

Colorado School of Mines – GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
 January 19, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, via Zoom

**Attendees:**

**Voting Members:** 22 total (12 - majority needed for quorum). Quorum was present

P	Bettina Voelker (Chair)	P	Christine Baker (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)	P	Juan Lucena (EDS)	A	Jim Ranville (GC)	P	Luis Zerpa (PE)
P	Geoff Brennecka (ML)	P	Jeremy Zimmerman (PH)	A	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)	P	Salman Mohagheghi (EE)	P	Zhexuan Gong (PH)		

**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)	A	Kendra Stansbury (RO)
A	Deb Jordan (Trefny)						

**Special Guest(s):** Charles Durfee (PH), Ning Wu (CBE)

**Welcome**

Tina Voelker

Zhexuan Gong was introduced to Graduate Council as the Physics representative while Zimmerman is on sabbatical for Spring 2022.

**Briefings and Information Items**

Office of Graduate Studies

Tim Barbari

*Catalog Change – 300-level courses in the Graduate Catalog*

Councilor brought forward current Catalog language referencing graduate students’ ability to apply department recommended 300-level courses to some degree requirements; Barbari proposed removal and replacement with up-to-date language on 400-level coursework exceptions. Only one program mentions allowance of 300-level courses explicitly.

Registrar’s Office

Paul Myskiw

*Catalog Change – Graduate and Undergraduate Course Numbering and Footnotes*

Myskiw brought forward footnote language on 12/15. The language would make clear that some graduate programs may allow graduate students to enroll in 400-499 level courses. Councilor had noted that the current Catalog listed 500-599 courses as “Masters Level” and suggested the use of “Graduate Level” as some PhD programs allow for 500-level courses. Council discussed combining 500-699 as “Graduate Level”.

**Note:** The following footnotes are to be added to “Senior Level\*” and “Graduate Level\*\*” course numbering in the Catalog:

*“\*Some graduate programs may allow graduate students to enroll in 400-499 level courses as a part of their program.*

*\*\*Undergraduates may take 500 level courses and may apply these courses toward the undergraduate degree and GPA. Undergraduates in combined undergraduate/graduate programs will have a transcript notation on the graduate transcript notating the double counted courses.”*

**MOTION:** To approve the proposed course numbering level name changes and addition of footnotes to clarify 400-level and 500-level coursework exceptions by Rostami, seconded by Brennecka. 16 for, 2 abstentions. APPROVED.

Graduate Student Government

Maxwell Silver

Silver reported on the status of a large population of graduate students that were affected by the shooting in Lakewood, 12/27. Silver asked faculty to remain sensitive to advised students and graduate students in courses that were directly affected; also asked to consider reaching out to graduate students if help or support is needed. Councilor asked regarding graduate students affected by the Marshall fires; Silver noted there are students that live there with and without families but complaints have not been expressed.

**Curriculum Item(s) for Council Vote** – from 12/1/21

1.1

**PHYSICS**

Charles Durfee

[CIM 12/8; Provost 12/9]

**1 new program:** CRTG-OPTICS: Optics for Engineering

*Optics for Engineering is an interdisciplinary program that seeks to equip students for careers in industries that make use of optics, imaging and lasers. It encompasses a wide range of disciplines that include physics, materials science, computer science, electrical and mechanical engineering, chemistry and mathematics, and is necessarily a collaborative effort among many Mines departments. The “Optics for Engineering” graduate certificate program is aimed at providing students with a range of technical backgrounds the tools they need to succeed in today’s optics-related industries. Optics and lasers are key enabling technologies in many industries, including some recent applications like automotive lidar, advanced manufacturing and quantum computing. At the same time, the design of optical systems requires input from many disciplines: electrical and mechanical engineering, computer programming, materials and chemistry. It is therefore critical for students trained in those areas to learn how their background can be applied to the engineering of optical, imaging or laser systems.*

Offline correspondence confirmed that the Analytical Spectroscopy course listed in the certificate electives has not been taught by the chemistry department and has been removed.

Councilor asked if the certificate is residential; Durfee stated that the prerequisite course is offered online but the certificate is residential.

**MOTION:** To approve the new program in Physics CRTG-OPTICS: Optics for Engineering by Brennecka, seconded by Morrison. 17 for, 2 abstentions. APPROVED.

1.2

**CHEMICAL & BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING**

David Marr

[CIM 11/19]

**1 program change:** MSPHD-CBE: MS & PhD – Chemical and Biological Engineering  
*In the current catalog, both Ph.D. and master students are required to register every semester for CBEN605 Colloquium; however, it is not currently specified how many colloquium credits can be counted towards each degree. Here, we are applying a three-*







accordingly.

3.1 **Approval of Minutes – December 15, 2021**

Tina Voelker