

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
February 14, 2017 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Hill Hall 300

ATTENDEES: Dinesh Mehta (President), Jürgen Brune (MN), Tzahi Cath (CEE), Jeff King (MME), Jason Ganley (CBE), Paul Martin (AMS), Mark Seger (CH), Chuck Stone (PH), Jon Leydens (LAIS), Neal Sullivan (ME), Heather Lammers (GSG), Madison Northrup (USG)

APOLOGIES: John Berger (ME), Reed Maxwell (GE), Michael Heeley (EB), Linda Battalora (PE)

GUESTS: Tom Boyd (Interim Provost), Sam Spiegel (Trefny Center), Timeri Tolnay (Trefny Center), Lisa Nickum (Library), Carol Smith (Library), Wendy Harrison (GE), Jered Dean (ME), Sarah Hitt (LAIS), Karin Ranta-Curran (HR)

1. Approvals:

1.1 New Senators: Neal Sullivan (ME), Michael Heeley (EB)— **Motion to approve the new Senators: Brune, second; Seger. Vote to approve: Unanimous**

1.2 Approval of January 12 and January 24 minutes. **Motion to approve both sets of minutes: Brune, second; Seger. Vote to approve: Yes: 8, No: 0, Abstain: 1.**

2. New committee announcements:

2.1 Teaching evaluations subcommittee created: Marr (chair), Eklund, Illangasekare, and Holles. Researching mechanisms to evaluate teaching that go beyond the student evaluations.

2.2 Ad Hoc Library committee: Battalora and Brune co-chairs. S. Thompson, C. Smith, A. Seiffert, Severn (Sevy) Swift and Stephanie Riley.

2.3 Teaching Faculty/Library Faculty Advancement Committee: Stone (chair), Battalora, Boyd, Li, Ruskell. The result of conversations with teaching Faculty and library Faculty over the past few months, and a previous senate Faculty initiative that was shelved.

3. Visitors:

3.1 Tom Boyd

Kay Godel-Gengenbach resigned her position as the OIP Director effective July 31st. The new Director position will be responsible for OIP and ISSS. Brune will be the Senate representative on the search committee for the new position. Boyd hopes to have the position filled by August 1st.

3.2 Sam Spiegel and Timeri Tolnay: Update on Canvas from The Trefny Center:

Mines is transitioning from Blackboard to Canvas began this past fall. Canvas was selected in a competitive bidding process and integrates well with Banner. All students for academic courses will be entered through Banner and students must be added or deleted in Canvas by the Registrar. The Trefny office is available for help. Canvas feeds directly into Trailhead. Entering final grades into Canvas is currently being integrated and will be available this spring. The Trefny Center offers Canvas campouts, and there are workshops scheduled in February and March. The campouts are drop-in, and please sign up for the scheduled workshops. Spiegel would like the Faculty Senate to help to spread the word to encourage everyone to come to the training sessions. Blackboard will no longer be available as of June 2nd. The materials will be migrating from Blackboard to Canvas in May, but it will be best if Faculty migrate their own materials before the June 2nd deadline. There is a helpdesk button for Canvas on <http://helpdesk.mines.edu>. Tolnay said that only 40% of the Faculty are currently using Canvas, and with the deadline quickly coming, please spread the word. Please join one of the campouts, scheduled training or contact the Trefny Center with any questions.

<https://trefnycenter.mines.edu/canvas-1.html>

3.2 Wendy Harrison:

Harrison is concerned with the Summer teaching obligations in the Faculty Handbook under 6.1.5 Summer Services. It states that Faculty are obligated to teach in the summer. This is potentially a problem for some Faculty. For example: If an assistant professor on the tenure track needs to focus on research over Summer and may not have time to teach? Alternatively, could semester teaching be reduced to catch up on the research? This may not be permitted in the current Faculty handbook because the summer and semester teaching are treated the same way. Also, most Geology and Geophysics Faculty are out in the field for an extended time during Summer and may not be able to teach at that time. Harrison is concerned with this issue. No action is needed, but Harrison wanted to highlight the problem for the Faculty and will be working on it.

