

Colorado School of Mines – RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
February 10, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, via Zoom

**Attendees:**

**Voting Members:** 24 total (13 needed for quorum). Quorum was present.

P	Yvette Kuiper (Chair)	P	Emily Bongiovanni (LB)	P	Tzahi Cath (HY)	P	Cristian Ciobanu (ME)	P	Emmanuel DeMoor (MME)
A	Mark Deinert (NSE)	P	Yilin Fan (PE)	A	Randy Haupt (EE)	P	Rennie Kaunda (MN)	P	Adrienne Kroepsch (HASS)
P	Thomas Monecke (GE)	A	Svitlana Pylpenko (CH)	P	Jim Ranville (GC)	P	Elizabeth Reddy (EDS)	P	Jamal Rostami (UCT)
P	Mahadevan Ganesh (AMS)	P	Jeffrey Shragge (GP)	A	James Simmons (MP/SH)	P	John Spear (CEE)	P	Kenneth “Xerxes” Steier (EREP)
A	Eric Toberer (MS/PH)	A	Ning Wu (CBE)	P	Hao Zhang (CS)	P	Michael Heeley (EB)		

**Non-Voting Members:**

P	Johanna Eagan (ORA)	P	Mara Green (AA)	P	Hanzelle Kleeman (USG)	P	Moira Miller (GSG)	A	Barb O’Kane (EHS)
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**Welcome**

Yvette Kuiper

**Approval of Minutes – January 13, 2021**

Yvette Kuiper

**MOTION:** To approve the Research Council minutes of January 13, 2021 by Kuiper, seconded by Kroepsch. No abstentions. APPROVED.

**Subcommittee Updates**

Research Council Bylaws

Kuiper

Kuiper begins by reviewing the proposed changes to the Bylaws; the first section of the Research Council Bylaws has been rewritten, the second section contains one syntax edit.

Council has discussed including interdisciplinary programs within Council membership or excluding membership entirely. The Interdisciplinary Program Directors and Senate have concluded that discretion is needed with the increasing number of interdisciplinary programs on campus and this issue of representation will not be resolved and will have to be visited later in the Council.

Kuiper suggests an invitation to the Colorado Geological Survey.

**MOTION:** To approve the proposed changes to the Research Council section of the Academic Faculty Bylaws for introduction to the Faculty Senate by Kuiper, seconded by Kroepsch. No abstentions. APPROVED.

Strategic Instrumentation and Space

Xerxes Steier

Steier provides an overview of the drafted proposal document to VPRTT for the creation of a small Research Equipment Investment (REI) funding opportunity.

The proposal is modeled after the Tech Fee program at Mines and would be a twice annual event. Feedback is requested on those eligible and what the criteria should be.

The subcommittee has discussed lowering the bottom and upper limits so that requests above \$50,000 will not be considered. Council discusses percentage, maximum cut-off and avoiding cases of Faculty sharing equipment.

A comment is made to provide a subset of membership of the request review committee be Research Council members and members of VPRTT. Additional comment made on requests competing with those that have startup funds still available.

Suggestion is made to provide a completed draft prior to departmental meetings for individual departments to view.

Zhang summarizes the recommendations made by various communications across campus. The final goal is to provide a document that will outline communications for issues such as sharing equipment and sharing external equipment. The webpage that is currently functioning for equipment on campus is generated through an Excel worksheet and has become outdated and hard to maintain.

The current recommendation is to use the Data Management System (DMS) used by facilities to pull information directly from the controller's office rather than accepting individual Faculty submissions.

An additional suggestion is made to maintain communication with the Provost on research space.

Spear states that there are suggestions for technical support for research equipment on campus; ideas are being circulated and drafting how to proceed. This will be drafted for Council and, later, Faculty Senate.

#### Handbook Language

Yvette Kuiper

Kuiper discusses the proposition of removing the two years of postdoctoral experience from the research associate role in the Faculty Handbook. The Handbook does not specify research associates to have a PhD. Departments can and have interpreted this and have hired individuals as research associate with master's degrees.

Pushing through the specification of a PhD for Research Associates will require development of a new title for those having held the research associate role with a master's degree. Kuiper will provide this information to the subcommittee and the Non-Tenure/Tenure Track researchers on campus for further discussion.

#### Research Council Lecture

Tzahi Cath

Kuiper acknowledges the low excitement for the lecture series.

The research awardees are categorized within junior and senior; awardees will be receiving letters. Discussion will be made at a later Research Council date on what is planned for the lecture and the presentation, attendance, and advertisement of the series to increase interest across campus.

#### Mentoring

Tzahi Cath

Cath and his subcommittee has met with the Provost regarding mentoring; mentoring is on the Provost's schedule, but there is little time available to move forward with the process. Currently seeking suggestions to promote to Academic Affairs.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

The next Research Council meeting will be March 10, 2:00-3:00pm, via Zoom.

Yvette Kuiper