

Colorado School of Mines – UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 22, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members: 19 total (10 - majority needed for quorum). Quorum was present

P	Jeff King (chair)	P	Becky LaFrancois (EB)	P	Mike Nicholas (AMS)	P	Randy Haupt (EE)
P	Michael Barankin (CBE)	P	Derrick Hudson (HASS)	P	Corinne Packard (MME)	A	Nicole Smith (MN)
P	Dylan Domaille (CH)	P	Ge Jin (GP)	P	Jeff Paone (CS)	A	Bruce Trudgill (GE)
A	Linda Battalora (PE)	P	Hongyan Liu (CEE)	A	Oyvind Nilsen (ME)	P	Ethan Lewellin (USG)
P	Gyasi Evans (LB)	P	Chelsea Salinas (EDS)	A	Chuck Stone (PH)	P	*Jeff Wheeler (ME) proxy for Oyvind Nilsen

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

A	Fran Aguilar (MS)	A	Dixie Cirillo (PA)	A	Jennie Kenney (AA)	A	Kendra Stansbury (RO)
P	Karla Perez-Velez (CASA)	P	Vibhuti Dave (UGS)	P	Mara Green (AA)	A	Paul Myskiw (RO)
A	Jen Drumm (CASA)	A	Katie Ludwin (CASA)	A	Cheryl Medford (GE)	A	Terri Snyder (PE)

Special Guest(s): Mark Miller (PE)

Welcome

Jeff King

Approval of Minutes – September 8, 2021

Jeff King

MOTION: To approve the minutes of September 8, 2021 by Barankin, seconded by Hudson. Motion passed unanimously. APPROVED.

Briefings and Information Items

Office of Undergraduate Studies

Vibhuti Dave

No updates from the Office of Undergraduate Studies.

Registrar’s Office

Paul Myskiw

No updates from the Registrar’s Office.

New Curriculum Items

Major Curriculum Changes –

1.1 **HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Tina Gianquitto

[CIM 9/15; Provost 9/15]

1 program change: MIN-ESS: Minor in Environment and Sustainability

Updated description of minor, removal of required “Capstone” course. Introduction of credit option to following SSE opportunities: “Student involvement in campus sustainability initiatives, student environmental groups, and other activities that complement the ESS minor’s coursework, may count as credit toward the minor (in consultation with the ESS director).”

Suggest students to take Global Studies: Environment.

Steering committee made note of program overlap with other programs; Gianquitto reported only change being wordsmithing within the program description. Courses were updated to remove courses no longer offered on-campus.

Gianquitto reported student inability to complete the minor due to the Capstone course being nonexistent; additionally, requirement of courses in HASS has proven difficult due to student scheduling. For students interested in environmental studies the Global Studies: Environment course. This course is recommended, but not required.

Question raised on how service requirements as part of academic credit will be measured and counted; Gianquitto stated that this is in part due to the Student Signature Experiences. The students are not receiving full course credit. These activities are discretionary and would be done in consultation with the ESS director.

Question on there being a cap on credits from service requirements; the program does not expect to accept more than three credits and coursework would accompany these credits.

Comment made on development of Comprehensive Learning Records and what is considered academic credit, additional discussion should be had on faculty consensus.

The program will be resubmitted with removal of this language on student involvement and academic credit; language on independent study for student involvement will be added.

Minor Curriculum Changes –

The following minor course changes will not be discussed unless specifically requested by Council.

1.2 **GEOLOGY & GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING** Cheryl Medford [CIM 9/10]

2 course changes: GEOL308: INTRODUCTORY APPLIED STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY. minor
GEOL308 course description change from “Course require or all PEGN and GPGN students” to “Course required for all PEGN”. Reflects updates from GP.

GEGN316: FIELD GEOLOGY

Removal of “or” in prerequisites list.

1.3 **HUMANITIES, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES** Seth Tucker [CIM 9/10]

1 course deactivation: HASS300: CREATIVE WRITING: FICTION

This course number will be renewed as HASS302. HASS201 will become HASS300.

4 course changes: HASS301: INTERMEDIATE POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP
Name change from “Creative Writing: Poetry I”. Done to make clearer trajectory of learning and progression through the writing courses in HASS to assure consistency for students, faculty and advisors.

HASS400: ADVANCED SHORT FICTION WRITING WORKSHOP

Removal of co-requisites HASS301 and HASS401. Change made to ensure clear pattern for learning in writing courses and establish consistent offering from 300-levels (fall) to 400-levels (spring).

HASS401: ADVANCED POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP

Name change from “Creative Writing: Poetry II”. Course description changed <10%. Done to ensure clarity of course progression and better pattern of offerings from 300-levels (fall) and 400-levels (spring).

