

Colorado School of Mines – GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members: 21 total (11 - majority needed for quorum). Quorum was present

P	Bettina Voelker (Chair)	P	Lisa Dunn (LB)	P	Andy Osborne (NSE)	A	Owen Hildreth (ME)
P	Eric Anderson (HSE)	P	Karin Leiderman (AMS)	A	Jamal Rostami (MN)	P	Michael Heeley (EB)
P	Ebru Bozdag (GP)	A	Juan Lucena (EDS)	A	Jim Ranville (GC)	A	Luis Zerpa (PE)
P	Geoff Brennecka (ML)	P	Jeremy Zimmerman (PH)	P	Danica Roth (GE)	P	Qi Han (CS)
P	Elizabeth Davis (HASS)	P	Dave Marr (CBE)	P	Maxwell Silver (GSG)	P	Lori Tunstall (UCTE / CEE)
P	Christine Morrison (CH)						

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

P	Tim Barbari (OGS)	A	Carolyn Freedman (OGS)	A	Jane Ko (AA)	P	Mara Green (AA)
A	Jennie Kenney (AA)	A	Denise Winn-Bower (PE)	P	Paul Myskiw (RO)*	P	*Roxane Aungst (RO) proxy for Paul Myskiw (RO)
P	Deb Jordan (Trefny)						

Special Guest(s): Manika Prasad (GP)

Welcome

Tina Voelker

Briefings and Information Items

Office of Graduate Studies

Tim Barbari

Barbari is expected to begin work on an electronic workflow for committee membership. Committee forms require signature from all faculty participating on the committee and OGS; this provides the perfect environment for an online workflow similar to graduate contracts. The Catalog provides broad understanding of membership; members are only expected to have some familiarity with research.

Question on asymmetry of rules applied to different students; this language not enforced, students within a program experienced challenges in finding advisors with reasonable knowledge; this change had been agreed upon within Graduate Council but had not processed into the Catalog. The committee chair does not require a knowledge of the research area, this will be brought to Council as a Catalog change.

A challenge presented to Council is the determination of students on reduced registration. A significant amount of work is done by the Registrar's Office to determine students' status due to the number of rules.

Registrar

Paul Myskiw

Myskiw reported a change to the graduate student residency process to improve form simplicity. In Fall 2020 graduate students were contacted in order to fill residency requirements from the state of Colorado. Residency consideration begins at 1 year, 12 months of domicile. More students expressed concern for this requirement than the previous year but no changes to requirements were made. Graduate students are encouraged to fill these Colorado actions within 30-60 of being in Colorado and assure a smooth transition into the second year. All requirements are available on the residency site for the Registrar's Office, including recommended dates.

Question raised on students receiving information after deadlines and causing departments to cover student out-of-state tuition; Myskiw requested offline communication of these students. The Registrar's Office sent three separate communications from the beginning of admissions to the start of the academic year.

A new tuition model is being developed with OGS in which all graduate students that become residents would have the same tuition all year round.

Graduate Council Operation

Graduate Council Subcommittees

Voelker updated Councilors that the steering/steering committee, like the Undergraduate Council curriculum process, is similar to the process done for the consent agenda. The steering committee will not be established, the consent agenda will continue to function as a means of organizing curriculum items.

Voelker suggested open discussion of issues in Council, if these discussions continue beyond a 10-minute limit an ad-hoc subcommittee will be created to continue discussion and provide recommendation for solution. Council noted frustration in subcommittee contribution and stagnation; Voelker noted subcommittees for 21-22 will be tasked with items that can be completed within term.

Voelker and Barbari will look to create a checklist for curriculum presenters prior to presentation to Council. This checklist will provide information needed that should be covered within the CIM submission. This will provide a succinct, productive discussion within Council.

Topics for Council

Voelker requested Council make use of the Canvas discussion page to provide topics of discussion for Council subcommittees and information on the past Graduate Council subcommittees. Discussion continued on various collaborative programs to facilitate Council discussions including Microsoft Teams, Slack (note: Slack is an app unapproved by ITS), and continued use of Canvas.

New Curriculum Item(s)

1.1 **CARBON CAPTURE, UTILIZATION, & STORAGE** Manika Prasad
[CIM 9/1; Provost: 9/2]

1 new course: SYGN520: CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

This course addresses several Mines@150 goals by fostering education of engineering solutions in the societal context of producing use-inspired research and innovation to address industrial and societal challenges, differentiated and desired STEM educated leaders, and providing STEM education for students and professionals in the climate change area – by combining individual department-level engagement to a school wide effort. The Mines CCUS Innovation Center (MCIC) will oversee and manage this program as one of its offerings – CCUS is a large part of the Mines@150 Mission.

This is a fully online course and has been approved by the Trefny Center 9/2/21.

Prasad presented a high-level overview of course topics, student learning outcomes, and objectives of the course. The course will be fully virtual and has been approved by the Trefny Center. Prasad is asked to attend the next session of Council to be present for discussion and questions.

Continuing Curriculum Item(s) – For Council Vote 10/6/21

2.1 CHEMISTRY

Christine Morrison

[CIM: 7/24; Provost: 7/26]

1 new course: CHGN509: BIOLOGICAL INORGANIC CHEMISTRY

This course has been taught once (in Fall 2020) as a special topics course. 7 students enrolled and completed the course, including 5 graduate students and 2 undergraduate students. It was a highly regarded course, and it received above-average evaluations compared to the department, college, and institution. We are seeking course approval now so that it can be made an official elective for the QBE and uQBE programs. We anticipate higher enrollment numbers after this is accomplished, since the QBE and uQBE programs are seeking additional elective courses. This course will also be made an official elective in the biochemistry degree and track, of which ~50% of undergraduate students in the chemistry department participate in.

MOTION: To waive the 2-week presentation process and vote to approve the new course in Chemistry – CHGN509: Biological Inorganic Chemistry by Zimmerman, seconded by Brennecka. Motion passed unanimously. APPROVED.

2.2 CSM GENERAL

Geoff Brennecka

[CIM: 7/28; Provost: 7/28]

1 new course: CSM501: GRADUATE STUDENT SKILLS & SUCCESS

This course looks to support the following Mines@150 goals: 1) strengthening affinity for Mines among our students, 2) improving student success indicators, 3) making Mines accessible and attractive to qualified students from all backgrounds and 4) developing a signature student experience.

There is no existing cross-campus onboarding class for graduate students to help them transition to graduate school and to Mines. Course is first being taught as a 598 course in Fall 2021.

This course is offered as one credit and graded as pass/fail.

Question on the enrollment of the course; Brennecka reported 30 students in the course currently.

Question on anticipated requirement of this course for graduate students; Brennecka noted this course will remain as an optional course, any talk of requirements will most likely be in the far future. Council stated this may remain the case to avoid students not enjoying the course to its full extent.

New Business

Request for feedback on the production of a graduate student lounge that is department non-specific.

Adjourn

Tina Voelker

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Next Meeting: **October 6**, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, via Zoom.

Consent Agenda The following proposals will not be discussed unless specifically requested by Council. With no objections, approval is implied and items will be processed accordingly.

3.1 **GEOLOGY & GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING**
[CIM 9/9]

1 program change: CRMS-GISG: GIS & GeoInformatics – Certificates and MSNT
Course change of CSCI303 to DSCI403. Identical courses, CSCI remnant of program being built prior to creation of the DSCI acronym.