

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES  
 September 13, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, in the Guggenheim Boardroom and Zoom

**Attendees:**

**Voting Members:** 15 total (8 needed for quorum). Quorum was present

P	Jeff King (Chair)	P	Cristian Ciobanu (ME)	P	Linda Figueroa (CEE/MN)	P	Joseph Horan (HASS)
P	Ebru Bozdag (GP)	P	Brandon Dugan (GP)	P	Mansur Ermila (PE)	A	Cynthia Norrgran (CBE)
P	Bettina Voelker (CH)	P	Lawrence Wiencke (PH)	P	Pat Kohl (PH)	P	Ventzi Karaivanov (ME)
P	Sid Saleh (EB)	P	Deb Carney (AMS)	P	Soutir Bandyopadhyay (AMS)		

**Other Regular Attendees and Guests**

A	Tracy Gardner (Trustee)	P	Rick Holz (AA)	P	Paul Myskiw (RO)	P	Colin Terry (Student Life)
P	Sam Spiegel (Mines Online)	A	Emmelia Ashton (USG)	P	Liam Witteman (GSG)	P	Mara Green (AA)
P	Vibhuti Dave (UGS)	A	Tim Barbari (OGS)	P	Lori Kester (EM)	P	Nicole Becwar (LB)
P	Karla Perez-Velez (CASA)	A	Deb Jordan (Trefny)	P	Angela Dunn (Mines Online)	P	Andrew Herring (AA)

**Special Guest(s):** Toni Lefton (HASS)

**Welcome**

Jeff King

King welcomed in-person and remote attendees; noted work being done to obtain a more synchronized voting method.

**Academic Affairs Announcements**

Rick Holz

Faculty Member Passing

Holz reported a faculty member has passed away, details cannot be shared at the current time. Mines awaiting Jefferson County permission, names not to be released until next of kin have been notified.

- **Question** on how faculty are to respond when asked regarding the faculty member’s passing; Holz asked faculty to acknowledge but refrain from supplementing details due to Jefferson County request.

Census

The last total freshmen accounted for on Census were 1,497, twenty-four international students, and 146 transfer students.

Career Days

Holz thanked faculty for allowing students to attend Career Days and noted most schools do not have this opportunity.

Ombudsperson

- **Question** on updates regarding the ombudsperson discussion from 2021-2022; Holz reported the last conversation with the Executive Committee discussed reaching out to peer institutions’ ombuds to meet with Senate and stakeholders on what will work best for Mines.

## Registrar's Office Announcements

Paul Myskiw

### Career Days

Question brought to Registrar's Office regarding Career Days and quizzes. Career Days are marked as non-exam days, according to policy. Myskiw noted quizzes are a form of assessment and are included within the Career Days' policy.

Suggestion made to speak with Calendar Committee on the possibility of Career Days being an open day with no classes. An official proposal was prepared by Mines' student government on having non-class days for Career Day. The Calendar Committee would assess to assure there are enough contact minutes per semester for credits.

Faculty Senate and Council support for defining non-exam days to better define this for students and faculty.

Myskiw noted a student had been asked to perform a makeup exam in the Testing Center on Career Day; the Testing Center's policy is to uphold or enforce non-exam days.

Suggestion made to provide clarity on non-exam days would be beneficial alongside considering the student government proposal for no class on Career Days. The Spring 2023 Career Days are consecutive, Tuesday and Wednesday and will no longer offer a virtual option. Portfolio of employers attending Career Days is expanding.

### Classroom Scheduling

Scheduling classrooms for academic spaces will happen four months in advance to provide ample time to determine space for faculty and teaching needs; classroom scheduling seen as a collaborative effort between departments and the Registrar's Office. Criteria are being aligned such as chairs, lab space, and accessibility issues. Sections are moved around based on the enrollment needs of larger sections. Preferred rooms that are not filled are moved to another room. Mines' growth of enrollment has caused spacing issues leading to zero available spaces between 9am and 2pm.

Myskiw asked faculty be mindful of space and actively participate in the scheduling process, which is in progress for Spring 2023. Timeslots not previously used will need to be utilized to efficiently use space across campus.

- **Question** if priority is still given to MWF 50-minute and TRF 75-minute courses; Myskiw stated these courses are still given priority, non-standard start times are roomed last to remain efficient.

