Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of October 6, 2016

Report of the Executive Committee

Remarks by the Chancellor
  • Q & A with the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor for EDI

Standing Committee Reports

Ad Hoc Committee Reports
  • Motion 1 – Resolution Statement of Faculty Principles
  • Motion 2 – UCC
  • Motion 3 – Succession
  • Motion 4 – Quorum
  • Motion 5 – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  • Motion 6 – Consensual & Familial Relationships
  • Motion 7 – Faculty Awards

Old Business

New Business

Scheduled Remarks

Good of the Senate

Adjournment

Voting Members present: Ackerly; Allos; Andrews; Bachmann; Benton; Cannon; Chakravarthy; Christenbery; Dewey; Finch; Fleming; Friedman; Goddu; Green; Greene; Halevi; Heuser; Koutsoukos; Lowe; Luo; March; McCammon; Merryman; Miga; Murphy; Norman; Outlaw;
Voting Members absent: Balser; Benbow; Brown; Carnahan; Chang; Christman; Cliffel; Fauchet; Guthrie; Haglund; Hopkins; Johnson; Kim; Martin; Massion; McCoin; Oskay; Rohde; Rowe; Schildcrout; Seymore; Simmons; Talbot; Townes; Wait; Weavind; Webb; Wilson; and Wuerth.

Ex Officio Members present: Anderson; Bandas; Brady; Cyrus; Hill; Lutz; Marnett; Price; Raiford; Stalcup; and Zeppos.

Ex Officio Members absent: Beasley; Carroll; Fortune; Geer; Hall; Hotchkiss; Kopstain; Miller; Pietenpo; Raghavan; Sweet; Wente; Williams; and Willis.

Guests: Lutz Koepnick

Call to Order

Senator Charlene Dewey, Chair of the Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm.

Approval of the minutes of October 6, 2016

Chair Dewey announced minor changes to the draft minutes. No motions or content was changed. Chair Dewey asked for approval of the minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with the necessary corrections. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Due to technological failure, a hybrid model will be used for voting.

Report of the Executive Committee (EC)

Chair Dewey gave the following report of the Executive Committee (EC).

• The BOT meeting was attended by Chair Dewey and Vice Chair Heuser, who gave a presentation on behalf of the Faculty Senate. The BOT was interested in the use of technology in teaching. Chair Dewey asked that faculty email stories and examples of technology used in the classroom.

• The Elected Senators Only meeting was engaging. A second Elected Senators Only meeting will be held in February.

• The Shared Governance Task Force co-chaired by Richard Willis and Holly McCammon will meet December 15 to get their charges from the Provost.
• Wellness and mental health will form an ad hoc committee through Faculty Life. All deans meeting have concluded. The deans were helpful and supportive. The Faculty Senate looks forward to receiving more data.

• Diversity, inclusion, and community – The Faculty Senate will foster a healing initiative to address the stigma of mental health. Savor Diversity was suggested to promote an understanding of women’s issues, sanctuary cities, and a panel discussion. She gave challenges to the Faculty Senate for this and for Project Safe below. The Faculty Senate will incorporate best practices to celebrate diversity at Vanderbilt.

• Vanderbilt Community concerns have been at the forefront. Chair Dewey communicated with a faculty member about their child who was the victim of a hate crime. The Faculty Senate supports a safe environment. It does not support hate. Resources are available for faculty support.

• Deans meetings have concluded. Chair Dewey and Vice Chair Heuser met with every dean. They found each dean to be extremely welcoming. Wellness and diversity are at the top of their priorities.

• Communication avenues are available. There are several mediums for faculty to stay informed, including: MyVU, MyVUMC, Engage newsletter, DEI Inclusive newsletter, DEI Connect, and Open Dore.

• COACHE data is still being looked at.

• VUPS is looking at a de-escalation policy. VUPS is planning a training module. Project Safe is an organization which helps students across campus. Chair Dewey encouraged the Senate to complete the Project Safe Training Module. The module takes about fifteen minutes to complete.

• Chair Dewey and Vice Chair Heuser met with the VSG yesterday. They discussed Vanderbilt becoming a sanctuary city, their student statement of academic freedom, and their plan to meet with the SPAF Committee. The BOT is supportive of the Faculty Senate mentoring students.

• Chair Dewey expressed personal thoughts and comments. She reflected that Vanderbilt has made significant strides. All leadership has supported diversity and inclusion. The Senate must think about moving forward and not live in the past.

Chair Dewey called for questions. Hearing no questions, she proceeded to the next item of business.

Remarks by the Chancellor
Chancellor Zeppos began by stating that what we are experiencing now is a question of history. Vanderbilt is planning a major conference on race and history. Dennis Dickerson is working on that.

Chancellor Zeppos and Vice Chancellor Hill responded to the following questions that were received through the Faculty Senate email.

**Chancellor**

1) **What are the roles of the FS and administration in times of crisis?**
   
   The faculty is the one constant in the University. Faculty plays an important role in times of crisis. We need to look at, “What are emerging trends in our university that promote challenges?” We are in a challenging time of political divisiveness. There is a concern of over-reacting. The faculty plays a critical role in defining who we are as a community. Sometimes a crisis evolves. During the recent crisis, faculty gave their raises back because that is who we are.

