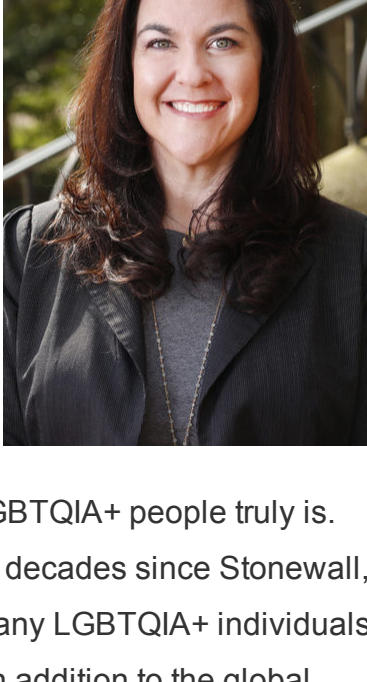


Pride and Gratitude

Dear Vanderbilt community,



As we look ahead to LGBTQIA+ Pride Month in June, over 50 years after the [Stonewall uprising](#) that sparked the beginning of what was then called Gay Liberation movement, I am proud of my community and all the ancestor activists who came before me and brought me to this place, and I am simultaneously disheartened at just how long the road to achieving freedom and equality for all LGBTQIA+ people truly is. While I can appreciate how far we have come in the decades since Stonewall, it is still incredibly challenging and dangerous for many LGBTQIA+ individuals in Tennessee and other parts of the United States, in addition to the global community. In [27 states](#), there are no explicit statewide laws protecting people from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity in employment, housing and public accommodations. In 2021, a total of [268 anti-equality bills](#) were introduced in state legislatures around the country. Of those, 27 were signed into law, and [five of them were in Tennessee](#). There is a long road and significant work leading up to the day when all LGBTQIA+ individuals can be their truest, most genuine selves without fear of hatred or discrimination of any kind.

While the reality of being a queer person in 2022 is nothing short of devastating, especially in Tennessee, there is still much to celebrate. Today I choose to intentionally focus on the joy, pride and gratitude I have for past generations and my ancestors in this movement who paved the way for many of the freedoms I now enjoy and those who still stand in solidarity with this community today. I am grateful for the bravery and activism of those who stood their ground and fought back against constant injustice and discrimination at Stonewall, especially [Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera](#), notably two trans women of color. I am grateful for the community members who organized the first Pride parade to mark the one-year anniversary of the Stonewall uprising. I am grateful for groups like ACT UP, the Gay Liberation Front and other organizations that were either formed or gained momentum after the uprising. I am grateful to more recent heroes like [Edie Windsor](#) and [Jim Obergefell](#), whose courage to love and stand up for LGBTQIA+ rights eventually led to same-sex marriage being a federal right.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue the work of those who have championed for LGBTQIA+ rights before me as well as those who still stand in solidarity with the community. I am indebted to the activist communities that are working to make Nashville and Tennessee a safer place for us—the IN TN Collective Impact Council, PFLAG, Human Rights Campaign, Nashville LGBT Chamber of Commerce, Launchpad and so many others. I'm also very grateful that I get to work together with these organizations in this important, transformative work to support our community and fight for equality.

More than anything, I'm grateful for my extraordinary, diverse LGBTQIA+ family. To each of my siblings, thank you for being yourselves and offering me space to do the same. I'm grateful for [us](#)!

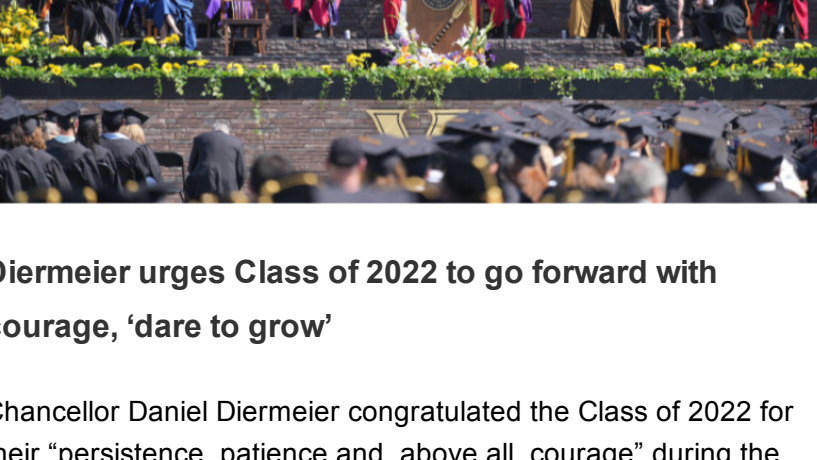
In solidarity, gratitude and PRIDE,

Linzie M. Treadway, Ph.D.
Director of Executive Projects, Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion



