

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
 May 19, 2020, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Electronic Meeting via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members: 13 total (7 needed for quorum). Quorum was present

P	Marcelo Simoes (Chair)	P	Robin Bullock (EDS)	P	Brandon Dugan (GP)	P	Sebnem Duzgun (MN)
P	Gus Greivel (AMS)	P	Alina Handorean (EDS)	P	Andy Herring (CBE)	P	Yvette Kuiper (GE)
P	Jon Leydens (HASS)	P	Lisa Nickum (LB)	P	Alexis Sitchler (GE)	P	Angie Sower (CH)
P	Neal Sullivan (ME)						

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

P	Linda Battalora (Trustee)	P	Rick Holz (AA)	P	Paul Myskiw (RO)	A	Colin Terry (Student Life)
P	Cathy Timm (AA/RO)	A	Jennifer Veloff (Trefny)	A	Brock Gagna(USG)	A	Muthu Thyagarajan (GSG)
P	Linda Figueroa (CEE)	P	Cynthia Norrgran (CBE)	P	Joseph Horan (HASS)	P	Bettina Voelker (CH)
P	Jeff King (MME)	P	Kevin Moore	P	Ebru Bozdog		

During the COVID pandemic, all faculty and staff have begun working remotely. In order to conduct Senate business, the regularly scheduled meeting was held via Zoom.

Welcome

Marcelo Simoes

Welcome New Senators

Simoes welcomed the new Senators who all introduced themselves. They are King, Figueroa, Voelker, Norrgran, and Horan. Five Senators will retire. Simoes thanked everyone for their service and wished everyone success in the coming year under the new President, Herring.

Provost / Academic Affairs Update

Rick Holz

Holz shared a few updates related to Summer 2 and Fall; he has been in discussion with Department Heads for input. Looking at a hybrid model for Summer 2 with labs and field sessions in person. As well, hope to have a few courses meet in person. DHs are working with faculty to pull together offerings; detail is due to Holz today and the in person and remote sections will be scheduled. An announcement to students will be forthcoming on Tuesday at the latest. Much planning for Fall is going on. Meeting with Department Heads every week along with Deans and AA executive team members. It looks like some of the biggest sections will likely be remote; still want to offer as many courses on campus as possible with social distancing. May need to use more time slots throughout the day. Teams are working on plans to bring back everyone safely. As well, looking at testing and safety on campus; working with Jeffco and local hospitals. As things are worked out, it will be pushed out to faculty for input.

Question regarding the space planning for face-to-face classes; hopeful that instructional faculty can be engaged on the deliberation of space early on. This will save time if all can be included early in the analysis.

A team has been put together looking at entire classroom inventory utilizing a 36 square foot minimum rule for calculation. Concern expressed that there needs to be a larger area for teaching, like the entire width of the room up front. Myskiw shared that they are going into each classroom and taking into consideration the podium and instructor space as part of the equation. The first round of data is to use the square feet of the classroom and divide by 36 to see where it falls; then additional adjustments will be made for the other variables. Holz has been in continual discussion with departments and he hopes that they are talking to staff. Schedule could include expanding the day from 8 am to 8 pm and some Saturday teaching. Likely will need to increase teaching load to cover the schedule with reduced class size. The adjunct budget is still TBD. It will be a very tight year financially as well as one that's unusual with the sections, class sizes, and time blocks needed during the week for instruction. By about the 15th of June, an announcement needs to be made about how to teach in the Fall.

Question about operating under the assumption that masks will be required and how the faculty might have to enforce this. There is a committee currently tasked with drafting a policy on how all return to campus, on wearing masks, and how to enforce it. Currently the school is ordering masks and there is a group that is sewing masks with Mines' logo. Additional cleaning will also be needed. The goal is to contain and mitigate any impact on campus.

Question about continuing to teach on line versus in classroom. Holz has asked Department Heads to talk to each faculty to determine the schedule for need remote and online teaching; this would be a personal choice of faculty if they decide to come back to teach on campus. Additionally, there is a concern about school districts going on line and faculty's children being at home; this is another piece of information that is being collected for review and analysis as assignments are being made for faculty. Still TBD what percent will be remote, online, and in-person instruction.

As it relates to semester dates or option to have a different calendar; the subject has come up in the executive team. At the moment, they are working under the assumption that they'll use the published dates with no change. As well, there is discussion about examinations; he'd like to see in-person testing. This is based in part on the issue of academic misconduct as well as the assessment component. Department Heads would prefer to have in-person testing; obviously with social distancing, more classrooms, and proctors.

Question about the award celebration that is normally conducted at end of spring and whether there is a plan for this. Executive team has been in discussion and they are trying to decide whether to announce awards and perhaps do a recognition during campus conference. Suggestion to at least send the awards and perhaps do a Zoom meeting. Another idea is to have pictures taken when folks are on campus over summer. Consensus that something definitely needs to be communicated as people are wondering if awards were just not made.

