

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
November 13, 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)	A	Jeff King (MME)	P	Alexis Sitchler (GE)
P	Paula Farca (HASS)	P	Jon Leydens (HASS)	P	Angie Sower (CH)
P	Gus Greivel (AMS)	A	Lisa Nickum (LB)	P	Neal Sullivan (ME)
P	Alina Handorean (EDS)	P	Marcelo Simoes (EE)	A	Steve Thompson (MME)

Other Attendees and Guests:

P	Joe Bourgeois (GSG)	A	Colin Terry (Student Life)	P	Anna Welscott (Bus Adm)
P	Michaela Serpas (USG)	P	Cathy Timm (RO)	P	Gary Bowersock (Bus Adm)
P	Tom Boyd (AA)	P	Lara Medley	P	Ye Li (Library)

1) **Provost / Academic Affairs Update**

Tom Boyd

- Provost Search. There have been 7 airport interviews completed with two final ones today. To date, there are two candidates who are being recommended to return for an open interview on campus; one on November 29 and the second one TBD. This will probably happen before end of the semester in December.
- Multi-Year Contract for Teaching Faculty. The Board of Trustees met at the end of October. They are considering multi-year contracts for teaching faculty; no decision has been made. In addition to letters of support, Boyd provided strawman proposal for professional leave that Battalora provided, Smith gave a presentation on Multi-year contracts, and he provided contract information from peer institutions for their consideration. Boyd felt it was all well received; they are considering how to recognize contributions the faculty is making in a holistic fashion. Boyd was not sure when decision would be made, but felt it would be discussed in executive session and an announcement would be made about next steps on the topic.
- Calendar Committee. Boyd gave an update on the calendar committee headed up by Medley. It's a university committee charged with looking at academic calendar to provide recommendations to the President. For the last two years, the President has been requesting that the committee find a way to cancel classes for career day; this causes multiple challenges with the calendar. Concerns expressed about limited face time already, especially in a lab classes. Question raised about the day and possibly offering career day on a day when it doesn't impact so many classes. Typically recruiters come to the state and the day when they come to campus is out of our control; but the time of day could be managed. All options are being explored and more information will be forthcoming.
- Handbook Committee. Boyd shared a couple of highlights. They are looking at grievance committee and streamlining the number of members. One item in particular for Boyd is the P&T process related to conflicts of interest. The handbook contains no statements on conflict of interest related to P&T. The Academic Affairs procedure manual states that a faculty member sitting on a review committee can recuse themselves if they believe they have a conflict of interest. There is no way for a candidate coming up to identify a conflict of interest on a committee; Boyd shared that this feels one-sided. The conflict of

interest committee may be able to assist with this issue. Several years ago, there was discussion about having an Ombudsperson on campus; this position never came about.

2) **Registrar Update**

Lara Medley

No questions or items to share.

3) **Briefings and Information Items**

▪ Parking Advisory Committee

Anna Welscott / Gary Bowersock

Welscott shared a presentation; she clarified that the data on parking includes street parking. Parking continues to be a challenge, yet should start to get some relief in August 2019 with a section of the new garage opening. Issue raised that having parking lines on streets would allow for more parking; this is an ongoing issue and conversations continue with the city as they own the streets. Suggestion raised to have a general area to park motorcycles.

A comparison with other schools showed that Mines rates are lower than average. Rates will be increasing next year. Welscott and Bowersock reiterated that revenue from parking only supports parking, no other services on campus. Revenue will go to the bond payment for the cost of the garage. Concern expressed that people may not want to park in the garage and if there would be some incentive to move from one spot to another. At some point, with surface lots going away, there might not be a choice. Price points will likely direct people to where they are willing to park. The overselling policy will likely remain.

The committee continues to look at all issues, once all details are finalized, there will be communication through Daily Blast. Bowersock confirmed that currently people can pay for parking with pre- or post-tax dollars and anticipates that this will not change.

4) **Approval of Minutes – October 23, 2018**

Tzahi Cath

MOTION: To approve minutes of October 23, 2018 with corrections noted on copy posted in Canvas.

Motion: Sitchler, Seconded: Greivel. All in favor. No abstentions. Approved.

5) **Other Committee Updates**

Tzahi Cath / Alina Handorean

▪ Research Committee member – no one has come forward to serve. For the time being, Cath will represent Faculty Senate on the new Research Advisory Board.

▪ Faculty Senator to replace Steve Thompson

Tzahi Cath

Cath sent email to department heads and Sitchler asked for people. Looking for a senior Associate Professor or a Full Professor. There may be some interest from Posewitz; Sower will talk with him.

6) **Nomination of Faculty – pending**

Tzahi Cath / Alina Handorean

▪ Faculty Trustee – two year term ends Dec 2018 – (current representative is Terri Hogue)

Cath nominated Battalora. Cath and Handorean continue to solicit names. Cath asked about a mechanism or platform for voting. Potentially, do a survey through Survey Monkey, Google forms, or Canvas. Spiegel may be a resource to help. Timm will determine how best to handle a vote. Need to avoid multiple voting.

7) **Grad Council Updates**

Marcelo Simoes

7.1 Geophysics (GP)

Yaoguo Li

[status: appr'v'd GC 10/17/18]

1 new program: Computational Geophysics Track

Li shared presentation. Program reflect curriculum that students need to support the employment market. No questions from Grad Council and it was strongly supported.

