

Colorado School of Mines – GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
 October 20, 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)	P	Owen Hildreth (ME)
P	Eric Anderson (HSE)	P	Karin Leiderman (AMS)	P	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)
A	Elizabeth Davis (HASS)	P	Dave Marr (CBE)	P	Maxwell Silver (GSG)	P	Lori Tunstall (UCTE / CEE)
A	Christine Morrison (CH)						

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

P	Tim Barbari (OGS)	P	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	*Kendra Stansbury (RO) proxy for Paul Myskiw (RO)
P	Deb Jordan (Trefny)						

Special Guest(s): Priscilla Nelson (MN), Manika Prasad (GP)

Welcome

Tina Voelker

Briefings and Information Items

Office of Graduate Studies

Tim Barbari

No updates from the Office of Graduate Studies.

Barbari reported collecting information on how other universities structure thesis committees and will report this information to the Thesis Membership subcommittee.

Registrar's Office

Paul Myskiw

The Registrar, Graduate Dean, and Institutional Research are collecting information on identification of interdisciplinary programs within the student information system, Banner. The proposal will assist in internally identifying interdisciplinary programs through a code.

Question on how this will assist the institution; Barbari reported on the frustration and time spent on identifying students within interdisciplinary programs. Due to the system being structured around departments an interdisciplinary program would need to be found under the home department and total enrollment would be counted manually. The proposal would be an internal change for recordkeeping.

Graduate Student Government

Maxwell Silver

No updates from the Graduate Student Government.

Graduate Council Operation

GC Subcommittees

Advisor Advisee Recommendations Document

Document will be presented as an informational item for Faculty Senate for distribution.

Streamlining Course Approvals and Meetings

Graduate Council met once a month in previous years, and approved courses and programs within a two-meeting period. Due to the increase in Council sessions, a three-meeting approval timeline was established to provide Councilors enough time to bring new and change curriculum to department meetings.

Councilors suggested introduction of a new curriculum item and a month to provide Councilors time to bring curriculum items to department meetings. Items without significant controversy can be voted on at the second Council meeting.

New programs - deadlines

The deadline for new programs introduced in Spring 2022 has passed.

The deadline for Fall 2022 new program submissions is 12/8. This is done to provide curriculum time to pass through multiple stages of workflow including: Provost approval, Council and Senate introduction, Council and Senate approval, Board of Trustees approval, and curriculum sent to the Colorado Department of Higher Education.

Note that these deadlines are created for marketing, communications, and admissions. Admissions will create drip campaigns to spread word on new programs, and a significant amount of time should be allotted to build the program and advertise prior to student registration.

OGS suggested consideration of new programs a year and a half in advance to provide enough time for marketing prior to student registration opening.

Question on departments looking to add a concentration to a PhD if this is considered a new program or program change; the addition of a concentration to an already existing program would be classified as a program change.

Curriculum Item(s) for Council Vote – From 9/15/21

- 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.

Offline question made on how this course may impact Advanced Energy Systems; Prasad noted that this course will not have overlap and would contain complimentary material.

MOTION: To approve the new course SYGN520: Climate Change and Sustainability by Heeley, seconded by Zimmerman. Motion passed unanimously. **APPROVED.**

The course will be taught as a special topics course for Fall 2021. Fifteen students are registered from various parts of the world.

Continuing Curriculum Item(s) – From 10/6/21

2.1 **MINING ENGINEERING** Priscilla Nelson

[CIM 9/29; Provost 9/30]

1 new course: MNGN5XX: FUNDAMENTALS OF TAILINGS ENGINEERING

Due to recent, catastrophic tailings dam failures, mining constituents have a significant interest in tailings facilities design and engineering. This is the first of a sequence of six short courses that has been offered with very good registrations (25 to >50 students per class) twice during 2021. Registrants were from around the world, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Mexico, New Caledonia, Peru, South Africa, Suriname, Tanzania, and the U.S. The course delivery has been virtual using Zoom and Canvas, and student satisfaction has been assessed as high.

Demand for the course was high with fifty students in each of the short courses completed in March and July.

The proposal has been modified as a three-credit course in which three modules would be packed together. A second course will be proposed with the final three modules.

New Curriculum Item(s)

3.1 **ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS** Ian Lange

[CIM 10/14]

1 program change: MSPHD-ECO: MS & PhD – Mineral & Energy Economics
4+1 language added for Western Colorado.

This program will encourage applicants to the Mineral and Energy Economics (MEE) program by facilitating applications from Western Colorado University's Bachelors of Energy Management program. The program will allow these students to complete the non-thesis Masters in MEE in one year by setting specific course requirements at Western Colorado University.

The program will provide more opportunities and partnerships with Western Colorado through the partnership with Western Colorado University. Western Colorado recruits a different type of student than Mines generally does and thus our program will help give Mines exposure to a new market.

Finally, this program will lead to larger numbers of non-thesis Masters students attending Mines. This increased revenue source will help diversify Mines overall revenue streams.

The Mineral and Energy Economics program was approached by Western Colorado's Business Administration in Energy Management BS program for addition of 4+1 language. The program is one of the few legacy 36-credit programs on campus at the master's level.

Concern raised on a conflict with Mines' 4+1 policy; the articulation agreement lists students' ability to have nine credits of 400- or 600-level courses while Mines' policy is acceptance of nine total credits of 400-level courses. Request made for Lange to contact OGS to assist in the program language.

Miscellaneous Business

Tina Voelker

Interdisciplinary Representation on Graduate Council

The Academic Faculty Bylaws list a number of interdisciplinary programs represented from a period prior to the increase in programs. A Bylaw change would be needed to incorporate further representation into Graduate Council.

Comment made on interdisciplinary representatives being part of a home department. Note made that an increase in members may lead to longer Council sessions.

Councilors agree that IGP representation is a necessary development for Council; Council must identify a plan for representation that would not decrease Council functionality or have voices unheard.

Suggestion made on providing representation to IGPs that award thesis degrees or PhDs.

Comment made on Graduate Council not being a departmental council but representative of issues that affect faculty and graduate students. Suggestion made that students may not associate with their IGPs home department, and that could be reflected in Council representation as well.

Graduate Seminar Consistencies

Councilor raised issue on graduate seminars and consistencies across departments; work is being done to contact graduate coordinators from other departments to identify how credit requirements, registration, grading, rubrics, and others are being handled. Councilors asked to bring this to their departments for consideration and response.

Adjourn

Tina Voelker

Meeting adjourned: 5:01 pm.

Next meeting: November 3, 4:00-5:00 pm via Zoom. Please send all agenda items to mgreen1@mines.edu 1 week prior.

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

4.1 **Approval of Minutes – October 6, 2021**

Tina Voelker