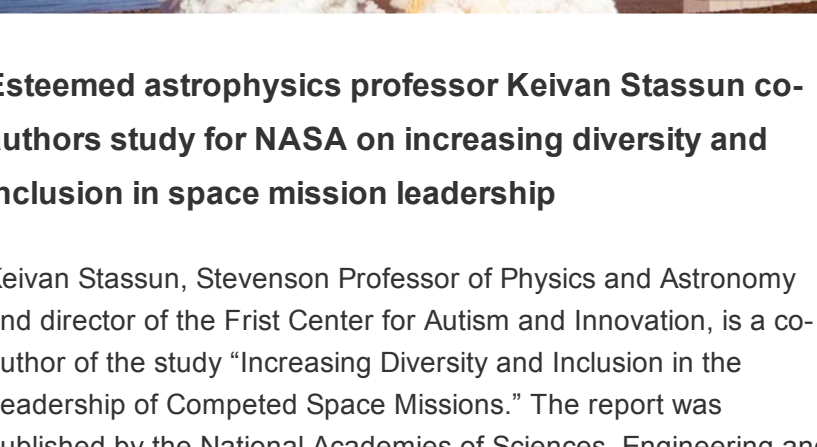
Churchwell named to Nashville Public Schools Hall of Fame, recognized as 2022 distinguished alumnus

Dr. André L. Churchwell, vice chancellor for equity, diversity and inclusion and chief diversity officer, has been recognized as a distinguished alumnus of Metro Nashville Public Schools and named to the Nashville Public Education Foundation's Public Schools Hall of Fame for 2022. [Read More +](#)



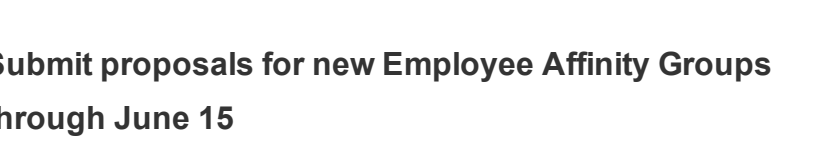
Diermeier urges Class of 2022 to go forward with courage, 'dare to grow'

Chancellor Daniel Diermeier congratulated the Class of 2022 for their "persistence, patience and, above all, courage" during the past four years when he delivered his Commencement address at Vanderbilt Stadium on May 13. [Read More +](#)



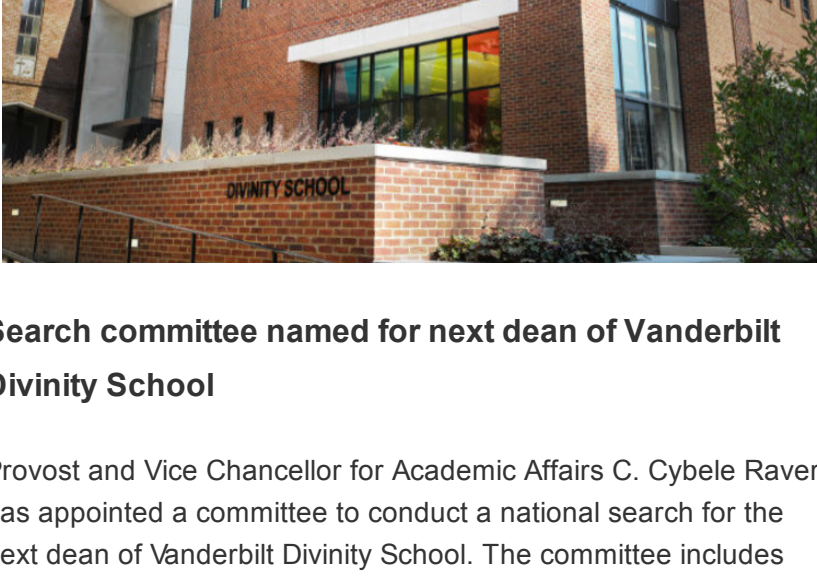
Esteemed astrophysics professor Keivan Stassun co-authors study for NASA on increasing diversity and inclusion in space mission leadership

