

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
 March 9, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, via Zoom

Attendees:

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

P	Andy Herring (Chair)	P	Robin Bullock (EDS)	A	Sebnem Duzgun (MN/CS)	P	Linda Figueroa (CEE/MN)
P	Alina Handorean (EDS)	P	Joseph Horan (HASS)	P	Jeff King (MME)	P	Yvette Kuiper (GE)
P	John McCray (CEE)	P	Cynthia Norrgran (CBE)	P	Alexis Sitchler (GE)	P	Neal Sullivan (ME)
P	Bettina Voelker (CH)						

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

P	Tracy Gardner (Trustee)	P	Rick Holz (AA)	P	Paul Myskiw (RO)	P	Colin Terry (Student Life)
P	Sam Spiegel (Trefny)	P	Joe Whitney (USG)	P	Maxwell Silver (GSG)	P	Mara Green (AA)
P	Vibhuti Dave (UGS)	P	Lori Kester (EM)	A	Kendra Stansbury (RO)	P	Lisa Nickum (LB)

*Theresa Snyder (PE), CJ McClelland (EDS), Jen Drumm (CASA)

Welcome

Andy Herring

Herring begins by addressing the Faculty Senate working group meeting on the fifth Tuesday of March; this has been cancelled for Senators.

Provost / Academic Affairs

Rick Holz

Holz provides a brief COVID-19 campus update. As of 3/9, there are 14 cases on campus, four of these cases are resident students. One staff member and one Faculty member have tested positive. Holz states that the CRIT team and Peter Han’s team are currently assessing the origins of these members’ COVID-19 contraction. There is currently no evidence suggesting contraction in the classroom, but it will not be ruled out.

Holz reminds Faculty to remain vigilant in washing hands, social distancing, wearing masks, and remaining safe. The Faculty member that tested positive has remained asymptomatic and will continue to monitor symptoms for all positive cases.

Holz then briefs Senators on the Duo Protection System implemented; there is a reported 75% of Faculty using the service. This system is in use to provide an additional layer of security at Mines due to multiple phishing expeditions from outside sources over the last months. Holz states ITS will mandate this protection system and recommends Faculty sign-up over the next few weeks and notify other departments.

A document is shared with Faculty Senate from the Undergraduate Student Government. This document is a drafted resolution for Spring Break. The resolution addresses Faculty assigning significant quantities of homework, projects, or scheduling exams the following Monday of Spring Break. This guidance document is requesting Faculty consider not assigning coursework over break or scheduling exams following the break.

Holz states that the students would like Senate to look over the document and communicate with Faculty.

A question is raised on accelerated courses and online courses that do not recognize Spring Break in the eight-week course; Holz responds that this resolution is directed to the normal 16-week undergraduate courses being offered.

Comments made on an increased constriction of exams and suggested that coursework constraints are gauged by class and not generalized and on piling assignments prior to Spring Break and creating a pseudo-Finals week, which can increase stress amongst students. The suggestion is made to coordinate within the department prior to the semester start to avoid overwhelming students at the same time. USG representative states: student body is aware of the amount of work being scheduled prior to Spring Break.

Holz responds in that the increased stress caused by the pandemic and COVID-19 has created a shift in attitude for both students and Faculty.

Senators suggest this resolution applying to the Spring 2021 semester, rather than an ongoing resolution. This will prioritize the resolution as a COVID-19 process and allow for the resolution to run through Undergraduate Council for additional discussion and revising.

GSG representative, Silver, addresses the involvement of both USG and GSG. This resolution was being drafted in Fall 2020 following the extensive survey of both the undergraduate and graduate student body. A consensus was not reached, but this resolution was favored. Silver informs Senators of both student governments compromising with the Calendar Committee in what is to be done for days off.

A question is asked regarding GSG's involvement in the drafting of the resolution, and if this will be applicable to graduate students as there is not a defined Spring Break. This resolution only affects the undergraduate student body.

The procedure would be as follows: the long-term resolution will be addressed by Undergraduate Council as a memo in final form, it will then reach Senate for discussion and approval. A motion can then be made on the long-term progression of the resolution.

The recommendation being presented currently to Faculty Senate will be endorsed for the Spring 2021 semester only.

MOTION: To make a recommendation to Faculty, by email, to avoid exams and major project due dates the week of and the week after Spring Break for the Spring 2021 semester only by Sitchler, seconded by King. 1 opposed. No abstentions. APPROVED.

Registrar's Office

Paul Myskiw

Myskiw updates Senators on the status of the Fall 2021 schedule; departments are currently finalizing much of the schedule. The status of the Fall schedule is 100% in-person, student registration begins 4/5.

