Minutes for Vanderbilt University Faculty Senate
December 8, 2022, Meeting

Attendees
Voting members in attendance: Alissa Hare, Amanda Shakal, Andrea Capizzi, Anna Richmond, Buddy Creech, Colleen Niswender, Dietmar Bisch, Elizabeth Catania, Emanuelle Oliveria-Monte, James Booth, Jan Price, Ji Hye Jung, Jonathan Sprinkle, Jonathan Waters, Joyce Johnson, Julie Vernon, Katherine Carroll, Katherine Friedman, Lisa Fazio, Marcy Singer-Gabella, ML Sandoz, Nicole Cobb, Peter Kolkay, Phil Lieberman, Phillip Franck, Rebecca Swan, Sara Martin, and Tamarya Hoyt.


Ex-officio members in attendance: Anders Hall, Cybele Raver, Daniel Diermeier, John Lutz, and John McLean.

Ex-officio members absent: Alex Sevilla, Amy Johnson, André Churchwell, Brett Sweet, Candice Lee, Cleo Rucker, David Raiford, Donald Brady, Doug Christiansen, Eric Kopstain, G.L. Black, Jennifer Pietenpol, Jon Shaw, Mark Magnuson, Nathan Green, Padma Raghavan, Pamela Jeffries, Ruby Shellaway, Steve Ertel, and Tracey George.

Guests in attendance: Kate Derrick, Sheree Wright, Elle Boeding, Elissa Moody, Stacey McCarty, and Susan Andrews.

In attendance on Zoom: Amanda Rose, Amy Johnson, André Churchwell, Claudine Taaffe, Cleo Rucker, David Raiford, Kate Clouse, Lauren Hammond, G.L. Black, Mark Magnuson, Pamela Jeffries, Shirley Schettino, Susie Leming-Lee, and Tracey Sharpless-Whiting.

Call to Order
A meeting of Vanderbilt Faculty Senate was held on December 8, 2022, at the Faculty Commons Room 200. It began at 4:11pm and was presided over by Chair Rebecca Swan, with Vice Chair Liz Catania as Secretary.

Quorum, as specified in the Faculty Senate Constitution (revised 4/5/2019) Article II.B.1., was not made with the recorded attendance of 28 voting members of the Faculty Senate. Chair Swan deferred voting to approve the minutes until quorum was made.

Quorum, as specified in the Faculty Senate Constitution (revised 4/5/2019) Article II B.1, requires 34 voting members in attendance. Recorded attendance was 28 members, therefore quorum was not met. Chair Swan deferred voting to approve the minutes until quorum was made.

Report of the Executive Committee
Chair Swan:

- Committees and task forces have continued to meet, and the executive committee has met with more Faculty Councils. This feedback will be shared with the Chancellor and Provost. The Vanderbilt
University/Vanderbilt University Medical Center Committee has met and will present early next semester. First senate update was published in MyVU on 11/16.

- Appreciate use of the website suggestion box. In the process of exploring additional modifications to the sound systems in the room and appreciate feedback.

- Nominations of spring faculty awards are open until the 20th—guidelines and other details have been sent out and the awards are presented at the Spring Faculty Assembly.

- Parking/transportation:
  - There will be a town hall meeting with Vice Chancellor Kopstain early next semester
  - 2019 data was used for MoveVU and the current survey is intended to reset mobility goals
    - Parking/transportation survey will now be sent annually
    - Questions about pricing were intended to gauge interest in different parking options
    - 36% survey response rate—the data is currently being analyzed and results will be shared with the Mobility and Transportation Planning Committee, University Staff Advisory Committee (USAC), and the Faculty Senate
  - Aware of the growth in our city/region and the impact that has on housing and transportation and these topics are all intertwined
    - Looking at data driven approaches to find solutions to this growing and ever-changing landscape

Chair Swan proceeded to the next item of business.

**Chancellor Remarks**

Chair Swan turned the floor over to Chancellor Diermeier.

Chancellor Diermeier:

- Spending a lot of time talking to faculty and getting perspectives. Receive emails and notifications daily about faculty who are doing amazing things such as receiving awards and funding. We are thriving in this core aspect of our mission. There are always issues that we will want to address and think about including parking and housing, which is inevitable in a growing region like ours.

