



## Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, November 13, 2018

### The Commons, Multi-Purpose Room

#### **Present:**

Barclay, Samantha  
 Clemmons, Lee  
 Davis, Jessamyn  
 Hughey, Jasen  
 Pring, Michael  
 Gibson, Madison  
 Blackledge, Phillip  
 Hall, Andy  
 Linn, David  
 Loudon, Jeff  
 Richter, Andy  
 Rutledge, Scott  
 Woche, Melissa  
 Caldwell, Caroline  
 Cruise-Streat, Kirra  
 Linski, Jamie  
 Little, Geoff  
 Porter, Beth  
 Baquera, Felisha  
 Carlson, Robin  
 Benitone, Hastings  
 Cahill, Bess  
 Ingram, Donna  
 Lawrence Givens,  
 Tiffany  
 Luffman, Josh  
 Renee Dawson, Toni

Smothers, Natalia  
 Stiles, David  
 Walker, Susan  
 Barrow, Terri  
 Biqiku, Laurel  
 Heaton, Ashley  
 Wachter, Michelle  
 Weisbrodt, Cathy  
 Sprague, Megan  
 Upchurch, Jodie  
 Meadows, Shelley  
 Fann, Drew  
 Hamilton, Brittini  
 Higgins, Ed  
 Roche, Morgan  
 Sanders, Sara  
 Fields, Craig  
 Mandeville, Jenny  
 Brown, Harold  
 Malveaux, Nicole  
 Morris, Diana  
 Nelson, Roberta  
 Malone, Amelia  
 Cooley, Emma  
 Dixon, Michele  
 Johnson, Denise  
 Majewski, Ashley  
 Grant, Deborah  
 Manlove, Sharon

Itkin, Alan  
 Maci, Christine  
 Wilson, Alexandria  
 Brooks, Kay  
 Korab, Emily  
 King, Amanda

#### **Not Present:**

Bonner, Stacey  
 Choate, Corey  
 Daughtdrill, Latrice  
 Erickson, Catherine  
 Taylor, Susan  
 Carney, Kathy  
 Marshall, Paul  
 Waits, Robert  
 Fox, Anita  
 Harbin, Rachel  
 Oliver, Leshuan  
 Perry, Alexis  
 Brassil, John  
 Wolff, Jeanette  
 Brown, Kenneth  
 Miller, Amber  
 Moore, LaTisha  
 Pickert, Donald  
 Poindexter, Jeana  
 Jones, Christopher

Williams, Tara  
 Sims, Beth  
 Kane, Kimberly  
 Clark, Joanna  
 Sefcik, Stephanie  
 Smith, Amy  
 Flippo, Laura  
 Graham, Kashif  
 Kamtarin, Shahpar  
 Harvey, Gregory  
 Luce, Nathaniel  
 Scott, Carjamin  
 Eckert, Danielle  
 Jones, Eric  
 Ruiz, Carlos  
 Halman, Malina  
 Robinson-Nichols, Ursula  
 Westrom, Lynn

**Guests:**  
 Kopstain, Eric  
 Erickson, Catherine  
 Glasgow, Scotty  
 Carroll, Barb  
 Wood, Catherine  
 Hicks, Chris  
 Dimopoulos, Kathleen  
 Ervin, Heidi  
 Hopkins, Peggy  
 Jerles, Lori  
 Lee, Brooke  
 Linn, David  
 Pachmayr, Rachel  
 Terrel, Tiffany  
 Moore, Teea  
 Renuka, Christoph  
 Bauer, Emilee  
 Garcia, Jennifer

**Sent Regrets:**

Stanard, Ray  
 Karls, Aletha  
 Shook, Elisabeth  
 McChesney, Bailey  
 Steinas, Jason  
 Morgan, Rachel  
 Rall, Kathleen

**OLD & NEW BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Jenny Mandeville, President, called meeting to order at 8:30 am*

- Approval of September & October minutes
- Our next meeting on December 11 will be our annual Holiday meeting and will be potluck in theme. More information to come.
- Elf Program Collection:
  - Merchant gift cards for families in need
  - Partnership with faculty staff hardship fund & Work Life Connections - EAP
- Stay connected to USAC via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
- Make sure to sign up to contribute to the employee hardship fund via Kroger Plus Card

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Events Committee, co-chairs Shelley Meadows & Amanda King*

- Nashville Humane Holiday Drive
  - Collection Dates: Nov 19-30
  - Contacts: Felisha Baquera, Amanda King and Shelley Meadows

*Membership Committee, co-chairs Tara Williams & Caroline Caldwell*

- Welcome new member, Jessamyn Davis!
- Spring elections will effect odd groups only – if you know an interested colleague, inform them of the upcoming election for odd groups
- Thank you to our greeters!
- Happy birthday to November birthdays!
- Meet a USAC Member: Geoff Little, Assistant Director of Prospect Research in Research and Prospect Development

*Communications Committee, co-chairs Carlos Ruiz & Carjamin Scott*

- No new business to report

*Rules and Administration, co-chairs Ashely Heaton & Emily Korab*

- No new business to report

*Staff Life, co-chairs Elisabeth Shook & Kay Brooks*

- Our group is gathering and assessing health benefits from other institutions regarding retirement benefits
- Next meeting will be Tues Nov 27 at 10:00 am, 311F Kirkland Hall

*Barb Carroll, HR Benefits*

- 98% of the Vanderbilt community participated in open enrollment which is a terrific rate!
- Thank you to USAC for getting our message out.
- 2/3 elected the PPO while 1/3 elected the CDHP
- Retirement benefits have been discussed with University leadership and are still under consideration.
- Honored with an award of \$6,000 and is graciously giving it to the Employee Hardship Fund.