Keivan Stassun, Stevenson Professor of Physics and Astronomy and director of the Frist Center for Autism and Innovation, is a co-author of the study "Increasing Diversity and Inclusion in the Leadership of Competed Space Missions." The report was published by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine on May 18. [Read More +](#)



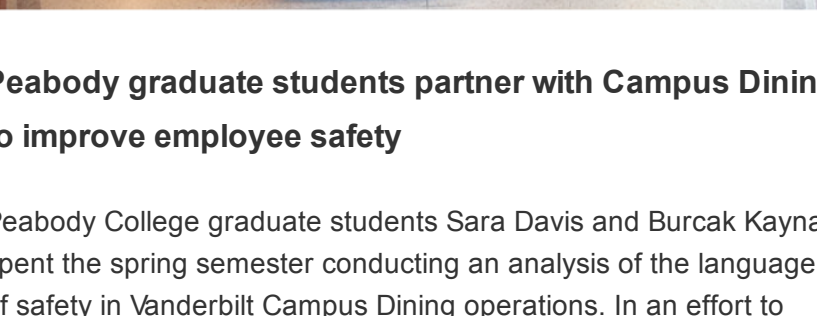
Submit proposals for new Employee Affinity Groups through June 15

The Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion is requesting proposals for Employee Affinity Groups for 2022–23. Employee Affinity Groups are employee-led and -facilitated groups formed around interests, backgrounds, identities and common bonds. [Read More +](#)



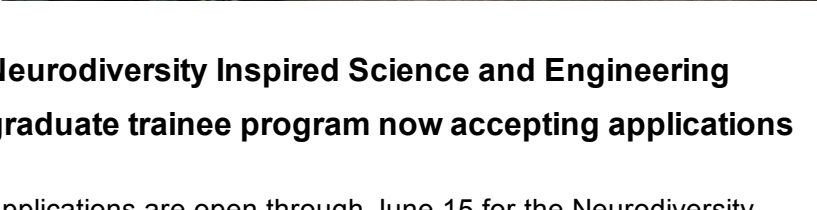
Search committee named for next dean of Vanderbilt Divinity School

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs C. Cybele Raver has appointed a committee to conduct a national search for the next dean of Vanderbilt Divinity School. The committee includes faculty members, deans, an alumnus and a current student. [Read More +](#)



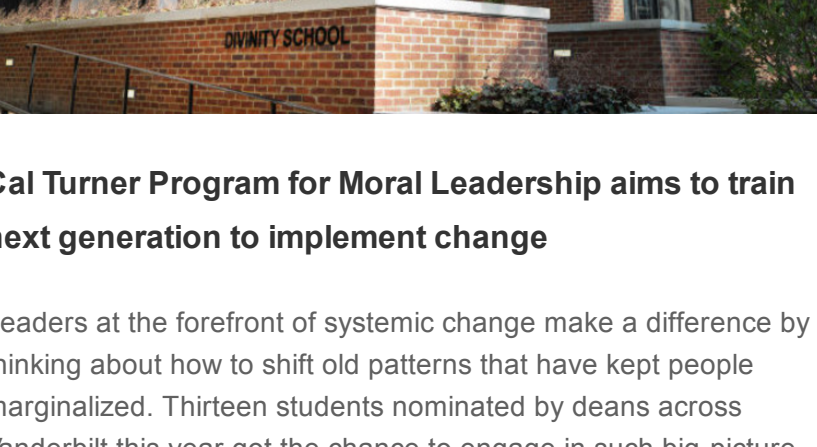
Peabody graduate students partner with Campus Dining to improve employee safety

Peabody College graduate students Sara Davis and Burcak Kaynar spent the spring semester conducting an analysis of the language of safety in Vanderbilt Campus Dining operations. In an effort to improve overall employee safety, they focused on the use of large machines in Campus Dining facilities by multilingual employees. [Read More +](#)



