Senior Associate Dean John Sloop called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. in Wilson Hall 103. Dean Sloop explained that Dean Carolyn Dever was not able to attend the meeting.

1. **Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty Meeting of September 17, 2013.**

There were no comments or questions, and the Minutes were approved.

2. **Review of the Minutes of the Faculty Council Meeting of October 1, 2013.**

Professor Ruth Rogaski, Council member, presented Faculty Council business to the faculty in place of Professor Lucius Outlaw, Jr., Chair of Faculty Council. There were no comments or questions about the Minutes or the revised course descriptions.

3. **Executive Motion Calendar.**

From the Committee on Educational Programs (CEP): **Proposed revision of the Medicine, Health, and Society major, minor, and Honors program.** Professor Jonathan Metzl, Director of the Center for Medicine, Health, and Society (MHS), explained that the proposed revision reorganizes most of the courses in the major into five tracks or concentrations and creates a new set of core courses. Both the new concentrations and the set of core courses reflect the strengths of the curriculum and the interests of the program’s faculty members, including the new members. The topics of the five concentrations should also be of interest to other Vanderbilt centers and programs, with which MHS would like to partner and collaborate over time. The proposed revisions of the program’s requirements should be more user-friendly to students as well, he said. There were no questions or comments, and the **faculty approved the revisions to the Medicine, Health, and Society major, minor, and Honors program.**

4. **Memorial Resolution for Donald H. Evans, Professor of Art and Art History, Emeritus.**

Mark Hosford, Associate Professor of Art, presented a Memorial Resolution in honor of Donald H. Evans, Professor of Art and Art History, Emeritus. Faculty members paid their respects and signified their assent to the resolution by standing for a moment of silence. The Memorial Resolution is appended to these Minutes.
5. **Original Motion Calendar.**

No issues were raised.

6. **Good of the College.**

Senior Associate Dean Karen Campbell presented two announcements: a. Friday, October 18 is the deadline for students to withdraw from courses. She requested that faculty members be available to students on Thursday and Friday, October 17-18, in order to sign course withdrawal forms; and b. Classes will not be held on Monday, January 20, 2014, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, which was not originally noted on Vanderbilt’s brief academic calendar. It has since been corrected.

Professor Marilyn Murphy, of the Art department, announced that the opening reception for Susan DeMay’s exhibition of ceramics “Career Highlights: 40 Years in Clay” will be held on Thursday, October 17, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Space 204. She invited everyone to attend the opening reception. The exhibition will be on display until November 22 in the same room.

7. **Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Gill,
Secretary of the Faculty
Donald H. Evans, Professor Emeritus of Art and Art History, passed away on May 6, 2013 at the age of 74, shortly after being diagnosed with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Sheryl, and his daughter, Amy. In 1990, his college age son Jonathan passed away following an automobile accident.

Don Evans was born in Murfreesboro, TN., and earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 1962, studying art. From 1963 to 1966, Don served in the US Army, stationed in Alaska, “protecting us from communist aggression,” as he was fond of saying. In 1968, Evans received a master of fine arts from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and joined what was then called the Vanderbilt Department of Fine Arts. Don was a pioneer in the early days of new media, experimental film, and electronic art. He brought his non-traditional experimental philosophy to Vanderbilt by creating the Vanderbilt Media Experimentation Center, offering courses in video art, multimedia, and computer graphics.

From the start of his career, Don realized the importance of artistic collaborations in order to keep a constant stream of new ideas and possibilities bubbling. He created the Little Marrowbone Repair Corporation, a title that served to identify a group of artistic partnerships. His early work included experimental film and electronic music collaborations with Gilbert Trythall, then a professor at Peabody College. Seven of his films, including *Data Bank* and *Video Dance*, were award-winning productions.

Don Evans was most noted for his large scale outdoor events, which included impressive self-fabricated pyrotechnic displays, fireworks towers, performance art productions, sculpture, live music, and a cavalcade of other artistic happenings that varied as widely as the people that gathered around him. They blurred the line between social events and art performances, sharing the same philosophy as the Burning Man festival, where there is no such thing as a passive observer, only active participants. Everyone who attended was encouraged to “Do something!” These events included the Halloween inspired *Bone* and most notably *Burning Banjos I, II, and III*.

After his retirement in 2002, Evans remained active in the arts community by participating in two team-collaborative projects at Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art, as well as having solo shows at Ruby Green Contemporary Art Center and Tinney Contemporary in Nashville. Don often lamented no longer being part of faculty meetings, as these provided endless fodder for his elaborate doodles.
Don once said he had gone through art and come out the other side. For him, there was no distinction between art and life, and to try and draw the lines between the two seemed limiting and pointless. Examples of this were experienced by all of those who would spend time with Don and Sheryl at their annual pumpkin carving parties, where jack-o-lanterns would end up becoming firework displays. During a Thanksgiving dinner entitled *Frankenswine*, a raw turkey was laboriously and surgically transformed into the perfect replica of a pig, by a team of people dressed in white surgical gear, before being cooked and consumed by those attending.

Evans’ instruction in wide-ranging media earned him the reputation of an enlightened and inspiring teacher among many students. He demanded a lot out of his classes, refusing to hold their hands or provide a prescribed artistic path. He purposely tried to take students out of their comfort zone, forcing them to come up with unique answers to their unique questions. New students were at first confused or frustrated by this type of personal challenge, but were usually grateful by the end of the term. I have met countless alumni that cited Don Evans as the most pivotal figure during their time at Vanderbilt, often saying that Don was the key reason they became life long artists. One past student recently summed up Don’s influence by creating this list of lessons learned from him.

- Being an Artist (whether you capitalize the "A" or not) is a real thing and real people do it.
- Provide a safe space for creativity and community and it will happen.
- Don’t be afraid.
- Share what you know, joyfully and aggressively if necessary!
- It should be fun. It should also be hard work.
- Delight in your accomplishments. Delight in the accomplishments of others.
- Be open to new ideas and new people and other ways of doing things.
- Don’t apologize for the things in which you believe.
- Be a sincere and critical evaluator.
- Get into some shenanigans.
- And perhaps his most widely used mantra, you either do stuff or you don’t.

To quote another past student, “For more than 16 years, Don challenged, encouraged, supported, worked with and laughed with me. He brought people together from all walks of life and fostered an environment where anything was possible with some hard work, imagination and research. Don taught me to shoot fireworks from my head, make gunpowder from scratch, and launch rockets to the heavens. He and Sheryl created a place in the woods that is truly special... magical, really. The Little Marrowbone Repair Corporation is a playground for imagination and possibility. I am so thankful for his friendship, generosity and influence.”
Soon after his passing, the Nashville Scene wrote, “Don Evans was an art-scene instigator, He was one of the city's artistic heroes and catalysts. His influence liberated students and peers from the stuffiness and hierarchy that creeps into the academy. His ideas reeked of gunpowder and live current. Whether in his classroom or at the home studio he dubbed the Little Marrowbone Repair Corporation, he championed active participation over inert reception, spontaneous creation over ponderous appraisal, eruptive energy and uproar over abashed decorum.”

Don was an integral component of the Arts at Vanderbilt and Nashville, and he will be greatly missed by his countless friends, family, and collaborators.

Madam Dean, I ask that a copy of this Memorial resolution be entered into the minutes and sent to members of Evan's family.

Respectfully,
Mark Hosford
Associate Professor of Art