Vanderbilt, founded 141 years ago by a $1 million gift by Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt, is one of the nation’s leading institutions of higher learning, a mid-size, private comprehensive research university that emphasizes undergraduate learning and living experiences.

Members of the 2014 undergraduate student body, including Vanderbilt student-athletes, are outstanding academic achievers and active participants in the campuses’ many organizations and activities. They also compose the most diverse enrollment ever as Vanderbilt continues to attract students from many ethnic, cultural, socio-economic, geographic and religious backgrounds.

Since its inception, the university has taken great pride in the quality of education – and quality of life – its students enjoy. Each of the four undergraduate colleges – College of Arts and Science, School of Engineering, Blair School of Music and Peabody College – attracts students with varying goals and dreams.

Vanderbilt Facts

- Undergraduate enrollment of 6,875
- Full-time faculty of 3,672
- 25,026 university employees
- 330-acre scenic campus is located west of downtown Nashville
- More than 127,000 living alumni; 21,000 reside in Nashville

At Vanderbilt, professors know their students’ names and take an interest in students’ ideas. Recognized globally for their research and scholarship prowess, faculty members believe in the importance of balancing professional pursuits with classroom instruction, and they value their relationships with students. Some of the world’s leading scholars teach at Vanderbilt, helping students develop an academic program that meets individual objectives, and they encourage students to enhance primary areas of study by choosing among hundreds of elective courses, course-related internships, off-campus study and accelerated degree programs.

Through the Honor Code, student-directed service opportunities and campus programs, undergrads also consider moral and ethical issues and put the many facets of their lives into a personal framework of values.

At Vanderbilt, the big material resources are in place: beautiful grounds and buildings, well-equipped classrooms and labs, modern options for housing, and ample athletic and recreational facilities. Off campus, undergraduates have all the urban conveniences offered by one of America’s most vibrant cities, the Tennessee capital city of Nashville.

Though located within walking distance of downtown activities, the quality of Vanderbilt life is reflected in much smaller, less public ways – attending a Commodore sporting event, researching papers, running into friends while walking on campus, or grabbing a late-night snack.
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

NEW WARREN, MOORE COLLEGE HALLS
ADD TO RARE ON-CAMPUS LIVING
EXPERIENCES FOR UNDERGRADS

Vanderbilt’s national reputation of providing students with a remarkable on-campus living experience will be enhanced this fall with the christening of the beautiful Warren and Moore residential college halls.

Warren and Moore college halls, each accommodating nearly 330 upper-class students, are located on the university’s scenic main campus directly across from historic Kirkland Hall. A mixture of sophomores, juniors and seniors – to be led by a faculty director and two graduate students in residence – will call Warren and Moore home during the academic year. Each college will be organized into two halls in order to create unique neighborhoods within the larger college communities that will foster a variety of student-led opportunities for engagement, enrichment and leadership.

The signatures of a two-year College Halls of Kissam construction project, Warren and Moore halls join The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons as elite on-campus living and learning experiences on the American higher education landscape. The Ingram Commons, opened in 2007 and home to Vanderbilt’s entire first-year student population, consists of 10 modern residential “houses” and a Commons Center located in the southeast quadrant of Vanderbilt, on its Peabody campus.

The Ingram Commons also was showcased in October 2008 when ESPN selected the site as its location for the popular College Football GameDay broadcast prior to airing Vanderbilt’s victory over Auburn on campus.

NOTABLE VANDERBILT ALUMNI ACROSS AMERICA

Vanderbilt alumni are having a positive impact on the nation. Vanderbilt’s alumni are leaders in their chosen fields, including sports, business, engineering, science and medicine, public service, arts and entertainment, and education.

In sports, Vanderbilt grads are more abundant than ever: Brandt Snedeker is the 2012 PGA Tour Fed Ex Cup champion and a member of recent Ryder Cup and President’s Cup teams; David Price, Sonny Gray, Mike Minor and Pedro Alvarez are Major League Baseball stars; Buster Olney is ESPN’s top baseball analyst; Skip Bayless is an opinionated morning co-host on ESPN’s “First Take” show; and Jay Cutler is primed for his sixth season as the Bears’ starting quarterback.

