculty Senate representative on that committee. We are also nearing the end of the search for the next Dean of the Divinity School; that search will be concluded by early spring semester.

With regards to sequestration, there is still a lot of political posturing going on. We are all hopeful that we do not face this horrible outcome in the New Year, and I believe that a deal will be reached. If not, we will have to pull together in every way to make sure we continue to operate well.

Provost McCarty also mentioned the Music City Bowl and how well the Athletics department has done with this big event.
With regards to the budget, we are all looking to contain costs. Changes are coming soon with the Affordable Care Act that will necessitate that we do things more effectively in the Medical Center, for example. We did have a meeting on Aug. 29 with all deans and their unit budget officers, but we were not able to meet with all faculty members, so the message didn’t get communicated as effectively as we’d like. We would like to eliminate the differential that we have every year in our budget. Half will be the responsibility of the schools and half will be the responsibility of administrative areas. Every unit will be asked to contribute its share of the cuts, but it is not mandated an amount—each school will do this differently. Also, we need to save for renewal and replacement—2% each year is our goal. We need all faculty to understand what we need to do as we go forward.

He asked for questions. Hearing none, Chair March thanked the Provost.

Next Item on the Agenda – New Business: Approval of Lillian Nanny to serve the remainder of Judy Aschner’s term as Past Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate

Chair March brought up the issue of Judy Aschner leaving Vanderbilt before the end of her ex officio year. The Executive Committee asks the Senate to approve Lillian Nanney to serve the remainder of Judy Aschner’s term as past vice chair of the Faculty Senate in 2013-14. This request was approved unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Motion: Endorse the Report of the University Staff Advisory Council (USAC), Breastfeeding Support and Resources for New Mothers

Chair March reminded everyone that this motion was brought to the Senate at the last meeting in November. He then asked for any further discussion. Hearing none, he then asked for a vote on this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation by Dennis Hall, Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, Professor of Physics and Professor of Electrical Engineering

Chair March introduced Vice Provost Dennis Hall who gave a presentation about graduate education and the changes that have occurred in the past few years. Vice Provost Hall shared that there have been seven new graduate programs started since 2001, there is now direct charging of grant-paid tuition and an online application system, his office has ended the application fee, and there are a variety of workshops for graduate students. He also mentioned the EGE program, “Enhancing Graduate Education,” where faculty members can propose programs to help graduate education. He talked about graduate application numbers, and how Vanderbilt is ranked with their peers on various measures. He also addressed the attrition rate. He discussed PhDs awarded to underrepresented minority domestic students. He also talked about career and
professional development work—his office recently hired Ruth Schemmer as the Assistant Dean for Career Development. He then opened the floor for questions.

Question: Who are we competing with and where do students go instead of us?
Dennis Hall: It depends on the discipline (engineering students go to different places than humanities graduate students, for example).
Elizabeth Rapisarda: We will be undertaking a study now that looks at aspirational schools and peer schools, but it will be at the departmental level.

Question: Mental health and resiliency of the graduate students. What is the Graduate School doing about this?
Dennis Hall: In Jan 2013, Cathy Fuchs is meeting with the DGS’s to address this. It is a work in progress.

Question: What could we be doing better to improve graduate education?
Dennis Hall: This is about the faculty and their reputations. We are working hard in diversity and career development. The best thing we can do is to continue to try and hire the best faculty for these programs.

Question: Why did applications drop sharply after we went online?
Dennis Hall: Applications dropped after 2001 when the US became less hospitable to foreign applicants for graduate school.

Next Item on the Agenda – Good of the Senate

Chair March asked for any news under good of the Senate. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Next Item on the Agenda – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.
Vanderbilt University
Faculty Senate Meeting
February 14, 2013, 4:10 p.m.
Frist 140

Call to order

Approval of the minutes of December 6, 2012

Report of the Executive Committee

Remarks by the Chancellor

New Business

1. Presentation by Brett Sweet, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Chief Financial Officer

Good of the Senate

Adjournment

Voting Members present: Baker, Balser, Barth, Blume, Brady, Calico, Cannon, Clark, Conway-Welch, Does, Dow, Fischer, Gigante, Gokhale, Hudnut-Beumler, Huffman, Hurder, Hyman, Johnson, Johnston, Kirshner, Lim, Lind, March, Morrill, Nanney, Ramanujam, Schoenfield, Skaar, Southard-Smith, Tellinghuisen, Watters, Wayman, Wehby, Winder, and Yarbrough.

