Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of May 10, 2010

Introduction of Executive Committee, Standing Committee Chairs/Task Force Chair, and New Senators

Report of the Executive Committee (Brian Christman, Chair of the Faculty Senate)

Remarks by Chancellor Nick Zeppos

Presentation of committee charges for 2010-2011

New business

Poll on Student Life's Honor System Charge – Student Life Chair Mavis Schorn

Good of the Senate

Adjournment to reception (in the Atrium between Frist and Godchaux Halls)

Voting Members absent: Bradford, Braxton (regrets), Carbone, Collins, Fischer (regrets), Galloway, Gervais (regrets), Guthrie, Halpern (regrets), March (regrets), R. Miller, Nanney (regrets), Oppenheimer, Peek, Smrekar, Winder (regrets), Yarbrough, and Wait (regrets).

Ex Officio Members present: Bandas, Damon, Fife, Fortune, McCarty, McNamara, Raiford, Stalcup, Sweet, Wcislo, Wente, and Zeppos.

Ex Officio Members absent: Bernard (regrets), B. Miller (regrets), Paschal (regrets), Roberts (regrets), Williams, and Wright.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Brian Christman.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of Minutes of May 10, 2010

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

Next Item on the Agenda – Introduction of Executive Committee, Standing Committee Chairs/Task Force Chair, and New Senators

Chair Christman gave an overview of the functions of the Senate, and the power of the Senate. He said that the Faculty Senate has a seat at the table, and access to administrative leadership. He gave an overview of the Senate achievements last year. He then introduced the standing committee chairs and the task force chair. He also recognized the new senators.

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of Executive Committee

Chair Christman went over the work of the Executive Committee over the summer, which included the Senate retreat, Founder’s Day and the Fall Faculty Assembly.

Chair Christman then turned the floor over to Chancellor Zeppos. He mentioned that the Senate would like to know more about the 60 new faculty chairs announced at the Fall Faculty Assembly.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Chancellor Zeppos welcomed everyone to the new academic year. He answered Chair Christman’s questions about the new faculty chairs by stating that we are in a very strong position to do this. He said that we will use the processes already in place in the schools to award these chairs. Some of these chairs will be restricted. He added that we try to get them funded with as broad a description as possible, but some will be restricted by the terms of the gifts. He said that we will look to the faculty, department, and deans to
evaluate these chairs. There is always the question of how many will be used for recruiting (the internal/external issue), and we will try and keep them balanced. He then opened the floor for more questions.

Chair-elect David Weintraub: Is the money already in place to do this?
Chancellor Zeppos: Yes. It may be that the money is still coming in, but over 90% of it is in.

Chair Christman: Can you address the Chronicle of Higher Education article about very high administrative salaries at Vanderbilt?
Chancellor Zeppos: Let me give you some background. Also, I would like to give you my view on administrative compensation in general. First, those were not salary figures. In 2007, my predecessor said that he was going to stay at Vanderbilt. Then, he resigned, and I was given the title of Interim Chancellor. Outside consultants are used by the Board to help decide pay, and the administrative salaries are voted on by the Board—I don’t get a say in any of this. When Gordon Gee left, there was a worry that some administrators might take their retirement and leave. The Board decided to keep them all. There was a retirement package in place for all upper level administrators at that time. There are no plans like this any longer. These were legal distributions that people were owed, not salaries.

My view of administrative compensation: I pay them market rates. I want very well-paid administrators. We do a salary survey of our peer institutions, and that’s how we set their rates. The total cost of the administrative team is less now than it was before. It is market-driven, set by the Board of Trust, and data-driven. No one is allowed to serve on a for-profit board who works on my administrative team. I think it’s important for the administrators to give back to the university.

Hearing no other questions, Chair Christman thanked Chancellor Zeppos for his remarks.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation of committee charges for 2010-2011

Chair Christman presented the standing committee charges and task force charges for the 2010-2011 academic year (link: http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/commit.htm).

Next Item on the Agenda – New business- Poll on Student Life's Honor System Charge

Chair Schorn passed out electronic clickers to the senators and they participated in a poll about the honor system and how it works. This information will help inform the work of the Student Life committee on Vanderbilt’s honor councils this year.

Next Item on the Agenda – Good of the Senate and Adjournment
Chair Christman asked for any business under “good of the senate.” Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn to the welcome reception. Motion was presented and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Bodenheimer,
Vice Chair