



Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Online Zoom Meeting

Present:

Best, Douglas	Johnston, Caroline	Bess, Angela
Clemmons, Lee	Kelley, Emily	Gracey, Lisa
Coppinger, Whitney	Kiolbasa, Mary	Higgins, Ed
Jackson, Donald	Linski, Jamie	Maddox, Lynn
Taylor, Susan	Porter, Beth	Berry, Courtney
Carter, Marsha	Baquera, Felisha	Bourgoin, Jeremy
Hill, Olivia	McKeever-Burgett, Adam	Farst, Paige
Conwell, Patrick	Nashabi, Maya	Jones, Michael
Davis, Jessamyn	Wang, Rong "Joanne"	Templeton, Alison
Pring, Michael	Cooley, Emma	Cole, Victoria
Bennett, Jennifer	Dixon, Michele	Hastings, Lynn
Bishop, Faith	Johnson, Denise	Mundy, Meaghan
Dawson, Toni Renee	Majewski, Ashley	Rall, Kathleen
Ingram, Donna	Ripley, Kate	Sims, Beth
Lawrence Givens, Tiffany	Walker, Susan	
Hansbrough, Sean	Butner, Sean	
Hollifield, Michael	Harding, Amanda	
LeBlanc, Jennifer	Mullen, Becky	
Loudon, Jeff	Steffanick, Adam	
Lowe, Deni	Weisbrodt, Cathy	
Robinson, Antonio	Putnam, Sara	
Rutledge, Scott	Noote, Allie	
Wolff, Jeannette	Jones, Haley	
Bordenstein, Sarah	Smith, Amy	
Brown, Jacquelyn	Woodruff, Karen	
Cherry, Sandy	Osinski, Keegan	
Pickert, Donald	Fuchs Hritz, Kathleen	
Smith, LaDonna	Johnson, Faye (Linda)	
	Yockey, Heather	

Not Present:

Barclay, Samantha
Cedzich, Michele
Clair Brigman, Clair
Halman, Michelle
Crowhurst, Stace
Armstrong, Anjelica
Bennett, Garrett
Engstrom, Steven
Fox, Anita
Anuj Rastogi, Anuj
Turner, Kimberly
Martin, Robert
Artus, Meagan
Carroll, Chantry
Perry, Will
Williams, Tara
Luffman, Josh
Stiles, David
Manlove, Sharon
Graham, Kashif
Griffin, Shore
Kamtarin, Shahpar
Anderson, Matthew
Charley, Myles
Sanders, Sara
Watkins, Katelen
Fields, Craig
Jensen, Lena
Mullane, Courtney
King, Amanda
Gibson, Madison
Nelson, Roberta (Rob)

Guest:

Bourgoin, Jeremy
Brooks, Bari
Moore, Teea
Nairon, Laura
Sierra, Bryn
Smith, Janet

WELCOME

Caroline Johnson, President, called meeting to order at 8:30am

- Welcome

NEW and OLD BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Minutes – March
 - Approval delayed
- Karen Dolan Spirit Award
 - Submissions are open through April 23rd
- Employee Hardship Fund – Kroger Card
 - These funds go directly to support the Faculty and Staff Hardship Fund for those employees experience temporary hardships.
 - More information can be found her for both Kroger Community Rewards and the Faculty and staff Hardship Fund, <https://www.vumc.org/health-wellness/news-resource-articles/faculty-and-staff-hardship-fund>
- Executive Committee Position Speeches
 - Secretary – open need candidates
 - Treasurer – 3 candidates
 - VP/President Elect – Amanda Harding
- Share Your Story
 - One year later: Faces of Vandy Response to COVID
- ByLaw Amendment
 - Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee changed to standing committee
 - Accepted and approved

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee, Jeff Loudon and Ashley Majewshi Co-Chairs

- Next meeting - Friday at 10 a.m.
- Focusing on website FAQ's
- Social Media Submission form
- Communications Co-Chair needed for next year

Events Committee, Amanda King and Jennifer Bennett Co-Chairs

- Next Meeting – 4/27 1pm
- Virtual Happy Hour – following Spring Staff Assembly
 - May 20th
- Virtual Coffee Break
 - Every Other Wednesday 10AM
 - Coffee Break registration <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/usac/events/events.php>

Membership Committee, Cathy Weisbrodt and Lynn Hastings Co-Chairs

- April Birthdays
- Meet a USAC Member
- Election Update
 - All Odd Groups

- April 19: Elections Go Live
- Meet at USAC Member: *Amanda Harding, Assistant Director, Vanderbilt Data Science Institute*

Rules and Administration, Sean Butner and David Stiles Co-Chairs

Staff Life, Amanda Harding and Jamie Linski, Co-Chairs

- Next Meeting: Wed, April 21st at 1pm
 - Send email if interested in attending meeting
- Learning and Engagement
 - <https://hr.vanderbilt.edu/ele/workshopinfo.php>

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) – Denise Johnson & Antonio Robinson Co-Chairs

- Next Meeting: April 22, 2021 - 9a.m. zoom
- Heritage Calendar Poster
 - April – Autistic Pride Month

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Billy Teets, Director, Dyer Observatory and Resident Astronomer

- Located in Brentwood, TN
- Division of Gov & Community Relations
- Historic VU facility dedicated to inspiring students and the public in science through astronomy and space exploration
- Founded in 1953
- VU first observatory was where Rand Hall now stands – 1875
- History of Astronomy at VU - Landon Garland
 - 1st Chancellor of VU
 - 1st Chair of Physics and Astronomy Dept
- Dr Edward Emerson Barnard
 - Discovered Barnard's Loop with advanced photography
 - Barnard's Star – moves across sky at fastest rate
 - Discovered 5th moon of Jupiter
 - Barnard's Galaxy – 1884
- Named after one of Main Donor – Founders
 - Arthur J. Dyer
- Seyfert Telescope – largest telescope at Dyer
- Star Chamber
 - Complete in 2006 by Chris Drury
 - Walk-in camera obscura
- Events
 - Open Houses with telescopes open for viewing
 - Telescope Nights – 2nd Friday of month
 - Several telescopes open

- Presentation studio for virtual events
 - Virtual telescope nights over zoom
 - Presenters from all over
- Dyer.vanderbilt.edu for events
- Meet the Astronomer Lectures
- Summer Camps 5th through 8th Graders
- Concerts
- Corporate Retreats
- Wildlife
 - Owls, wild turkeys, deer, etc.
- Social Media - @dyerobservers

Krista Vaught, Employee Learning & Engagement

- Upcoming learning experiences at <http://vanderbi.lt/ele-workshops>
- Podcast - PodTalks
- Thought Leader Series – expert and opinion leaders

CLOSING REMARKS

Tiffany Givins, President

- Next Meeting:
 - Tuesday, May 11, 2021
 - Time: 8:30 am
 - Location: Zoom

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am.

Our Vision: Through communication, consultation, and service, the Council will promote a strong partnership among the staff, faculty, students, and administration of Vanderbilt University.