On the set of NBC Studios in New York, Willie Geist co-anchors the ‘Today’ show. Suspense enthusiasts gobble up the newest thriller by best-selling writer James Patterson.

From the halls of Congress, Lamar Alexander is one of the nation’s most effective leaders as Tennessee’s senior senator. Rear Admiral Nora Tyson commands America’s newest aircraft carrier. Economist and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Muhammad Yunus is taking his community-based Grameen Bank concept across the globe from Bangladesh.

And in the fields of enterprise and technology, Dr. Thomas Frist Jr., Cal Turner Jr., Arthur Hancock, Bill Samuels Jr., and John Ingram are just a few of many alums regarded as leaders of industry and commerce.

Since winning the 2012 PGA Tour Fed Ex Cup, alum Brandt Snedeker has represented the United States in the Ryder Cup and President’s Cup.

In 2008, ESPN aired its popular College GameDay Show from The Ingram Commons.
Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos was raised in Milwaukee, 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 was on frequent display in the last year, including being the first to welcome Tim Corbin and the Commodore baseball team back to Nashville after they captured the College World Series national crown and playing a vital role last January in the recruitment of Derek Mason as the 28th football head coach in team history.

"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 (SEC). He also serves on the National Security Higher Education Advisory Board; the Newseum Institute, Inc. Board; 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.
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, regulations and planning.

Today, Williams has firmly placed his stamp on the program, and has positioned Vanderbilt athletics among the most innovative in the nation. Just in the past year, Williams has been instrumental in directing the Commodores toward national prominence. Under his leadership, a $31 million multi-purpose indoor facility opened in November. The state-of-the-art complex houses a practice field and a 300-meter indoor track. In January, he hired Derek Mason, one of the country’s most well-respected and brightest coordinators, as head coach of the football team. And, in June, the baseball team won the first men’s national championship in school history by reigning supreme at the College World Series.

The cumulative grade point 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 (including two consecutive bowl wins) in football, recent SEC titles in baseball, women’s cross country and women’s golf is becoming an expectation on campus. Individual accomplishment has been increasing, with 12 Vanderbilt athletes being selected in the first round of their respective professional drafts in the last 10 years.

In addition to the hiring of Mason, Williams also demonstrated his leadership within the Vanderbilt program by orchestrating successful searches for exceptional coaches to guide Commodore sports. In 2012, Williams also directed the search for new men’s golf coach Scott Limbaugh. This past May, Limbaugh, in just his second season, guided Vanderbilt to the NCAA Championships for the first time since 2007. 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. Last year, 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.

In association with Vanderbilt Athletics, Williams has served as a member of the SEC team that negotiated recent ESPN and CBS television partner contracts. Williams also serves as Chair of the NCAA Infraction Appeals Committee and is 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 the Detroit 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 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 is working toward a doctorate; Samantha, a Brown University graduate and swimmer now attending Vanderbilt Law School after working for U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander; and Nick, who was named a scholar athlete as a freshman member of the High Point (N.C.) University track team and graduated from University School of Nashville where he was selected as 2012-13 co-Athlete of the Year after competing in cross country, basketball, track and soccer.

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, and the YWCA.

Williams presents the Golden Anchor to former standout linebacker Jamie Duncan during Vanderbilt Athletics Hall of Fame ceremonies last September.
HEAD COACHES

GREG ALLEN
Women’s Golf

MELANIE BALCOMB
Women’s Basketball

TIM CORBIN
Baseball

IAN DUVENHAGE
Men’s Tennis

DEREK GREENE
Women’s Soccer

STEVE KEITH
Track, Cross Country

SCOTT LIMBAUGH
Men’s Golf

GEOFF MACDONALD
Women’s Tennis

DEREK MASON
Football

JEREMY ORGAN
Women’s Swimming

KEVIN STALLINGS
Men’s Basketball

CATHY SWEZEY
Women’s Lacrosse

JOHN WILLIAMSON
Women’s Bowling