3.3 Jered Dean, Sarah Hitt, Jon Leydens — Communications across the Curriculum document.

Created three different models to achieve the desired outcomes. Some of the models require new hires, so that would be postponed into the future. Dean, Hitt and Leydens are looking for comments to move forward. Ganley stated that the UGC was in general support of the document, but did not vote on it. Hitt shared that the problems seem more urgent than they did a year ago. Dean stated that employers and clients have shared that Mines produces great students but they don't communicate well. Stone said this is outlined in the Mines strategic plan, but why doesn't the school have the resources to support it? **Motion to endorse the Communications across the Curriculum document by Seger, second; Ganley. Vote to approve: Yes: 8, No: 0, Abstain: 1.**

3.4 Karin Ranta-Curran—Executive Director, Institutional Compliance and Equity (Title IX Office).

King invited Ranta-Curran to discuss the Title IX requirements at Mines. The Title IX Office has put Mines in compliance with the federal requirements. The office is working to update and tweak school policies. Regarding mandatory reporting requirements for graduate students, current policy is that, if a graduate student is an employee and they become aware of sexual harassment or sexual violence, they are required to report this to the school. The Title IX Office took a broader view among that graduate student group. Looking back at Mines statistics, the Office has not had many reports come through graduate students. The Office is sensitive to the fact that this is a substantial requirement to put on the graduate students. The Title IX Office takes these issues seriously to make sure Mines has a safe and non-discriminatory environment on campus, but it is open to further discussing the mandatory reporting requirement. It is not a mandate from the federal government, but the Office felt it was an important requirement at the time the policy was established. The Office seeks more input from the student groups; undergraduate student government, graduate student government and the Faculty Senate on this requirement. Also, new reporting options exist now, including speaking confidentially to Karin or another person in the Title IX office. Speak Up at Mines is an online, anonymous reporting system, and is a also valid way to fulfill your reporting requirements. Speak Up uses a third party online reporting tool called Convercent with high, industry-level, security standards. The Office looks investigates all reports that come in. The office does research and has a strict vetting process before assigning an investigator. Martin asked how Mines compares to other universities regarding the mandatory role of graduate students. The Office did research and benchmarking with other universities. There is a wide range of types of practices. Most of the schools who have this broad reporting program are under federal investigation, and are required to do so. Five schools in our regional area, CU, CU Denver, Regis, CSU, and DU all have open and pending investigations with the Department of Education, thus the schools are currently required to have broad mandatory reporting requirements. The peer universities the Office looked at with a similar student body size to Mines, and with a significant number of

graduate students, do require the broader reporting obligations from graduate students. There are many schools that do not have mandatory reporting obligation for graduate students. Technically focused schools that are comparable to Mines such as South Dakota School of Mines or New Mexico Tech do not have these reporting requirements. Considering practices at other universities, Mines went with the regionally based criteria. King asked if the mandatory reporting can be discharged with an anonymous report? Ranta-Curran said you can use Speak up at Mines website to log in an anonymous report. You get a reference number that shows you reported the incident. King wondered if the mandatory reporting obligations are too large of a burden for a graduate student, and the responsibility should be more on the Faculty. Seger asked if there was a distinction made between graduate students on a teaching assistantship versus other forms of employment? Ranta-Curran said that those distinctions have not been made, and that could be considered. Ranta-Curran stated again that this is an ongoing discussion and they want to improve the process. The office wants to empower the teaching assistants to help if they have a student who says something happened, for example, by allowing more time for a paper or an exam. The Office wants to get involved and support the student as well. Martin added that there is a difference in being empowered and being required, and Ranta-Curran agreed. Mehta suggested the office could engage with the graduate student association, and the graduate council to get some feedback and come back to discuss this issue. Mehta asked if they could provide some statistics. Ranta-Curran said they are finishing up their second year on this system and have some statistics. There is an online prevention training program for Faculty and staff. Freshman and sophomore students were given the opportunity to take it prior to enrolling at Mines. The graduate student module will be rolled out this year. Adjunct Faculty is also required to take the online training. Northrup shared that undergraduate peer mentors are also mandatory reporters. There is a required three-hour training session, in addition to the online training seminar. The feedback has been positive for the online training seminar. Ranta-Curran will come back with more information and statistics to continue the discussion with the Senate.

