

**Colorado School of Mines
Faculty Senate Minutes
April 10, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Hill Hall 300**

Attendees: Reed Maxwell (President), Linda Battalora (PE), Tzahi Cath (CEE), Paula Farca (HASS), Vaughan Griffiths (CEE), Jon Leydens (HASS), Paul Martin (AMS), Mark Seger (CH), Chuck Stone (PH), Marcelo Simoes (EE), Sumit Agarwal (CBE), Jeff King (MME), Neal Sullivan (ME)

Representatives: Bo Sinkler (USG), Heather Lammers (GSG)

Apologies: None

Guests: Ye Li (Library), Sarah Hitt (HASS), Cathy Timm (new FS administrator), Tom Boyd (AA)

1. Approval of Minutes

No comments.

Motion to approve: Martin, second: Simoes. Approved – Unanimous

2. Introduce New Senate Administrator

Cathy Timm was introduced to the members. Her start date is May 1.

3. Academic Affairs Update -Tom Boyd

Board of Trustees formally approved all recommendations for tenure & promotion at their meeting last Friday. Candidates that submitted dossiers for consideration have been notified of the outcome. There were 31 applications, 28 were sent to the Board of Trustees for approval. The 3 not sent to the Board were promotion only requests that did not have terminal decisions. Boyd will provide the Faculty Senate with a summary of the tenure & promotion outcomes.

Boyd has reached out to the university and teaching faculty tenure & promotion committees to solicit panel volunteers for workshops for all candidates coming up next year, to learn how best to put together an effective dossier. As required by handbook, Boyd will inform campus regarding the process for next year.

Handbook revisions have been pushed out to campus for comments until the end of April. Three or four comments have been received which the Handbook Committee will take into consideration and revise as needed. President Johnson approves non-substantive revisions; Board of Trustees approves substantive revisions.

Academic Affairs reorganization townhalls have been held on campus. Faculty Senate feedback is welcome. Boyd will respond to all feedback, aggregate input, present to the Deans and President, who will decide how to proceed. President Johnson wants the reorganization complete before the new Provost is hired. If Faculty Senate members would like to discuss the reorganization let Maxwell know. Fall timeline for hiring a new Provost is optimistic. Some top tier applicants have dropped out due to receiving offers at other institutions. Search process is continuing.

4. Library Renovation / BAC Update - Paula Farca

Funding for the proposed project is estimated at approximately 10 million dollars with no Mines funds available. The best chance for funding is to write a proposal to the state. Carol Smith will contact the foundation regarding funding as well. The committee is working on determining what 10 million would

provide in terms of the needs. Future expansion would need evaluated by engineers. Possible funding of 1.8 million could come from USG and GSG. The committee nor Librarian has verification of these funds. Maxwell notes a lot of frustration in the process and outcome. Given how strongly faculty supports library renovations or expansion, Maxwell and executive committee will take the concerns to the Provost and Deans.

5. Mines Undergraduate Research Journal – Sarah Hitt

Hitt is the director of the McBride Honors Program. Hitt along with a group of Mines students have been doing an independent study to lay the groundwork for an undergraduate research journal. Many Mines undergraduates do internal and external research with no venue to share with campus. Timeline is to start accepting submissions next year for the first issue. The journal is a work in progress, so feedback is appreciated. Graduate students and faculty would be peer reviewers. The intent is not to preclude students from publishing elsewhere. Mines Magazine could also be a place to showcase this information.

6. Research Information Management System – RIMS – Ye Li

Li provided a handout and gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding a proposal to introduce a RIMS at Mines. A RIMS can harvest Mines in-house data, publication data, and Mines institutional repository metadata and content. The data would be organized and connected to individual researchers. It would feed into public and internal interfaces to showcase individual research profiles, visualize research networks, generate landscape reports and benchmark research progress with minimal manual intervention. Hopefully a RIMS will save faculty time and effort to manage the records of their research output. If Mines hosts the data the cost is between \$35K – 45K per year. If an external company hosts the data the cost is approximately \$100K. The library will need to get quotes and do the cost-benefit analysis to demonstrate how the expense is beneficial. Campus information sessions will be announced soon.

