

## UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

## Nicholas S. Zeppos, Chancellor



Vanderbilt Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos continues to demonstrate his appreciation for and commitment to the University's athletic program in a variety of ways.

His active role in Southeastern Conference leadership and regulatory issues and his vocal support of college athletics becoming more diverse and inclusive are just two examples of how Zeppos' influence has been felt far beyond the Nashville campus.

Zeppos has taken a keen interest in athletics at Vanderbilt during his more than two decades at the University.

"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," Zeppos said.

This past spring the chancellor displayed that support yet again during the hiring of Bryce Drew and Stephanie White to lead the Commodores' men's and women's respective basketball programs. Both coaches are regarded as among the nation's best.

At an April press conference, Zeppos shared that he spent lots of time with Drew during the selection process. "I became very convinced that Bryce Drew was our choice," he said. "He will be a great representative of Vanderbilt."

Just a month later, Zeppos again took to the podium. "Above all else, academics, research, scholarship, and service define the Vanderbilt experience, yet we also compete at the highest levels in athletics," he said as he announced White's hiring. "Coach White's values align perfectly with those of our University community."

Zeppos previously endorsed an athletics capital improvement plan that has surpassed \$60 million, orchestrating efforts to improve the student experience for athletes and assist 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?" Zeppos has said.

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 as

well as research efforts 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 and led all fundraising and alumni relations efforts across the institution, in addition to overseeing 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; Warren and Moore colleges; and Vanderbilt Barnard College, the next phase of the university's unique living-learning residential college system. Other key advancements include restructuring of the institution to split out clinical health care operations into a new corporate entity; the Strategic Academic Planning Group; 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 February of 2016, Zeppos was honored by Insight Into Diversity magazine for his commitment to diversity and inclusion with its national Giving Back award.

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 served as interim chancellor for eight months prior to being formally appointed as Vanderbilt's eighth chancellor on March 1, 2008.

Zeppos 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 the Conexión Américas Board of Directors. He also served as president of the Southeastern Conference from June 2014 to June 2016.

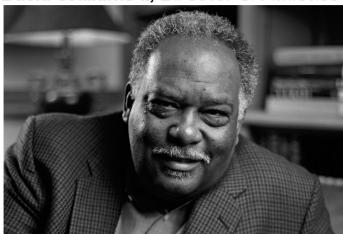
From 1982 to 1987, Zeppos practiced law in Washington, D.C., at the United States Department of Justice and at Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, where he specialized in appellate litigation involving complex regulatory, statutory and constitutional matters.

A Milwaukee native, 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, an accomplished editor. They have two sons, Benjamin and Nicholas.



## David Williams II, Director of Athletics



Vanderbilt Director of Athletics David Williams II ranks among the university's most prominent leaders

Aside from his role in McGugin Center, Williams is Vice-Chancellor for University Affairs and Athletics as well as a tenured professor at the University's nationally ranked law school. He continues to teach at the Law School where he conducts courses on Taxation and Education as well as Sports Law. He is also an active participant in the SEC and NCAA in matters of negotiations, reforms, enforcements and planning. Williams is a regular speaker on collegiate athletics and recently spoke at the Law Schools at Harvard and Arizona State; he also served as the keynote speaker at the Black Male Student Athlete Summit at the University of Texas.

Since adding athletics to his multiple titles and responsibilities in 2002, Vanderbilt has seen its athletic department and its individual programs recognized as being among the nation's most innovative and successful. The 2015-16 academic year may have been one of the best yet under Williams' leadership.

Nine Vanderbilt teams reached NCAA postseason competition, including a Final Four appearance by the defending 2015 NCAA national champion women's tennis team and a second straight top eight finish by the men's golf team. The baseball team holds the title of 2014 College World Series champions and 2015 runner-ups and again made it to the 2016 NCAA playoffs, while the women's bowling team finished in the top ten for the fourth

Academically, Vanderbilt student-athletes amassed a 3.11 cumulative GPA for the 2016 Spring semester, with seven teams achieving the highest APR in the SEC. The department finished its 10th straight year with an overall achieved GPA over 3.0. Five Commodore teams posted perfect APR scores, while three teams had every member of their team achieve a GPA of 3.0 or better. Fourteen of the varsity teams achieved a GPA of 3.0 or higher in the 2015 - 16 academic year. The last Federal Graduation Rate (FGR) information, released in November of 2015, recorded Vanderbilt's Student Athlete Graduation rate at 92 percent, which was within one percent of Vanderbilt's overall graduation rate.

In the spring of 2016, Williams again demonstrated his hiring prowess. Williams orchestrated two successful searches resulting in the hiring of two of the nation's top basketball coaches, Bryce Drew and Stephanie White, to led the respective Vanderbilt men's and women's programs. In addition, the return of Commodore legend and favorite Carolyn Peck as a member of the women's staff was very well received by the Vanderbilt faithful.