4. Climate Change statement draft (King, Leydens, Maxwell): King said they looked at CU and a few other examples of climate change statements. King said for people to read the statement and have an impact, it should be short and concise, with links for support and additional resources, for example, the NASA website and more detailed statements endorsed by the Faculty Senate on the Senate page. Cath wondered if we have a statement like this, where does it take us and what does it prove? King stated as academes we have an obligation to support science. Mehta agreed that it supports the scientific process. The statement will be posted on the senate website, endorsed by the Faculty senate, and by other Faculty members. Senate endorsed the statement and will give other Faculty an opportunity to sign, not just vote.

Motion to endorse the Climate Change Draft statement and re-visit how to distribute and implement by Martin, 2nd Cath. Vote to Approve: Unanimous.

5. Undergraduate Council (Ganley)

5.1 BS Degree in Engineering

Senate expressed concerns about the BSE 2.0 Proposal in a memo to Tom Boyd. The new EDS division is a division, not a program. Seger asked if student demand was hypothetical? Northrup said there was one poll sent out to freshman in November, most of whom had not declared a major yet. Ganley said some recruiters at the Spring Career Fair were informally polled. Neither of those informal polling methods had a lot of information as to what this degree was. How well are they prepared for the real world or to take the PE exam? Martin cautioned not to dilute the Mines brand. Ganley will finalize the next revision of the proposal and forward to Academic Affairs.

5.2 Laboratory and Studio Evaluation Questions

The original draft document has been slightly edited and refined and was approved by UGC. Response rates are acceptable with the electronic evaluations, but responses have fewer written comments. **Motion to approve the Laboratory and Studio Student Evaluation Statements by Brune, second; Leydens. Vote to Approve: Unanimous.**

6. Research Task Force 2.0 update (Cath)

Meeting on a weekly basis with President Johnson and Faculty about the direction for the new Vice President of Research and Tech Transfer position. What does Faculty want the VPRTT to do? More information to come.

7. Survey Committee update (Seger)

Committee continues processing the survey data. The Committee notes that the level of dissatisfaction over the general Faculty has fallen from the last survey from 34% to 24%. Still, the “somewhat or very likely to leave CSM” percentage has not changed. The goal is to summarize five main points: moral, college structure and how it is perceived by Faculty, work load productivity, salary and retention issues, and experience of women and minorities.

8. Productivity committee update (Martin) Goal to prepare a response to Boyd’s presentation on productivity. In progress.

9. Values statement (Mehta/Osgood) Mehta discussed the use of profanity by students and cell phone issue with Boyd. Boyd suggested the UGC could have a Code of Conduct for the classroom and for the campus. The statement was pushed out to department heads but did not

receive much feedback. It was suggested to create a bullet point version to fit on business cards, along with a more elaborate version for the Mines and Faculty senate websites. Seger stated that Senate is happy with language, but wants a shorter version. Northrup suggested to encourage the students to read the full version. **Motion to endorse the values statement in spirit with minor edits and the goal to shorten it. Brune, second; Seger. Vote to approve: Unanimous.**

10. FOSCA Report (Stone)

Faculty Oversight Committee on Sports and Athletics summary. Athletes are claiming an increased number of concussions across the board in all sports. The Faculty must be more understanding when an athlete has a concussion. The athletes are often not aware of the academic support available to student athletes.

11. Graduate Council (Brune)—

- Geochemistry (1 item)
Item: MPMSPHD-GCHM: MP, MS & PhD - Geochemistry (change)
Justification for change - Geochemistry department agreed to update the Geochemistry curriculum because some classes have been dropped (Physical Chemistry), some needed credit updates, and some are new additions (Litho geochemistry and Numerical Modeling of Geochemical Systems). Geochemistry also decreased the number of post bachelor credits for PhD students from 42 to 40. The credit reduction was verified to meet the Graduate School guidelines
- Geology and Geological Engineering (2 item)
Item: MPMEMSPHD-GE: MP, ME, MS & PhD - Geology & Geological Engineering (change)
Justification for change: The proposed changes for GEOL523 are a reduction in the number of course credits from 3 to 2 since there is a new Fall course that covers some of the content. The course revision will also be reflected in the program change. Program will also reduce total proposed post-bachelor course work from 48 to 36 credits, to make it more flexible. The department also encourages PhD students submit two papers for publication but they are not required. All items approved by the GC on February 1, 2017. **Motion to approve both program changes: Brune, second; Seger. Vote to approve: Unanimous.**

Next meeting February 28, 2017, 2-4 pm, Hill Hall 300