

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES  
 May 27, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, via Zoom

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**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)	A	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**

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

**Special Guests:** Manika Prasad (GP), John Bradford (GP)

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**Welcome**

Andy Herring

**Provost / Academic Affairs**

Rick Holz

Holz thanks Faculty Senate and faculty for the work done in the past year. Field and summer sessions have launched. There are a reported 500 students in the summer session.

Multiple scenarios are being run by Academic Affairs and the Faculty Planning Committee for Fall 2021 regarding vaccines and implementation of policies. No firm conclusion has been met. Faculty feedback is encouraged across the institution. Vaccines, masks, and social distancing are still being discussed.

Comment on the COVID-19 case dashboard being down; Holz will contact Peter Han. Due to the small number of students on campus there are a smaller number of surveillance tests being done. Students returning from field sessions are being asked to test. One report of a student returning from field sessions positive for COVID-19; majority of students in field sessions have disclosed vaccination.

Question on the large incoming class for Fall 2021; Holz notes the plan having been to bring 1,200 students, the large class is a one-off issue. Several students have deposited in the last 10 days prior to the deadline with a recorded size of 1,530 students. There is expectation for summer melt of around 150 students.

Registrar's Office working on finding and assigning classroom space, deans working closely with departments most affected such as HASS, Math, EDS, Physics, and Chemistry. Adjunct budgets are being increased, non-tenured faculty are being hired to assist in departments requiring more sections. Larger issue falls on resident life and the increased number of housing requests with 1400 students. Strain will be felt in REC, library and library services, and dining.

Expectation for 1,200 students in Fall 2022 with tightened acceptance parameters to improve quality.

Goal to build additional non-thesis masters and certificate programs to focus the number of students pursuing graduate education at Mines; will provide additional revenue to the institution in those areas.

Question on the demographic of the incoming class with testing optional available; Holz reports 34% women and 29% underrepresented students, numbers can change with the expectation of summer melt. Strong students initially discouraged by the ACT and SAT requirement have applied and been accepted. Holz reports 50-60% of applicants still include ACT or SAT scores.

### **Registrar's Office**

Paul Myskiw

Myskiw reports more deliberative efforts made to engage with the freshman class over the summer to better manage the increased yield. Encourage students to finalize decisions between June and July. Departments and deans discussing core classes for freshman gaining additional sections with larger lectures. Alternatives are being considered for accepting AP credits.

Negotiations being made with Student Life for access to spaces within the Green Center.

The AP College Board announced delay of AP scores to mid-July; delaying processes in the Registrar's Office.

### **Approval of Minutes – May 11, 2021**

Andy Herring

**MOTION:** To approve the Faculty Senate minutes of May 11, 2021 by Sitchler, seconded by King. Motion passes unanimously. APPROVED.

### **Committee Updates**

#### Senate Secretary

Alina Handorean

Faculty Senate will conduct remaining minor Faculty Senate Bylaw changes by electronic vote. 20-21 Senate Secretary Handorean will debrief 21-22 Senate Secretary Robin Bullock for the following semester.

#### **Other Business**

Amy Landis had previously updated Faculty Senate on DI&A efforts; these responsibilities will fall to the 21-22 Faculty Senate for the next established academic year.

A recommendations document is being drafted for the 21-22 Faculty Senate to maintain consistency and continue conversation and discussions into the new year.

### **Undergraduate Council**

Jeff King

#### Student Workload Subcommittee

A recommendation has come forward from the Student Workload Subcommittee regarding Finals Week and Review Day policies. The recommendation includes updated language, descriptive policies, and readability changes. The recommendation will be added to the 21-22 Faculty Senate repository for consideration.

Comment on the readability of having the Finals Week and Review Day policies together in a single document, suggestion made to separate the two.

### **Graduate Council**

Neal Sullivan

- 1.1 **GEOPHYSICS**  
[CIM: 5/5, GC: 5/26]

**1 new program:** Online Grad Certificate – Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage  
*This Certificate program aims to provide students with much needed working knowledge about Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage from a geologic and a non-geologic perspective. It also provides introductory knowledge about CCUS policy and economics. Championed by Manika Prasad.*

Prasad presents a brief overview of the program to Senators. The overview outlines involved departments (Math, Mining, and HASS are pending acceptance; Chemistry provides conditional acceptance dependent on the resources required from the department to be involved in the program). There are 24 faculty involved as content developers for the courses.

