

Vanderbilt University
Faculty Senate Meeting
September 6, 2007, 4:15 p.m.
Room 140, Frist Hall

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of May 7, 2007

Introduction of Executive Committee, Standing Committee Chairs, and New Senators

Report of the Executive Committee
Bruce Barry, Chair of the Faculty Senate

Remarks by Interim Chancellor Nicholas Zeppos

Regarding the Chancellor Search – Remarks by:

- Randolph Blake, Centennial Professor of Psychology and Chief of Staff for the Chancellor Search Committee
- James Hudnut-Beumler, Dean of the Divinity School and Chair of the Chancellor Search Advisory Committee

Summary of the State of University Athletics:
David Williams, Vice Chancellor for University Affairs

Presentation of committee charges for 2007-2008

New business

Good of the Senate

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

Voting Members present: Ahner, Armour, Barry, Bernard, Blair, Bloch, Braxton, Burk, Calico, DeHart, Dowdy, Eisenberg, Emeson, Ernst, Gabbe, Hiebert, Hudnut-Beumler, Jennings, Kirshner, McCarty, McLendon, Medina, Neely, Norden, Oliver, Paschal, Piston, Reisenberg, Reschly, Retzlaff, Roberts, Rousseau, Sharpley-Whiting, Shepherd, Shields, Stone, Wcislo, Weller, and Wood.

Voting Members absent: Benbow, Bradford, Breyer, Carter (regrets), Christie, Conway-Welch, Fogo, Galloway, Lindquist, Moore, Rubin, Sandler (regrets), Shiavi (regrets), Slovis (regrets), Steinberg, Wait (regrets), Wasserstein (regrets), and Yarbrough.

Ex Officio Members present: Brisky, Fuchs, Gherman, Hall, McNamara, Sandler, Schoenfeld, Tolk, Williams, and Zeppos.

Ex Officio Members absent: Balsler, Barge, Chalkley, Gotterer (regrets), Jacobson, and Outlaw.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Bruce Barry.

Next Item on the Agenda – Approval of the May 7, 2007 minutes

Minutes from the 5/7/07 meeting were reviewed and Chair Barry asked for any corrections or adjustments. Hearing none, he stated that the minutes stand approved.

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

Chair Barry introduced the Executive Committee, Committee chairs and new senators (more information at: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/execut07.htm>).

Next Item on the Agenda – Report of the Executive Committee

Chair Barry gave an overview of the Senate for newcomers. He said that the Senate can weigh-in or opine on anything and the administration is required to respond. He reminded all senators that they are a member of a standing committee within the Senate. He added that deans are voting members of the Senate, too. He stated that the Senate has its own Rules of Order and when an issue arises that the Rules of Order doesn't address, we follow Roberts Rule of Order. He said that he will try to start and end the meetings on time. He said that the Senate also appoints a parliamentarian, and that Bill Damon is our new parliamentarian for the year. He introduced Andrea Hewitt-Gibson as the Senate Program Coordinator. He mentioned that the committees have already started meeting and dealing with important issues. He reminded the senators that the October meeting is a special executive session. He mentioned that what we will be doing for most of the meeting is meeting with members of the Chancellors Search Advisory committee and members of the Board of Trust. Chair Barry then introduced Interim Chancellor Nick Zeppos.

Next Item on the Agenda – Remarks by the Interim Chancellor

Chancellor Zeppos said that the year is off to a great start. He emphasized that the most important thing is how the faculty and students are doing. There is a lot of excitement on the campus. He mentioned that parts of the Commons are now open. He mentioned the potential that the space has to build community. He also mentioned the lease with 100 Oaks, and that part of the medical center is moving to that location, and it will be the largest footprint off-campus. He said that Vanderbilt's presence in the community is very important. Vanderbilt's core mission is basic research and patient care at the highest level. He said that he has a very ambitious agenda ahead for this year, and he expects

that the Senate will be active and engaged. He asked for any questions. Hearing none, he thanked the Senate for the opportunity to speak.

Next Item on the Agenda – Regarding the Chancellor Search

Chair Barry then introduced Professor Randolph Blake, Chief of Staff for the Chancellor's Search, and Dean Jim Hudnut-Beumler, head of the Chancellor's Search Advisory Committee.

Professor Blake said that his job is to organize and coordinate all of the activities of the search. He gave the timeline for the chancellor search process. The goal is to have all of these activities completed by the end of October. He reminded the senators about the Chancellor Search's web page (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/chancellorsearch/>).

Dean Hudnut-Beumler passed out copies of the web-based survey. He said that the Committee will be holding listening sessions with select groups of faculty, students, and administrators over the next months. He said that the committee's purpose is to provide a detailed report to the Board of Trust Search committee so that we can let them know what we think is good about Vanderbilt. He said that his committee is also going to be asking for suggestions for possible chancellor nominees in the world of research, medicine, and higher education. He then opened the floor for questions.

Senator Cynthia Paschal: Remind me of your different roles?

Dean Hudnut-Beumler: I am chair of the Advisory Committee. One other comment: the BOT members are remarkably interested in faculty and having the opportunities to attend these listening sessions.

Professor Blake: I am Chief of Staff of the Search. My job is to coordinate the activities and, if asked, to summarize what I've heard at the listening session.

Senator Jose Medina: Is the Senate going to be involved in the process beyond the October 11 listening session?

Dean Hudnut-Beumler: Our input is at the beginning of the process, and continues only if the BOT members come back and ask for additional input. We have a fairly narrow window to speak frankly.

Professor Blake: The consultants plan to meet with the Senate Executive Committee. But send any nominations to me personally. Or you can send them to the anonymous email address online.

Senator Ginny Shepherd: Our Senate chair, Bruce Barry, is also a member of the Advisory Committee.

Professor Blake reminded everyone that he is also member of the Search Committee.

Senator David Wood: Does the Advisory Committee have a sense of what sort of advice you are asked to provide?

Dean Hudnut-Beumler: We are not being asked to resolve all residual matters. We will do our best work if we give a clear and entire picture of any issue.

Chair Barry thanked Dean Hudnut-Beumler and Professor Blake for their presentation.

Next Item on the Agenda – Summary of the State of University Athletics

Chair Barry introduced David Williams, Vice Chancellor for University Affairs to give a summary of the State of University Athletics.

Vice Chancellor Williams said this past year was the best competitive year we've ever had. He said that the GPAs have remained the same. He said that student-athletes come during summer school and they have to get a 2.0 GPA in order to play in the fall. He said that this past year, for the first time ever, athletics turned a small profit. This is a huge change from four years ago when the budget operated at a \$4 million deficit. He added that Lou Outlaw is our new Faculty Athletic Representative.

He asked for any questions or comments.

Dean Richard McCarty: Elizabeth Wright is great to work with in the Academic Advising office.

Hearing no other questions, he thanked the Senate for the opportunity to give his presentation.

Next Item on the Agenda – Presentation of committee charges for 2007-2008

Chair Barry thanked David Williams for his presentation. He then asked the standing committee chairs to present their committee charges for 2007-2008 (more information at: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/commit.htm>).

Next Item on the Agenda – New Business and Good of the Senate

Chair Barry then called for any items under New Business or Good of the Senate. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and was seconded. He then invited everyone to attend the reception immediately following the meeting outside the room in the Atrium.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Emeson,
Vice Chair