

Vanderbilt University

1. Number of students: total, undergraduate, graduate, professional

Total = 10,855

Undergraduate = 6,319

Graduate = 3,414

Professional = 1,152

2. Number and Name of colleges within your University

10 colleges/schools:

College of Arts and Science

Blair School of Music

School of Engineering

School of Nursing

Peabody College

Divinity School

Graduate School

Law School

School of Medicine

Owen Graduate School of Management

3. Number of Senators: total, by school

Total members = 48

15 = College of Arts & Sciences

2 = Blair School of Music

5 = School of Engineering

2 = School of Nursing

5 = Peabody College (Education)

2 = Divinity School

0 = Graduate School

2 = Law School

13 = School of Medicine

2 = Owen Graduate School of Management

4. Senate Officer titles & length of terms

Chair, Secretary, Chair-elect, Secretary-elect = 1-year terms; Just passed a measure that will have the Chair and Secretary serve a 1-year term as ex-officio at the conclusion of their term in office.

5. Number and Name of Senate Committees

Total = 5

Business and Non-academic Affairs (soon to be renamed to: Faculty Life)

Student Affairs (soon to be renamed to: Student Life)

Academic Policies & Services

Senate Affairs

Professional Ethics & Academic Freedom

6. Senate Governance:

a. Role of your Faculty Senate

As cited in our Constitution: “[to be] the representative, deliberative, legislative body of the Faculties. [It] shall have the power to review and evaluate the educational policies and practices of the University and may make recommendations concerning them to any individual, Faculty, or other group within the University. It may provide for appropriate Faculty discussion of any educational policy or practice. It may advise and consult with the chief administrative officers and inform them of Faculty opinions about such matters. It shall facilitate and encourage communication within the University, among the several Schools, and reciprocally among Faculty, students, and administration. [It] shall act in a consultative capacity when the establishment of new schools or colleges is considered or when new degrees are proposed. Its approval is necessary for the granting of honorary degrees. [It] is responsible for defining policies and procedures to be applied in cases involving conscience or academic freedom.”

b. Reporting structure of Senate to University

Chancellor and Provost

c. School deans – ex-officio Senate members or members with voting status

Hold voting status

d. Make up of ex-officio members (i.e. includes administrators, staff council leaders, and/or student leaders)

Vice Chancellors, Associate Provosts, University Librarian, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research

e. With whom and with what frequency does the Senate executive committee meet with University administrators (i.e. president and/or provost)

Chancellor = monthly; Provost and Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs = monthly

f. Degree of Senate involvement in the selection of members for standing University-wide committees

Select faculty representation for committees and participate in the review of the overall nomination process

g. Degree of Senate involvement in the selection of members for University-wide ad-hoc committees

Limited. Only when asked to submit faculty names for membership.

h. Degree of Senate influence on University academic policies and procedures
Confers honorary degrees and approves new degree programs. Advises and consults with administrative officers on academic policies and practices.

i. Describe formal structure that promotes continuity between and after officer changeover

The Chair and Secretary positions are really two-year terms. The first year is spent as chair-elect and secretary-elect. Following the conclusion of their term as Chair and Secretary, they will serve an additional year as ex-officio members of the Senate. In addition, the Senate has a Chief of Staff position.

7. If applicable, faculty governance within University schools or colleges:

a. Type of governance bodies

Varies by school/college – some are very structured

b. Relationship between governing bodies and Senate

The Senate tries to have reps attend governance meetings at each school. They are there to not only hear about the issues, but to also present and share any Senate information that is for the good of the schools.

c. Make up of governing bodies (elected or appointed members; representation determined by department size or other method)

Varies

8. Collegiate Athletics:

a. Role of Senate in the establishment and oversight of student-athlete policies and procedures

None

b. Faculty Representative: appointed or elected, and by whom

Appointed by Chancellor

c. If applicable, role of Senate standing committee on athletics

Not applicable

d. Reporting structure of Department of Athletics to University

Reports to the Vice Chancellor for Student life and University Affairs

e. Who (title-wise) is the responsible person for academic affairs in the department of athletics?

Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

f. What types of academic support are extended to student-athletes through the department of athletics

In addition to the various NCAA and SEC promoted programs, the department provides extensive tutoring resources, a computer lab, academic advisors.