Myskiw has met with all Colorado college and university registrar's for discussion of fall scheduling; all were reported as being varied. Colorado Mesa University and the University of Colorado at Boulder are continuing with the quad model and remote learning. The University of Northern Colorado is looking to approach an 80% return to the classroom.

Myskiw states other universities as waiting for Colorado Department of Higher Education guidance on fall scheduling; however, CDHE has announced that there will no updates until later in the summer. CDHE encourages universities and colleges to remain optimistic and move in the direction of returning to campus.

Approval of Minutes – February 23, 2021

Andy Herring

An edit is made for the finalization of the 2/23 minutes.

MOTION: To approve the Faculty Senate minutes of February 23, 2021 by Handorean, seconded by Horan. No abstentions. APPROVED.

Committee Updates

Senate Secretary

Alina Handorean

Handorean asks Faculty Senate to verify the results of the electronic ballot sent to Senators on the 2022 Distinguished Lecturer nominations: David Wu, Robert Kee, and Roelof Snieder. The majority voted in favor of Roelof Snieder. The ballot included updates to language within the Research Council Bylaw change where the Library Representative was accidentally removed from the election procedure for Research Council members.

MOTION: To verify the ballot results for the recommendations made by the Distinguished Speaker committee, seconded by Sitchler. No abstentions. APPROVED.

MOTION: To verify the ballot results for the updated language of the Research Council Bylaw change reflecting addition of the Library Representative to the election procedure of Council members by Handorean, seconded by Sitchler. No abstentions. APPROVED.

Senate confirms a date for the 2020 Distinguished Lecturer, John Speer, presentation that was rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Handorean informs Senators that an email will be sent out on the election of new Faculty Senators.

Online Standards Committee

Cynthia Norrgran

Ad Hoc Committee

Norrgran and four other Senators alongside Sam Spiegel have finalized the purpose of the Online Standards committee to review the standards for an online course. This is not the accreditation of the course but the Mines' Faculty standards for the courses. The committee will also review courses that have already been accredited.

The committee will continue as either a standing committee or a council for online standards.

MOTION: To approve the formation of the Online Standards ad hoc committee as proposed by King, seconded by Handorean. No abstentions. APPROVED.

This motion will create the committee for 2021; members will discuss its transition into the next year.

Herring discusses the interest of Faculty in the Online Standards committee as Faculty are responsible for the curriculum, standards, and graduation of online students. While this will remain as a working group for now, consideration should be made in forming a Council and expanding to include accreditation.

Research Council

Yvette Kuiper

Faculty Senate Committee

Kuiper announces Research Council is in the process of finalizing the Research Awards awardees, a junior and a senior. These will be voted on by Council and sent to Academic Affairs and later sent to Senate. The results can be verified by Senate through an online ballot or during an official meeting.

Documents are being distributed through campus departments on the small equipment fund drafted by Research Council; these documents will reach Senate once feedback has been received and all has been finalized. Kuiper will also meet with Stacie Altman and the Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer (VPRTT) to discuss an easy transition for funding.

Research Council is also in discussion with Human Resources to find what campus Research Associates do, what their qualifications are, and bring solutions to the table for edits to the Handbook.

Herring notes the Faculty Handbook as a document owned by the Board of Trustees—Senate cannot vote on amendments to the Handbook but can bring suggestions and comments to the Board.

Faculty Procedures Committee

John McCray

Ad Hoc Committee

McCray states that the working group has worked on obtaining feedback from the committee and Faculty. The drafted working group charge was shared with campus departments. The committee has completed the draft.

McCray addresses the three primary objectives being addressed by the committee; (1) creation of a Faculty Ombudsperson proposal for Faculty Senate, the Faculty, and administration, (2) development of Faculty-acceptable processes for removing issues from the Faculty Handbook governed by State or Federal Law and are not under Faculty control, (3) identification of best practices for development of a Faculty Grievance Procedure that could be included in the Faculty Handbook.

The charge is presented to Senate, with the understanding that this committee will work alongside the Faculty and related committees.

The upcoming deliverables are presented to Senate: (1) a memo to Faculty Senate regarding suggested revisions or new policies, (2) memos to the Provost, Undergraduate Dean, Graduate Dean, and Faculty Handbook committee on revisions to be acted on in the 2021-22 Academic Year.

MOTION: To approve the Faculty Procedures committee charge as presented to Senate by McCray, seconded by Sitchler. No abstentions. APPROVED.

Core Curriculum Committee

Alexis Sitchler

Ad Hoc Committee

Sitchler reports to Senators on the process of the Core Curriculum committee reaching out to all departments for a scheduled time in department Faculty meetings to engage with Faculty at the design process stage and receive feedback.

Briefings, Information Items and Updates

Faculty IDP Recommendations Draft

Senators present a drafted document of a request to formalize the procedures for Faculty participation in interdisciplinary programs; this is to assure when an interdisciplinary program is created a commitment is made to the students and processes should be in place to honor that commitment.