7. Update Bylaws - Paul Martin

Updates done to the Faculty Senate bylaws were primarily cleanup to titles, typos, etc. An update was made related to the definition of academic faculty to align with the already agreed upon handbook change. Both the edited version and clean version are posted on Canvas for review. Martin will send the updated bylaws to the entire faculty for approval.

A question was posed referencing the Undergraduate Council method of operation section, regarding meeting at least once each month between August and February. Martin replied that sometimes they need to meet more often, thus the flexibility in the language.

8. Survey Update and Discussion

97 respondents to the faculty survey have been received to date. The survey ends Sunday the 22nd. Faculty will be reminded once a week both in the Daily Blast and by email. Feedback on the questions and the process itself has been positive. Although a statement regarding confidentiality is on the survey, some faculty are concerned about privacy. It was suggested that verbiage on confidentiality should be readably visible, as well as mentioned in the reminder emails. Seger will circulate language around privacy by email to the Senate for input. To close the loop on the survey the whole community should be informed of the results. Due to the time to get the results together it was suggested to request one of the workshop times at the August faculty forum to discuss both the climate and leadership surveys. Results of the leadership survey have not been shared with the larger community as it is hard to provide results that do not reveal

the identity of specific administrators and situations. The survey committee will work as a group to figure out how to summarize the leadership survey in an appropriate manner.

9. Graduate Council Update - Marcelo Simoes

Graduate Council held their last meeting for the semester. A few proposals are already being discussed for new graduate certificates. Simoes anticipates a significant number of graduate certificates will need to be evaluated next year. The main difference between a certificate and minor is that a minor is attached to a program and open to Mines students, a certificate is free standing and open to outside students who have a bachelor's degree. The council will hold two meetings a month next semester. The council has worked with the Registrar and Graduate School on a new workflow to make sure everyone is informed and consistent with deadlines.

10. Undergraduate Council Update – Mark Seger

- Last meeting will be held on April 11. It will be mostly informational except for an issue regarding Undergraduate Student Government requesting to have a vote on Undergraduate Council. They are currently observers with a standing agenda item. Per Maxwell's suggestion this issue would be presented first to Undergraduate Council for an advisory vote then a vote by Faculty Senate because it changes the bylaws.
- In January the council approved about twelve Colorado teacher licensure courses with no associated department or program. These courses are mostly taught at UNC as a joint venture with Mines to stream line our students to get teaching certificates. The students would like more of the courses taught on the Mines campus, but it doesn't fit our process and systems. These are 200, 300, and 400 level with the prefix MAED or SAED, all education courses in STEM. It is promoted through TEAM Up whose champion is Kristine Callan and taught by Wendy Adams. The Faculty Senate will invite Wendy Adams or Kristine Callan to the next meeting to discuss.

11. Other Business

Martin sent out a call out for Faculty Senate nominations. Five or six nominations have been received so far but would like the membership to reach out to their departments for nominees. Current senators coming to the end of their term can nominate themselves to continue. Six senators are reaching the end of their term, two are going on sabbatical. Senators going on sabbatical are replaced for the remainder of their term.

Finishing this year: Reed, Mark, Chuck, Neal, and Paul.

One more year: Linda, Tzahi, Paula, and Jeff.

Two more years: Sumit, Vaughan, and Marcelo.

The rules (in the Bylaws) are as follows: elected tenured faculty serve 3 years; elected untenured faculty serve 2 years.

AAUP meeting with guest speakers discussing multi-year contracts for non-tenure track faculty is at the same time as the Faculty Senate happy hour. Simoes will attend for the first hour.

Research Council approved two junior and one senior faculty research awards. ORA presented new software to the council that will replace Cayuse and it looks promising.

Master planning committee meeting is on April 11. Cath will attend.

Sullivan brought up the issue that many faculty are unhappy with the change HR made to the 403b provider. It seems to be a done deal. No one seems to understand what the benefit to Mines was, or to the individuals in the program. Michael Heeley was the faculty representative in the process. The Senate will come up with specific questions and invite him to a Senate meeting.

Please pass the word on the upcoming coffee, happy hour, and faculty celebration (formerly faculty forum).

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting April 24, 2 – 4 pm, Hill Hall 300.