

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members: 15 total (8 needed for quorum). Quorum was present

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| P | Sebnem Duzgun (Chair) | A | Austin Wesley (MS) | P | Linda Figueroa (CEE/MN) | P | Joseph Horan (HASS) |
| P | Jeff King (MME) | P | Yvette Kuiper (GE) | A | John McCray (CEE) | P | Cynthia Norrgran (CBE) |
| P | Bettina Voelker (CH) | P | Lawrence Wiencke (PH) | P | Pat Kohl (PH) | P | Maggie Greenwood (HASS) |
| P | Sid Saleh (EB) | P | Deb Carney (AMS) | P | Soutir Bandyopadhyay (AMS) | | |

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------------|
| P | Tracy Gardner (Trustee) | A | Rick Holz (AA) | P | Paul Myskiw (RO) | A | Colin Terry (Student Life) |
| P | Sam Spiegel (Trefny) | P | Ethan Lewellen (USG)* | P | Maxwell Silver (GSG) | P | Mara Green (AA) |
| P | Vibhuti Dave (UGS) | A | Tim Barbari (OGS) | A | Lori Kester (EM) | P | Lisa Dunn (LB) |
| A | Jenn Drumm (CASA) | P | Angela Dunn (Mines Online) | P | *Brie Wutzlhofer (USG) proxy for Ethan Lewellen (USG) | | |

Special Guest(s):

Welcome

Sebnem Duzgun

Academic Affairs

No updates from Academic Affairs.

Rick Holz

Registrar's Office

Paul Myskiw

Class scheduling has opened for student view for the Spring 2022 and Summer 2022 semesters. Schedulers were provided a tally of courses provided during the Fall 2020 and Fall 2021 semesters. The Registrar's Office will monitor the schedule for Spring as registration commences in November 2021 to decide whether additional sections will be needed for the larger class.

An announcement was sent by the Registrar's Office to department heads and Deans for assistance in identifying who within departments are approving course substitutions. The Registrar's Office processes around 1,500 course substitutions a year and are removing the paper process and transitioning to OnBase for streamlining. The process will be initiated by the student, routed to the department, and processed by the Registrar's Office within the degree audit.

Approval of Minutes – October 12, 2021

Sebnem Duzgun

MOTION: To approve the Faculty Senate minutes of October 12, 2021 by Horan, seconded by Figueroa. 11 for, 2 abstentions. **APPROVED.**

Board of Trustees Update

Duzgun provided updates from the 10/22 Board of Trustees meeting.

Two projects will begin at Mines: Mines has hired a company well known for branding projects at other universities and will proceed in launching a new branding initiative. The second project will involve

international relations. Growing interest has spurred development of additional Mines' international collaborations. Feedback and an overview of this international collaboration development will be presented to Faculty Senate.

The Board requested information regarding faculty statistics in online course development and delivery. This information will be provided by Mines Online and the Trefny Center for Faculty Senate.

Comment made on the number of residential students taking eight-week online courses and disruption caused to 16-week courses, question asked on the number of residential students enrolled in online courses. The Registrar's Office can provide numbers for the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 terms that were restricted to students in online programs only; unsure if 2021 numbers could be counted.

Comment made on students on-campus taking online programs due to lack of alternatives for remote learning.

Committee Updates

Senate Secretary

No updates from the Senate Secretary.

Joe Horan

DI&A Ad Hoc Committee Charge Proposal

The DI&A ad hoc committee charge and membership proposal outlined specific activities including review of best practices from other institutions, proposal of options best suited for Mines, collection of faculty feedback, completion of steps to implement these options, and creation of a plan for education outreach, and training. The committee's proposed membership included a Senator as chair, Dr. Amy Landis as committee co-chair, and faculty currently serving as departmental DI&A representatives. Landis had presented the 20-21 Senate with an action item to become involved in Mines' DI&A efforts.

Joe Horan

Comment made on the number of departmental DI&A representatives that are junior assistant professor faculty versus long-term tenured faculty in order to ensure effectiveness.

Comment made on this committee only providing a report rather than providing changes to implement and assess DI&A methods for Mines; the ad hoc committee would be charged with recommendations that would go to annual evaluation and promotion and tenure.

Question on the difference between this ad hoc committee and subcommittees for DI&A existent in departments; the ad hoc committee being proposed would be report to Senate and provide recommendations with input from all departmental DI&A representatives.

Senators suggested amendment of the presented charge and membership of the ad hoc committee. The amended charge will then be presented to Senate. Solid deliverables will be addressed in the ad hoc committee charge proposal along with intent to provide a report to Faculty Senate in March 2022.