Prasad states the CCUS program is one of a kind with an intention to provide formal training for students on carbon utilization and innovative utilization of carbon. Program will outline governance, economics, social issues, and technical skills. Students should be able to discuss, write, and communicate about CCUS with colleagues of other disciplines and those without technical knowledge.

Three courses are required to complete the certificate program; students have the option to choose between a geologic course or non-geologic course.

Question on the formatting of semester (Fall 3, Spring 2/3); this identifies the first and second halves of the semesters where 8-week online courses are provided.

Holz notes that department heads and the Trefny Center work to set-up schedules; if a faculty member is needed in honors or online courses the department heads can assign the faculty and communicate with deans as needed for additional help to teach department courses or if a person is unable to teach online. If a specific subject is required, adjunct faculty or non-tenured faculty can back those faculty members requiring assistance.

Comment on the wording of classes being developed by tenure track faculty and Payne Institute fellows and not teaching faculty, this wording is corrected by Prasad to include teaching faculty.

Question on having enough faculty to cover a broad number of topics and answer students' questions in a reasonable amount of time; Prasad states there will be one instructor for each course of record for logistics and grading consistency, there will be multiple faculty developing the course content and there to assist in providing input. Teaching documents and resources will be made available to that faculty of record.

Question on faculty workload and online student questions over weekends or non-work hours; Prasad states the courses will be built with ample time between each question to provide enough time for students pose questions and faculty to answer them. Faculty are aware of the workload expected of the certificate program.

Question on admission requirements; Prasad notes there has been discussion with the advisory board and stakeholder companies on working students being sent into the program with an expectation of some students not having the same technical background as most Mines students. Students will be provided resources and reference material for topics addressed within the course that have more technical aspects.

Question regarding tuition loophole for non-resident students; there are electives available through online courses that are the same tuition for in- and out-of-state students. Academic Affairs is working on discussing this with the Registrar's Office and a new tuition model.

Request made for the vote results of the CCUS program in Graduate Council:

**24 Members in Graduate Council, 13 required for quorum.  
16 Members present.  
11 for, 1 against, 2 abstentions.**

The remaining 2 members did not provide a vote in the requested time.

Question on Trefny Center process for approving new online programs; Spiegel notes that programs can be approved well in advance of being built but the program will not be open for student registration until online standards have been passed. A certificate program can launch for admissions if two courses have been built and the third is in progress. The CCUS program is expected to have two courses completed and approved by Trefny by Fall 3.

Examples requested of this style of class development; Sullivan provides example of course being taught with five faculty involved in course development but one or two faculty of record.

Question on the prerequisites of courses regarding physics, chemistry, and math being technical skills needed for CCUS content; Prasad notes this will be a change added.

Question on the point of contact for students interested in the program; Prasad is the point of contact for the certificate program, Spiegel notes that an online graduate recruiter was hired for the first triage level and will assist in connecting students with Prasad and faculty members.

Question on the reliance on faculty effort for the program; Sullivan comments that contact has been made with seven to eight of the 24 listed faculty and the faculty understand the concerns regarding workload of the certificate program. Comment that an adjunct faculty hired to teach one of these courses may have the influence to call on a full professor to request resources. Prasad lists the lead instructors for the courses in the certificate program, making note that the climate change will be instructed by Prasad and the geologic course can be instructed by Prasad if necessary.

Comment made on the timeline of the program development and expedited processing; discussion has been had for years on the creation of CCUS with earliest development starting in January 2021.

**MOTION:** To approve the online graduate certificate in Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage as championed by Manika Prasad by Horan, seconded by Sitchler.

**AMENDED MOTION:** To approve the online graduate certificate in Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage as championed by Manika Prasad with the expectation that the proposed courses be submitted Fall 2021 for review and approval of Graduate Council by Horan, seconded by Sitchler. Motion passes unanimously. APPROVED.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:38 pm.

Andy Herring

Faculty Senate meets again in August 2021. Email all agenda items to [mgreen1@mines.edu](mailto:mgreen1@mines.edu). Faculty Senate retains the ability to call emergency meetings with 24-hour notice.