MOTION: To approve program as submitted.

Motion: Greivel, Seconded: Simoes. All in favor. No abstentions. Approved.

7.2 Computer Science (CS)

Chuan Yue

[status: appr'd GC 11/07/18]

1 new program: Graduate Certificate in CyberSecurity for Cyber Physical Systems

Yue shared a presentation that addressed the urgency and details to support this new program. No concerns from Grad Council.

MOTION: To approve program as submitted.

Motion: Simoes, Seconded: Farca. No abstentions. Approved.

8) **UnderGrad Council Updates**

Gus Greivel

8.1 Economics and Business (EB)

[status: appr'd UGC 10/24/18]

2 program chgs: ASI-ENT: ASI in Entrepreneurship

MIN-BUEN: Minor in Business and Entrepreneurship

Greivel shared that 3 courses removed from books and no longer offering; made updates to programs.

MOTION: To approve programs as submitted.

Motion: Greivel, Seconded: Sitchler. All in favor. No abstentions. Approved.

9) **Miscellaneous Business**

- Voting Privileges for USG and GSG Representatives on Undergraduate Council and Graduate Council, respectively – update

Marcelo Simoes

Simoes shared the details of the discussion at Grad Council; they approved giving voting rights on Graduate Council to the graduate student representative. The exact wording of the motion at Graduate Council was: "To recommend that Senate approve voting privileges for Graduate Student Representative." The presentation listed some peer schools that were allowing a vote. Bylaws will need to be updated.

MOTION: To amend council sections of the bylaws to include voting privileges for undergraduate and graduate student representatives at their respective councils.

Motion: Simoes, Seconded: Leydens. 6 in favor, 4 opposed, 0 abstentions. Approved.

- Research Council - next steps regarding bylaws

Tzahi Cath

Research Advisory Board will be meeting to review language changes for the faculty handbook. Board has been tasked and is moving forward. The two options moving forward with the Research Council include either changing the bylaws or suspending the activity. The Faculty Senate may want some mechanism to communicate with the Board since the creation of research under a layer of administration; with this in mind, Faculty Senate might want to keep the committee on the books versus taking it away entirely. The new Board is still needing a representative from Faculty Senate. There is still an open item as to how faculty awards will be handled. Cath to review and suggest metrics to use for the award.

MOTION: To suspend the operation of the Research Council of the Faculty Senate for the academic year 2018-19 without changing the bylaws and subject to annual consideration.

Motion: Simoes, Seconded: Handorean. All in favor. No abstentions. Approved.

▪ Tech Fees and CCIT – update

Tzahi Cath

Cath talked to Erickson and invited him to present to Faculty Senate. Cath serves on two CCIT committees; one for strategic planning and another on how to integrate CCIT into research and other activities on campus. CCIT is rethinking their operation; they are hosting town hall meetings for input. Question raised about how tech fees are managed on other campuses.

▪ Web Site and WordPress Migration

Alexis Sitchler / Tzahi CathSitchler

CCIT is migrating to a new server and all webpages will be hosted by WordPress by the end of January. This means that all faculty web pages will look the same with Mines branding. This presents a challenge for faculty that want some of their own branding and unique presence on line. Singha has raised a concern about this change and is requesting the ability to have her own branding or at least the ability to link to her site; initial communication from CCIT and Communications is that this will not be hosted or supported by Mines. CCIT is implementing this change; the Communications and Marketing group, Ramirez, is overseeing the change. Cath will ask Ramirez and Erickson to attend next meeting.

▪ Approval of Graduates

Tzahi Cath

Senators reviewed the two lists of graduates posted on Canvas.

MOTION: To approve the graduate and undergraduate lists posted for graduation.

Motion: Greivel, Seconded: Sitchler. All in favor. No abstentions. Approved.

▪ Taskforce for Evaluation of Instructional Effectiveness

Alina Handorean

Handorean shared document that she prepared with potential volunteers. Objective is to have document prepared by end of the year. Shaffer indicated that he would be willing to co-chair the taskforce. Additionally, team members could include Santi, Hildreth, Mehta, Bullock, Seger, and Rodriguez with Handorean co-chairing as representative from Faculty Senate.

▪ Faculty Climate Survey Results – pending next steps

John Leydens

Leydens will distribute results in early spring and re-administer another survey in late May. Cath would like to continue discussion about timeliness of reporting results. Leydens suggested having more members and creating a standing committee; this would be a future agenda item to vote on making this a permanent committee.

▪ Promotion & Tenure – continued discussion

Marcelo Simoes

Boyd discussed this topic in his update; he has received some feedback from departments about their process. There seems to be some question about whether departments have an open to public or an open vote. Simoes shared a document outlining concerns and is requesting Faculty Senate to submit an opinion outlining exact language related to the type of vote and a code of ethics. There is nothing in writing and it appears to be an academic freedom and faculty governance issue. Simoes to prepare draft memo for Senators.

10) **Miscellaneous Business** – items that were not discussed.

▪ Support for “Send Silence Packing” event

Neal Sullivan

- Distinguished Lecture Series – upcoming event
- Add'l Representatives from Programs to Councils
- Consistently of MS, MS-NT across Campus
- FS Coffee Hour and/or Happy Hour

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 27, 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.