Drew and White join a growing list of highly regarded head coaches hired by Williams, including head football coach Derek Mason, who came onboard in 2013. The next year, Williams attracted Darren Ambrose from the University of Pennsylvania to direct the women's soccer program. In 2012, Williams directed the search for men's golf coach Scott Limbaugh, who has since led the team in back to back NCAA Final Eight appearances. In addition, Williams has hired Greg Allen (women's golf coach), Ian Duvenhage (men's tennis coach) and Steven Keith (cross country/track coach), all who have taken their teams to NCAA postseason. Allen and Keith have also guided their teams to SEC Championships. Williams has also retained top coaches and staffs by orchestrating extensions for baseball coach Tim Corbin, women's tennis coach Geoff MacDonald, women's bowling coach John Williamson and women's lacrosse coach Cathy Swezey.

Williams has addressed numerous facility upgrades, including a state-of-the-art training center which opened February 2016 in McGugin Center. The new training center provides top-notch medical care for Vanderbilt student-athletes. Crews recently finished replacing the football practice field, on the John Rich Practice Facility, with highly sought after

Shaw Sports synthetic turf. Ground was broken immediately after this past baseball season for a new expansion of the wonderful baseball complex, Hawkins Field. Other improvements in recent years include refurbishing of Vanderbilt Stadium and its football locker rooms, an addition of new tennis courts and amenities at Brownlee O. Currey Tennis Center, renovations in Memorial Gym and McGugin Center, a new multi-purpose facility for athletic and general university use, a new four-lane bowling center and a clubhouse with hitting bays for the men's and women's golf programs.

An initiative to allow more overseas travel and study abroad for Vanderbilt student-athletes also has become reality during Williams' tenure. Three years ago, 15 athletes ventured to Tanzania during the summer for a service trip to bring shoes to underprivileged communities in Africa in conjunction with Soles4Souls. The partnership continued in 2014 with another community service effort to Costa Rica. In 2015, Williams led the summer service trip to Cuba. Vanderbilt athletes were honored to be in Havana during the opening of the new United States Embassy and were able to be a part of the first briefing. Last year, the Athletic Department began a newly created Internship Program for student-athletes which matches them with employers who provide real life training for life after college. The program has received rave reviews from the student athletes, the employers, the NCAA as well as other colleges and universities.

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 came to Vanderbilt in 2000 to serve as Vice Chancellor, General Counsel and University Secretary, after a 14-year tenure at The Ohio State University, where he served in numerous administrative roles including Vice Provost for Minority Affairs, Vice President of Student and Urban/Community Affairs and Professor of Law

A native of Detroit, Williams received a Bachelor of Science in Social Sciences and Master or Arts in Education from Northern Michigan University, where he was a member of the university track team. He also earned a Master of Business Administration (MBA) and a Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD) from the University of Detroit, where Williams presently serves on the University's Board of Trust. Williams also earned an LLM in Taxation from New York University. Before entering law school, Williams spent 10 years as a teacher and coach in the Detroit public school system.

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

Williams is active in the greater Nashville area community, serving as a board member with several organizations. He served two terms on former Nashville Mayor Karl Dean's Procurement Standards Board and two terms as a Nashville branch member on the Atlanta Federal Reserve Board. Williams also served as chair of the Nashville United Way Board and treasurer and board member for the Nashville Symphony. He is presently serving on the boards of the Middle Tennessee Community Foundation, the Nashville Sports Council, the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame and the Nashville Public Education Foundation. In addition, Williams is the Co-Chair of the transition team for Dr. Shawn Joseph, the new Director of Schools for Metro Nashville

Williams and his wife, Gail met in law school and have four children: Erika, a grade school teacher in Detroit and graduate of Eastern Michigan University; David III, a two-time graduate of Bowling Green State University and is an academic counselor at Michigan State University, where he recently was awarded his Doctorate degree: Samantha (Sam), a graduate of Brown University, where she was a member of the swimming team and presently a third-year law student at Vanderbilt Law School; and Nicholas (Nick), a senior at High Point (N.C.) where he is a three-time scholar athlete member of the track team. Sam and Nick both attended pre-college school here in Nashville where Sam was an All-State swimmer at Harpeth Hall and Nick was an All-State athlete in soccer and track and a four-year basketball member at the University School of Nashville.

Gail is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the University of Detroit Law School. Prior to attending the University of Michigan, Gail attended Cranbrook School in the Detroit area where she played basketball and field hockey. She serves as Associate Director of Community Relations for Vanderbilt and is past president and former board member of the University School of Nashville Board of Trustees. In addition, she is past Board Chair of the Metro Transit Authority where she continues to serve as a board member. Gail also serves on the boards of many non-profit organizations including the Frist Center, the Women's Fund Advisory Board, the YWCA, the Tennessee Performance Arts Center and the Baptist Healing Trust. She was also recently elected President of the Nashville Chapter of The Links. Inc.