A key piece of the document is to assure Faculty are working to meet those commitments and that expectations are clear, and Faculty are treated equitably. This document provides Faculty members the ability to file formal obligations to an interdisciplinary program; detailing at a minimum what fraction of their time is expected to that program, what the expectation of that program is, and what occurs when that program ceases to exist.

The document will be circulated for further feedback and discussion between Academic Affairs and the interdisciplinary programs on campus.

Feedback shared from an interdisciplinary program chair included emphasis between IDP Faculty and IDP affiliate Faculty; IDP Faculty have an agreement or a specific obligation to that program while as IDP affiliate Faculty may be participating in a program but do not have the same contractual obligation agreement.

King adds that this document will be shared further with IDP directors to assure their comments are received and those directly affected are receiving a transparent flow of communication.

Holz recommends Senate continue receiving feedback and push the recommendation forward formally. Holz will discuss with the undergraduate and graduate Deans and related parties to formalize and implement these ideas.

Addition of Undergraduate and Graduate Council Minutes to the Faculty Senate Webpage

A request was made for Undergraduate and Graduate Council minutes to be uploaded to the Faculty Senate webpage to continue to foster transparency between the Councils, Senate, and the Faculty.

A request is made for the addition of Research Council minutes and will formally introduce the idea to Research Council at the following meeting 3/10.

MOTION: To approve the addition of the Undergraduate and Graduate Council minutes to the Faculty Senate webpage for Faculty accessibility by Horan, seconded by Sitchler. No abstentions. **APPROVED.**

Undergraduate Council

Jeff King

**Approved Undergraduate Council new courses and course changes have been added to the end of this agenda as informational FYI-only items.*

1.1 INTERDISCIPLINARY

[status: CIM 1/15; Provost: 1/15, UGC: 2/24]

1 new program: Minor in Quantum Engineering
(requires CIM code)

*This internationally distinctive program will differentiate our undergraduates by giving them a substantive background in the chemistry, computer science, electrical engineering, mathematics, materials science, and physics for quantum computing, communication, and sensing. Students with disparate backgrounds will gain experience with quantum hardware and theory that will prepare them for careers in the rapidly evolving quantum engineering industries. This minor will build directly upon the opportunities, infrastructure and industry partnerships that have made the Quantum Engineering MS program so successful already in its first year. **Championed by Geoff Brennecka.***

MOTION: To approve the new Minor in Quantum Engineering as championed by Geoff Brennecka by King, seconded by Sitchler. No abstentions. APPROVED.

1.2 **ENGINEERING, DESIGN, and SOCIETY**

[status: CIM 1/19; UGC: 2/24]

1 program change: BS-EGN: BS in Engineering

Changing credit hours for EDNS 191 and EDNS 192 to reflect credit hour changes made to streamline equivalencies with EDNS 151 and HASS 100. Changed Program outcomes from ABET a-k to ABET 1-7. Edited the introductory overview to reflect current messaging, correct grammatical errors, and provide more specificity. (Note that nothing significant was altered). Changed the Credit Hours required for EDNS 191 and EDNS 192 to reflect course change requests made to better align these two courses with EDNS 151/NHV 100, which can substitute for EDNS 191/192 for students who enter the program after the freshman year.

*Also added STEM Teaching focus area, which is a program unique to Mines. It may help Mines to retain students wanting to go into teaching and will also help to address the nationwide K-12 STEM teacher shortage by offering a program that will help prepare students with STEM breadth and depth along with teaching fundamentals necessary to attain certification. **Championed by Carrie McClelland.***

A question is asked on how credits are changing to align with HASS 100; McClelland responds that the credits were originally three and have been realigned to four credits to match course changes to EDNS 151 and HASS 100.

1.3 **GEOLOGY and GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING**

[status: CIM1/20; UGC: 2/24]

1 program change: BS-GLE: BS in Geological Engineering

*Program changes reflect updates to the BS curriculum in GE agreed upon by the faculty in the Department. The faculty evaluated our program objectives, the sequencing of classes, and the connections among learning outcomes in our 200 and 300- level courses. The outcomes of that analysis include eliminating GEGN 206, incorporating select learning outcomes from GEGN 206 into GEGN 212, adding a new course, GEGN 217, and reducing credits for GEGN 317. Our new curriculum has the same number of total credits as the current curriculum. **Championed by Cheryl Medford.***

1.4 **ECONOMICS and BUSINESS**

[status: CIM1/19; UGC: 2/24]

1 program change: MIN-BUEN: Minor in Business and Entrepreneurship
This edit to the minor adds 3 classes to the list of classes students may choose from to incorporate recent new course additions in Business. Championed by Becky Lafrancois.

