

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
September 11, 2012 - 2:00pm
Hill Hall 300

ATTENDEES: Spear, Bach, Bialecki, Carr, Gardner, Knauss, Monecke, Reimanis, Sulzbach, Williams, Knauss, Van Tyne (via Skype), Zhang

GUESTS: Terry Parker, Provost; Alyssa Brown, Undergraduate Student Government

Review and Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from May 8th and April 24th meetings were approved.

The Senate does not currently have a Blackboard course open. Rather than create one, it was agreed that communication will be done via email.

Administration/Guest Updates:

Two senators have been removed from the Senate in order to take positions as Dean of the “Green College” (Tony Dean) and Associate Provost (Hussein Amery).

The campus was contacted last Friday to see if we wanted to host President Obama. He will be coming to Mines Park. CSM was also contacted to host Romney, but was unable to accommodate.

The high performance computing initiative is moving again on getting the next generation of RAU. The winning vendor is IBM. There will need to be a significant infrastructure upgrade to the CTLM. The new equipment will max out the cooling and powers capacity of the building.

It is currently hiring season. All Department Heads have now received their hiring authority. The current count for new faculty is 34 across all units. Last year’s total was 29.

Dr. Parker would like to formally ask the Senate for its recommendations for names of the new college. Should we continue with “Engineering” at the front of the title, or break the pattern? The “Blue college” is still struggling to get its head above water, but a decision on a name for that college will be coming soon.

P&T committee membership – Dr. Parker will generate a list of already represented departments, so that there aren’t two members from the same department. Members will recuse themselves from reviewing applicants from their own department. There are 2 or 3 slots to fill, but double that number of names is traditionally requested.

Teaching faculty promotion – currently ad hoc. The formal structure is being reviewed by the Faculty Handbook Committee. For the time being, a similar procedure will be followed as was last year, which is meant to mirror the tenure line process.

Carr suggested that Academic Affairs send out a memo explaining the bonding process. Many faculty don’t seem to understand how it works. The bond CSM is hoping for is a \$42 million dollar bond, which would support 200 beds, a dining hall, and upgrades to the student center.

Still assessing fiscal health. Most campuses look at bonding as a way to provide the ability to grow. The bonds are serviced by student tuition and fees. The 200 beds would bring all of the freshmen onto campus instead of Mines Park. The existing dining hall doesn't have enough seating. Carr suggested sending out info to unconnected faculty who focus on graduate studies and research. Dr. Parker suggested that we hold this idea for a month in order to see how things develop.

Senate Members

Election for senators is now closed. Ken Osgood and Dan Knauss are the new senators.

Senate will meet with the Board of Trustees on Friday the 26th, from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. Senate will possibly give a short presentation with a reception to follow. The purpose of the meeting is to learn more about the Board members. On the website, there is a brief bio of the Board.

Undergraduate Council

Council will meet for the first time on 10/10/12.

Graduate Council

Council met last Wednesday. Proposals to the council for next year changes need to be in by January to be brought before council in February. Institutional outcomes for Ph.D. students are out and the council is in the process of working on Masters. These are posted in the grad bulletin. How are they determined? Outcomes and objectives come through departments. They are discussed in the Senate, but not in the Assessment Committee. Each department can have higher standards, but these are across the school. Council reps should be bringing these to DHs. Last spring, the minimum number of faculty serving on committee was reduced to four. This process raise questions about who is considered full time and what the role of teaching faculty is. Do we need to create a policy on whether or not teaching faculty can be advisors? The council's discussion was mixed. Does the Senate think this is an issue or not? Do any teaching faculty want to be advisors, who aren't able to now?

New model developing at CSM seems to be a move toward equality between teaching and Tenure-track faculty. This maybe uncommon in U.S.

The required additional work for teaching faculty can be in the form of service, which might include serving on a committee. This makes sense for the teaching faculty model. It is already being practiced in two departments, although it may be against the rules. Teaching faculty are currently allowed to be co-advisors and serving on committees are allowed, but not advisors.

There seems to be a common fear that the tenure-track will be eroded. One solution might be to have a clearly defined percentage of teaching/service to make tenure-track faculty feel safe. We shouldn't limit one group's abilities for fear of the other groups since of security. Ivar will take the Senate's comments back to Graduate Council. The Senate will also discuss further. Grad Council representatives should be bringing this up in their departments. There weren't any teaching faculty at the Graduate Council meeting.

This issue is similar to the Research faculty issue from a year ago. Advising would be a big advantage in grant writing. Quality control is one concern. Advisors to Ph.D. students can't advise a student without a having a Ph.D. themselves. Some may not realize the increased quality of teaching faculty. There needs to be a clearly defined difference tenure-track, research and teaching faculty. Allowing research and teaching faculty to advise may also serve to bring in more grant money.

Research Council

Lincoln Carr was nominated as the new chair of research council to replace John Spear. The motion was seconded and approved.

