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: Attack (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.
Next Item on the Agenda – New Business: Student Alcohol and Prescription Drug Use Task Force report: Mary Yarborough, chair

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.

Next Item on the Agenda – Discussion of Online Education Issues: Ranga Ramanujam

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.