MOTION: To approve the Undergraduate curriculum items 1.1 through 1.4 in an omnibus Faculty Senate vote by King, seconded by Sitchler. No abstentions. APPROVED.

1.5 **PETROLEUM ENGINEERING**
[status: CIM 2/25; UGC: 3/10]

1 program suspension: MIN-MDSTR: Minor in Midstream Engineering
Request for suspension of the PE Minor in Midstream Engineering for 2 years to allow department recoup and planning. Championed by Linda Battalora.

Consideration is made on processing program suspensions and deletions, as this has not occurred previously. Holz will direct questions on the suspension to the department head and encourages communication regarding the program's suspension.

Snyder with Petroleum Engineering appears as proxy for Battalora. The Midstream Engineering minor experienced enrollment problems with courses containing between four and six students. The PE department will look to better marketing strategies for the future; there has been issues justifying the Midstream courses remaining open due to decreased enrollment.

Students still within the program will be honored; the suspension ensures further enrollment cannot be processed.

Discussion continues; undergraduate and graduate councils will look to discussing processing program suspensions and deletions.

MOTION: To approve the two-year suspension of the Petroleum Engineering Minor in Midstream Engineering by King, seconded by Sitchler. No abstentions. APPROVED.

Undergraduate Council Subcommittee Updates

King yields remaining discussion for the next meeting.

Graduate Council

Neal Sullivan

Sullivan reports Council discussing Catalog changes regarding 4+1 programs and discussion on probation and non-degree students.

Graduate Council Subcommittee Updates

No novel items for discussion.

Other Business

Andy Herring

Herring announces the drafting of a Faculty Senate newsletter; discussion is had on what will be added to the newsletter.

Adjourn

Andy Herring

New Undergraduate Courses Approved

AMFG423: Design and Analysis of Experiments
CEEN442: Timber and Masonry Design
CSCI425: Compiler Design
EBGN444: Innovate X
GEGN217: Geologic Field Methods
MAED405: Mathematical Practices and the Social Context of Mathematics
MAED425: Pre-Algebra and Algebra Teaching Techniques
MAED435: Computer Science Teaching Techniques
MAED464: Capstone Curriculum Design I
MAED465: Capstone Curriculum Design II
SCED333: Education Psychology and Assessment
SCED363: Dynamic Teaching: Motivation, Classroom Management, and Differentiation of Instruction
SCED415: Scientific Practices vs Engineering Design and the Nature of Science
SCED445: Physics and Chemistry Teaching Techniques
SCED464: Capstone Curriculum Design I
SCED465: Capstone Curriculum Design II
PHGN417: Fundamentals of Quantum Information

Undergraduate Course Changes Approved

EDNS191: Integrative Design Studio IA
EDNS192: Integrative Design Studio IB
EDNS291: Integrative Design Studio IIA
EDNS292: Integrative Design Studio IIB
EDNS391: Integrative Design Studio IIIA
EDNS392: Integrative Design Studio IIIB
CSCI261: Programming Concepts
MATH331: Mathematical Biology (deactivated)
CBEN401: Process of Optimization
CBEN408: Natural Gas Processing
CBEN409: Petroleum Processes
CEEN267: Design II: Civil Engineering
CEEN303: Environmental Engineering Laboratory
CEEN401: Life Cycle Assessment
CEEN402: Project Engineering
CEEN406: Finite Element Methods for Engineers
CEEN410: Advanced Soil Mechanics
CEEN446: Structural Loads
CEEN461: Fundamentals of Ecology
CEEN473: Hydraulic Problems
CEEN475: Site Remediation Engineering
CEEN480: Chemical Fate and Transport in the Environment
CEEN411: Unsaturated Soil Mechanics
CEEN412: Unsaturated Soil Mechanics (deactivated)
CEEN474: Solid Waste Minimization and Recycling (deactivated)
CEEN476: Pollution Prevention: Fundamentals and Practice
(deactivated)
CEEN440: Timber and Masonry Design (deactivated)

EDNS479: Community-Based Research
GEGN212: Petrology for Geological Engineers
GEGN317: Geologic Field Skills
GEGN206: Earth Materials (deactivated)
HNRS115: Innovation and Discovery in Engineering, Arts, and Sciences II
MEGN300: Instrumentation & Automation
MEGN301: Mechanical Integration & Design
MEGN412: Advanced Mechanics of Materials
MTGN219: Art and Science of Glassblowing
CHGN431: Inorganic Chemistry I
HNRS198A: Special Topics
HNRS199A: Independent Study
HNRS298A: Special Topics
HNRS299A: Independent Study
HNRS398A: Special Topics in the University Honors and Scholars
Program
HNRS399A: Independent Study