

Colorado School of Mines – GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
 March 16, 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)	A	Owen Hildreth (ME)
P	Eric Anderson (HSE)	A	Karin Leiderman (AMS)	A	Jamal Rostami (MN)	P	Michael Heeley (EB)
P	Ebru Bozdag (GP)	A	Juan Lucena (EDS)	P	Jim Ranville (GC)	P	Luis Zerpa (PE)
P	Geoff Brennecka (ML)	P	Zhexuan Gong (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)	A	Salman Mohagheghi (EE)				

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

P	Tim Barbari (OGS)	P	Carolyn Freedman (OGS)	A	Deb Jordan (Trefny)	A	Mara Green (AA)
A	Jennie Kenney (AA)	A	Denise Winn-Bower (PE)	P	Paul Myskiw (RO)	A	Kendra Stansbury (RO)

Special Guest(s): Tony Petrella (ME)

Welcome

Tina Voelker

Briefings and Information Items

Office of Graduate Studies

Tim Barbari

No updates from the Office of Graduate Studies.

Registrar’s Office

Paul Myskiw

RO to pilot a new incomplete grade form to encourage students to have a conversation with faculty about the incomplete; form done in response to students not knowing why an incomplete was given, student confusion on what was to be done to make up for an incomplete, and students re-registering for the course unnecessarily.

Form would be made available on Registrar’s Office website to establish an agreement between students and faculty to communicate on the incomplete and what work needs to be done.

Graduate Student Government

Maxwell Silver

No updates from Graduate Student Government.

Graduate Council Operations

Tina Voelker

Council was open to having additional voices and representatives; Council noted the disadvantage was lack of engagement and space. Discussion continued on a space to accommodate a larger group of Councilors; Councilor noted the meeting time of 4:00-5:00pm in-person may not work for those with younger children. Councilors agreed on the flexibility of virtual meetings and highlighted the importance of social gatherings once or twice a year.

Suggestion made for a separate curriculum committee, the larger group would discuss graduate issues and policies and spend less discussion on curriculum items. Councilor noted the Faculty Senate Bylaws have tasked the Councils with curriculum review, and a separate committee would need to be delegated by the Bylaws. Suggestion made to review other universities and how the curriculum committee functions.

2.2

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Tony Petrella

[CIM 2/16]

1 program change: MSPHD-MECH: MS & PhD – Mechanical Engineering
Adding Online Modality to support an Online Mechanical Engineering Masters Non-Thesis degree. Actual start date would be Spring 2023, but not available as an option for the drop-down menu.

Comment made that online can come down to faculty resource issue, some faculty have heard varying opinions on the difficulty of teaching online and residential courses.

Concern raised on some students withdrawing from a residential course and taking the second, eight-week version online; Petrella noted there being no plan to offer the online version in the same semester as the residential version. Barbari noted this occurrence in the residential student population with around 75-80% of students in an online class being residential students. ME has been made aware of residential students taking online sections.

- **Question** on who is developing the online courses and if it is not the residential course instructor; six of the ten classes are being developed for online by those teaching the residential section.

Petrella noted one instance of a postdoc that will act as an adjunct for the development of one of the online courses; this individual had TA'd under three instructors for the course and would assist in conjunction with faculty teaching residential sections.

- **Question** on how equivalency may be determined; Petrella working with Mines Online and faculty to support online pedagogy, specific development tasks, learning outcomes, and the course map.

Comment on the level of increased confidence knowing the faculty member teaching the residential version is a key developer of the online version.

- **Question** on interchangeability of requirements and students' ability to take a semester online and take the next semester on campus; the intention was to provide a seamless program with the understanding that online tuition is different from residential.

New Business

Request for Extension for GEGN598

Danica Roth

Roth requested extension to teach GEGN598: Point Cloud Data Analysis in Earth Science and Engineering for Fall 2022 due to missing the CIM submission deadline to submit an official course number for the course.

Adjourn

Tina Voelker

Meeting adjourned: 4:52 pm.

Next meeting: April 6, 4:00-5:00 pm via Zoom.

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.

3.1 **Approval of Minutes** – February 16, 2022

Tina Voelker

3.2 **GEOLOGY & GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING**
[CIM 3/4]

Cheryl Medford

1 course change: GEGN582: INTEGRATED SURFACE WATER HYDROLOGY
Changing Groundwater Engineering (GEGN466/GEGN467) prerequisites to co-requisites. Many incoming HSE graduate students currently take both Groundwater Engineering and GEGN 582 (Surface Water Hydrology) concurrently. Later units of the Surface Water Hydrology course rely on material covered early in the semester in Groundwater, making these two courses fit well together with Groundwater as a corequisite. Allowing these courses as a corequisite also supports students who are doing a one-year non-thesis MS, and would formalize in the catalog something that is widely done in practice now.

3.3 **MINING ENGINEERING**
[CIM 3/11]

Jamal Rostami

1 course change: MNGN504: UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING IN
HARD ROCK

Update to course for online delivery for the Graduate Certificate in UCTE. Update to course description, addition of MNGN321 prerequisite and GEGN462 co-requisite.