

TO: Thomas Boyd, Interim Provost
FROM: Mines Faculty Senate
DATE: February 28, 2017
SUBJECT: Senate questions on the status of Emeritus Faculty

Emeritus faculty members have extensive and unique experience that can make them valuable assets in institutional fundraising, student advising, counseling, etc. Some emeritus faculty may be willing to **volunteer** their services gratis and could be a tremendous "extra" resource for a department, their college, or the School. Emeritus faculty members are largely an untapped campus resource and there could be intellectual and service benefits to both the School and emeritus faculty members by engaging them more meaningfully.

In this context, Senate is seeking clarification on opportunities, rights and responsibilities of Emeritus Faculty. Section 4.1.5 of the Faculty Handbook quoted below provides little guidance:

"Recipients of emeritus status shall receive special recognition at commencement. Additional privileges bestowed upon emeritus faculty members include the issuance of a permanent faculty identification card, a listing in the university catalog, and full continued use of library and athletic facilities. From time to time, CSM may make other facilities, services, or amenities available for the use of emeritus faculty members. However, emeritus appointments do not confer tenure."

Some questions follow:

1. Do emeritus faculty have the right to attend and speak at department meetings?
2. What opportunities do they have to offer and have considered recommendations to enhance the operation of departments, fundraising, campus visibility, etc?
3. What opportunities do emeritus faculty have with regard to sending and receiving email to their departmental colleagues?
4. What opportunities do emeritus faculty have for obtaining some office space? A discrete office; a shared office; a desk?
5. If they do have space can they use a School phone for professional activities?
6. What committees – departmental and campus -- are emeritus faculty eligible to serve on? Are there committees (besides departmental and university P & T committees) from which emeriti are automatically excluded? If so, are there stated reasons for these exclusions?
7. Are emeritus faculty eligible to submit extramurally funded--or funding internal to Mines--research and/or educational development proposals? Are they eligible to participate in such activities on a paid basis?
8. Do Emeritus faculty have the right to obtain Mines business cards?
9. Can emeritus faculty volunteers receive coverage on workers compensation, and assistance with issues related to parking, and workspace?

The role and the rights of emeritus faculty deserve clarification in the Faculty Handbook. There ought to be minimal rights that should apply to all emeritus faculty. Without these there can easily be confusion and considerable variation with regard to how emeritus faculty are treated in different departments across campus.