

Colorado School of Mines – RESEARCH COUNCIL MINUTES
September 14, 2:00-3:00 pm via Zoom

Attendees:

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

P	Sid Saleh (Chair)	P	Seth Vuletich (LB)	A	Tulay Flamand (EB)	P	Andrew Petruska (ME)	A	Emmanuel DeMoor (MME)
P	Mark Deinert (NSE)	P	Erdal Ozkan (PE)	P	Matthew Morgan (CGS)	A	Mike Wakin (EE)	P	Elizabeth Davis (HASS)
A	Thomas Monecke (GE)	P	Svitlana Pylypenko (CH)	A	Jim Ranville (GC)	P	Elizabeth Reddy (EDS)	P	Jamal Rostami (UCT)
P	Steve Pankavich (AMS)	P	Jeffrey Shragge (GP)	A	Jim Simmons (GP)	P	John Spear (CEE)	P	Kenneth “Xerxes” Steirer (EREP)
A	Eric Toberer (MS/PH)	P	Sumit Agarwal (CBE)	P	Mehmet Belviranli (CS)				

Non-Voting Members:

A	Johanna Eagan (ORA)	P	Mara Green (AA)	P	Stephen Thoemmes (GSG)	A	Barb O’Kane (EHS)	P	Emmelia Ashton (USG)
P	Yvette Kuiper (GGE, ex officio)								

Special Guest(s): Walt Copan (VPRTT)

Welcome

Sid Saleh

Research Council Meetings

Sid Saleh

Council meetings were set for the second Wednesday of the month; Saleh informed Councilors of a conflict and introduced meeting on the first Wednesday of the month.

MOTION: To move Research Council meetings from the second Wednesday to the first Wednesday of the month for the 2022-2023 Academic Year by Steirer, seconded by Shragge. 14 for, 1 abstention. Motion passed.

Proposed Bylaw Changes

Yvette Kuiper

Kuiper presented the proposed Bylaw changes from May 2022. The changes proposed inclusion of interdisciplinary graduate programs offering thesis-based graduate degrees as representatives on Council and the past Research Council chair serving as a non-voting *ex officio* member for the fall semester after their term ends to facilitate transition of the new chair.

Councilor suggested cleaning up language on membership to avoid confusion. Councilor suggested a secondary clause to include a member of Council serving as representative on the Research Advisory Board; additional suggestion made to separate membership and elections for portfolios.

Kuiper noted Council goals are presented to Faculty Senate at Senate’s second meeting of the year; the issue would resolve with Council meeting on the first Wednesday of the month.

AY22-23 Goal Setting Discussion

Sid Saleh

Small Research Equipment/Instrumentation Investment (REI)

Standing Committee

Committee chair is outlined as the Research Council chair.

Research Council Lecture Series/Research Fusion

Standing Committee

Rostami continued as committee chair; asked for additional volunteers. Rostami encouraged faculty to be involved in the committee and events to get to know what one another are doing on campus.

Research Communications

Standing Committee

Shragge provided overview of committee work. Mines had an online database for equipment over \$50k. Recommendation from the committee to provide an opt-in list of equipment between \$5k-50k to avoid duplicate purchases across campus. Committee worked with ITS on establishment of an equipment management system.

Research Communications and the Small Research Equipment/Instrumentation Investment (REI) grew out of the Strategic Instrumentation and Space committee.

Suggestion made to combine Research Communications and Strategic Instrumentation and Space.

MOTION: To merge the committees of Strategic Instrumentation and Space and Research Communications into a single committee named "Research Instrumentation by Shragge, seconded by Petruska. Motion passed unanimously.

Definition, Roles (and promotion) of non-T/TT Researchers on Campus

Standing Committee

Committee merged with a committee led by Eagan in ORA. Representative on the ORA committee asked to provide reports to Council.

MOTION: To dissolve the Definition, Roles (and promotion) of non-T/TT Researchers on Campus committee by Davis, seconded by Ozkan. Motion passed unanimously.

Research Mentoring

Standing Committee

Committee found several mentoring efforts on campus and were expected to disband. Suggestion made to focus on research mentoring. Councilor noted assistant professors coming up for tenure do not have assistance with conducting research while teaching and fall behind in the first two to three years.

Mines Research Incentive Program

Ad Hoc Committee

MRIP still in second year and may have additional suggestions based on how 2022 proceeded. Data to be collected on how successful the program was, how many were admitted into the program, and whether campus feels changes are needed. Feedback has not been received regarding changes made last year.

Faculty Survey

Was not carried over from the 2020-2021 academic year; will not continue for the 2022-2023 academic year. Council to represent researchers and faculty on campus. Suggestion made to implement an ideas or suggestion box on the Research Council website to gain narratives.

RTT Updates

Walt Copan

Copan noted with growth of Mines' research portfolio and funding, there has been a decrease in PhD candidates at the university; other universities are in similar situations. Mines to look at graduate outreach strategies, work with GSG and Council in finding ways to enrich the graduate student experience.

Copan reported there being a different competitive environment, the conversation will be broader with graduate stipends and will focus on communication and factors to attract and retain graduate students and postdocs at Mines. Prioritization of graduate student environments, students coming from a non-Mines undergraduate background do not have the same Ore Digger experience. Uniformity of experience is not expected but strengthening the research enterprise to help students be successful at Mines and post-graduation.

Councilor noted department flexibility for recruiting is necessary. Councilor suggested focusing on stipends, recruitment is important but how much graduate students receive in stipends can affect retention.

Suggestion made to expand graduate stipends to include recruiting.

MOTION: To expand the charter of the graduate stipends committee to include issues of recruitment and retention of graduate students and postdocs at Mines by Petruska, seconded by Ozkal. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Sid Saleh

Research Advisory Board will need a representative from Research Council to volunteer.

Adjourn

Sid Saleh

Meeting adjourned: 3:05 pm.

Next meeting: October 12, 2:00-3:00 pm on Zoom.