



# UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

## Nicholas S. Zeppos, Chancellor



Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos was raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he spent many an afternoon watching the great Hank Aaron of the Braves slug home runs in the old County Stadium.

Named Vanderbilt's eighth chancellor in 2008, Zeppos has taken a keen interest in athletics at Vanderbilt during his more than two decades at the University. Zeppos' appreciation for athletics and his commitment to the success of the Commodores was on frequent display in the last year, including being among the first to extend congratulations to the women's tennis national champions and to the baseball team on back-to-back College World Series appearances and the 2014 NCAA title. In addition, Zeppos presided over the Southeastern Conference annual meeting where Greg Sankey was introduced as the conference's new commissioner, replacing the legendary Mike Slive.

"I don't do the operations," Zeppos said. "I don't call the plays. I don't throw the passes. I see my job as simply trying to do whatever I can to support all of the talented people who do these things."

This support has included the endorsement of an athletics capital improvement plan that has surpassed \$60 million, which orchestrates efforts to improve the student experience for athletes and assists with recruiting.

"One thing I consider the ultimate compliment is when a coach calls me and says, 'I've got a couple of recruits here. Could you meet them?'"

A distinguished legal scholar, teacher and executive, Zeppos served from 2002 to February 2008 as Vanderbilt's chief academic officer, overseeing the University's undergraduate, graduate, and professional education programs and research in liberal arts and sciences, engineering, music, education, business, law and divinity. As provost and vice chancellor, he chaired Vanderbilt's budgeting and capital planning council, as well as oversaw the dean of students and dean of admissions.

Zeppos has led a number of important initiatives at Vanderbilt, including the planning process for The Ingram Commons, a landmark transformation of the first-year experience; the recent university-wide strategic planning process; innovative efforts in undergraduate admissions and financial aid; and the development of new programs in Jewish studies, law and economics and genetics, among others.

In a bold move to strengthen Vanderbilt's commitment to admitting undergraduates on the basis of accomplishment and achievement, rather than their ability to pay, Zeppos significantly expanded the financial aid program in 2009. By replacing undergraduate, need-based loans with grant and scholarship assistance, the University opened its doors wider to highly talented and qualified students of all economic, cultural and geographical backgrounds. The expanded aid program is funded by a combination of strategic budget allocations and gifts from thousands of generous donors to the current Opportunity Vanderbilt campaign.

Zeppos was recognized with five teaching awards at the law school before serving as an associate dean, associate provost, and provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. He also served as interim chancellor for eight months prior to being formally appointed as Vanderbilt's eighth chancellor on March 1, 2008.

Zeppos is the president of the Southeastern Conference. He also serves on the National Security Higher Education Advisory Board; the Foundation for Educational Exchange Between Canada and the United States of America (Fulbright Canada) Board of Directors; and as co-chair of the Senate-appointed Task Force on Government Regulation of Higher Education.

From 1982 to 1987, Zeppos practiced law in Washington, D.C., at the United States Department of Justice and at Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, where he specialized in appellate litigation involving complex regulatory,



statutory and constitutional matters.

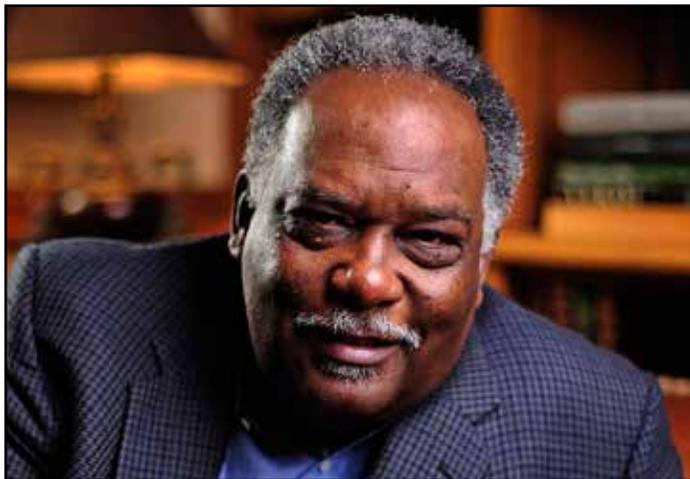
Zeppos is a 1979 magna cum laude graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, where he served as editor-in-chief of the Wisconsin Law Review and was selected as the outstanding graduate of his class. He studied history during his undergraduate years at the university, where he was a 1976 Phi Beta Kappa graduate.

He is married to Lydia A. Howarth, a graduate of the University of Chicago and Lawrence University. They have two sons, Benjamin and Nicholas.



# UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

## David Williams II, Director of Athletics



Since 2003, David Williams II has guided the Commodores into arguably the “Golden Era” of Vanderbilt athletics as the university’s Director of Athletics.