*Alan Itkin, Dean MLAS Program; Assistant Dean, Master of Liberal Arts and Science*

- Program structure: 10 courses over two to three and a half years, including one core course (intensive instruction in writing and research) and one capstone seminar
- Students take one or two classes a term
- Classes taught by full-time VU faculty
- Classes offered in the evening one day a week
- Classes in fall, spring, and summer
- Classes are taught by fully established faculty professors
- Program Benefits;
  - Attain an advanced degree from a top-15 University

- Flexible part-time schedule
- Study with highly accomplished VU scholars and teachers
- Craft curriculum to suit your interests
- Be part of a community of curious minded, intellectually engaged adults
- Produce a capstone project that combines your interests with your MLAS studies
- Low costs for VVU employees
- Can be used to progress career
- Tuition is set at \$2,952 per three-hour class
- VU employees get a 70% discount on one class per term which would equate to \$885 per class, if only 1 class is taken each term
- Review of Fall 2018 classes
- Changes to course offerings
  - More diverse course offerings, including classes in sciences (no math required!)
  - More courses offered from 11 each year to 14-15
  - Partnerships with outside institutions and community members
- Application process – apply online at [www.apply.vanderbilt.edu](http://www.apply.vanderbilt.edu)
- Application requires:
  - All undergraduate transcripts
  - Three letters of recommendation
  - Resume
  - Statement of Purpose
  - In-person interview with Dr. Itkin will be scheduled after application materials have been submitted
  - No hard, firm application deadline but by end of holiday break is recommended
- Spring Open House: Wednesday January 9, 6-7 pm, Cohen Memorial Hall
  - 6:00 – 6:30
- Director: Dr. Alan Itkin, 311E Kirkland Hall, phone: 615-875-9189, email: [mlas@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:mlas@vanderbilt.edu)

Vanessa Beasley, Associate Provost and Dean of Residential Faculty

- Residential Colleges: A Vision for the Future
- Residential College Timeline
  - Commons open Aug 2008
  - Warren & Moore Colleges open Aug 2014
  - RC-A begin Dec 2017
  - E. Bronson Ingram College open Aug 2018
  - Plan for RC-B begins
  - RC-A completed | Plan for RC-C begins

- Plan for RC-B completed
- Plan for RC-C completed
- Takes a little more than 2 years to create each building
- Three broad goals:
  - Community Building
  - Faculty Engagement
  - Connections to Campus Resources
- Each residential colleges system is strategically random and begins an ability to learn from other people who may be different
- Residential colleges allows you to engage in faculty members in a different way and get to know them as people
- Vanderbilt is resource rich and letting our students know who to talk to and where to go is important
- We purposefully slow down our residential colleges as a means to slow down. Think about our residential colleges as a “third space” – a place to get away from the classroom or individual dorm room.
- Faculty heads of house serve as faculty mentor, role model, and guide who shapes the living and learning community of the house.
- Push the importance of getting them to know all different levels of staff
- Welcome Sarah Igo ,Associate Professor of History and Director of American Studies
- Rev. James M. Lawson, Jr., distinguished visiting professor – personally experienced the civil rights movement
- Beverly Daniel Tatum, President Emerita, Spelman College – Crawford Lecture – Talked about inclusion among women and people
- The Wond’ry – pop-up events, on-site office hours, workshop, invited speakers
- Residential College Experience: learning outcomes of the first year students: Intellect, Personal well-being, community, cultural awareness, self-discovery – each of these areas will change and develop in each students as they progress in their education
- What’s ahead:
  - Provost working group on second year experience
  - Applying principles beyond the RC’s
  - Visiting fellows and Chancellor U
  - Graduate and professional student engagement
  - New signature events
- It takes a lot of people from all over campus to make this happen.

#### Questions;

- Have you heard if the students have had a better experience with faculty, etc. since the Commons opened?

- *Post-Commons, students report as having a higher level confidence regarding interactions to faculty outside of the classroom? Also, faculty has advised that they have changed their teaching methods because they are more aware of students' activities.*
- Where do the students in Towers go when it gets demolished?
  - *We will be granting more students the ability to have VU Real Estate partnership housing, off-campus housing, and there is a plan to make sure there is no economic hardship among our students.*
- What are your thoughts on the additional scooters on campus?
  - *VUJ has interest to reduce cars and our carbon footprint. However, as a result, there is an increase in motorized scooters from other companies and other means of transportation. Discussions with accessibility and the desire to make everyone safe is very important.*
- Is there anything weird, unusual, unexpected that has happened to you?
  - *About 2-3 times a year, somebody will knock on my door who is very distraught. We all have our responsibility to report any incident that could put somebody in danger.*

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

*Jenny Mandeville, President*

- Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Commons Center, multi-purpose room and will be a potluck. Please look for more information within the next few weeks.

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:58 am**