

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

March 31, 2015 2:00-4:00 p.m.

McNeil Room – Recreation Center

ATTENDEES: Dan Knauss (President), Corby Anderson (MME), Joel Bach (ME), Jurgen Brune (MN), Lincoln Carr (PH), Jason Ganley (CBE), Ben Goertz (GSA), Patrick Marshall (USG), Dinesh Mehta (EECS), Thomas Monecke (GE), Ken Osgood (MB), Natalie Van Tyne (EPICS)

APOLOGIES: Graham Davis (EB), Kamini Singha (HY)

GUESTS: Terry Parker (Provost), Lara Medley (RG), Lia Vella (Library), Emily Gonzales (Interim Director of Alumni Association), Tyrel Jacobsen (USG Secretary), Chuck Stone (PH)

1. Introductions: senators, guest faculty, undergrad/grad reps, administration members
Emily Gonzalez, Interim Director of the Alumni Association introduced herself and offered to help support the Senate. She reported the new editor of *Mines Magazine* is Laurie Schmidt.

2. Visitor updates and minutes

2.1. Provost – Terry Parker

Parker reported the third and final CASE Dean Candidate is interviewing on campus today. Search Committee will provide their recommendation to Parker upon completion of the interviews. The administration is previewing electronic Faculty Data Reporting systems, the intent is to streamline the process, the programs are able to assemble much of the faculty data for the user. Regarding common exams, effort is underway to improve the system and look at options. The issue involving CCHE and the assessment of AP scores is ongoing; CCHE wanted to put in to place common practices across all of CO higher education. If this had been approved as CCHE wanted, it would have been difficult for Mines to continue to require students to have AP scores of 4 and 5 to get credit. Parker is continuing to work on this with Academic Council at the Department of Higher Education. Worst case scenario, Mines would get an exemption, best case scenario is that Mines would partner with CU and CSU, especially their schools of engineering, to require higher scores. This process is ongoing. The school is creating two new classrooms in Alderson Hall; they will hold 49 and 42 students. The rooms should help a great deal with the need for classroom space in the fall. New node chairs will be tried out in these rooms; a node chair is a plastic frame chair with a lap desk, cup holder, under seat storage and wheels. These chairs allow a studio class to quickly move around into different groupings which gives the instructor capability for instant class re-configuration. Parker is inviting Senators to meet with administration to hear and give feedback on the initiatives and goals put together by the Mines executive staff for implementing the strategic plan. The administration is seeking feedback from the Senate on these ideas.

Medley reported she will ask the Senate to review and approve the graduation list at the next

meeting. Medley thanked Knauss and Osgood for serving on the common exam committee.

2.2. Associate Provost update – Tom Boyd - No Update

2.3. Approval of past minutes - Minutes from March 31, 2015 will be approved at the next meeting.

3. Campus committees and regular responsibilities

3.1. Undergrad council – Jason Ganley

Jason distributed a handout outlining two undergraduate program changes: Minor and ASI in Mechanical Engineering and a Music Technology Minor. Ganley gave an overview of both programs. **Motion to approve ME Minor and ASI: Ganley, second: Carr. Vote to approve: Unanimous.** Ganley presented the second proposal: **Muisc Technology Minor: motion to approve: Carr, second: Osgood. Vote to approve: Unanimous.**

Ganley reported the Core Curriculum Committee, chaired by Kay Schneider, is interested in becoming a formally recognized university committee. This group used to be a subcommittee of UGC, members were from departments that contained core courses. Van Tyne does not feel this should be a university committee, but feels it should be a UGC subcommittee because core curriculum issues ought to be under the purview of the faculty. Discussion of who should chair the committee and to what entity the committee should report. Knauss feels committee should report to faculty and not directly to administration, therefore it should not be a university committee but should be a Senate or UGC subcommittee. Schneider's report states that 50% of students' courses are from the core curriculum; Van Tyne reported that it is actually about 40%. Suggestion was made to have this become a standing committee that reports regularly to UGC. Senate feels the chair should not be a voting member of UGC. Some members of Core Committee also serve on UGC, VanTyne does not see it as a conflict for faculty to serve on both committees because it would be rare for a department rep to have a conflict with the CCC. Bach agrees the core is under assault and feels a standing committee would be better than an ad hoc committee. Senators agree that this should be established as a standing UGC subcommittee and it should be recognized in the Senate bylaws. Bach will draft bylaws language for the next meeting; language will be run by UGC.

Student Patrick Marshall reported on the undergraduate students' views of the electronic evaluations. The executive committee of Undergraduate Student Government was against evaluating smaller classes by a small margin. The full USG was slightly in favor of sending evaluations to small classes. Carr stated, students should be proud of the fact that their input counts and helps maintain high quality teaching; poor teachers at Mines do not get promoted. Carr explained, evaluations are primarily to allow the department head to evaluate faculty performance for giving raises and for promotion and tenure. Goertz raised the idea of faculty sending out their own evaluations for smaller classes. Carr explained that individually crafted evaluations would not be consistent within courses and across campus, which would be a problem. It was noted that faculty do not know the results of the evaluations until after grades

are given. Knauss explained, faculty feel it is important to have all of the the courses evaluated. He reported that Academic Affairs accepted all of the Senate suggestions except those regarding the comments. Davis was concerned about the comments going up to the administration. Carr feels faculty should be able to reply to comments made by students and suggested responding to AA indicating the Senate likes the changes offered by Boyd but explaining faculty would like to have the ability to include a response to the student comments. Knauss suggested Senators read the memo from Boyd then discuss how to respond at the next meeting. Senators can share this with their departments and report back. Ganley will report this to Undergraduate Council.