Voting Members absent: Anderson, Aschner (regrets), Atack (regrets), Benbow, Bond (regrets), Bradford, Braxton (regrets), Dayan, Dever, Enterline, Fauchet (regrets), Fogo (regrets), Fountain, Gervais, Guelcher, Guthrie (regrets), Hall (regrets), Harrington (regrets), Hemingway, Hughes (regrets), Moore, Mulvaney, Niswender (regrets), Powers (regrets), Rohde, Schwartz (regrets), Smrekar, Tansey, Tarpley (regrets), Tsinakis, Turner, Wait (regrets), and Wikswo (regrets).

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Fife, McCarty, McNamara, Raiford, Sweet, Weintraub, Wente, and Zeppos.

Ex Officio Members absent: Barz (regrets), Bernard, Fortune, Miller, Stalcup, Wcislo (regrets), and Williams.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Sal March.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of Minutes of December 6, 2012

Minutes of December 6, 2012 meeting were approved.
Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair March reported that online education has been a major topic of discussion among the Executive Committee recently. He mentioned that Associate Provost Cynthia Cyrus will be coming to talk at the March Senate meeting about the response to the Honor System recommendations. There will be a public report that will be made available to senators, as well. We will also talk about online education at that meeting with Associate Provost Cyrus. Chair March also reported that the Faculty Life committee has been working on the parental leave policy wording in the Faculty Manual. Associate Vice Chancellor Dave Raiford and Vice Provost Tim McNamara have put together a task force to look at this and Senator Chris Lind (chair of the Faculty Life committee) will be on this task force.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Chancellor Zeppos

Chair March turned the floor over to Chancellor Zeppos. He said that he wants to talk about the high-level issues regarding the budget. He gave an overview of the external issues regarding the economy and the budget situation at Vanderbilt.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation by Brett Sweet, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Chief Financial Officer

Chair March turned the floor over to Vice Chancellor Brett Sweet. He gave a presentation on the budget at Vanderbilt as well as an introduction to the new travel system. He said that Vanderbilt will be using the same travel system as other universities called Concur. There was a question about per diem. Vice Chancellor Sweet said that they looked at this issue, but they met with faculty & staff who said that they didn’t want a per diem system. He added that there will be a VU travel credit card where the charges will automatically be uploaded into the system rather than having to keep up with your receipts. Reimbursement will be direct deposited to the same account that your check goes to currently. Chair March thanked Vice Chancellor Sweet for his presentation.

Next Item on the Agenda – Good of the Senate

Chair March asked for any news under good of the Senate. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Next Item on the Agenda – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.
Call to order

Approval of the minutes of February 14, 2013

Report of the Executive Committee

Remarks by the Provost

New Business
   1. Presentation by Cynthia Cyrus: Update on the Honor System
   2. Presentation by Cynthia Cyrus: State of Online Education at Vanderbilt
   3. Discussion of Online Education Issues: David Weintraub

Good of the Senate

Adjournment

Voting Members present: Aschner, Balser, Barth, Blume, Bond, Brady, Cannon, Clark, Dever, Does, Dow, Enterline, Guelcher, Hall, Harrington, Huffman, Hurder, Johnson, Kirshner, Lind, March, Mihalik, Rohde, Tarpley, Tellinghuisen, Tsinakis, Turner, Wayman, Wehby.

Voting Members absent: Anderson (regrets), Atack, Baker (regrets), Benbow, Bradford, Braxton (regrets), Calico, Conway-Welch, Dayan, Fauchet (regrets), Fischer (regrets), Fogo (regrets), Fountain, Gervais (regrets), Gigante, Gokhale (regrets), Guthrie (regrets), Hemingway, Hudnut-Beumler (regrets), Hughes (regrets), Hyman (regrets), Johnston (regrets), Lim, Moore, Morrill (regrets), Mulvaney, Nanney (regrets), Niswender (regrets), Powers (regrets), Ramanujam (regrets), Schoenfield (regrets), Schwartz (regrets), Skaar, Smrekar, Southard-Smith, Tansey, Watters, Winder, Wait (regrets), and Yarbrough (regrets).

