Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of December 3, 2009

Report of the Executive Committee
Cynthia Paschal, Chair of the Faculty Senate

Delegation Reports
School of Nursing—Terri Donaldson, Blair School—Greg Barz

Remarks by Provost Richard McCarty

New business
Motion from APS to approve B.Mus/M.B.A. degree program —Tony Weil, chair

Motions from Senate Affairs—Ellen Armour, chair
1. Non-voting ex officios
2. Increase in Senate size
3. Reapportionment

Motion from PEAF to revise the requirement of PTRC members for ad hoc grievance committees—Frank Bloch, chair

Good of the Senate

Adjournment


Voting Members absent: Balser, Barr, Benbow, Blackett, Bradford, Braxton (regrets), Christie, Collins, Conway-Welch (regrets), Dawant (regrets), Fogo (regrets), Graham, Guthrie, Hall (regrets), Hiebert, Hudnut-Beumler (regrets), Oppenheimer, Peek, Piston
(regrets), Ramey (regrets), Reschly (regrets), Saff (regrets), Schorn, Stone, Wait (regrets), Weintraub (regrets), Wollaeger (regrets), and Yarbrough (regrets).

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Kovalcheck, McCarty, McNamara, Shepherd, and Stalcup.

Ex Officio Members absent: Bernard (regrets), Christiansen, Dowell, Fife (regrets), Fortune, Miller (regrets), Raiford (regrets), Retzlaff (regrets), Sweet, Wcislo, Wente (regrets), Williams, and Wright.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Cynthia Paschal.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of Minutes of December 3, 2009

Chair Paschal asked for any changes to the minutes. Hearing none, she then asked for approval of the minutes. They were approved unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair Paschal said that the Executive Committee has been meeting regularly with the Chancellor and other administrators. She said that there had been discussions about the FY11 budget and graduate education. She also reported that the Consultative Committee had met to discuss faculty award nominations, and that they had forwarded their recommendations to the Chancellor. She then turned introduced the next agenda item.

Next Item on the Agenda – Delegation Reports

Senator Greg Barz gave the Blair School delegation report. He said that it is one of the four undergraduate schools at Vanderbilt. All undergraduates participate in a B.Mus. degree program. 40% participate in a second major or minor. Nineteen of the Blair faculty participate in the Nashville Symphony. There are 206 B.Mus. majors. Blair School offers a free Concert Series, and in three years, they have seen a 50% increase in attendance. We have a composer in residence each year, and a commissions project. There are a wide range of activities at the Blair School, including ensembles that include faculty, students, and community members. Blair also has a high profile abroad in research, performance, and participation. This year, the school approved a new curriculum that is a result of four years of effort in the Blair School.

Senator Terri Donaldson gave the Nursing delegation report. She said that the School of Nursing (SON) has national standing --19th top private school of nursing via US News & World Report rankings. Dean Colleen Conway-Welch is celebrating her 25th year as Dean of SON. They have a variety of entry points for our school. Students come with no degree in nursing, and some come with an undergraduate degree in nursing. They offer programs at the Master’s level and the Doctoral level. They also offer post-master’s certificates for MSNs.
She reported that they have been experiencing an increase in inquiries about SON as well as an increase in enrollment. They are trying to increase our diversity in terms of male students and students from different ethnic backgrounds. Many of their students work online and in distance learning situations. They have increased their inter-professional activities, and they participate in many programs outside of Vanderbilt or with other partners.

They have clinics in 2 states and 5 counties in Tennessee, and they have hired 33 new practice faculty in the last year. They also have 2 midwifery practices that continue to grow. They are well known across the country for their Nursing Informatics program, and the Vanderbilt SON is the number one school in the country in this field. She asked for any questions.

Chair Paschal: SON had a significant increase in enrollment in some of your programs. To what do you attribute that increase?
Senator Terri Donaldson: Perhaps the economy? Many nurses are going back to school now. But I am not really sure.

Chair Paschal thanked both senators for their presentations.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by the Provost

Provost McCarty said that the Board of Trust met last Thursday and Friday. They had a strategic topic: the campus land use policy which was developed ten years ago. A number of committees also met and the Student Affairs committee heard a detailed presentation from the Women’s Center.

Provost McCarty reported on the disturbance in the National Panhellenic House on the morning of February 7, 2010. He said that there were concerns about the way in which our police handled this incident. The police chief announced an investigation, as is done by Tennessee law. Dean Mark Bandas has been working closely with faculty, staff, and students on this issue, as has our Chancellor.

Provost McCarty said that we are in the process of budget meetings with school deans. The same process is occurring in the Medical School. This next year will be a challenging one. Looking ahead, FY12 will be the tougher of the next two years, and then we will hopefully come out of this. He said that he doesn’t want to paint a rosy picture, but there will be tuition increases. He said that he is fairly confident that we will have salary increases, but he didn’t want to get everyone’s hopes up too much.

Provost McCarty said that the Chancellor was incredibly supportive of the Graduate Education task force report. Provost McCarty would like to commend the Senate as a collective body and via your individual efforts on this important initiative. He then asked for any questions.
Chair Paschal: When would report come out about the incident at the National Panhellenic House?
Provost McCarty: I am hopeful that it will come out soon after Spring Break.

Past Chair Shepherd: What are the average tuition increases?
Provost McCarty: 4.25% last year, and I would guess 5.5% increase over a 20 year-period.