HASS408: CREATIVE NONFICTION WRITING: LIFE STORIES

Name change from “Life Stores”. Meant to clear confusion on what the course investigates and how it is tied to the progression of writing classes offered in HASS.

[CIM 9/9; Provost 9/13]

1 new course: HASS302: INTERMEDIATE SHORT FICTION WRITING WORKSHOP
Shifting HASS201 (300-level restricted HASS course) to course number HASS300. This course had been taught under the course number HASS300 for 10 years. Being done to alleviate confusion from students, registrar, and advisors for recommendation of 300-level courses to students.

Once the course number is archived, HASS300 will be renewed as what was previously offered as HASS201.

1.4 **HUMANITIES, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Derrick Hudson

[CIM 9/15; Provost 9/15]

4 new courses:

HASS319: INTRODUCTION TO VOICE, MOVEMENT AND IMPROVISION IN PERFORMANCE AND PRESENTATION

HASS317: ACTING, LOCUTION & PUBLIC PERFORMANCE

HASS318: THEATER TECHNOLOGY, PRODUCTION & PERFORMANCE

HASS498Z: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY FOR ENGINEERS AND ARTISTS

Courses have been taught twice, seeking permanent course numbers.

Note from steering committee 9/15: HASS498Z needs revised catalog description.

Question raised on the 498Z course number; Hudson will provide a permanent course number prior to Council vote.

1.5 **SYSTEMS**

Derrick Hudson

[CIM 9/15; Provost 9/15]

1 new course: SYGN498: SCIENCE AND SPIRITUALITY

This class was originally developed as a McBride class. It has been taught twice as a McBride class and it is taught now for the second time as SYGN498B where it is cross-listed as a McBride class. The SYGN498B course number was a placeholder for a new course. After the class has been taught four times, it is time to put it in the course catalog on a more structural basis.

Continuing Curriculum Items – Continued Discussion (from 9/8/21)

Major Curriculum Changes –

2.1 **PETROLEUM ENGINEERING**

Mark Miller

[CIM 9/1]

1 course change: PEGN251: FLUID MECHANICS

The PE Department wants to change CEEN 241 from a co-requisite to a prerequisite. The PE Fluid Mechanics is now inconsistent with fluid mechanics of other engineering departments at Mines. All other departments require statics before fluid mechanics.

Pedagogically, fluid mechanics is a branch of mechanics, and it should be studied after statics for it to be best absorbed.

As statics and calculus II are co-requisites of each other, many students who entered fluid mechanics without statics also had no experiences with calculus II subjects such as lines, surfaces, multivariable calculus, vectors, etc., all of which are essential for understanding even the most basic fluid

mechanics text. In the past few semesters, my solution was to use two lectures to cover basics of some of these math topics. But, this is not the right solution.

The issue is particularly worse in Fall when many international students enroll in fluid mechanics simply because it has no pre-requisite.

Minor Curriculum Changes –

The following minor course changes will not be discussed unless specifically requested by Council.

2.2 CHEMISTRY

Christine Morrison

[CIM 7/23; Provost: 7/26]

1 new course: CHGN409: 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.

Subcommittee Updates

Comments and questions from Faculty Senate 9/14 on Review and Finals Week policies:

- What is the logic behind the 48-hour take-home exam window?
- Clarifying language on the take-home exam window

This language was written to avoid conflicts that would be undetected during finals week. This larger window was expected to provide students enough time to complete the take-home exam should there be conflicts with other final exams. Unfair advantage created for some students with scheduled exams during the time a take-home exam would be taken; the 48-hour window was written to provide ample time for students.

Comment raised on online courses and exam scheduling; Councilor noted that a majority of online courses do not have an established meeting time and thus no final exam timeslot.

Volunteer list from 9/8 Council meeting.

Common Exam and other exam scheduling

Volunteers:

- Michael Barankin
- Mike Nicholas
- Ethan Lewellin
- Becky Lafrancois
- Hongyan Liu

One volunteer requested to be removed from one of the committees.

Tracks and Emphasis Definitions

Volunteers:

Chair: Vibhuti Dave

- Jeff Paone
- Karla Perez-Velez
- Chelsea Salinas

Miscellaneous / New Business

Jeff King

Suggestion raised by department on investigation of equitable funding for undergraduate programs based on enrollment. Department has high enrollment but feels underfunded. Council does not hold purview over funding related business but can provide recommendation for an alternate funding model to the Budget Committee and the Provost.

Both Undergraduate and Graduate Council will continue the discussion of representation of departments and programs. King noted this will most likely end in a Bylaw change for Council representation.

Adjourn

Jeff King

Meeting adjourned at 4:43 pm.

Next Meeting: October 13, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, via Zoom.