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, McCarty, McNamara, Weintraub.

Ex Officio Members absent: Barz (regrets), Bernard (regrets), Fife, Fortune, Miller, Raiford, Stalcup, Sweet, Wcislo, Wente (regrets), Williams, Zeppos (regrets).

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Sal March.
Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of Minutes of February 14, 2013

Chair March asked for an approval of the minutes. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair March said that much of the Executive Committee’s time has been working on understanding issues surrounding the budget, and he thanked Brett Sweet for his presentation at last month’s Senate meeting. He also reminded senators about the upcoming chair-elect and vice chair-elect in May—he reminded them that all first-year senators are eligible to stand for nomination. The Spring Faculty Assembly will be held on Wednesday, April 3, and Dr. William Shaffner will be the faculty speaker.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Provost Richard McCarty

Provost McCarty mentioned that we have a new general counsel who started on Monday, Audrey Anderson. Within the next few weeks, the Chancellor will be announcing our first Chief Information Officer. Also, the Chancellor and others will be working to replace Matthew Wright as Vice Chancellor for Investments. He also said that our investments are going well as per the most recent report from Brett Sweet. We are now in the midst of the sequester, and we are dealing with challenges as they come up. He said that it affects the Medical Center more than University Central.

Provost McCarty then turned to online education. He said that the landscape has changed rapidly in the last eighteen months. He mentioned that Coursera is the company that Vanderbilt is working with to offer online education. They are now up to 62 university partners. He would like to suggest a parallel process going forward: 1) we need to be involved in online education or we will be left behind, but also 2) we want to make sure and keep our eyes on our on-campus residential experience.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation by Cynthia Cyrus: Update on the Honor System

Provost McCarty introduced Associate Provost Cynthia Cyrus. She gave a presentation on the Honor System report follow-up: 23 tasks delivered, 5 tasks in progress (e.g. tutorial for grad students), 3 tasks await new General Counsel, and 4 planned for next year. They have built a website that was edited by the Provost’s office: (http://www.vanderbilt.edu/academicintegrity/). They put up a new reporting form online. There is also a focus on consultation and presentation/education about the Honors System. They have created a Vanderbilt Visions module for the VUceptors. They also changed the Honor Code signing process. They made some mechanical fixes to secure all files, adjusted the ARB processes, changed the reporting structure, and now have 10-school meetings. Forms for incoming freshmen and graduate students have been changed, too. There is also new staff: GL Black (new director), Cara Tuttle Bell (new assistant director) and a case manager who will be hired. Pending work: “Opportunities
for intervention” task force, writing a new FAQ for faculty, discussion of faculty roles and expedited options, development of a 10-school statement of the code, and General Counsel review of process and constitutions and by-laws. She said that statistics of Undergraduate Honor Council Outcomes is on the website. Recommendation: more detailed report to be submitted annually to the Student Life committee of the faculty senate (adding this as a formal charge). She also mentioned that graduate/professional schools are adopting the undergraduate honor council report as their template for reporting data.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation by Cynthia Cyrus: State of Online Education at Vanderbilt

Associate Provost Cyrus gave an overview of digital learning at Vanderbilt. She mentioned that Coursera is our partner in this venture. There are 169,000 students currently enrolled in VU Coursera offerings. There is 30% participation rate for VU Coursera courses (10% national average). Faculty for pilot program: nominated by deans, reviewed by Online Education Task Force, and final selection by Provost. Compensation is through overload or credit toward service obligations. Next steps: rounding out the pilots, demographics and assessments (alumni and outreach metrics), organizational and support planning, and other projects (course “wrapping,” IRB research and data mining, review of possible additional partners, work copyright and on IP issues—in conjunction with the Faculty Senate).

Question: What is the mission here?
Associate Provost Cyrus: We are trying many things, but right now I would say it is: “Make it work and take from it what is going to be best for Vanderbilt in the long haul.” Learning what works and what doesn’t work is part of the process.

Question: Are you looking at ways to generate revenue?
Associate Provost Cyrus: We’ve been invited to participate in the certificate program, but we aren’t there yet. There are conversations around publishing and sharing courses that will be revenue-sharing. Until VU has recouped its investment, they won’t share with the faculty member, but after that, they will.