Core Curriculum Committee

Pat Kohl

Ad Hoc Committee

Kohl reported the committee is working on trial proposals. The main goals to be obtained are: bringing computing into the core curriculum, emphasizing exploration of majors, preserving student flexibility,

and integrating a wellness component into the core curriculum. The final goal is to create a core curriculum that differentiates Mines from other institutions. Addition of computing in the core was brought forward from Graduate Student Government feedback from veteran students that did not have a history in computing.

Addition of computing in the core curriculum will involve integration of computer science and a revamp of the math sequence to include computation and data science. Exploration emphasis will allow students to explore a number of majors early in the first-year and provide more options for recruiting within departments. A suggestion from the committee would be provision of a 101-exploration course. All proposals will retain flexibility to minimize students being locked into a program or subset of programs in the first-year. Proposals will identify repackaging physical education that is already present in the core by providing a variety of wellness topics. The committee will meet with course coordinators and other stakeholders to continue developing these proposals.

Question on how this will fit into current curricula and if departments will be expecting to remove credits from programs; the committee has not provided definitive proposals; some recommendations have been made to minimize physical education credits.

Question on incorporating wellness and making wellness more holistic for students and not overloading students, concern for students pushing wellness courses aside until junior or senior year; proposals will be made with clear and deliberate focus on student workload and providing wellness in a well-rounded way. The committee will identify what wellness means prior to presentation to departments.

Some proposals include a variety of wellness components including social wellness to better build student social connections and community and assist students from becoming too isolated. Suggestion made in aligning this with Trail@Mines and the comprehensive learner record (CLR). Suggestion made to avoid too many required courses, as this could have an undesired effect.

Question on when the final proposal and design will be brought forward; the committee has not identified a timeline. The two goals of the committee are to provide proposals to campus and continue communication with all campus entities. Early Spring 2022 semester for campus feedback and departmental presentation of proposal(s), refined proposal by end of Spring 2022, pilot in Fall 2022, and full implementation by Fall 2023. These dates are estimates.

Academic Standards Committee

Deb Carney

Ad Hoc Committee

The committee has had membership reform with members moving on and off of the committee list. Grade appeals have not been considered yet; 2-3 are expected per semester by the end or middle of the semester. Many grade appeals are related to the plus/minus grading scale or lack of clear syllabi posted.

Briefings, Informational Items, and Updates

Undergraduate Online Courses

Vibhuti Dave

Clarification was requested on Faculty Senate and Undergraduate Council involvement in undergraduate-level course modality changes from residential to online. Question asked on Council's approving modality changes or only be notified and if Senate should be involved. Faculty have requested permission to develop online courses for undergraduate-level curricula.

Courses at an undergraduate-level should be consistent with an online option available, but a residential modality always present. Comment made on increased workload of faculty teaching an online and residential course.

Senators concluded that Faculty Senate should not be involved with approval of course development as department heads are responsible for resource allocation.

Undergraduate Council will be notified of modality changes to undergraduate-level courses (addition of an online option for residential courses), but not voted on.

All parts of the course should be identical.

MOTION: Faculty do not require Faculty Senate approval for development of the modality change of an existing course or building of an online course by King, seconded by Kuiper. Motion passed unanimously.
APPROVED.

Undergraduate Council

Jeff King

New courses and course changes approved by Undergraduate Council are listed at the end of these minutes.

Review and Finals Week Policy Recommendation – For Vote

MOTION: To approve the Review and Finals Week Policy recommendation as presented by Undergraduate Council by King, seconded by Kuiper. 9 for, 1 abstention. **APPROVED.**

Graduate Council

Tina Voelker

The first Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage course has been presented and approved by Graduate Council; Council expects the second course to be presented at a later date.

Program and course changes had initially been presented at the first Council meeting, held for the second for discussion and departmental input, and voted on at the third consecutive Council meeting. This process has been changed to presentation at the first meeting, held for a month to provide Councilors time to discuss within department meetings, and voted on a month after presentation.

Discussion has begun within Graduate Council on membership and interdisciplinary program representation. Some programs from ten years ago are historically represented in the Academic Faculty Bylaws but have not been updated in accordance with newer programs; any amendment to the membership of Graduate Council would be a Bylaw change requiring approval by Senate and Mines faculty.

The membership of Undergraduate and Research Council will also be considered.

Adjourn

Sebnem Duzgun

Faculty Senate adjourned at 3:59 pm.

Next Meeting: November 9, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, via Zoom. Please send all items for agenda to mgreen1@mines.edu one week prior.

Undergraduate Council Approved Course Changes

PEGN251: Fluid Mechanics

CBEN422: Chemical Engineering Flow Assurance

CEEN360: Introduction to Construction Engineering

Undergraduate Council Approved New Courses

CHGN409: Biological Inorganic Chemistry