

Colorado School of Mines – Research Council Minutes
February 9, 2:00-3:00 pm via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members: 24 total (13 needed for quorum). Quorum was present.

P	Yvette Kuiper (Chair)	P	Patrick Farrell (LB)	P	Tulay Flamand (EB)	P	Andrew Petruska (ME)	P	Emmanuel DeMoor (MME)
A	Mark Deinert (NSE)	P	Yilin Fan (PE)	A	Matthew Morgan (CGS)	P	Rennie Kaunda (MN)	P	Adrienne Kroepsch (HASS)
A	Thomas Monecke (GE)	A	Svitlana Pylypenko (CH)	A	Jim Ranville (GC)	P	Elizabeth Reddy (EDS)	P	Jamal Rostami (UCT)
P	Mahadevan Ganesh (AMS)	P	Jeffrey Shragge (GP)	P	Jim Simmons (GP)	P	John Spear (CEE)	P	Kenneth “Xerxes” Steirer (EREP)
A	Eric Toberer (MS/PH)	A	Sumit Agarwal (CBE)	P	Mehmet Belviranli (CS)	P	Mike Wakin (EE)		

Non-Voting Members:

P	Johanna Eagan (ORA)	P	Mara Green (AA)	A	James Frishkoff (GSG)	A	Barb O’Kane (EHS)	P	Emmelia Ashton (USG)
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Special Guest(s):

Welcome

Yvette Kuiper

Kuiper welcomed new Research Council member Mike Wakin (EE).

Approval of the Minutes – January 12, 2022

Yvette Kuiper

MOTION: To approve the Research Council minutes of January 12, 2022 by Kuiper, seconded by Spear. 14 for, 1 abstention. Motion passed.

Committee Updates

REI

Yvette Kuiper

Call for requests has been sent for Spring 2022, requests due 2/28 (information can be found on the Research Council webpage, [click here](#)).

Research Council Lecture Series/Research Fusion

Jamal Rostami

The Spring 2022 Research Council lecture will host Robert Braun, 2021 Senior Excellence in Research Award winner, in March 2022.

The second Research Fusion will be held April 20, 2022; an Excel sheet will be set up for volunteers to present. Rostami asked Councilors to reserve the date on their calendars and ask colleagues to join. The Research Fusion is for faculty and postdoc presentations. Ten presentations over fifty minutes with a short vote at the end for best presentation; faculty encouraged to stay afterward to mingle and answer questions.

Excellence in Research Awards

Yvette Kuiper

Four senior nominations and six junior nominations have been received. Nominations for junior awards were asked to provide external letters. Committee will make recommendation based on rubric; recommendation is voted on by Research Council.

Research Communications

Yilin Fan

Committee provided recommendation to establish an equipment management system; recommendation provided after several discussions with Research and Technology Transfer (RTT) and the Controller's Office. The current RTT webpage provides a list of equipment and research facilities with the following information: description, model, manufacturer, building, room, and department. This information was provided through an online form. Equipment items with a purchase price above \$50k are included.

Committee recommended a system that should at least include: name of the equipment, model number and manufacturer if applicable, department, PI or point of contact, location in building with room number, picture if possible, short description of capabilities, keywords or measurement capabilities for searching, funding sources if applicable, current operational condition, shareability, and instructions for shareable equipment. Committee recommended lowering listed equipment prices from \$50k to \$5k. The system would be managed mainly by the Controller's Office. Committee recommended the information be verified and updated as needed by each department and harmonized with any existing asset inspection process to avoid duplication of efforts.

Definitions, Roles (and promotion) of non-T/TT researchers on campus

Yvette Kuiper

Committee drafted document based on the University of Colorado (CU) system for research professors, research associates, postdocs, and all technician positions. The document was provided to Human Resources, the Office of Research Administration (ORA), RTT, and the deans. ORA would like to make the document part of a larger effort that includes Equal Work for Equal Pay.

The larger effort would tackle all research positions; project began the week of 2/7 with expected drafts later in the semester. Project will take a holistic approach on research positions based on qualifications, responsibilities, titles, and other areas of differentiation.

Question on timeline; Eagan reported it being a multi-year project with multiple phases. First phase will go over Handbook position descriptions; there are over 122 different research titles being used across campus. Additional phases will include solicitation of campus feedback.

Strategic Instrumentation and Space

Yvette Kuiper

Committee sent request for inventory reports from departments; inventories are being submitted. Inventories needed by 2/11. Committee recommended formation of department research committees; committees encouraged to create strategic space utilization plans that would be reviewed by the strategic instrumentation and space committee and provide bigger issues to Council.

Graduate Stipends

Adrienne Kroepsch

Meeting put together between Graduate Council and Research Council.

High-Performance Computing

Jeffrey Shragge

Committee provided recommendations on bringing HPC back into compliance. Committee met in January with Matt Ketterling to look at rollout issues that need to be addressed; discussed implementation strategy.

Mentoring

John Spear

Committee noted several mentoring programs across campus, and would duplicate efforts.

Mines Research Incentive Plan

Yvette Kuiper

Committee met and discussed means of simplifying the process of applying and reviewing. ORA hosted campus session where feedback was provided by faculty; some feedback to be incorporated into recommendations. January feedback requested reconfigure from prospective funding to retrospective funding allocations to ensure a proven track record of funding over a couple years. Summary of feedback and requested changes to be made and presented to executive team.

Call for applications will not be sent until July 2022.

Mines Undergraduate Research Advisory Committee (MURAC)

Krishna in process of gathering feedback from departments and educating on MURAC. Will provide update at Faculty Senate.

Mines as an R1 Institution

Carnegie Basic Classification – Colorado School of Mines is now in “Very High Research” (R1). More information can be found [here](#).

Comment made on Mines need to compete at a higher level; formalization of the biology programs on campus benefitted Mines. Faculty may have questions on what will change at Mines and what new opportunities may open up.

Consideration to form a committee with those who have experience or were involved with R1 and the American Association of Universities (AAU).

Research Council Chair

Kuiper reminded Councilors that a new Council chair will be elected for the 22-23 year and asked for consideration of how to maintain continuity. Research Council chair must be a member of Faculty Senate. Councilor suggested a transition committee beginning in late March to early April 2022.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned: 4:47 pm.

Next meeting: March 9, 2:00-3:00 pm via Zoom.