## Approval of Minutes – August 23, 2022

Jeff King

**MOTION:** To approve the Faculty Senate minutes of August 23, 2022 by Ciobanu, seconded by Dugan. Motion passed unanimously.

## Confirmations and Appointments

### Senate Committee Appointments

Cristian Ciobanu

### Readmissions Committee

Readmissions Committee reported a total of seven vacancies. Seven faculty were selected from the volunteers to be nominated.

- Cynthia Norrgran (Teaching Associate Professor, Chemical and Biological Engineering),
- Jonathan Miorelli (Teaching Assistant Professor, Chemistry),
- Luis Tenorio (Associate Professor, Applied Mathematics and Statistics),
- Svitlana Pylypenko (Associate Professor, Chemistry),
- Kelly Rickey (Teaching Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering),
- Jennifer Strong (Teaching Professor, Applied Mathematics and Statistics), and
- Cristian Ciobanu (Professor, Mechanical Engineering).

Alina Handorean is on sabbatical for Fall 2022, Cristian Ciobanu to cover for Fall 2022.

**MOTION:** To nominate C. Norrgran, J. Miorelli, L. Tenorio, S. Pylypenko, K. Rickey, K. Strong, and C. Ciobanu for the seven vacancies on the Faculty Senate Readmissions Committee for the 2022-2023 Academic Year by Ciobanu, seconded by Dugan. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Library Committee

Library Committee reported a total of two vacancies, this will be confirmed at the first committee meeting of the semester. Two faculty were nominated from the list of volunteers.

- Kathleen Kelly (Teaching Associate Professor, Computer Science) and
- Greg Fasshauer (Professor, Applied Mathematics and Statistics).

**MOTION:** To nominate K. Kelly and G. Fasshauer for the two vacancies on the Faculty Senate Library Committee for the 2022-2023 Academic Year by Horan, seconded by Ciobanu. Motion passed unanimously.

#### University Committee Appointments

Cristian Ciobanu

#### Budget Committee

Budget Committee required a Senator representative. Cristian Ciobanu volunteered to represent Faculty Senate on the Budget Committee.

**MOTION:** To nominate C. Ciobanu as Faculty Senate representative on the University Budget Committee for the 2022-2023 Academic Year by Dugan, seconded by Horan. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Calendar Committee

Calendar Committee reported two vacancies including a Faculty Senate representative and academic faculty member vacancy. Linda Figueroa volunteered to represent Faculty Senate on the Calendar Committee. One faculty member was nominated from the list of volunteers.

- Justin Shaffer (Teaching Associate Professor, Chemical and Biological Engineering).

**MOTION:** To nominate L. Figueroa as Faculty Senate representative and J. Shaffer to fill the one academic faculty vacancy on the University Calendar Committee for the 2022-2023 Academic Year Dugan, seconded by Voelker. Motion passed unanimously.

### Faculty Handbook Committee

Faculty Handbook Committee required a Senator representative. Joseph Horan volunteered to represent Faculty Senate on the Faculty Handbook Committee.

**MOTION:** To nominate J. Horan as Faculty Senate representative on the University Faculty Handbook Committee for the 2022-2023 Academic Year by Ciobanu, seconded by Dugan. Motion passed unanimously. APPROVED.

### Faculty Grievance Committee

The Faculty Grievance Committee reported two vacancies. Four faculty were nominated from the list of volunteers.

- Elizabeth V Davis (Professor; Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences)
- Wendy Bohrson (Professor, Department Head, Geology and Geological Engineering)
- Terry Bridgman (Teaching Professor, Applied Mathematics and Statistics)
- Jason Ganley (Teaching Professor, Chemical and Biological Engineering)

**MOTION:** To nominate E. Davis, W. Bohrson, T. Bridgman, and J. Ganley to fill the two vacancies for the University Faculty Grievance Committee for the 2022-2023 Academic Year by Dugan, seconded by Ciobanu. Motion passed unanimously.

### Promotion and Tenure Committee

Comment made on the diversity of names nominated to fill the committee vacancies. Committee lost a female faculty member; committees are filled to balance across portfolio, gender, and other factors. Suggestion made to reach out to departments for additional names to increase the diversity of the nominated names.

