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: Atack, 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.
Ex Officio Members absent: Barz (regrets), Bernard (regrets), Fortune, Miller, Stulp, Wcislo (regrets), Wente (regrets), 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 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.