

**COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES**  
**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
February 26, 2013 - 2:00pm  
Hill Hall 300

**ATTENDEES:** John Spear (CEE), Joel Bach (ME), Bernard Bialecki (AMS), Tracy Gardner (CBE), Dan Knauss (CH), Ivar Reimanis (MT), Chet Van Tyne (MT), Kim Williams (CH), Ray Zhang (CEE)

**APOLOGIES:** Lincoln Carr (AMS), Thomas Monecke (GE), Ken Osgood (McBride), Candy Sulzbach (CEE),

**GUESTS:** Terry Parker (Provost), Lara Medley (Registrar), Alyssa Brown (Undergraduate Student Association), Mark Taylor (Graduate Student Association)

**Minutes:**

Minutes from the 2/12/13, 12/11/12, and 11/27/12 Senate meetings were approved.

**Guests:**

Parker – Administration is preparing to respond to a change in Bio delivery, in order to act this summer. Space for housing a new bio program is being planned in Alderson Hall, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, southeast/southwest side. There is yet no funding source identified. Fringe rate conversations are taking place with regard to budget. AA is releasing the summer budget requests this week. The school's formal responses to ABET are due in a week. Spear said that the BELS Transition Committee is preparing to release their results later today.

**CSM Double Degrees:**

Medley – with recent organizational changes, there are about 60 combinations of degrees that, with only a few added classes, students could get a second degree. Double degree is already in place in some ways. If a student from another school transfers to CSM, they must take an additional 30 hours in their new program. Item B in the proposal is a policy change. Item C is the minor proposal still going in undergrad council. Under the proposal, the first degree would be either the degree with the fewer hours or the one already completed. A second degree would require 30 hours in residency and the student would need to fill out an agreement with the DH/DD and Dean outlining which courses will be taken to fulfill those hours. 30 credit hours is a national standard for a major degree.

*Senate voted to pass the double-degree proposal.*

**BELS Transition Committee:**

The committee has drafted a 15 page white paper with its conclusions. The charge of the committee was to break up BELS. The suggestion is to have 4 Biology minors to start. The minors would be in Physics, CBE, CEE and ME. There is a proposed core of two Biology semesters, in a studio format. The committee suggested renumbering the BELS courses to be called BIOL courses. The cores would be BIOL 110 and BIOL 120, similar to BIO 101 courses at other schools. Most of the degrees on campus have

BELS 101 as one option in the distributed science choices. A replacement for BELS 101 needs to be approved before BIOL studio courses can be offered in the fall.

Gardner asked the Senate to consider the proposal for approval at the same time it goes to the Undergraduate Council, due to the time constraints. Tony Dean is putting together a document explaining the differences in curriculum. Judy Schoonmaker may be able to come to the Senate in two weeks with a document outlining the Studio Bio program that was piloted this semester. There was a concern in the Senate that this program is moving too fast, without the faculty or facility in place to support it. There aren't enough details. It was felt that the current approval process should not be circumvented. One concern is who manages the core of the program. 2/3 of CSM students are taking BELS 101. Either we give up on studio BIO for a year, or allow it to replace BELS.

The white paper proposed that an oversight committee be comprised of people from departments with BIO minors. There is a proposed requirement of 2 cores, 2 required electives in home department, and 2 electives mix 'n' match. April 11th is the drop dead date to have the program approved for the fall. Course schedule is released on March 29th. There is a great deal of enthusiasm among the students for this program.

#### **Sabbatical Benefits Policies:**

There is a discrepancy between what is written in the Faculty Handbook and what is being practiced. The handbook indicates that benefits are covered. The administration is charging for benefits or fringe. Spear checked with Anne Walker. She said to work with the Associate Provost to get the handbook updated, as well as getting in a process for what to do when there's a problem. Zhang will raise this issue in the next Faculty Handbook Committee meeting. The sabbatical benefits are outlined in § 3G of the handbook. There is a difference between fringe rate and benefits, which also needs to be clarified. Faculty likes the language in the handbook as is, just wants the administration to follow it.

#### **Faculty Handbook Committee:**

The committee is currently working on wording to add Deans. It is reviewing a draft regarding promotion and tenure submitted by an ad hoc committee chaired by Kevin Moore. The Senate is not in favor of the handbook committee's vote to remove §12. Knauss will draft a memo to the committee for consideration by the Senate at the next meeting.

#### **Board of Trustees meeting:**

The Board will meet with the Senate on March 22<sup>nd</sup> from noon to 1:30pm. The Senate Executive committee has met to discuss topics. They would like to give the BOT an update of FACTIR and to survey the faculty to solicit additional ideas. Kay Godel-Gengenbach is reviewing the language of the survey. Results will be assimilated and added to the PowerPoint for BOT.

#### **CSM Web Presence:**

There are no updates. This wasn't discussed at Research Council.

#### **Senate News page:**

No items have been posted yet. Senate discussed what should be posted. List what is passed, ongoing discussion items, and upcoming faculty forums. A comment box was suggested. There needs to be a way to let the faculty know that the news page is up. The page should link to other items people might expect to find at the Senate.

**CEER:**

The conference went well. The number of presenters on campus was down, but increased off campus participation. The social event was better attended. In the future, the conference organizers would like to see more on campus participation. Registration was open for only one month this year, rather than four months last year, which may have effected participation. Alumni feedback was very positive.

**Undergraduate Council:**

The council is currently discussing the minors proposal from Lara Medley. There is a subcommittee discussion about this. There are two schools of thought regarding what a minor should represent: a body of knowledge or something distinct from the degree. The BELS transition report recommends that ASI not exist, unless the departmental restriction is taken away.

**Graduate Council:**

The Tunneling and Construction Degree was discussed. There is one coming through for Environmental Bio Geochemistry. There may be a vote at the next meeting.

**Research council:**

No updates. Updates on the subcommittees are expected in the next two Senate meetings.

**FACTIR:**

The Faculty Forum is tomorrow. Freshmen Connections event is planned for April 1st.

**President's Cabinet:**

An absentee reporting system has been rolled out that will automatically email faculty if students will be absent. Freshmen admissions is winding down. There is a goal of 950 students accepted.

**Distinguished Lecturer:**

The lecture will be on March 27th. Jim McNeil will be speaking on the Physics of snowboarding. The Provost doubled the award to \$2,000.

**Grading Topic from USG:**

Derek Morgan suggested addressing this in the Faculty Handbook. The Senate wants to see a proposal first.

**Committee on Committees:**

There is a one semester vacancy on the Technology Fee Committee. Keith Hellman was nominated and has agreed to serve. *Senate voted in favor of this nomination.* The Bylaw Subcommittee has not met yet, but a draft has been sent to members. Van Tyne seeking input from the Senate. Subcommittee is looking at eliminating junior senators, but has not looked at equal representation from departments. The Senate is not in compliance after the reorganization. The current model is 2 max from each department.

**Budget Committee:**

The fringe rates were not approved by ONR. The rates will be changed again and be retroactive. Budget wants to fully fund vacations through the fringe rate. Rates will go up beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. Rates will be broken into 6 categories, based on classifications of faculty.

*Senate began Executive Session at 3:30pm.*