**MOTION:** To table nomination for the University Promotion and Tenure committee to gather additional names by Horan, seconded by Dugan. Motion passed unanimously.

### Teaching Faculty Promotion Committee

Teaching Faculty Promotion Committee reported two vacancies. Four nominations were presented, Provost Holz to select two of the four nominations to fill the committee vacancies.

- Tolga Can (Teaching Professor, Computer Science),
- Kristy Csavina (Teaching Professor, Mechanical Engineering),
- Christian V. Shorey (Teaching Professor and Assistant Department Head, Geology and Geological Engineering),
- Jeff Paone (Undergraduate Director and Teaching Professor, Computer Science).

**MOTION:** To nominate T. Can, K. Csavina, C. Shorey, and J. Paone to be selected to fill the two vacancies on the University Teaching Faculty Promotion Committee for the 2022-2023 Academic Year by Horan, seconded by Dugan. Motion passed unanimously.

### Senate Ad Hoc Committee Appointments

### Online Standards Committee

Online Standards Committee reformed at the first meeting of the semester, 8/23. The nominated chair and Leadership Committee to fill remaining member positions on the committee. Charge for a Bylaw change to implement the ad hoc committee as a standing committee to be presented.

- Ventzi Karaivanov (Teaching Professor, Mechanical Engineering) as chair of the ad hoc Online Standards Committee and
- Adam Duran (ME) as volunteered committee member.

**MOTION:** To nominate V. Karaivanov as chair of the ad hoc Faculty Senate Online Standards Committee and A. Duran as committee member by Ciobanu, seconded by Dugan. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Committee Updates**

#### Faculty Oversight Committee on Sports and Athletics (FOCSA)

Brian Trewyn

#### *Student Athlete Success*

Eighteen Varsity sports compete in the NCAA Division II RMAC conference, ten men's sports and eight women's sports; RMAC currently has fifteen members from Colorado, Utah, Nebraska, New Mexico, and South Dakota.

Trewyn presented on role as Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR). FAR is a member of the faculty at an NCAA member institution designated by the institution to serve as liaison between the institution and athletics department and representative of the institution in conference and NCAA affairs. FAR serves as an advocate for student athlete wellbeing and must be on the faculty or administrative staff not within the athletics department. FAR serves as chair of the Faculty Senate appointed Faculty Oversight Committee on Sports and Athletics (FOCSA).

FOCSA meets once a month, AY 2022-2023 held on the second Wednesday of the month. Athletic Director and Vice Provost of Student Life attend with FAR as *ex officio* members. Committee conducts exit interviews with student athletes as eligibility end; FAR collects information to present in written report to Provost, President, and Board of Trustees. FOCSA reviews and approves lost class time for athletic events. FOCSA charged with providing academic oversight of intercollegiate athletics and institutional sports programs to evaluate their contribution to the educational mission of the school and student quality of life. The committee reports to Senate and provides recommendations when necessary.

Trewyn presented on the RMAC athletes of the year, including six Mines' students:

- **Fall Sports:** Women's Cross Country, Zoe Baker
- **Winter Sports:** Men's Basketball, Brendan Sullivan; Women's Basketball, Denali Pinto; Wrestling, Noah Ottum; Women's Indoor TF, Zoe Baker
- **Spring Sports:** Softball, Sydney Marchando

Mines performs above the RMAC average academically. In Division II, where Mines stands, scholarships are received for athletics which can be stacked on top of academic scholarships. Coaches recruit students that receive academic aid. Division III does not include athletic scholarships.

Suggestion made to improve faculty involvement in Mines' athletics. Student athletes are asked to speak with professors, encourage professors to attend games, and increase involvement. Faculty receive four free tickets to every game and do not charge admission for students, faculty, or staff.

### Core Curriculum Committee

Joseph Horan

Vibhuti Dave

Competencies were approved Spring 2021. Key attributes of the core were identified:

Versatility and exploration for students, interdisciplinary and integrative pedagogy, computing and data analysis foundation for all students, retain solid foundation in math and science, technical skills in the context of societal issues, professional development, business skills, inclusive community, and emphasis on wellness.

Proposed organization of the core includes five buckets: Math, Basic Sciences, and Computing; H&SS, Design and Innovation, Student Led Inquiry, and Success and Wellness. Math, Basic Sciences, and Computing would include math, physics, chemistry, and computing. H&SS would include HASS100 and thematic electives. Design and Innovation would include EDNS151. Student Led Inquiry would include free electives. Success and Wellness would include CSM101, CSM201, and PA electives.