Next Item on the Agenda – Motion from APS to approve B.Mus/M.B.A. degree program

Senator Tony Weil presented the motion from his committee to approve the B.Mus/M.B.A. degree program at Blair School of Music and Owen Graduate Management School. He then asked for any discussion.

Senator Larry LeBlanc: How many students will be accepted?
Associate Dean Cynthia Cyrus: No more than one or two. It will be highly competitive.
Senator Bridget Rogers: How will these students apply?
Associate Dean Cynthia Cyrus: They apply through the regular Owen process.
Senator Peter Rousseau: Will there be quotas?
Professor Kelly Christie: There already are quotas in place. But there are no quotas in the distribution between Blair and Owen schools.

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Paschal asked for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Item on the Agenda – Motions from Senate Affairs

Senator Ellen Armour explained that the Senate Affairs committee had a few motions to present. The first motion would be to change the wording about non-voting ex officio members to the Senate Constitution. Chair Paschal limited the debate to 10 minutes for each motion. She reminded the senators that they could vote to extend debate by a majority vote. She asked for questions.

Provost McCarty: Did Jeff Balser not give his vote to David Raiford?
Chair Paschal: No, the Executive Committee decided to ask him to retain his voting status. We value the deans’ input and want to keep that and not have it delegated.

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Pascal called for a voice vote. There was one vote against, the rest were for. The motion passed.

Senator Armour then presented the motion to change the wording about non-voting ex officio members to the Senate Rules of Order. She asked for any discussion. Hearing none, Chair Paschal asked for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.
Senator Armour then presented the motion to increase the Senate size. Senator Ellen Armour gave the background on this motion. She then asked for any discussion.

Senator Margaret Blair: What would be the breakdown between schools?
Senator Ellen Armour: You will see that in the other slides on reapportionment.
Senator Rogers: We are going to lose as far as voting fractions (the smaller schools like Engineering).
Senator Ellen Armour: You could look at it this way, but you could also look at in that the larger schools that are growing
Senator Bruce Oppenheimer: Is there any indication that there is sufficient interest on the faculty to serve on the Senate?
Senator Ellen Armour: No, we haven’t polled the faculty.
Senator Oppenheimer: I worry if this will get more involvement in the Senate or not. I wonder if the workload of the Senate has increased to warrant the increase of senators.
Senator Ellen Armour: The next thing on the Senate Affairs committee agenda will be looking at the committee structure, and having more senators would be helpful in this endeavor.
Chair-elect Brian Christman: When the Senate began, 5% of the faculty served on the Senate. Now it is 1-2%. I don’t think it would be too much to add a few more senators.
Senator Lillian Nanney: It would be good to have more schools represented on the committees.

Senator LeBlanc called the question, and it was seconded. The call passed. Chair Paschal asked for a show of hands to vote on the motion. The motion carried 25-5.

Senator Armour then presented the motion to approve reapportionment. She explained the rationale for the formula used, and then opened up the floor for discussion.
Senator Greg Walker asked what would happen if we don’t like this apportionment.
Senator Armour said that you can either vote it down or propose changes. We are mandated to reapportion every 5 years.
Dean James Bradford asked how the faculty members are counted.
Vice Chair-elect Bobby Bodenheimer said that they took the full-time faculty number from VIRG.

Chair Paschal asked for a voice vote. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Paschal thanked the Senate Affairs committee for all their hard work.

Next Item on the Agenda – Motion from PEAF to revise the requirement of PTRC members for ad hoc grievance committees

Senator Frank Bloch introduced the motion from his committee. He explained the history of the motion, and the discussion in the committee surrounding the issue. He then opened the floor for discussion.

Senator Greg Walker: Would the committee have a choice of 2 or 3 PTRC members, or would they be forced to have 3?
Senator Bloch: They would have a choice.
Vice Provost Tim McNamara: While the PTRC members are chosen by the Chancellor, this is a faculty committee. So, it troubles me that there is an upper limit of PTRC members on the ad hoc committee, since they have such a broad experience on these issues.
Senator Mike Stone: Instead of changing this, should we instead increase the members of the PTRC?
Provost McCarty: Increasing the PTRC would be a nightmare for scheduling, and would be untenable.
Chair Paschal: From a practical standpoint, the PTRC pool is small enough that it is problematic.

Senator Rogers made a motion to amend by taking out “not more than three.” It was seconded. Now, there is discussion about the motion to amend the motion.
Senator Oppenheimer: We wanted to make the committee more broadly experienced and not less.
Vice Chair-elect Bobby Bodenheimer: As a practical matter, do you ever have more than 3 PTRC members on these committees?
Past Chair Shepherd: Not to my knowledge.
Senator Rogers: It seems to me that we need as many PTRC members as possible since they are the most knowledgeable about how the tenure process works.

Chair Paschal called a show of hands on the motion to amend. The motion to amend the motion failed 17-5.

She then said that we are back to the original motion. She called for a show of hands on the original motion. The motion passed 24-2. Chair Paschal thanked the committee for its hard work on this issue.

Next Item on the Agenda – Good of the Senate and Adjournment

Chair Paschal asked for any good of the senate information. She reminded senators about upcoming meetings and also reminded them to send nominations for chair-elect and vice chair-elect to Program Coordinator Andrea Hewitt-Gibson.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Roberts,
Vice Chair