2) **When will Vanderbilt's efforts to increase diversity include efforts to increase the ideological diversity of the faculty? (Vice-Chancellor Hill and Provost Wente to also address)**
   
   The university has an ideology, a value system, reinvention, destruction of old theories, critical race theories. The Chancellor speaks out on policy. We are a human capital institution. We do not shy from philosophical political questions. He likes ideas that are new, exciting, brilliant ideas.

3) **What role do you see the FS playing in effective governance to advance shared governance? What is the most valuable thing(s) the senate should concern itself within its role for the most effective shared governance?**
   
   The Chancellor is reluctant to tell the Faculty Senate how to do things. He wants to know what the Vanderbilt community wants Vanderbilt to be and what is our vision? We are a world class university. The Chancellor is energized by imagining a better Vanderbilt.

**Vice-Chancellor DEI:**

1) **When will Vanderbilt's efforts to increase diversity include efforts to increase the ideological diversity of the faculty?**

   Faculty plays a very important role. We are an educational institution. Demonstrations are of intellectual stimulation. It is not new. We must accept and encourage that type of dialogue. Peaceful, respectful demonstrations are good. Some students expressed their view of the faculty as leftist. Some students feel they cannot express their opinions. Dr. Sandra Barnes will help us understand what unconscious bias mind is all about. We all have unconscious bias.

   He noted that Chair Dewey had extended two challenges.

   a. **Savor Diversity - The Faculty Senate should ask how many participated.**
b. Project Safe training

VC Hill asked the question, “When it comes to wellness, how does the Faculty Senate address wellness and diversity to converse and heal?”

2) Related to the recent hate emails on some college campuses, please describe the reporting process for students, faculty and staff who are victims of hate emails and other comments/events.
For steps to take when hate mail occurs... There is a process of mandatory reporting by several offices. We will not tolerate acts of hate by anyone on this campus. The Faculty Senate is making an excellent effort to be inclusive. We have to do a better job and look at who is not at the table as we try to make a decision. The Faculty Senate is a great forum.

The institution’s General Counsel, Audrey Anderson, reminded the entire body that ALL members of the faculty (as well as all administrators) are required to report incidents of discrimination to one of two places: to VUPS if the matter is urgent (e.g. an ongoing event) or to EAD, the investigative arm of the institution. To clarify, reporting is as easy as calling the EAD, unless it looks like VUPS should be involved.

**Standing Committee Reports**

Chair Dewey moved the Ad-hoc Committee Report to be heard before the Standing Committee Reports.

Senators Brooke Ackerly and Lou Outlaw reported that as a result of recent discourse, a resolution from the Faculty Senate was drafted. This resolution is designed for everyone in the Vanderbilt community. Senator Scott Pearson, Chair of the Faculty Life committee suggested that the concept of open discourse was not to promote hate but open, respectful discourse. It was further suggested that the 5) list of the draft be alphabetized. These two changes were accepted by the body and the resolution was updated.

A motion was made to accept the resolution with the updates. The motion passed.
Voting proceeded: Tally: 36 affirmative, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions.

Chair Dewey called for reports from committee chairs. The chairs gave the following reports:

- Gayle Shay, Academic Policies and Services looked at two new degree programs. CMAP, and a Bachelor of Musical Arts degree program from Blair. There was discussion that the school requires 126 hours. The norm for accreditation is 120 hours. There were no questions about CMAP.
- Scott Pearson, Faculty Life reported that they are working on a wellness initiative and gaining information from peer institutions with faculty clubs.
Myrna Wooders, Faculty Manual reported that they would like to reinstate the faculty Senate into the Conflict of Interest discussion. The Faculty Manual Committee had three motions. At this time, a quorum was present. She began to introduce the Consensual Relations motion, highlighting consensual relationships between faculty and students.

In response to questions received from the Faculty Senate email, both the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor Hill made lengthy remarks at the top of the meeting. Before Senator Wooders could bring the Faculty Manual Committee motion forward, it was stated by a Senator that the Senate body had lost its quorum.

Past Vice Chair Price raised a point of order explaining that the material could still be presented even without a quorum, but could not be voted upon without a quorum. She suggested that Senator Wooders skip down to…Be it resolved. Senator Wooders continued her presentation.

Per Senator Wooders, “Today the FMC is bringing forward a particularly important motion. In 2012 the Faculty Senate was removed from Part III, Chapter 3, on Conflict of Interest (COI) and Conflict of Commitment (COC). Other changes were made in that Chapter, which, with removal of the Senate, left no role for the Senate in Part III, Chapter 3, and put COI and COC both under the University Conflicts Committee, chaired by the Counsel General. I believe this makes us unique; I have not been able to find another university where COC is under the General Counsel.”

One senator voiced their understanding that a quorum was no longer present and that the Faculty Senate should table all upcoming discussions until the next meeting with a quorum present. The Faculty Manual motion nor any Standing Committee motions were made due to lack of a quorum and because the meeting was already past its stated ending time.

A motion was made to adjourn.

**Old Business**
There was no old business from the EC.

**New Business**
There was no new business from the EC.

**Scheduled Remarks**
There were no scheduled remarks from the EC.

**Good of the Senate**
There was no additional information given for the Good of the Senate.

**Adjournment**
The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Brian L. Heuser
Vice Chair