Next Item on the Agenda – Discussion of Online Education Issues: David Weintraub

Past Chair David Weintraub introduced what SPAF (Strategic Planning and Academic Freedom committee) has been talking about and doing about the issue of online education. He gave a history of SPAF’s work on the issue over the past year. The initial conclusions are: 1) it is a complex rapidly-evolving issue with potentially huge but unknown implications, 2) it is critical for the Faculty Senate to proactively (and continuously) work with the administration, 3) where possible, online courses should be administered with the policies and procedures that are currently in place for classroom courses.

Issues for initial discussion:
1) Intellectual property rights
2) Selection of faculty and subjects for online courses
3) Recognizing online courses for credit

Past Chair Weintraub said that SPAF wants to start the conversation about this very important and ever-changing issue. He opened up the floor for questions.

Question: Once a course is delivered, can VU just continue to offer the course as many times as they want?
Associate Provost Cyrus: Within Coursera, the decision to run a course is left to the institution with the faculty member. The contract with the faculty member specifies that the course can run over at least three years. It has to be run at least once.

Question: Once the course is launched, is it self-sufficient?
Associate Provost Cyrus: The amount of engagement is up to the faculty member. The contractual obligation is that the faculty member monitor the discussion the first go-round, but other than that there is no technical obligation. The second time the course runs, there is no obligation for monitoring.

Question: Is the course synchronous or asynchronous?
Associate Provost Cyrus: It depends on the faculty member and the course. Generally, the course is laid out synchronously. Some faculty members want the class to move ahead as a group through the course. It is mostly synchronous.

Question: Is the material available at other times or could a person download and store information and use it in a different setting?
Associate Provost Cyrus: It’s up to the faculty member, but most faculty allow students to download their videos. If you download videos or materials illegally, Coursera is prepared to take legal action. There is also bartering between partner universities, as well. Our current model is that it is co-owned: the faculty member owns the content, but the university also owns the course.

Statement: It’s important to hold to existing procedures and structures that we have. This upholds the quality of the courses and faculty governances.
Provost McCarty: I would disagree that we don’t have goals—the potential to learn about student learning is there like never before. We have the ability to experiment on campus like never before, and our students will be expecting that. One of our biggest goals is to sell our brand to the world. But this is an uncertain future since these are changing times.
Past Chair Weintraub said that we can’t afford to do things slowly on this issue, and he looks forward to the ongoing discussion on this important issue.
Next Item on the Agenda – Good of the Senate

Chair March asked for any news under good of the Senate. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Next Item on the Agenda – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:34pm.
Call to order

Approval of the minutes of March 14, 2013

Report of the Executive Committee

Presentation by Alan Bentley, Director of the Center for Technology Transfer and Commercialization (CTTC)

Remarks by the Provost

New Business
  1. Student Alcohol and Prescription Drug Use Task Force report: Mary Yarborough, chair
  2. Discussion of Online Education Issues: Ranga Ramanujam, Strategic Planning and Academic Freedom committee chair

Good of the Senate

Adjournment


Voting Members absent: Atack (regrets), Baker (regrets), Balser, Benbow, Bradford, Braxton (regrets), Calico, Clark, Dayan, Dever (regrets), Enterline, Fauchet (regrets), Fountain (regrets), Gervais, Gigante, Gokhale (regrets), Guelcher, Harrington, Hudnut-Beumler, Hughes(regrets), Kirshner, Moore, Nanney (regrets), Niswender, Skaar (regrets), Smrekar, Southard-Smith, Tansey, Turner, Wait, and Winder.

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Barz, Fife, McCarty, Wcislo, and Weintraub.

Ex Officio Members absent: Bernard, Fortune, McNamara, Miller, Raiford, Stalcup, Sweet, Wente (regrets), Williams, and Zeppos (regrets).
The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Sal March.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the minutes of March 14, 2013

Chair March asked for an approval of the minutes. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair March reminded everyone that Senate elections will take place at the next Senate meeting. He asked for any first year senators who are interested in serving to contact him.

Following up on 2011-12 recommendations from the Alcohol Task Force, Dean Mark Bandas will be writing a report on these recommendations and it will be up on the Senate website in the summer.