#### *Math, Science, and Computing*

Two options presented. Option one would total fifteen credits with Calc I, II, III required and four credits each. Departments would then identify an additional three credits required in their degree program. Option two would total twelve credits will Calc I, II, III reduced to three credits each and required. Vector calculus would become a new course and departments would identify an additional three credits required in their degree program.

Committee recommends Math remain at fifteen credits, Phys I reduced from 4.5 credits to four credits, Chem I remains four credits, and a three-credit computing course would be added.

#### *H&SS*

Two options presented. Option one would total eighteen credits given there are enough resources and would include substitution of HASS200 and EBGN201 with the integrated gateway course CASES. CASES would group the H&SS electives into themes. Option two would total eighteen credits with minimal resources and minimal revision to H&SS within the core.

Committee recommends refinement of HASS100 to three credits, removal of HASS200 and EBGN201 from the core, development of the Student Signature Experience CASES, and increasing H&SS electives to twelve credits with business classes included.

#### *Design and Innovation*

EDNS151 rebranded as Cornerstone Design. Committee recommends EDNS151 stay three credits, EDS collaboration with HASS and EB to develop CASES, and EDNS151 content reduction that would occur with the implementation of CASES depending on sequence and any redundancies.

#### *Success and Wellness*

Two options presented. Option one would total three credits and is recommended; CSM101 would be expanded into one credit, CSM201 would be introduced as one credit, and continue retention of upper

division PAGN courses. Option two would total two credits and expands CSM101 into one credit and introduces CSM201, also one credit.

Committee recommends PAGN require one, one credit course. CSM101 as one credit would address additional professional development and personal success topics via content experts, expanded modules, and community building opportunities. CSM201 would explore current best evidence for behaviors that support physical and emotional health and performance. Reviews and understands the five dimensions of well-being including physical, emotional, social, environmental, and intellectual.

#### *Student Led Inquiry*

Two options presented. Option one would total six credits where all six free electives are maintained in the core. Option two would move free electives to departmental control and would total zero credits in the core. Committee recommends retention of six credits of free electives within the core and sees this as critical for minors and 4+1 programs. Students are known to use this bucket to transfer in credit. Option two provides programs flexibility in retaining free electives; option would bring down the overall credit count in degree programs. Committee noted peer institutions do not include free electives in the core.

#### *Distributed Sciences*

Committee recommends distributed science move to departmental control, Dave noted this is current practice. Department require which and how many advanced math and science courses are included within their degree programs.

#### *Overall Mines Core*

Core courses must meet CDHE requirements with reading, critical thinking, written communication, mathematics, and technology. Mines' general core would then be composed of the buckets: Math, Basic Sciences, and Computing; and H&SS. The Mines' Nucleus would include the buckets: Design and Innovation, Student Led Inquiry, Degree-Specific Math, and Success and Wellness.

#### *Next Steps*

Committee to tie identified competencies into the presented recommendation, develop new courses including CASES, computing, and H&SS electives. Refine NHV and PHYS, adjust academic flowcharts, and move through logistical policies within the Catalog.

Horan presented the drafted Faculty Senate resolution on the Core Curriculum Committee; King noted this as the primary point of discussion. Concern raised regarding resources for the development of the CASES class; the resolution outlined contingency of the H&SS plan on the successful pilot of CASES.

The presented resolution would direct implementation to the committee; committee acknowledges that all parts of the core curriculum recommendation would not be implemented immediately and parts would roll out over time.

Comment made on the timeline feeling rushed; committee noted discussions and feedback have been gathered for eighteen months with departments, deans, faculty, and other stakeholders.

**Undergraduate Council**

Brandon Dugan

Council to dedicate time to discussing the proposed recommendations from the Core Curriculum Committee. Courses and programs have been submitted in the Curriculum Inventory Management (CIM) system and are being presented to Council.

**Graduate Council**

Tina Voelker

No updates from Graduate Council.

**Adjourn**

Jeff King

Meeting adjourned: 4:30 pm.

Next meeting: September 27, 2:00-4:00 pm in the Guggenheim Boardroom and Zoom.