

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
 October 9, 2018, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Hill Hall 300

Attendees:

P	Tzahi Cath (CEE), Chair
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Voting Members: 12 total (7 needed for quorum). Quorum was present

P	Linda Battalora (PE)	P	Jeff King (MME)	P	Alexis Sitchler (GE)
P	Paula Farca (HASS)	P	Jon Leydens (HASS)	P	Angie Sower (CH)
P	Gus Greivel (AMS)	P	Lisa Nickum (LB)	P	Neal Sullivan (ME)
P	Alina Handorean (EDS)	P	Marcelo Simoes (EE)	A	Steve Thompson (MME)

Other Attendees and Guests:

A	Joe Bourgeois (GSG)	A	Colin Terry (Student Life)	P	Kristin Farris (USG proxy)
A	Michaela Serpas (USG)	P	Cathy Timm (RO)	P	Pete Maniloff (EB)
P	Tom Boyd (AA)	A	Lara Medley	P	Gary Bowersock (Bus Admin)
P	Allie York (GSG proxy)				

1) **Provost / Academic Affairs Update**

Tom Boyd

Regarding Graves retirement, an announcement will go out for a replacement later in the week. Boyd will perform a modified search process to include a full internal search, open to all full professors, and will also ask for recommendations for external candidates. Then he'll proceed with a targeted open search. Ideally, looking for someone that has department head experience, in particular, someone who has done faculty evaluations and P&T, but it is open to any full professor. Title is Vice Provost for External Initiatives and Dean of Earth Resources and Environmental Programs. The position will be open for internal applicants for a month. Then search committee will start evaluating; goal is to have a solution in place by next August. For search committee, he would like 2 faculty members; one from the Senate and one faculty member at large; with one of them being a teaching faculty.

Provost search is moving forward. Phone interviewed 4 candidates with an additional 4 next week. Based on initial review, believe there are candidates to move forward. Next steps is to have couple of them on campus in early November.

HLC visit was on campus 2 weeks ago and received a draft report which should be final in another week for response. On docket for board approval early December. HLC visit was very positive, only concern was related to experience. HLC is regional accreditor; they accredit institution, not individual programs. School must be a regionally accredited institution to receive federal funds.

ABET was on campus last week; results were ok; there are things to clean up but nothing to worry about.

2) **Registrar Update**

Cathy Timm

No specific update. Summer schedule question came up; Timm indicated that there should be no impact on faculty. Greivel provided an overview of the change; questions about how Grad students will be registered was raised. Additional question about how tuition will be calculated and contact hours. Timm will arrange for Medley to address at next meeting.

3) **Approval of Minutes – September 26, 2018**

Tzahi Cath

MOTION: To approve minutes of September 26, 2018.

Motion: Sitchler, Seconded: Greivel. 1 abstention. Approved.

- 4) **Committee Seats to be Filled**
No open seats to fill at this time.

Alina Handorean

- 5) **Nomination of Faculty**

Tzahi Cath / Alina Handorean

▪ Faculty Trustee – 2 year term ends Dec 2018 – (current representative is Terri Hogue)
Received one nomination and will look for additional names by December.

▪ Distinguished Lecturer Series

Tracy Camp is chair; in December, will put out a call for faculty. By March should have a proposal.
Handorean will coordinate.

- 6) **Grad Council Updates**

6.1 Economics and Business (EB)

Pete Maniloff

[status: approved at GC 10/03/18]

1 new program: Certificate: Resource Commodity Analytics

Maniloff shared their plan to have the certificate as a feeder for other programs. Demand for program will likely come from industry in the area vs. undergraduate students.

MOTION: To approve program as submitted.

Motion: Simoes, Seconded: Farca. Approved.

6.2 Electrical Engineering (EE)

Marcelo Simoes

[status: approved at GC 10/03/18]

3 new Certs: Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Data Science for Signals and Systems
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Antennas and Radar Technology
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in RF & Microwave Engineering

Simoes shared presentation on the additional 3 certificates that will be a part of the others that were approved previously. As it relates to online courses, there is a way for Banner to distinguish how it is taught; the transcript will not indicate whether or not class was taken online or face-to-face. While the presentation listed the courses, Faculty Senate only needs to approve the program. There are some courses that have not yet been approved that are part of the program.

Question related to the 12 credit hour requirement and the naming convention for a certificate program. The definition and usage of Post-Baccalaureate vs. Graduate Certificate is under discussion with Boyd, Medley, and Zhou; the plan is to have a decision in next week or two which will be communicated to all.

MOTION: To approve programs as submitted pending the approval of two undergraduate level courses noted in the presentation.

Motion: Sullivan, Seconded: Greivel. No abstentions. Approved.

- 7) **UnderGrad Council Updates**

Gus Greivel

Greivel shared discussion from undergrad council pertaining to whether or not the Council needs to approve changes to delivery of online modality of teaching. Council felt that they should be informed, but should not need approval to offer/pilot in this way. The initial process was to go through entire Council approval; Greivel met with Boyd for opinion and agreed that it would be sufficient to introduce as information only, item still needs to be tracked by Registrar. Concern related to an entire program that

might fall into an online program if there were too many credit hours taken online; in undergrad programs, they are a long ways away from falling into this category.

Issue raised regarding the online program and potential impacts on face-to-face learning. Trefny Center is responsible for training faculty and the rigor is in place to ensure the quality and engagement of students.