Williams ranks among the university’s most prominent leaders, serving in numerous capacities since arriving in Nashville in 2000. Aside from his role in McGugin Center, Williams holds the titles of Vice Chancellor for University Affairs and Athletics and law professor at Vanderbilt. He also is active with the SEC and NCAA in matters of negotiations, reforms, enforcements and planning.

Williams has placed his stamp on the program, and has positioned Vanderbilt Athletics among the nation’s most innovative in the nation and he has also directed the Commodores into national prominence. Under his leadership, a state-of-the-art multipurpose indoor complex opened in November 2013 featuring a football practice field and 300-meter indoor track. And, in little more than a year, he has witnessed Vanderbilt teams win the NCAA women’s tennis crown this May and the College World Series in 2014.

The cumulative grade point average for Vanderbilt student-athletes has continued to improve through Williams’ tenure, reaching its highest level in more than two decades. Competitive successes, such as a school-record three straight bowl appearances from 2011-13, and recent SEC titles in baseball, women’s cross country and women’s golf, are becoming an expectation on campus. Individual accomplishment has been increasing, with 15 Vanderbilt athletes being selected in the first round of their respective professional drafts in the last 10 years.

In addition to the hiring of Derek Mason, Williams also demonstrated his leadership within the Vanderbilt program by orchestrating successful searches for exceptional coaches to guide Commodore sports. In recent months, he attracted highly regarded Darren Ambrose from the University of Pennsylvania to direct the women’s soccer program. In 2012, Williams also directed the search for men’s golf coach Scott Limbaugh, who has since led the team to consecutive NCAA Championship appearances. Williams has kept top coaches and staffs on campus. Recently, he orchestrated extensions for baseball coach Tim Corbin and men’s tennis coach Ian Duvenhage.

Williams has addressed numerous facility upgrades, including an extensive refurbishing of Vanderbilt Stadium and football locker rooms, expansion of Hawkins Field, addition of new tennis courts and amenities at Brownlee O. Currey Tennis Center and renovations in Memorial Gym, the Hendrix Room and the McGugin Center.

An initiative to allow more overseas travel and study for Vanderbilt student-athletes also has become reality during Williams’ tenure. Two years ago, 21 athletes ventured to Tanzania during the summer of 2013 for a 10-day service

trip to bring shoes to underprivileged communities in Africa in conjunction with Soles4Souls. The partnership continued this summer with another community service effort to Costa Rica. More students within Vanderbilt’s athletic community also are studying abroad, with football members Ralph Webb and Chris Martin recently traveling to Australia’s Gold Coast and Great Barrier Reef.

In association with Vanderbilt Athletics, Williams has served as a member of the SEC team that negotiated past ESPN and CBS television partner contracts. Williams also serves as Chair of the NCAA Infraction Appeals Committee and was a member of the NCAA Enforcement Working Group.

Williams joined Vanderbilt from The Ohio State University in 2000 as Vice Chancellor, General Counsel and University Secretary. His role expanded to Vanderbilt Athletics in 2002.

Williams served numerous administrative roles at Ohio State over 14 years. When he accepted the Vanderbilt role, Williams was Vice President of Student and Urban/Community Affairs and Professor of Law at Ohio State.

A native of Detroit, Williams received a Bachelor of Science in Social Science and Master of Arts in Education from Northern Michigan University, where he ran track. He also earned a Master

of Business Administration and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Detroit, and an L.L.M. in taxation from New York University. Before entering law school, Williams spent 10 years as a teacher and coach in Detroit’s public school system.

Williams has taught at the law schools of the University of Detroit, Capital University, Ohio State and Vanderbilt, and twice directed the Ohio State Law Program in Oxford, England. He was elected outstanding law professor at both the University of Detroit and The Ohio State University.

Williams is active in the Greater Nashville area community, serving as a board member with several organizations.

Currently, Williams is serving a second term on Nashville Mayor Karl Dean’s Procurement Standards Board. He is also a former two-term member of the Nashville branch of the Atlanta Federal Reserve Board.

Williams and his wife, Gail, have four children: Erika, who is a grade school teacher in Detroit and graduate of Eastern Michigan University; David Williams III, who is a two-time graduate of Bowling Green State University and is an academic counselor at Michigan State where he recently earned his doctorate; Samantha, a Brown University graduate and swimmer who is a second-year law student at Vanderbilt Law School after working for U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander; and Nick, who was named a scholar athlete as a freshman and sophomore member of the High Point (N.C.) University track team. Nick graduated from University School of Nashville where he was selected as 2012-13 co-Athlete of the Year.

Williams’ wife, Gail, is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the University of Detroit College of Law and serves as the Associate Director of Community Relations of Vanderbilt. She is a past president and current board member of the University School of Nashville Board of Trustees and is the past Chair of the Metro Transit Authority where she continues to serve as a board member. In addition, Gail serves on the Boards of many non-profit organizations, including The Frist Center, The Women’s Fund Advisory Board, the YWCA and TPAC.