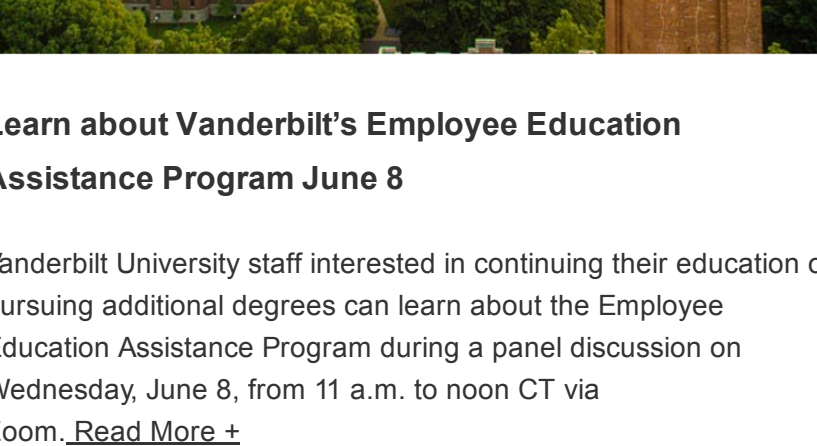
Neurodiversity Inspired Science and Engineering graduate trainee program now accepting applications

Applications are open through June 15 for the Neurodiversity Inspired Science and Engineering graduate trainee program. The NISE program engages students across STEM disciplines in the development, deployment and commercialization of future of work at the human technology frontier (FW-HTF) approaches and devices that support neurodiverse individuals, and/or that are inspired by their abilities. [Read More +](#)



Cal Turner Program for Moral Leadership aims to train next generation to implement change

Leaders at the forefront of systemic change make a difference by thinking about how to shift old patterns that have kept people marginalized. Thirteen students nominated by deans across Vanderbilt this year got the chance to engage in such big-picture thinking as participants in the Cal Turner Program for Moral Leadership's interprofessional student fellowship. [Read More +](#)



Learn about Vanderbilt's Employee Education Assistance Program June 8

Vanderbilt University staff interested in continuing their education or pursuing additional degrees can learn about the Employee Education Assistance Program during a panel discussion on Wednesday, June 8, from 11 a.m. to noon CT via Zoom. [Read More +](#)

Get Connected: Upcoming Events

[HR Employee Learning & Engagement experiences for 2022](#)

[5/27: Women's Health Research Symposium: Women's Health & COVID-19](#)

[6/1: LGBTQ and Health: Creating a Welcoming Clinical Environment](#)

[6/1: Health and Exercise for 50+](#)

[6/7: For faculty and staff — Health and Wellness Fair](#)

[Limited Submission Opportunity: ADA Pathway to Stop Diabetes Awards \(Initiator and Accelerator\)](#)

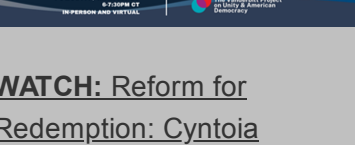
[ISSS recruiting hosts for EAT program](#)

[Wednesdays: For faculty and staff — Mindful Stretch Break](#)

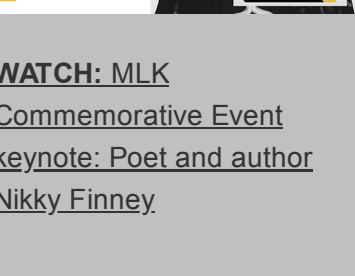
[COVID-19 vaccination leave available for employees accompanying children to get vaccinated](#)

[For employees and staff — Access televideo counseling services](#)

Continuing the Conversation



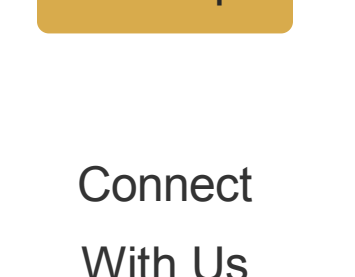
WATCH: Understanding the Intergenerational Transmission of Poverty: How Economic Research Can Inform Policy



WATCH: Reform for Redemption: Cyntoia Brown Long and Gov. Bill Haslam call for criminal justice reform



WATCH: Afro-Latinx in the Academy



WATCH: This Moment in America: How to Be an Ally and Its Meaning in a Time of Social Justice

Resources

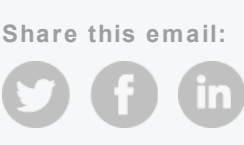
Heritage Month

Workshops

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