

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 15, 2025
Online Zoom Meeting

WELCOME

Sara Putnam, President, called the Meeting to order at 8:30 am

GUEST SPEAKERS

Vice Provost Tiffany Tung – Undergraduate Education
Matt Estes – Oracle Grow

Review of the Agenda

- USAC Business and Announcements
 - Officer Elections
 - Bylaw Revisions – First Read
 - Committee Reports

Guest Speakers

Vice Provost Tiffany Tung – Undergraduate Education

Transformative Education Through Five Pillars

1. Immersive Experiences
2. Research, Discovery, Innovation
3. Generating New Knowledge
4. Fostering Belonging and Inclusive Excellence
5. Positive Social Change

2024-2025 – Student Snapshot

- 7,286 – undergraduate students
 - 4050 – A&S
 - 247 – Blair
 - 1544 – Engineering
 - 1545 - Peabody
- 7:1 – student to faculty ratio
- 65% - undergraduate students receive some type of financial aid

Undergraduate Education Staff and Faculty

- 5 faculty OUE leaders
- 12 faculty fellows/advisors
- 16 residential faculty
- 19 ROTC affiliated faculty
- 51 graduate students
- 59 undergraduate students
- 60 full time staff

Undergraduate Education Programs

- Immersive Experiences – learning through doing and reflection
 - Immersion Vanderbilt
 - Study Abroad
 - English Language Center
 - Writing Studio and Tutoring Services
 - Army ROTC and Navy ROTC
 - First-Generation Students

New York City

- 8,036 VU Alumni and Parents live in NYC Metro
- VU campus is located in Chelsea – centrally located
- 146,000 square feet across 13 buildings on 5.5 acres

Spring 2025 Events

- Vanderbilt in the City
 - Faculty Lecture Series – Conversations on America
 - America and the World – March 6, 2025
 - American Humor – April 10, 2025
 - Health in America – May 15, 2025
 - Nearly 600 attendees
 - Neighbors thrilled to be invited to campus; campus completely closed off to surrounding area prior to VU purchase
- VU Advisory Council Meetings Held
 - Owen School – April 3-4, 2025
 - College of Arts and Science – April 10, 2025
- Lecture Themes for 2025-26
 - Hymnal Jazz in collaboration with Divinity School and Blair School of Music
 - Artificial Intelligence with NYAS
 - Arts
 - TBD

NYSED

- VU requested approval for 2 programs
 - Undergraduate Study Away – 1 semester for 100 Junior or Seniors
 - Masters in Business and Technology
- Goal – launch Fall 2026

Matt Estes – Oracle Grow

- VU's new AI-powered development platform helping staff explore, build, and apply skills aligned with Vanderbilt's future.
- It is staff's gateway to personalized learning, internal mobility, and professional growth – rooted in skills.

Currently Turned On

- View Current Skills
 - Staff can see current skills and courses to grow their skills

- Browse Skill Library
 - Staff can explore the comprehensive collection of skills relevant to Vanderbilt.
- Skill Validation
 - Have colleagues and managers verify skill mastery.
 - Taking a course does not equal skill mastery.

Why It Matters

- Empowers Staff
 - Each person can own their development and build new skills.
 - Staff can pursue growth aligned with university needs.
- Drives Agility
 - Ability to adapt faster to change.
 - A clear, skills-based foundation supports innovation.
- Smarter Decisions
 - Leaders get clearer insights into capabilities.
 - Better visibility of opportunities across the university.
- Career Planning
 - Staff can map out potential growth paths.
 - Provides clarity on skills needed for advancement.

USAC Business

Minutes:

- February, March, April 2025 – To Be Approved in June

Officer Elections:

- Secretary – Lynn Maddox
- Treasurer – Danny Coradazzi
- Vice President/President Elect –
 - Faith Bishop, Jeremy Bourgoïn, Cassanora Lampley
 - Ballot will be emailed today.
 - Vote by midnight Tuesday, May 20th

Bylaw Revisions – First Read:

Modern Language

- University Central made sense before the VU/VUMC separation. Vanderbilt it unambiguous now.
- Legalese is unnecessary, adds confusion, and disfavored by legal writers.

Harmony with brand guidelines

- Belonging, Self Direction, Collaboration, Growth
- Focused on staff's seat at the table

Clarity on trouble spots

- Vacancies, At Large, Reapportionment
- Pre-translated

Consistent Terms

- Representatives not Members, USAC not Council, Reapportionment not Composition

Committee Reports

Communications Committee:

- Co-Chairs:
 - Faith Bishop and Jenny Abrams
- Looking ahead: communication Updates for AY 25-26
 - USAC Information Presentation
 - Communication Best Practices – contact information
- Don't forget to submit any campus events which staff would benefit from by using the Social Media request form on the USAC website.
 - USAC socials are @VanderbiltUSAC on both Instagram and X.
- Next Meeting: June 6; 9 AM via Teams

Culture Initiatives Committee:

- Co-Chairs: Cassanora Lampley and Raven Osa-Oni
- Ongoing Projects
 - Days of Significance Accommodation
 - Submission to Administration – End of May
 - Finalizing Video Edits
 - EDI Training Initiative
 - Project on pause due to Prioritize Days of Significance
- Awareness Month Spotlight and Events
 - Mental Health Awareness Month
 - Pride Month
- Next Meeting: May 22; 9 AM via Teams

Events Committee:

- Co-Chairs:
 - Sara Carroll and Alicia Williams-Sumlin
- Ice Cream Social
 - May 21; 1 – 3 PM; Library Lawn
 - Celebrate the end of the 24-25 AY with ice cream and your colleagues?
- Next meeting: TBD via Teams

Membership Committee:

- Co-Chairs:
 - Jennifer Allen Woody and Chan'ce Moody
- Birthdays - May:
 - David Baughman, Faith Bishop, Kevin Borgic, Angela Collins, Patrick Conwell, Alicia Haymer, Ed Higgins, Brenda Kole, Valerie Lorusso, Beth Rivas
- Meet A Member:

- Valerie Lorusso
- Administrative Coordinator, Student Affairs, Finance
- 2025 Election Thank You:
 - Chanc'e Moody
 - Danny Coradazzi
 - The Membership Committee
- Next Meeting: TBD via Teams

Rules and Administration:

- Co-Chairs:
 - Sean Butner and Amy Smith
- Next meeting: TBD

Staff Life:

- Co-Chairs:
 - Jeremy Bourgoin and Beth Rivas
- Looking Ahead:
 - Professional Development proposal sent to Leadership
 - Continuing to manage the Comment Corner Form and have effective conversations or information relay and gathering responses from campus partners.
- Next Meeting: May 28; 3 PM via Teams

Next USAC Meeting:

- Thursday, June 12, 2025
 - 8:30 -10 AM
 - Via Zoom
 - In Person – Alumni Hall, Room 202
 - Email to attend: usac@vanderbilt.edu

ADJOURN

Sara Putnam, President, adjourned the Meeting at 9:46 am.