Registrar Update

Paul Myskiw

Myskiw shared that they have finalized the end of term processing; about 2400 students opted in to the P/NP option; it required manual intervention on each record to accommodate the change. Working on awarding spring degrees. Sullivan thanked Myskiw and the Registrar's staff for their efforts to make this happen. Summer enrollment looks good; fall deposits are also good, probably not as high on first-year freshman. Sense is that many students are waiting on recommendation for the fall and are in standby mode.

New items for the catalog will live in an addendum outside of the catalog via a link from the Registrar's page. He also indicated that they've received preliminary approval to offer online programs on campus. Expectation is that the final HLC approval will be made in mid June.

Committee Updates

Leadership Nomination - update

Alina Handorean

The committee is in charge of populating all the vacancies in various committees on campus. There are two different types of committees. Senators have to serve in various committees as members or chairs; an email has been distributed and preferences are all put together and in front of Herring for review. There is another category of membership which refers to academic faculty; she is putting together all of the vacancies. At the end of May there will be an email distributed to all faculty asking for volunteers. Information will be gathered in August with decisions made at the first Senate meeting in August.

UnderGrad Council

Gus Greivel

New Program (not approved at UnderGrad Council on 05/06/20)

1.1 1 new program: BS in Quantitative Biosciences and Engineering (QBE)

Greivel reported that this degree will probably be an agenda item early in the Fall; the Undergraduate Council posed questions to the QBE group and deliberated for over an hour at the last special meeting. The vote was split 50/50 with 2 abstentions and did not pass. The QBE group received a lot of data and information to respond to in bringing the program back in the Fall. Simoes thanked Greivel and the Council for all of their work to date to get the program fine-tuned for the future.

The primary objections were centered around concerns on how it would affect other departments. Specifically if there was even a 5-10 student increase on the lab component, it would necessitate an additional section for which there is not enough space and faculty available. As well, the Undergraduate Council tends to deliberate longer on programs versus the Graduate Council as the coursework impacts many departments. There were several concerns that the proposal was still in draft status and the Council wants to get it right being the first interdisciplinary degree at the undergraduate level and wanted to make sure it's adequately supported.

Grad Council (all appr'v'd at Grad Council 05/13/20)

Neal Sullivan

New Programs:

John Bradford

2.1 GEOPHYSICS

1 new program: Graduate Certificate in Petroleum Geophysics (online)

2.2 INTERDISCIPLINARY – DATA SCIENCE

5 new programs: Post-Bacc Certificate in Data Science – Foundations
Post-Bacc Certificate in Data Science – Computer Science
Graduate Certificate in Earth Resource Data Science
Graduate Certificate in Data Science – Statistical Learning
Graduate Certificate in Petroleum Data Analytics

2.3 INTERDISCIPLINARY – UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION AND TUNNEL ENGINEERING

1 new program: Graduate Certificate in Underground Construction & Tunnel Eng

2.4 CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

1 new program: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Modeling

Changes to Existing Programs:

2.5 ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

1 program change: Graduate Certificate in Data Science for Signals and Systems

New Programs:

Kevin Moore

3.1 ECONOMICS & BUSINESS

3 new programs: Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics
Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship
Graduate Certificate in Product Management

Changes to Existing Programs

3.2 INTERDISCIPLINARY – HUMANITARIAN ENGINEERING & SCIENCE

3 program changes: MS, MS-NT, Graduate Certificate in Humanitarian Eng & Science

Both Bradford and Moore prepared, in advance, a video for all Senators to review and the expectation is that Senators are ready to discuss and vote.

Sullivan gave a brief overview. Most of the programs are slanted toward online delivery, but not exclusively. Simply packaging existing courses into small certificate programs that can be delivered in the Fall and Spring. Courses mostly all exist, with 4-5 new courses with syllabi well established. Grad Council had two unexpected meetings to review materials with lots of discussion and a vote; all in there were about five hours of meetings. There was a lot of discussion and in the end the programs were overwhelmingly approved.

There was a question about Post-Baccalaureate certificate being mentioned in the catalog; the Graduate one is not mentioned. This is correct and Sullivan indicated that it needs to be corrected. There is no institutional language; however, there is a framework that was agreed upon between OGS, Registrar, and Council. They all follow the same framework and for a Graduate one, only one course can be at the UG level. Once the new Graduate Dean comes on board, would like to engage him in the discussion and modified language. There was also concern expressed that there needs to be clarity and specific language and how they'll count toward other degrees at school. The Graduate Council and the Dean should work to provide clarity on this issue. Also, this involves the double-counting policy and how it will impact certificates. There are variables involved in the thesis and non-thesis pieces of a program. All of these subtleties need to be considered. Sullivan will approach this at Grad Council in the Fall.

MOTION: To approve all of the programs recommended by Grad Council. By: Herring; seconded by Kuiper; Approved.

There is one issue with the naming of the Data Science certificates; a decision is pending on making the names all the same in front of the Marketing group.

MOTION: To allow renaming of the programs should the Marketing group and program champions elect to do that. By: Greivel; seconded by Dugan. No abstentions. Approved.

Holz expressed his thanks to the Senators. Simoes thanked Timm for her assistance. As well, thanks went out to Simoes for his service as President this past year.

3:00 pm Adjourn

Marcelo Simoes

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm. Faculty Senate Meetings for the AY 2019-20 are complete.