

Colorado School of Mines – Research Council Minutes
 April 13, 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)	A	Andrew Petruska (ME)	A	Emmanuel DeMoor (MME)
P	Mark Deinert (NSE)	P	Yilin Fan (PE)	P	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)	A	John Spear (CEE)	P	Kenneth “Xerxes” Steirer (EREP)
A	Eric Toberer (MS/PH)	P	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

Approval of Minutes – March 9, 2022

Yvette Kuiper

MOTION: To approve the Research Council minutes of March 9, 2022 by Rostami, seconded by Morgan. 14 for, 1 abstention. Motion passed.

Committee updates

Small Research Equipment/Instrumentation Investment (REI)
 Report in progress.

Research Council lecture series/Research Fusion

Jamal Rostami

Research Fusion on 4/20 at noon in the McNeil room by the Lockridge Arena. Ten speakers had signed up to present with a variety of levels and topics; speakers asked to bring PowerPoint for presentation.

Councilors asked to attend the graduate and undergraduate symposiums. Undergraduate symposium hosted April 18-19. Graduate symposium hosted April 13-14.

Excellence in Research Awards

Yvette Kuiper

Excellence in Research Awards were endorsed and approved by Faculty Senate and forwarded to Academic Affairs.

Research Communications

Yilin Fan

Committee met with the Research and Technology Transfer (RTT), Controller, and Shared Instrumentation Facilities offices. Senior manager of ITS presented subcommittee with TeamDynamix database tool. Once information and equipment has been recorded, faculty may search for equipment depending on type or category. Committee raised concern on data entry and were provided an option to

integrate TeamDynamix with Workday to avoid repeat efforts in data entry. Controller's office asked to provide information on Workday. Benefit of software included departments' ability to control and input information on their equipment.

Committee next step to discuss additional details needed in the communications system alongside what is offered with Workday. Committee in need of new leadership as Fan transitions off of Research Council.

Definition, roles (and promotion) of non-T/TT researchers on campus

Yvette Kuiper

Effort continued with Eagan and ORA.

Strategic Instrumentation and Space

Yvette Kuiper

Space inventory filled out by departments and provided to RTT office; concern raised on new faculty and lack of space. Suggested plan to provide departments with a say in proactive planning in shared space. Buehler, AIA Planning Specialist with Capital Planning and Design at Mines, to visit departments regarding space and what is being used.

Committee believed department research committee involvement in these visits is important to remain transparent and open.

- **Question** if a policy on handling space and clearer communication pathways; Kuiper noted policy was not discussed but departments were asked to fill out a strategic space plan which was not completed. Committee considering additional mechanisms to bring departments into the discussion of strategic space.
- **Question** on where the effort is headed, projected outcome, and context; committee goal to not have spaces occupied that are not used to the full potential and avoid new faculty on campus taking years to build a lab especially when tenure is involved.

Faculty continued to expand without research space. Suggestion made to include increased utilization in plan. Policy for space utilization would be specific to departments and broader for campus-level utilization.

Graduate Stipends

Adrienne Kroepsch

Committee had met with Graduate Council subcommittee. Graduate stipend issues include Mines underpaying graduate students compared to peers and varying range of pay between departments. Committee to capture data around issues and consolidate into document to circulate around Research and Graduate Council to come up with a joint statement. Document to outline additional anecdotes of challenges around recruiting graduate students to help with quantitative piece.

Goal of committee to provide document, statement from joint Councils, and provide outline of problem to administration and offer potential solutions and ideas.

High-Performance Computing

Jeffrey Shragge

Committee met with campus parties late January 2022; document being formed with ITS. Plan to distribute document to HPC-community for comments on recommended HPC structure.

Recent meeting with Research Advisory Board discussed HPC and research computing. HPC covers partial aspects of computation infrastructure on campus. Consideration to combine efforts, passed on to Kaufman with hope for formal committee around research computing and HPC to address issues.

Mentoring

Effort discontinued given extensive mentoring activities on campus.

Mines Research Incentive Plan

Yvette Kuiper

Program being improved and to be brought forward again Summer 2022. Recommendations from committee on more straightforward process and transparency. General discussion within committee on equity and incentive plans. Draft proposal was less onerous on faculty in terms of data collection and ORA verifying data; proposal has not been presented to senior leadership. Feedback expected from deans and HR.

Research Advisory Board

Jeffrey Shragge

Various subcommittees related to indirect costs distribution model, relationship between research centers and departments, research support services, and looking at Mines industrial affiliate programs. Industrial affiliate programs used by other universities as an umbrella to facilitate exchange between universities and industry partners.

Board desire for better and more consistent administrative and technical support for research active faculty, promotion of interdisciplinary collaboration and better marketing, and consistent return policies to ensure faculty and centers are treated equally.

Mines Undergraduate Research Advisory Committee

First summer MURF will support around seven to ten students.

Research Council long term plans

Yvette Kuiper

ESP portfolio up for re-election. Kuiper to send email to department to provide heads-up and discuss continuation or replacement. Chair for Research Council not decided. Suggestion made for a continuity committee to continue efforts with prior chair as an ad hoc member.

Suggestion made for Bylaw change proposal to allow the previous chair to remain as a non-voting member for continuity.

New Business

Research Council Foundation account has been set up for February 2023; participation encouraged from members, graduate students, and alumni.

Adjourn

Yvette Kuiper

Meeting adjourned: 2:57 pm.

Next meeting: May 11, 2:00-3:00 pm via Zoom.