Call to order

Approval of the minutes of November 3, 2011 meeting

Report of the Executive Committee

Remarks by Chancellor Nick Zeppos

Presentation on College Halls—Associate Provost Cynthia Cyrus and Senator Thomas Schwartz

Report from Strategic Planning and Academic Freedom Task Force—Senator Dan Beauchamp

New business

Good of the Senate

Adjournment

Voting Members present: Aschner, Atack, Barth, Barz, Beauchamp, Brady, Cannon, Carlton, Dawant, Dever, Donaldson, Gigante, Gokhale, Hall, Hughes, Hurder, Johnston, Kirshner, March, Moore, Mulvaney, Nanney, Niswender, Ramey, Rogers, Schwartz, Tellinghuisen, Tsinakis, Van Kaer, Weintraub, Wikswo, Winder, Yoder, and Zamora

Voting Members absent: Andrews (regrets), Aurbach (regrets), Bachorowski (regrets), Balser, Beasley (regrets), Benbow, Bradford (regrets), Braxton (regrets), Calico (regrets), Carbone, Clark, Conway-Welch (regrets), Does (regrets), Fogo (regrets), Galloway (regrets), Gervais, Guthrie, Halpern (regrets), Hudnut-Beumler (regrets), Hyman
The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair David Weintraub.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the minutes of November 3, 2011 meeting
Chair Weintraub asked for these minutes to be approved. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee
Chair Weintraub gave the report of the Executive Committee:

- Planning for January elected-senators-only meeting: discussion of proposals from Student Life Committee about Honor Councils
- Planning for February meeting: discussion of proposals from Student Life Committee about Honor Councils
- Monthly meeting with Chancellor
- Monthly meeting with Provost and VCHA
- Negotiated plans for renewed access to Student Rec Center Track
- Follow-up to November meeting: EC proposal to Athletics for need-based ‘full cost of attendance’ athletic scholarships
- EC participated in the Academic Programs-Student Affairs Joint Committee Meeting of the Board of Trust on November 10
- Dec 14 meeting to review on-line implementation of Faculty Manual: http://vanderbilt.edu/faculty-manual/
- very close to completion of standardization of e-discovery documents (SPAF, VC for Administration Jerry Fife)

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Chancellor
Chair Weintraub turned the floor over to Chancellor Zeppos who took questions.

Question about possible protests
Chancellor Zeppos: Protest and free speech is part of living in a democracy. I think it’s an important part of what a university is.

Question about the armed robbery on campus recently
Chancellor Zeppos: Public dissemination of information is crucial. We have legal obligations to inform the campus community. One Vanderbilt student was arrested. The safety of the community is always top priority—it bothers me that any incident on campus puts people in jeopardy. Appropriate action will be taken against any wrongdoers.

Provost McCarty: Installation of security cameras on campus is one good thing that has been done. They are invaluable in solving crimes.

Question about negotiations with new engineering dean
Provost McCarty: We do not have a new dean yet, but we have a very enthusiastic candidate for dean. We are moving as quickly as we can, and we are finalizing the deal.

Question about avoiding improprieties like what happened at Penn State
Chancellor Zeppos: We are always looking at what happens at other schools, and trying to learn from their mistakes. We want to make sure we have the best processes here.

Chair Weintraub thanked Chancellor Zeppos for his time.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation on College Halls—Associate Provost Cynthia Cyrus and Senator Thomas Schwartz

Chair Weintraub introduced Associate Provost Cynthia Cyrus. She gave a presentation regarding plans for College Halls at Vanderbilt.

She also gave an overview of the College Halls Task Force and their meetings over the fall semester 2011.

Senator Tom Schwartz also spoke as the representative from the Senate to the Task Force. He gave an overview of his experience and views. He said that he learned that students coming out of the Commons want to live with all 3 years of classes (sophomores, juniors, and seniors). He said that we also need to take the lessons learned from the Commons into this new project. He said that hopes this becomes an attractive option for our students.

They opened the floor for questions.

Question: Can you give an example of a student contribution to the halls?
Associate Provost Cyrus: Things like participating in governance process, running the Ultimate Frisbee Challenge, providing service opportunities, etc. We also talked about “bringing a faculty member” program to connect the faculty with students.

Senator Schwartz: It became clear that we couldn’t dictate these contributions, and that the students are part of this process.

Question: When will the halls open?
Associate Provost Cyrus: Fall 2014
Question: Are you making guidelines specifically about Kissam? Or are they about how the College Halls program will work in general?
Associate Provost Cyrus: Both/and. We are looking specifically at Kissam and also about the college halls program in general.

Question: Why did you decide to form intentional communities other than letting things form organically?
Associate Provost Cyrus: We have living/learning communities and more independent living situations. So, we are trying to create something in between.
Senator Schwartz: I felt very strongly that we needed to have student apply to come to the Kissam College Halls.
Chancellor Zeppos: The key question will be: as it grows, does it really need an application process?

Chair Weintraub: I actually think that this is a big mistake. I am very strongly against most of this. If this is to be a model for the future of residential colleges at Vanderbilt, this will fail.
Senator Schwartz: I think you are misreading this totally.
Dean Mark Bandas: The structure here reflects our living/learning environments that currently exist.
Past Chair Brian Christman: I read it the same way as David Weintraub.
Senator Schwartz: We don’t think this will be a big problem. We don’t anticipate doing much of this at all.
Dean Mark Bandas: In the living/learning communities, we have a 1% “kickout” rate. So, it’s not very big.
Associate Provost Cyrus: We worried about students gaming the system and applying for these dorms and not doing anything. We need an “out” clause.

Question: I don’t think that any one of us here can state with certainty how the college halls will be organized. We can try and see what works.
Senator Schwartz: We agree and this is how we are looking at this, too.

Question: If we are afraid of a 2-page application process, then we are in trouble. I don’t think it’s too much to ask of them.

Question: I don’t think it’s a question of being afraid to ask them to write an application of 2 pages, it is more about who you are asking to do this application and the application pool.
Senator Schwartz: I think we’ll have a huge demand.

Question: Another way to enforce diversity is to have 100% turnover rate each year. Did you consider that?
Associate Provost Cyrus: Yes, we did consider that. We decided that we wanted some carryover with students.
Hearing no further questions, Chair Weintraub thanked the presenters and told everyone that the report is out until the last day of fall classe, and they welcome comments.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Report from Strategic Planning and Academic Freedom Task Force—Senator Dan Beauchamp**

Senator Dan Beauchamp gave a presentation about his subcommittee that met with Vice Chancellor Matthew Wright regarding Emergent Asset Management (investments in Africa). He mentioned that a copy of the subcommittee report is available to the members at the meeting.

He asked for any questions.

**Question:** Do we have any reason to think that the middle class will develop there to buy the food?

Senator Beauchamp: According to the Vice Chancellor, the goal is for local sale and not for export. This is based on first-person interaction with Vanderbilt and Emergent.

**Question:** Any numbers of how many people through these investments have been displaced?

Senator Beauchamp: I got the impression that no one has been displaced.

Hearing no further questions, Chair Weintraub thanked Senator Beauchamp for his presentation.

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

Chair Weintraub asked for any new business or information for the good of the senate. He shared that Vice Chair Greg Barz’s book was published in Sept. 2011. Hearing no other business, he asked for a motion to adjourn, which was received and seconded.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 5:21pm.