

Vanderbilt University  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
November 4, 2004  
4:10 p.m.  
140 Frist Hall

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of September 16, 2004

Note: Minutes can be found on the Senate website at:  
<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/files/91604facsen.pdf>

Remarks by Chancellor E. Gordon Gee

Report of the Executive Committee  
Robert Thompson, Chair of the Faculty Senate

Committee on Senate Affairs (Senator Mark Ellingham, Chair)  
Proposal regarding ex officio status for two senior medical school administrators  
(See the full text of the proposal here:  
<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/files/Exofficio.pdf> )

Current Work of the Senate

Senate Affairs (Mark Ellingham, chair)

- Secret ballots
- Attendance
- Reapportionment

Academic Policies and Services (Jason Morrow, chair)

- Classified research

Professional Ethics and Academic Freedom (Marie Griffin, chair)

- Conflicts
- Grievance procedure

Faculty Life (Dieter Sevin, chair)

- Faculty Manual
- Faculty Survey

Student Life (Greg Barz, chair)

- Residential colleges
- COIA

New business

Good of the Senate

## Adjournment

Voting Members present: Adams, Barnett, Campbell, Conklin, Ellingham, Fleetwood, Foster, Fuchs, Gabbe, Goldfarb, Griffin, Haglund, Hetcher, Heyneman, Lachs, LeBoeuf, Link, McGill, Morrow, Peebles, Perkins, Porter, Schmidt, Sevin, Smrekar, Syverud, Tarpley, Tellinghuisen, Thompson, Washington.

Voting Members absent: Anderson (regrets), Barz (regrets), Benbow (regrets), Booth (regrets), Bradford, Casagrande, Conway-Welch (regrets), Cummings, Eigen (regrets), Flake, Galloway (regrets), Greene, Hawiger (regrets), Heflinger (regrets), Hodges, Hoffman (regrets), Hudnut-Beumler (regrets), Levine (regrets), Masulis (regrets), McCarthy (regrets), McCarty (regrets), Neff (regrets), Pettepher (regrets), Shyr (regrets), Summar (regrets), Tolk, Wait (regrets).

Ex Officio Members present: Brisky, Farran, Gee, Gherman, Hall, McNamara, Schoenfeld, Zeppos.

Ex Officio Members absent: Balser (regrets), Barge, Jacobson (regrets), Outlaw, Perfetto, Ramsey (regrets), Spitz, Williams.

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The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Robert Thompson. Minutes from 9/16/04 meeting were reviewed and a motion was made to approve them. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Next Item on the Agenda - Report from Chancellor Gee**

Chair Thompson introduced Chancellor Gee who gave his remarks to the Senate. He began by mentioning the current searches for deans in the law school and the business school. He said that they were both going well, and that the law school dean should be named by the end of the fall semester. He added that Owens' dean should be named by the end of the spring semester.

Chancellor Gee also informed the Senate that the university's capital campaign had reached the \$1 billion mark, and that this was five years ahead of the initial projections. He said that 90% of the money raised is going toward the university's needs.

He then opened the floor for questions. Hearing none, he thanked the Senate for the opportunity to speak.

### **Next Item on the Agenda - Report of the Executive Committee**

Chair Thompson gave his report from the Executive Committee. He reported that the meeting of elected senators in October went well. He also said that the issues that were raised at that meeting will be sent to the appropriate committee for consideration.

He then opened the floor for questions. Hearing none, he introduced Senator Mark Ellingham, chair of the Senate Affairs committee.

### **Next Item on the Agenda – Proposal from Senate Affairs Committee**

Senator Ellingham gave background information on the proposal to add two senior associate deans at the medical school as ex officio members (see the full text of the proposal here: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/files/Exofficio.pdf>). He then opened the floor for questions.

Senator Steven Heyneman asked why these two administrators wanted to join the Senate. Chair Thompson answered that these two officials at the Medical School address faculty matters with some parallel responsibilities to associate provosts in University Central who are already ex officio members. Chair Thompson also noted the two associate deans had worked with the Senate both currently and in the past and one of them had been elected as a Senator from the Medical School last spring, an election he declined after a generic discussion then initiated by the Executive Committee as to whether senior administrators should serve as elected Senators. The Committee's study of the ex officio issue followed in the fall. Senator Dan Fleetwood asked if this would set too broad of a precedent regarding the naming of ex officios. Chair Thompson responded that there is indeed a slippery slope argument to be made, but he reminded senators that the Senate can invite whomever it wants and any faculty member can attend Senate meetings anyway (they just are not allowed to speak from the floor or vote).

Senator Stan Link asked if the Senate could make them invited members instead of ex officio members. His concern had to do with the number of ex officio members. Senator Ellingham answered that making them ex officio gives them the right to speak from the floor. He added that the immediate goal was simply to add their voices to the Senate. Senator Link brought up the problem of ex officio members inadvertently voting when they were not allowed to do so. Senator Susie Adams asked about inviting someone in the School of Nursing who might be a comparable administrator. Chair Thompson said that executive committee has struggled with where to hold the line on these appointments, but thought that this was the best solution for now. He then called for a vote on the proposal at hand.

The motion to add Roger Chalkley and Gerald Gotterer as ex officio members passed with 15 for, 8 against, and 2 abstentions.

### **Next Item on the Agenda – Current Work of the Senate**

Chair Thompson then explained that the chairs of the five standing committees of the Senate would give a brief presentation on the current work of their committees (see the

text of each committee's presentation here:

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facultysenate/files/CurrentWork.ppt>). After the Faculty Life committee's presentation, Provost Nick Zeppos said that his office is working on looking at benefits such as child care and retirement. He invited Dieter Sevin, chair of the Faculty Life committee, to meet with him about these issues.

**Next Item on the Agenda – New Business**

Chair Thompson called for new business, but there was none reported.

**Next Item on the Agenda – Good of the Senate**

Chair Thompson then called for business under Good of the Senate, but there was none reported.

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall Summar,  
Secretary