

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
 May 4, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, via Zoom

Attendees:

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

P	Andy Herring (Chair)	P	Robin Bullock (EDS)	P	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)
A	John McCray (CEE)	P	Cynthia Norrgran (CBE)	P	Alexis Sitchler (GE)	P	Neal Sullivan (ME)
P	Bettina Voelker (CH)						

Other Regular Attendees

P	Tracy Gardner (Trustee)	P	Rick Holz (AA)	P	Paul Myskiw (RO)	A	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	Tim Barbari (OGS)	A	Lori Kester (EM)	P	Lisa Nickum (LB)
P	Jenn Drumm (CASA)						

Special Guests: Chuck Stone (PH), Dinesh Mehta (CS)

Welcome

Andy Herring

Approval of Graduating Students

Andy Herring

MOTION: To approve the list of graduating students for May 2021 by Bullock, seconded by Figueroa. Motion passed unanimously. APPROVED.

Committee Updates

Faculty Handbook

Andy Herring

Faculty Senate Committee

Handbook provides options 1, 2A, and 2B.

Option 1: Move forward with the current redline changes to remove “normal salary rate”.

Option 2A: “...for additional compensation at the faculty member’s normal rate” remains within the text.

Option 2B: “...at the faculty’s base academic year salary rate, commensurate with time and effort for the summer assignment” is added for further clarification, proposed by Anne Walker.

The process for Faculty Handbook changes is as follows: the committee sends the changes to Faculty Senate with 30-day notice, a memo from Faculty Senate would be sent to the committee; the Handbook Committee can then choose to revise with the provided suggestions from Senate or form a committee to reconcile the changes.

Holz notes that the working group for summer compensation would not be a possibility, as there are not working groups for compensation. Comment is made on variation of activities during the summer that are not based on salary rates; grants funding, workshops, or course development pieces that pay in fixed dollar amounts. Salary rates apply from August to May.

Holz is looking to encourage teaching in the summer, but this is not intended to fill the 12-month salary gap for tenure or tenure-track faculty. Summer months can be applied by non-tenure, as there is not an option such as grants and research dollars as with tenure or tenure-track.

Herring states that the pandemic has created a lack of confidence, and substantial changes could be interpreted negatively. Herring notes the Productivity Model needs adjustment.

Discussion on planning for future changes and plans, addressing these changes early in the semester. Faculty Senate is meant to represent the faculty voice and faculty would prefer the original language of the Handbook prior to redlined changes.

MOTION: To approve the language of option 2B and recommend the formation of a working group to discuss future changes by Horan, seconded by Figueroa. **MOTION AMENDED,** see below.

Discussion continues with the implementation of a working group, compensation falls outside of Faculty Senate and discussion is had on an Academic Affairs based ad-hoc committee with Senate representation.

AMENDED MOTION: Senate recommends that the summer compensation language in the Faculty Handbook remain the same and requests that the Provost establish an ad-hoc committee to consider the issue further with representation from all stakeholders including Senate by Horan, seconded by Figueroa. Motion passed unanimously. **APPROVED.**

Core Curriculum Committee

Alexis Sitchler

Ad Hoc Committee

Core competencies are introduced to Senate; note made that these competencies are located within a living document. The document is adopting the concept of core competencies defined by the university as a driver for development and the core curriculum.

Sitchler raises an extension of the committee charge to continue work next year. Most of the time was spent collecting data across campus which caused delay. Committee has met with faculty and department heads on opportunities for core curriculum revision. The extension would allow the committee memberships to remain the same.

Sitchler will no longer remain as Senate representative on this committee but will remain faculty-at-large.

Briefings, Information Items and Updates

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Provost has requested all constituents to provide input on the COVID-19 vaccine requirement; 205 faculty have responded with 81% being in favor of mandatory vaccinations.

Further discussion tabled.

Interdisciplinary Program Recommendation

MOTION: To approve the interdisciplinary program recommendation memo for transmission to the Provost and Academic Affairs by King, seconded by Sitchler. Motion passed unanimously. **APPROVED.**

Discussion of presenting a tiered or graded compensation model.

Undergraduate Council

Jeff King

Consistency in Grading Recommendation to 21-22 Faculty Senate

Subcommittee has spoken with students, faculty, and others on general recommendations; resolving any grading consistency issues falls outside of the scope of Undergraduate Council. Council comes with the recommendation to form an ad hoc committee of Faculty Senate that should consider the issue next year with the document created by the subcommittee of UGC as a starting point.

Graduate Council

Neal Sullivan

Academic Probation Graduate Catalog Change

MOTION: To approve the proposed changes to the Academic Probation language within the Graduate Catalog by Sullivan, seconded by Sitchler. Motion passed unanimously. APPROVED.

Adjourn

Andy Herring

Meeting adjourned 3:10pm.

Faculty Senate meets May 11, 2021, from 2pm to 4pm. Send all agenda items to mgreen1@mines.edu 1 week prior.