FACTIR

Seven members met last week for one hour. The committee is trying to assimilate a lot of data. During the second hour, Tracy Gardner, Dan Fox and Kay Schneider met and came up with an idea regarding student retention. Two reasons why people are leaving CSM and STEM topics in general are that they don't feel connected and they don't see connections between core courses and what they ultimately do as engineers. One way to address this might be to have a freshmen event where current students and faculty give a presentation introducing the different disciplines. The presentation would have charismatic projects and people that would help students see the connections between what they're studying and the real world.

Alyssa suggested customizing presentations to each major. She will bring up the idea at the next ASCSM meeting. Tracy invited the Senate to send her ideas or suggest people to participate. Jeff Squire might be a good presenter to display his robots. The Board of Student Organizations might be a good resource, as they are in charge of campus clubs and organizations.

Faculty Oversight on Athletics

In the past, there have been absentee issues with reporting and how to decrease the workload of the administration when sending notifications. There is a new system in place that should be addressing this in fall.

High Performance Computing

Ra started in 2007, with 100+ users. Neo started in 2009, and has 208 users. Both run at 22-23 teraflops. Their impact on research volume is over \$20 million. The replacement for Ra is a dual-architecture from IBM. At 104 teraflops, it is 4x the capacity of Ra. Mines is the second school to get one. It has almost 10,000 cores. IBM may run the computer out of IBM for us. Plant resources won't be done with upgrades to CTLM until April. The intent is to use the cloud until then. Advantages of having it on campus are speed, avoiding the complications of housing in a national lab, and we have a director of HPC on campus who is an expert.

There is a second machine that runs at 50 teraflops and a couple thousand cores. These two were funded from campus, related to the sale of equipment sold ~10 years ago. The cost of the machines was about \$3 million, using funds that were earmarked for computing infrastructure. There was a Supernet fund and GF reserve funding. Additional funding of a half million was applied for, but not received.

President's Cabinet Meeting

- Career Day brought 218 companies to campus, with 70 companies on waiting list.
- 13,000 people are expected in Lion's Park for Obama's visit on Thursday.
- This time last year there were 69 freshmen applicants for Fall 2012. This year, there are 1,700 applications in for Fall 2013.
- Go Daddy went down with a hack event. The Oredigger website was effected,
- Halliburton just donated \$2 mil to CSM, which will be divided up. There is another large donor, but it details were unclear.

- U.S. News and World Report rankings come out tomorrow. Mines is ranked 77; down from 75 last year. CSM is still ranked above CU and CSU significantly. Both female and minority enrollment needs to increase.

Committees

In the interest of time, committee updates will be discussed at the next meeting.

Discussion Items

Van Tyne has sent a memo to President Scoggins with a list of committee appointments.

Spear discussed the idea of having BOT members give presentations as a bridge to the rest of campus. The cabinet was in favor of having Admiral Truly discuss his experiences as an astronaut.

Ray Zhang is the Senate representative to the Faculty Handbook Committee. There has been only one meeting so far, in which the schedule for the semester and outstanding issues were discussed. Items for this term are misconduct, faculty leave, college deans and the teaching faculty promotion procedure. Final proposals from the committee are not due until next March or April, so there is plenty of time for discussion of new issues. Spear asked for updates as the year goes on.

Naming of Colleges

Spear included a list of suggestions in today's agenda. The idea is to come up with things that work for the long term. Do we want something that defines it, explains the college, or is catchy? Departments in the "green" college are CBE, CH, MT, and PH. "Physical" and "Applied Sciences" are bad descriptors because Biology isn't considered a physical science and applied is too vague. The new deans and Provost want the Senate's decision tonight.

A question was raised about the long term plan for Biology? Right now, it's a program within a department. Biology will not be a department in itself.

Suggestions for the "Green" College were:

- The College of Science and Engineering
- The College of Natural Science and Engineering
- The College of Applied and Engineering Science
- The College of Applied Science and Engineering
- The College of Engineering Science
- The College Applied and Engineering Science
- The College of Molecular Science and Engineering

Dave Matlock in MT suggested that the word "Engineering" come first, then whatever type of science second. Some senators felt that having three colleges of "Engineering" would be redundant and confusing. The third college should also be taken into consideration when naming the second. Physics is strongly against being considered an engineering department. Chemistry and Metallurgy feel similarly.

Suggestions for the "Blue" College were:

- The College of Earth Resources (this would build on current marketing strategies)
- The College of Earth Resources and Engineering

- The College of Engineering and Earth Resources
- The College of Engineering and Earth Sciences
- The College of Earth Resources
- The College of Earth Sciences
- The Engineering College of Science

It was felt that more time is needed to come to a consensus. It is likely that the third college hasn't had time to consider a name themselves, since they were so recently formed. The naming of the second college will be tied to the third and both need to be considered together. Spear will send the list of names suggested so far to the administration and solicit input from the third college departments (GP, MN, PE, GE, EB and LAIS). The discussion will continue at the next meeting.

The Senate convened an executive session at 3:45 pm.