- Not so optimistic about the overall state of higher education—there are some serious storm clouds
  - What we know from the data is that public opinion when it comes to higher education has been on a downward trajectory for a while and now is becoming worrisome
  - There are legislative initiatives at both the state and federal level targeting higher education related to endowments and research.
  - There is a cluelessness about how institutions and endowments work for the benefit and support of students and faculty.
  - We are working on this with our colleagues and partners at other universities. The way we are going to have an impact on this is by sharing the wonderful work our faculty are doing and the impact we are having on the world (breakthroughs across all subjects and departments).
    - We think that this is now an essential thing to do—not just a nice thing because we are losing the battle for public opinion.
    - This is something the Chancellor and Provost office will be focused on but we need the help and support of everyone and will share some more ideas of this at the beginning of the new year.

Chair Swan proceeded to the next item of business.
Standing Committee Reports
There were no standing committee reports.

Chair Swan proceeded to the next item of business.

Old Business
There was no old business.

Chair Swan proceeded to the next item of business.

New Business
There was no new business.

Chair Swan proceeded to the next item of business.

Scheduled Remarks
Chair Swan introduced Provost C. Cybele Raver

Provost Raver:

• Shared about the work of new Vice Provost of Arts and Libraries, Tracey Sharpley-Whiting, is doing to pull together and support faculty across the university in the arts.

• The arts offer a wonderful way to bridge Vanderbilt with the community and city of Nashville. Have put together committees with very specific charges to know how best to invest in the arts, which yielded 25 strategic objectives across 5 pillars:
  o Galleries, Performance Spaces, Creation Spaces
  o Civic Engagement and Community Partnerships
  o Communication
  o Curriculum and the Extra Curricular
  o International Engagement

• Civic Engagement and Community Partnerships Committee
  o There is a partnership between the Arts and Business Council and Vanderbilt, and Vice Provost Sharpley-Whiting was invited to join the board. They [Arts and Business Council] are helping to train our students and provide internship opportunities and in return we are assisting them with data systems.
  o We have a pre-collegiate program at Blair, and Blair students teach at W.O. Smith during the academic year. Dean Candelaria raised $5 million on providing pathways to higher education.
  o We currently spend money to send students to arts events-how can we think more strategically about this via subsidizing tickets/transportation for students/faculty to attend events?
  o Belcourt Theatre has a close relationship with Cinema and Media Arts through subsidizing ticket sales, and faculty discussions. Will continue to be involved in the Nashville Film Festival-this is a strong area of economic development to the city.
  o Make the campus more accessible to the community. We are an arboretum and have a tremendous sculpture collection and amazing architecture.
    ▪ Developing a self-guided tour that shows off various features of the campus with different themes/lengths. There will be self-guided and student-led options (encouraging students from underrepresented groups to serve in this capacity).
• National Museum of African American Music (NMAAM) partnership has not been actively nourished in the last year. We have recently released a pilot program that supports faculty who want to bring students in either for development or internship experiences.

• Some partnerships in the works: creative writing program with The Porch, maker space and bridge between WeHo [Wedgewood-Houston] and the campus.

Chair Swan opened the floor to questions from the senate.

• Question: What about summer camp? There were always art programs and seems like a great opportunity for community outreach, faculty work, and undergraduate development
  o Provost Raver: Blair had a camp for music scoring for video games. Recently there have been very clear restrictions about minors on campus which may be why we have had to cut back on this. We are considering ways to leverage our campus more actively over the summer.

• Comment: Not sure if you are aware the Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies has a K-12 program for local schools.

• Question: Can you comment on how Vanderbilt Art Walks is going to intersect with programs like Nashville Sights?
  o Provost Raver: This is why these meetings are so exciting because I had no idea about that.

Chair Swan proceeded to the next item of business.

Good of the Senate

Chair Swan:

• Quorum was not established, and December meeting minutes will be voted on in the next full senate meeting on February 2, 2023.

• The next Senate Meeting on January 12, 2023, is for elected Senators only.

• Thanked everyone for being supportive and for their work in committees and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Chair Swan proceeded to the next item of business.

Adjournment

It was moved that the meeting should be adjourned. There was a second and the meeting adjourned at 4:47pm.

February 2, 2023

Liz Catania, Secretary
Faculty Senate Vice Chair

Date of Approval