

From: owner-spring2017_provost@list.vanderbilt.edu [mailto:owner-spring2017_provost@list.vanderbilt.edu] **On Behalf Of** Vice Provost John Geer
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 11:25 AM
To: Vice Provost John Geer
Subject: April 14, 2017 Message from Vice Provost John Geer regarding unionization

Dear Colleagues,

Yesterday, April 13, the university filed its post-hearing brief with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). This brief lays out our argument that the bargaining unit proposed by the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 205 is inappropriate and incompatible with our unique model of shared faculty governance.

We do not know when the NLRB will rule, or what their decision will be. In the meantime, we encourage faculty to continue to closely consider whether or not union representation is the right choice. In the coming days, Provost Wenthe, myself, and Dean Benbow, Dean Benton, Dean Townes and Dean Wait will co-host group meetings to review the numerous issues related to unionization. The meetings will be important opportunities for a free exchange of ideas on this important topic. These forums provide yet another example of how shared faculty governance works. We are hoping colleagues with a range of opinions will participate in an effort to provide as much information as possible about this important issue. Please look to emails from your dean for meeting details and please attend if possible.

I realize that this is an extremely demanding period for faculty, as our semester comes to close and with graduation just a few weeks away. We will do our best to keep you informed of developments. You can also find information easily on the [Office of the Provost's website on unionization](#). We will be constantly updating this website.

If you have any questions or comments, please share them with me, Provost Wenthe, or your dean. We stand ready to be a resource as you think about the issue of unionization.

Thanks again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John Geer
Vice Provost of Academic and Strategic Affairs