

## University Staff Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

**Date:** January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
**Meet Time:** 8:30a.m. – 10:00a.m.  
**Meeting Location:** **Rand function Room, Sarratt Student Center**

**Attendees:** Jean Alley, Becky Atack, Diane Banks, Lora Barnett, John Brassil, Beth Clark, Mary Clissold, Sue Davis, Mary Ann Dean, Sheri DiGiovanna, Marcia Dillard, Michele Dixon, Daniel Dubois, Jeffery Duly, Sterling Frierson, Kate Gilbreath, Robin Guest, Carol Guth, Sharone Hall, Shirley Hiltz, Jason Hunt, Faye Johnson, Kristin Koval, Ginger Leger, Robert Martin, Joyce Matthews, Mary Kay Matthys, Cheryl McClure, Jackie McMath, Kelli McQuiston, Brenda McKee, Ginny McLean-Swartzell, Shelley Meadows, Ronnie Pepper, Don Pickert, Kit Potter, Don Pruitt, Kathy Rhodes, Robert Rich, Andy Richter, Karen Seezen, Mike Smeltzer, Brian Smokler, Carol Soren, Roger Stearns, Dan Steward, Courtney Taylor, Molly Thompson, Carlos Trenary, Kay Tyler, Mary Clark Webb, Lolita White, Susan Widmer, Amy Williams, Cliff Wilson, Melissa Wocher, Jeff Youngblood

**Regrets:** Allison Bush, Brad Awalt, Ken Carter, Kevin Colon, Michael Crowe, Karen Daniel, Richard Dennison, Shawn Fagan, Traci Ferrell, Sara Fincher, Sandie Frantz, Debbie Frizzell, Antoinette Hicks, Nancy Holcroft, Kathy Hutchison, Rosalind Johnson, Michael Jones, Brandy Kahlig, Sue King, Holly Larson, Julie Martin, Camilla Meek, Craig Nance, John Nesbitt, JoAnn Patterson, Linda Rebenstorf, Sandra Robinson, Lynn Smith, Dennis Spann, Jim Webb

**Visitors:** Nick Zeppos, Jane Bruce, Cliff Joyner, Lauren Brisky, Sherry Willis, Diana Wohlfahrt

President Cliff Wilson called meeting to order

Approval of the December Minutes, mistake in December minutes, stated that the FAQs were on the USAC Web site, correction FAQs will be on the site soon, but not yet on there. Minutes approved with revision, second, approved.

Introduction of guests Lauren Brisky, Jane Bruce and Cliff Joyner

### **Committee Reports:**

Communications (Ginny McLean-Swartzell) – auto population of distribution lists is done, are they working? Someone says yes they are. If there are any issues with the auto populate let Ginny or John Brassil know. FAQs are being worked on and should be posted on the Web site soon. Glenna Underhill will be attending the January executive board meeting to talk about the Web site, anyone who wishes to come the meeting will be on Jan.22 at 11:30 am in Featheringill Hall.

Events (Faye Johnson) – Upcoming events are a Blood drive in February, more details to come. Committee is evaluating whether it will be worthwhile to partner with the Medical Center Staff Advisory Council in a joint presence at the Benefits Fair in the fall.

Membership (Andy Richter) – Please stand and welcome to new members Robert Martin and Ronnie Pepper. Please remember to sign the sign in sheet before you leave, as you will receive a reminder e-mail about absence if you are not signed in; please let us know if you wish to serve on a committee.

Rules and Admin (Diane Banks) – Nothing to report at this time.

Staff Life (Shelly Meadows) – Officially now Staff Life, FAQs are coming to the USAC Web site soon. If you would like to attend the Staff Life meeting this month for input on FAQs the meeting is Thursday Jan. 17 at 9 am in the University Registrar's Conference Room in the Old Home Econ building on Peabody Campus

More information about each committee can be found on the USAC website at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/usac/committees.html>

### **New Business:**

Ginny McLean-Swartzell from Benefits Office provides initial information about Benefits Fair scheduled for September 25, 2008 at the Student Life Center. The event is scheduled before Open Enrollment to help faculty and staff prepare for 2009 benefits elections. More information about this event to come at a later date.

### **Feature: “Vanderbilt Overview”**

Nick Zeppos, Interim Chancellor, Vanderbilt University

Welcome and Introduction of Nick Zeppos:

Cliff reads aloud Nick Zeppos' Bio, file included here



Zeppos bio 2007  
abbreviated.doc

Interim Chancellor Zeppos starts off by talking about the State of the University; he believes the University is doing great. He agrees that a great institution should run itself even if the Chancellor is gone; history shows Vanderbilt is a strong resilient Institution and is extraordinary in this way because of the people who work here. People who he says come in everyday with a single purpose, to fulfill the mission of Vanderbilt, to believe in the students and the education of young people for the success of our future. This is why Vanderbilt is so great. Indicators for Vanderbilt's strength are:

- Overall Financial picture is stronger than ever even through a year of transition
- Academic stability
- Employable stability
- New Freshman Campus (Commons), by inviting faculty and staff back to campus to enrich young people

- Diversity of our school
- Everything we are doing on the student side is about education
- Faculty side, best people in the country
- Strength and Diversity

Interim Chancellor Zeppos also talked about a new Librarian and the future of the Library with grand vision. He believes that we need to figure out how to get information to students, and with the help of this Chief Information officer as he calls it; there are plans to reconstruct or construct a new library, a library of the future.

He does admit that medical healthcare is a challenge and will continue to be a challenge in the light of the unknown future of the government. Not to mention oil and inflation.

As for growth we are continuing the project at One Hundred Oaks and are trying to determine what can reside off campus and what needs to remain here.

A special addition from Interim Chancellor Zeppos - "I feel lucky to work here, I thank you all for working here and your commitment and dedication, I think Vanderbilt is one of the most distinctive institutions in the country, it is great to be in a University setting with community and environment".

Q. Are you changing the face of Athletics?

A. My motto is if it is not broken, don't fix it, it is important to win the right way

Q. You said there will be fewer graduates from High School?

A. After the year 2011 there will just be fewer graduates, and they will be a mosaic diverse group of incoming students.

Q. With the Library will there be a new building?

A. Whatever will suit our needs, and what is possible space wise, maybe additions to existing building, faculty, staff, experts and architects will all play a role in the planning. Learning, discovery and knowledge is our future library, a place for research and discovery.

Q. Is there a search for Kevin Myatt's replacement?

A. Lauren Brisky replies; that position needs to be a Chancellor hire, Lenon Coleman has been asked to step in as interim, he has done a great job keeping programs and momentum up and running as usual. Our focus for this year is operations and compliance.

Mr. Zeppos: Compliance and costs, we are regulated to an extreme and that is not going to change. There has to be dedication to the highest principles, honesty and integrity.

Q. What are areas where staff can help improve things?

A. Believe in the mission, trust, respect and like the people you work with. Commitment to mission and faculty/staff cooperation could be better. The institution should inspire you!

Q. How do you like being Chancellor?

A. I like it, I love learning institutions, and contributing to making things better is always been my mission. I am honored to be interim Chancellor.

Q. Are you going to be the next Chancellor?

A. I do not even think about it. I just do the work on my desk. Vanderbilt will continue to thrive and I will continue to do my best at each job I am in. I do hope the search will be resolved soon.

Interim Chancellor Zeppos thanked everyone for their time and letting him speak, he says you are phenomenal people, all Vanderbilt employees are.

Cliff adjourns the meeting