Dean Richard McCarty called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. in Wilson Hall 103. Approximately 140 faculty members were in attendance.

1. **Election of A&S Secretary of the Faculty and Appointment of A&S Parliamentarian.**

Dean McCarty nominated Professor Marshall Eakin of the Department of History to be the new Secretary of the Faculty. There were no other nominations, and Professor Eakin was elected by a rousing acclamation. Dean McCarty then nominated Professor Kassian Kovalcheck as the Parliamentarian of the Faculty for 2007-2008. There were no other nominations, and Professor Kovalcheck was likewise acclaimed.

2. **Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty Meeting of May 8, 2007.**

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

3. **Review of the Minutes of the Faculty Council Meeting of September 4, 2007.**

There were no comments or questions.

4. **Approval of the Candidates for Degrees at the end of the summer semester, August 10, 2007.**

Associate Dean Frãencille Bergquist moved that the Faculty of the College of Arts and Science recommend to the Board of Trust that it confer upon these candidates their degrees (a list of degree candidates is attached to these Minutes). Her motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

5. **Update on the Search for the new Chancellor.**

Professor Randolph Blake explained that, as Chief of Staff for the Chancellor Search Committee, he has two primary responsibilities—to coordinate the activities of the Committee and the search in general and to organize and distribute all of the relevant information to the appropriate decision-makers. He presented a timeline of events for the search, the most important of which were July 11, when Chancellor Gee announced his resignation; July 12, when Provost Zeppos was appointed Interim Chancellor; July 19 and 31, when the Chancellor Search Committee (CSC) and the Chancellor Search Advisory Committee, respectively, were appointed; August 16, when the four finalists for the search firm were selected; and August 27, when the search firm was selected. The CSC and the Advisory Committee, Professor Blake continued, have been working on
parallel tasks. This month, for instance, during the learning phase, the CSC will participate in listening sessions with the Advisory Committee and will solicit input from Vanderbilt alumni and friends, while the Advisory Committee will conduct a web survey and meet with members of the Vanderbilt community to develop a “picture” of Vanderbilt University in 2007. Based on these findings, the Advisory Committee will present a report to the CSC before the latter body meets with the Faculty Senate on October 11. Dean James Hudnut-Beumler, the Chair of the Advisory Committee, stated that 120,000 people were invited to complete the web survey for the Chancellor Search and that remarkable data have been collected thus far. These data will be summarized by the Advisory Committee in its report to the CSC. The Advisory Committee is still soliciting input from the Vanderbilt community. For this purpose, listening sessions for A&S faculty and staff are scheduled for October 1 and 4. The web address for the Chancellor Search is http://www.vanderbilt.edu/chancellorsearch/index.html.

Professor Campbell stated that many faculty members were disconcerted during the last Chancellor search when the Tennessean published the list of final candidates for the position before members of the Vanderbilt community knew about it. She would strongly recommend that the CSC and the Advisory Committee distribute regular updates to the Vanderbilt community or post updates to the web site.

Professor Stone urged faculty members to provide input to the CSC and Advisory Committee very soon, because he learned at the recent Faculty Senate meeting that there is only a brief period in the timeline, until mid-October, for faculty to have input. After mid-October, he said, the search firm will be looking for candidates. Dean Hudnut-Beumler responded that the Advisory Committee is planning to produce high-quality narrative reports to the CSC by October 15, and, consequently, faculty members and other Vanderbilt community members should give their input to the Advisory Committee by September 30. After producing the reports, he stated, it is not clear what the role of the Advisory Committee will be.

Professor Lachs stated that he wrote a letter to Mr. Bottorff, the Chairman of the Chancellor Search Committee, expressing his disappointment about the way in which the search procedure has been conceived, and, especially, about the separation of the Board of Trust from the rest of the University. There needs to be sustained dialogue between the faculty and the Search Committee during the search, he continued, and this structure prevents that kind of dialogue from taking place. Professor Lachs then distributed copies of his letter to attendees of the meeting (the letter is attached to these Minutes).

Professor Gerstle suggested that the Advisory Committee distribute a timeline of the search to all faculty members and emphasize in the message that the deadline for input is September 30. Dean Hudnut-Beumler agreed with this suggestion.
6. **Introduction of new Arts & Science tenured and tenure-track faculty members.**

For each new A&S tenured or tenure-track faculty member, his or her Department Chair, Program Director, or representative introduced him or her to the faculty. A list of new tenured and tenure-track A&S faculty members is attached to these Minutes.

7. **Presentation of the Jeffrey Nordhaus Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in the College of Arts & Science.**

Dean McCarty presented Professor Christoph Zeller, of the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages, with the Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in the Humanities; Professor Shane Hutson, of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, with the Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in the Natural Sciences; and Professor Marc Hetherington, of the Department of Political Science, with the Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in the Social Sciences.

8. **Presentation of the Harriet S. Gilliam Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Lecturer or Senior Lecturer in the College of Arts & Science.**

The Harriet S. Gilliam Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Lecturer or Senior Lecturer was awarded to Linda Hutchison, who is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics.

9. **Presentation of the Ernest A. Jones Faculty Adviser Award in the College of Arts & Science.**

The Ernest A. Jones Faculty Adviser Award was presented to Professor Lorraine Lopez of the Department of English.

10. **Presentation of the Alumni Outstanding Freshman Adviser Award in the College of Arts & Science.**

Dean McCarty presented Professor Kenneth Schriver, of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, with the Alumni Outstanding Freshman Adviser Award.

11. **Presentation of the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards in the College of Arts & Science.**

Associate Dean Holly McCammon presented Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards to Casey Leonetti, of the Department of Mathematics, and Heather Talley, of the Department of Sociology.
12. **Dean’s Award for Excellence in Teaching.**

Dean McCarty presented Professor Stephen Buckles, of the Department of Economics, with a special Dean’s Award for Excellence in Teaching.

13. **Recognition of significant Faculty Service Anniversaries.**

Dean McCarty recognized several faculty members for their significant faculty service anniversaries: Professors Michael Mihalik and Joanne Staples have served 25 years; Associate Dean Fräncille Bergquist, Professors George Becker, Steven Csorna, Calvin Miller, Molly Miller, and John Wikswo have served 30 years; Professor John Siegfried has served 35 years; and Professors John Lachs and Robert Mode have served 40 years.

14. **Announcements.**

Dean McCarty announced that the revised A&S Rules and Procedures, which were approved by the A&S faculty last fall, have been approved by the Provost. Copies of the new Rules and Procedures will be distributed to all A&S faculty members.

Dean McCarty also announced the times in which the Chancellor Search Advisory Committee (CSAC) will meet with A&S faculty and staff for listening sessions: Monday, October 1, 8:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m. and Thursday, October 4, 12:30 p.m.–2:00 p.m. in the Rand Function Room of the Sarratt Student Center.

15. **Good of the College.**

No issues were raised.

16. **Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. to a reception welcoming new faculty members and honoring award recipients.

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall C. Eakin,
Secretary of the Faculty