8) **Miscellaneous Business**

Tzahi Cath

- Utility Outages on Campus – impacts on research and future plans

Gary Bowersock

Bowersock handed out a document detailing utility upgrades and power outages on campus. Recent outage was related to repair work and an unplanned issue that dropped the entire campus. There is much frustration with outages. Many upgrades have been made, including a new generator, yet there are still some issues with power bumps from Xcel caused by wind, lightning, and fires. Where this is sensitive equipment, may consider looking at UPS equipment. Construction on campus is increasing. He and his team will continue to look at how to manage outages with minimal disruption.

Question about long-term outage trend; over time, unscheduled outages and power bumps have been on the increase. As it relates to the generator, it is oversized and can serve the entire campus. Cath indicated that Xcel sometimes compensates school for damage or outages. He suggested that there may be opportunity to receive rebates for outages as it relates to research projects being impacted.

- Research Council/Committee updates

Stefanie Tompkins / Lisa Kinzel

Tompkins shared an overview of research committee to give Senators information to make a decision on the research council. The proposed role of the committee is to be able to provide advice on matters pertaining to research at Mines and campus at large. Also goal is to be as transparent as possible. It is not a voting body; intended to function like a task force. Collection of people will represent all faculty to tackle subset of problems by forming sub committees of people that have a stake on outcomes. She shared a list of potential issues to be addressed with the committee. Cath shared that in the past, the research council didn't have all the tools to deal with all the issues raised.

Tompkins has worked with department heads and president about a core group of people to represent different perspectives on the committee. Tompkins would like to have a representative from Faculty Senate. Comment that committee would benefit from having graduate students on committee; Tompkins agreed that the team needs input and would likely have representation on some of the sub-committees.

Question raised about how group will interface with CCIT; this group has recently created a research computing committee. They will want to work closely with CCIT to share information and bring awareness of research perspective.

Question about having research institute on campus; Tompkins felt that the institute concept may not have a clear pathway, clarity and priority. Would like to put some energy into how a Center vs. Institute would work on campus. Creating a fair and transparent process is important, as well as cost sharing.

Feedback was solicited and Cath sent an email and received two comments. The decision to make this change rests in Faculty Senate. Concern that all department heads may not have provided feedback; Tompkins has solicited names, yet the sense is that it needs to be further communicated.

Next steps include: (1) follow up with department heads for additional comments, (2) select Faculty Senate representative, (2) develop language for a change in the bylaws and faculty handbook.

▪ Additional Representatives from Programs to Councils Tzahi Cath
Cath has met with Kaufman. He indicated that a committee has been created consisting of all program directors; they are discussing how best they can be represented on Grad Council and Research Council in the future. The bylaws for Grad Council state that 4 programs are represented, yet there are now 11 interdisciplinary programs on campus. Still TBD how they will be represented. Will continue discussion.

▪ Multi-Year Contracts for Teaching and Library Faculty Tzahi Cath
Cath presented last month to BOT. Ongoing discussions are happening; Boyd indicated that letters of support from Senate and Department heads could help. Information should be conveyed to Boyd, Johnson, or Strange. Battalora will provide a talking document pertaining to professional leave / sabbatical. Board is cognizant of teaching load faculty carries and a sabbatical resonates with Board. Cath will distribute a draft document for comments. Nickum shared a department head letter and asked Faculty Senate to sign on to the document.

▪ Funding for Student Support Groups on Suicide and Mental Health Neal Sullivan
Cath talked with Boyd and Sullivan; Faculty Senate has no money, unfortunately. Most of the budget allocated to salaries to assist Faculty Senate. Sullivan shared that main source of funding will come from Student Life and hopes to get buy-in from other groups. He feels that it's not a problem; the major issue appears to be communication.

▪ Voting Privileges for USG (and potentially GSG) Committee Members Tzahi Cath
The discussion continued from prior meeting. There is still an open question about other schools around the country and whether there is enough information to make an appropriate comparison. There was one school referenced in original document. Confirmed that Undergrad Council vote was 11 to 3 in favor and it has not been raised at Graduate Council. While the issue on the table is whether to give undergrad rep a vote; the grad student rep, York, indicated that they would also like to have a vote.

Concern expressed that representatives attend meeting regularly; York indicated that they have been in attendance and also have a proxy attend. And, with respect to representing entire student population; items are taken seriously and represent constituents.

York will present to the Grad Council to get their feedback and ask for a vote. This would take a month so item can be introduced, then taken back to departments for feedback before voting on the item. Discussion around whether to vote now or wait for the Grad Council decision. Decision that Faculty Senate will look to vote on both student government reps at the same time once decision from Grad Council is made. Also, reps will look for additional detail on peer institution policy to share with Faculty Senate. Bylaw changes will need to be made as well.

▪ Additional Items
Question raised about the big picture items on agenda for Faculty Senate to address this year. Cath shared that in addition to the regular business, the agenda includes several important topics under the miscellaneous business section and is open to discuss other topics that the group feels are important.

Simoes brought up subject related to promotion & tenure committee. Would like to discuss specific item related to the committees, confidential information, and code of ethics.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 23, 2018, 2 – 4 pm, Hill Hall 300. Please send all items for agenda to Cathy Timm (cgtimm@mines.edu) one week prior to the meeting.