The Executive Committee has recommended a task force to look at Greek Life issues that will start in Fall 2013. If you are involved and/or interested in this issue, please contact us.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation by Alan Bentley, Director of the Center for Technology Transfer and Commercialization (CTTC)

Alan Bentley, Director of the Center for Technology Transfer and Commercialization (CTTC), gave a presentation on apportionment of revenues among inventions and inventors for licensed portfolios. He gave a brief overview of what his office does. Next, he gave an overview of the technology policy, and he went over the Technology Review committee recommendations.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Provost Richard McCarty

Provost McCarty said that we have just started a Strategic Planning process that will last for the rest of the calendar year. It will involve much faculty involvement and will lead to the next Capital Campaign. The public campaign will end in 2023, which is the sesquicentennial of Vanderbilt University. We will ask for your assistance on these committees over the next year. Regarding budget issues, he said that it is a difficult time here financially at Vanderbilt. But don’t let that overshadow all of the good work that happens here. He gave an update on campus construction, and said that Alumni Hall will be done in July 2013. We have selected the founding directors of the two residential colleges—Moore College and Warren College. New appointments: Audrey Anderson is our new General Counsel. The New Chief Information Officer will be announced tomorrow and that person will start work on Monday. We have a search for the Owen School Dean that has been started. The search for new Chief Investment Officer is also moving along. Brett Sweet is doing two jobs right now, so we are fine under his leadership. Chair March thanked the Provost for these updates.
Chair March mentioned that the final report of this task force will be distributed before the May meeting. Mary Yarborough mentioned that they have been working on this issue this past year after they issued the recommendations on alcohol use. She went over the process that the group has followed this year. Then, she highlighted the recommendations from her task force. She opened the floor for questions and comments.

Question: How will you deal with the people who have obtained a prescription for Adderall/Ritalin by gaming the system?
Yarbrough: You’re not going to make the system so tight that you will catch everyone. But it will be at the discretion of the Office of Student Conduct. And we struggled with this issue, too.

Question: Is it true that 10% of high school males are on these drugs?
Yarbrough: The numbers vary.

David Weintraub: Thank you for your incredible work on this issue. Did your committee ever discuss 5 hour energy drinks?
Yarbrough: We tried to stay focused on the prescription drugs only. At some point, we have to try and give some kind of guidance to decision-making on these issues.

Question: Honor code issue—two potential concerns: 1) students who will be driven underground by this behavior—will I be discouraged from doing this if I know I will be sanctioned? 2) I am worried about how we don’t have those sanctions for faculty and residents.
Yarbrough: Faculty and residents don’t get a pass, and they do have repercussions. This issue is national and growing.

Comment: I am uncomfortable with the honor code violation for this.
Senator Tom Schwartz: I think what swayed me was that students felt that this was a violation.

Chair March thanked Senator Yarbrough and her task force for their work this year.

Ranga Ramanujam, chair of SPAF, presented a proposal for addressing online education issues. He said that we looked at three main issues: 1) intellectual property rights, 2) course credit, 3) selection of faculty and courses. He presented some conclusions that the committee came to about these issues. Proposal: standing faculty committee to advise the Provost on emerging policy and implementation issues.
Question: Will there be staggered 3-year terms for committee members? For continuity?
Ramanujam: We didn’t get into that level of detail yet.

Provost McCarty: The chancellor is preparing to fund a new institute/program that will deal with pedagogy of online education. A director would be named this summer and I think they would have an advisory committee that may serve the same purpose of this committee. It’s a challenge because each of the undergraduate schools has a vote that is independent of the other schools when it comes to accepting credit, and this will happen soon (that students will bring transfer credit for these MOOCs).

Question: Have there been faculty members asking to do this?
Associate Provost Cynthia Cyrus: Yes, they have. There are also other conversations happening about flipped classroom situations. We don’t have the resources to accommodate all of the requests for other video classroom use.
Provost McCarty: Faculty members are doing this as an overload this year.

Chair March said that this conversation will continue.