3.2. Grad council – Jürgen Brune

Meeting tomorrow. Nothing new to report.

3.3. Research Council – Corby Anderson

Award winners for research awards have been selected. Continuing agenda item is the IDC policy and returns. The Deans are meeting with departments for input. The policy is under discussion. Anderson reported, in the future, those who receive an IDC return will be monitored as to how it is used. Research Council used to be the group that approves centers. Monecke said centers are approved by the Deans. Knauss feels that Research Council should have a say in Centers and suggested the bylaws be examined. Monecke then reported from a document from his Dean that said the Deans have the ultimate authority to approve centers. Mehta stated his concern that a change will be made over the summer without faculty involvement. Further discussion of how IDC return rate should be structured. Since the creation of colleges, some senators feel more funds end up in the hands of the administration. Bach noted, asking the DHs to micromanage research budgets would take a lot of time and because DHs are already busy, they should not be burdened with this task. Ralph Brown from ORA invited Anderson to attend an industry contracts meeting. Anderson will report on this at the next meeting.

3.4. Faculty Handbook Committee – Knauss reported the committee work is finished, they are waiting for comments from campus community. Knauss encouraged Senators to review the proposed changes and provide feedback. Osgood will look at the teaching faculty revisions.

3.5. Brief report on any other committees/issues -

N. Van Tyne gave the Parking Advisory Committee report. Hertz used to offer rental cars on campus but is now pulling out, that service will be replaced by Zipcar. The Student Activities Office will manage the program. Zipcar knows how to market to students, therefore this program should be more successful than Hertz. Mines is creating two hybrid electric charging stations, anybody charging their car can use a spot for up to four hours. The Parking Services office plans to have more campus maps installed on signs in the future. Gary Bowersock has suggested allowing City of Golden parking permit holders to park on Mines streets. Right now cars need a Mines permit to park on streets within campus. Proposed parking fees: commuter fee will remain the same at \$75, general will increase \$10 to \$190, reserved will increase \$15 to

\$400. New policy for reserve permit holders: reserve parkers will only be allowed to park in their assigned lot, they can no longer park on the street in general parking. If a person with a reserve permit parks on the street in a general space, they are taking up two spots. Students will not be able to purchase permits until August 1, faculty will be allowed to renew on May 1. Parking Services plans to start fining students, faculty or staff who sell their second parking sticker to another person for money. Married faculty who share a spot will not be allowed to bring two cars on the same day under one permit.

Budget Committee – Dinesh Mehta

Mehta reported there will not be a lot of new faculty positions for next year, mainly replacements and a few diversity hires. TA budget is supposed to increase 15%, with a proposal for another 15% the following year. Line item for faculty senate in the budget.

4. Major topics of discussion

4.1. Library promotion document – Dan Knauss

Senators unanimously voted to approve (10 votes in favor) the library promotion procedures memorandum. Knauss will forward the memo to Boyd.

4.2. Update/discussion of old business/recommendations – Dan Knauss

Knauss reported on meetings with Parker and other administrators. Carr reported on the family friendly campus package discussion that took place at the meeting. Knauss notes that President Scoggins was supportive of, for example, change in dates for spring break. Tyrel Jacobsen, USG Secretary noted that students no longer care that spring break is exactly in the middle of the semester and that the students felt that spring break was too early this year. Carr agreed to complete the family friendly campus package in advance of next Faculty Senate meeting. Overall positive response from Senate and administration; it is believed that there will be agreement on this package.

4.3. Perceptions of Leadership Survey – Ken Osgood

Osgood reported Faculty Senate will send out leadership survey (POLLS) next week. He reviewed the process of creating the survey and discussion took place regarding how numbers will be disseminated. Senators agreed, the main priority is to get the survey sent out. It was noted that this is a pilot project. Osgood stated there is a great deal of support from up and down the administration, there has not been push back and he feels this is an important avenue of feedback. The survey will remain open for two weeks.

4.4. Promotion and Tenure Dossier – Dan Knauss

Knauss reported for Singha on the promotion and tenure dossier project. Annual evaluations will stay in the package but FDRs will come out. Boyd has already pushed this out.

4.5. Senator replacement/elections – Joel Bach

Bach reported on leadership nomination committee. There are five openings for senior senator

positions, one for a senator position. (This has since been corrected to identify six openings for senior senator and no senator openings.) Bach suggests every department have an opportunity to field a senator, plus some at-large members. Knauss responded that the Senate is still having a hard time getting enough people to serve. Bach pointed out, because of the heavy workload in the Faculty Senate, more faculty are needed. Knauss defers to next meeting to determine path forward. Carr suggests “senior senator” be anyone with 10 years’ experience on campus. Knauss agrees this is reasonable.

4.6. LAIS issues – Ken Osgood

Osgood presented LAIS salary inequity and asked for Senate support. Some assistant teaching professors are paid below the poverty level by many measures. Chuck Stone offered comments supporting the LAIS initiative. Mines has teaching faculty on food aid making less than kindergarten teachers.

4.7. Other topics

Tyrel Jacobsen asked Senate to follow up on the Board of Student Publications, there is still no Board. Senators directed him to the President’s Office because this is a university committee. Knauss asked Bach to follow up on the Senate’s recommendations to the President.

5. Agenda items for next meeting

➔ **Next meeting April 14th, 2-4 pm, Hill Hall 300**