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

Chair March asked for any news under good of the Senate. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.
Call to order

Approval of the minutes of April 11, 2013

Recognition of Third-Year Senators

Report of the Executive Committee

Remarks by the Chancellor

Election of Chair-Elect and Vice Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate

New Business
  1. Motion: Endorse the report of the Drug and Alcohol Awareness Task Force
  2. Motion: Endorse the recommendation of the Strategic Planning and Academic Freedom Committee to commission an Online Education Task Force
  3. Motion: Formation of a Faculty Senate Task Force on Greek Life
  4. Announcements from the Senate Affairs Committee, Alex Hurder (chair)

Good of the Senate

Adjournment to reception


Voting Members absent: Attack, Balser, Benbow, Blume (regrets), Bond, Bradford, Brady (regrets), Clark, Conway-Welch (regrets), Dayan, Enterline, Fischer, Fogo, Fountain, Gervais (regrets), Gigante (regrets), Guthrie (regrets), Harrington, Hyman, Kirshner, Mihalik (regrets), Mulvaney, Powers (regrets), Schoenfield (regrets), Schwartz (regrets), Smrekar, Tansey, Tsinakis, Turner, and Winder.

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Fife, McCarty, McNamara, Raiford, Wcislo, Wente, Zeppos.
Ex Officio Members absent: Barz (regrets), Bernard (regrets), Fortune, Miller, Stalcup, Sweet, Williams.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Sal March.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the minutes of April 11, 2013

Chair March asked for approval of the minutes. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Recognition of Third-Year Senators

Chancellor Zeppos handed out certificates for third year senators and thanked them for their service.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair March said that all of the committee reports are posted on the Senate website. He asked that if anyone had a particular interest in serving on a committee or serving as chair to let him know. He also recognized outgoing past chair and vice chair, David Weintraub and Greg Barz.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by the Chancellor

Chancellor Zeppos recognized Vanderbilt’s new CIO, John Lutz. He said that he is the first CIO that Vanderbilt has had. He said that it was important to have someone thinking every day about working with the deans, faculty, students and staff about the IT strategy. Reducing risk is also an important part of this job.

He mentioned issues about sequestration and research. He reminded everyone that research is an important function of the university; it is not a money-making endeavor.

He said that we are going to start a strategic planning process soon that will be transparent, inclusive and responsible in length. We will do another capital campaign and we need to think about where we were ten years ago, where are we now, and where we want to be in ten years. We have to begin to articulate our future. He will be appointing a group of 15-20 faculty members on the Executive Committee, and also planning groups on open-ended topics. He said that we want to end up in the spring 2014 with a good sense of who we are and where we are going.

Next Item on the Agenda – Election of Chair-Elect and Vice Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate

Senators Paul Lim and Rolanda Johnson were elected as chair-elect and vice chair-elect, respectively.
Next Item on the Agenda – New Business

1. Motion: Endorse the report of the Drug and Alcohol Awareness Task Force—Chair March thanked Senator Mary Yarbrough and her task force for all of their hard work on this issue and this report.

   Senator Mary Yarbrough: Our task force recommends that this issue be studied by the appropriate group at the university.
   Chair March asked for a voice vote and it was approved unanimously.

2. Motion: Endorse the recommendation of the Strategic Planning and Academic Freedom Committee to commission an Online Education Task Force
   Chair March said that this motion was proposed by the SPAF committee and the Chancellor, Provost, and Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs all have agreed to support the formation of this task force.
   Provost McCarthy: This will require a lot of working together with the Provost’s office to make sure that they have the most current information.
   Question: Issue about the word “institution” in this motion.
   Friendly amendment to the motion—change “institution” to “practices”
   Motion passes with the amendment.

3. Motion: Formation of a Faculty Senate Task Force on Greek Life—Past Chair David Weintraub presented the motion to create a task force on Greek Life.
   Question: Will the membership of the committee be only senators?
   Past Chair Weintraub: No, it will be open to all at the university.
   Chair March: We will be looking for recommendations for faculty members to serve on this task force.
   Chair March asked for a voice vote. Motion was approved unanimously.

4. Announcements from the Senate Affairs Committee, Alex Hurder (chair):
   Senator Alex Hurder illuminated some issues from the Senate Affairs committee concerning communication from the Senate on the MyVU/MyVUMC emails. He said that we will work with Vice Chancellor Beth Fortune’s office on this initiative. He also mentioned information about the SACS accreditation process that the committee gathered this year. Chair March thanked his committee for all their work this year.

Next Item on the Agenda – Good of the Senate

Chair March asked for any news under good of the Senate. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Next Item on the Agenda – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.