

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
January 10, 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)
A	Ebru Bozdog (GP)	A	Brandon Dugan (GP)* Sabbatical Spring 2023	A	Mansur Ermila (PE)	P	Cynthia Norrgran (CBE)
P	Bettina Voelker (CH)	A	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

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

Special Guest(s): Roel Snieder (GP)

Welcome

Jeff King

King welcomed Senators back for the Spring 2023 semester. King reported on a new meeting organization structure to allow for guest presentations and frequent updates from Senate and University committee representatives.

Approval of Minutes – December 13, 2022

Jeff King

MOTION: To approve the Faculty Senate minutes of December 13, 2022 by Horan, seconded by Saleh. Motion passed unanimously.

Academic Affairs Announcements

Rick Holz

Holz welcomed everyone back to campus.

Holz reported a pipe broken in Alderson Hall around 12/24 due to low temperatures; the pipe was noted quickly but around 10,000 gallons of water had dispersed prior to being shut off. This event affected the classroom side of Alderson Hall. The third, second, and first floors with around six classrooms per floor have been damaged. Holz recognized facilities' quick work. An outside party has been hired to assist in mitigating damage; work has been done since 12/25. The third floor of Alderson Hall is open to students for classes as of 1/10. The second floor was expected to open 1/11. Holz reported the damage approaching \$1 million. Holz thanked the Registrar's Office team for the effort to rehouse displaced classes in Alderson Hall.

Registrar's Office Announcements

Paul Myskiw

Myskiw working with Dave on increasing enrollment in the summer. Targeted messages expected for students that have missed or failed courses to enroll in the summer as an option. A communication for summer schedules would be requested.

The Catalog deadline is expected to increase by a month. Myskiw noted several changes are expected on both the undergraduate and graduate Catalog.

There are eighteen new undergraduates; sixteen are transfer students and two are brand new freshmen.

Briefings, Informational Items, and Updates

Suicide Prevention Training (QPR)

Roel Snieder

Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) training is offered for departments. Senators were encouraged to spread information on the trainings to departments and attend.

- **Question** on other methods of asking struggling students; Snieder reported that it is important to ask specifically if a student is suicidal, Snieder recognized this is difficult. The QPR training assists faculty and students in asking more difficult questions.

Myskiw noted that a part of the training is de-stigmatization of the topic. [Click here for more information and training schedules.](#)

Calendar Committee

Linda Figueroa

Information on Career Days had been disseminated over break. Career Days is two days and will not be non-instruction/non-class days. Faculty are encouraged to avoid requiring in-person, required assessments on those days.

Juneteenth will be an observed holiday. Faculty teaching in the summer are asked to be aware of the upcoming holiday.

Fall 2022 Academic Standing

Colin Terry

Terry provided brief report on Fall 2022 academic standing. There were twenty-six suspensions because of poor performance or maximum withdrawals; Terry noted this was around the average. Terry reported approximately 150 students are on academic probation, those students will be contacted; students on academic probation are restricted from taking fifteen credits. Terry reported two academic dismissals; the students had been suspended three times for poor performance.

Terry reported 2,804 honor roll or dean's list students with nearly 500 4.0 GPAs.

Terry thanked faculty.

Confirmations and Appointments

Cristian Ciobanu

Faculty Trustee Update

A ballot has been distributed for the Faculty Trustee for eligible candidates. Two-thirds of eligible academic faculty must vote. The first ballot had initial candidates. Round two is a vote of majority for the remaining candidates; two hundred votes reported as of 1/10.

Ciobanu presented a streamlined process of appointing volunteers to Senate and University committees. Ciobanu noted there are various holders of committee lists and not an original holder, there are not real time updates to committee lists, and email chains create difficulty in tracking committee membership and details.

Ciobanu proposed a committee's page that presents the main holder of the committee information (the individual updating said information), a link to the current membership list, a link for volunteers, and a link to eligibility and duties of the committee.

Suggestion made that volunteers provide a brief description of why they would like to serve on the committee and their background.

Committee Business

Jeff King

Disband Ad Hoc Faculty Signature Experience Steering Committee

The committee did not have members and had not met. The disbandment would not end any activities.

MOTION: To disband the ad hoc Faculty Signature Experience Steering committee by Ciobanu, seconded by Horan. Motion passed unanimously.

Undergraduate Council

Joe Horan

Horan had taken on the role of Undergraduate Council chair for Spring 2023; Dugan on sabbatical. Council did not report outstanding items for Senate vote on 1/10. Council begins meeting 1/11. Several presentations were done 12/14 on the upcoming core curriculum changes and new courses expected in the core.

Graduate Council

Tina Voelker

Curriculum Item(s) for Presentation – Appendix A

The following items are for presentation.

MSNT-PH: Master of Science (non-thesis) Applied Physics Addition

This has not been approved by Graduate Council but has been accelerated to appear within the final Catalog. Voelker reported the program would be useful for a subset of physics students that sought a pre-professional degree. Voelker noted this option assists students that would like to leave the thesis program. The new program did not generate significant discussion in Graduate Council.

King asked a representative from physics to present on the new program at Senate. Holz noted the new program must be presented to the Board of Trustees before the Catalog publication.

MSPHD-AES: MS and PhD in Advanced Energy Systems

Program change passed Graduate Council with minimal discussion. The change focused on cleaning up language and clarification of requirements.

MP-MEM: MP-Mining Industry Management (MP-MIM)

The program proposed a name change from Mining Engineering Management to Mining Industry Management. The change passed Graduate Council with minimal discussion.

Research Council

Sid Saleh

Research Council committee on Small Research Equipment and Instrumentation has awarded requested research grants to A. Dixon for just under \$30k, G. Hommer for \$7,700, and D. Chambers and E. Martin for \$5k. Saleh thanked Walt Copan; an additional \$20k had been gifted for a total grant amount of \$100k. A call will be sent for Spring 2023; Saleh encouraged previous submitters to update their proposals and resubmit.

Research Council members felt uncomfortable endorsing the proposed graduate stipend increase presented by Barbari to Graduate Council and Faculty Senate. Several Councilors supported the increase but were unsure of how the increase would be paid for and what the implications would be on faculty.

King noted the university had reported money available for TA increases but had not reported on faculty support for RA increases. Question had been raised regarding mandated increase falling on PIs and how faculty are expected to proceed.

Saleh reported on efforts to use innovation funding in the McNeil Center to complement graduate student stipends; there would be a tie into innovation.

Question had been raised regarding policies on graduate stipends and salaries.

Saleh raised unintended consequences of increases, faculty had reached out regarding grants and how it effects faculty.

Adjourn

Jeff King

Meeting adjourned: 3:39 pm.

Next meeting: January 24 from 2:00-4:00 pm in Stratton Hall 104 and Zoom. Please send all agenda items to Mara Green (mgreen1@mines.edu) 1 week prior.

Appendix A
For Senate Presentation

1.1

PHYSICS

[CIM 12/13; Provost 12/13]

1 new program: MSNT-PH: Master of Science (non-thesis) Applied
Physics Addition

The addition of a non-thesis MS program to our Physics program aligns with the goals of Mines at 150, in particular

- *Be a top-of-mind and first-choice university for students, public and private partners, and faculty and staff.*
- *Expand offerings and diversify delivery, in particular for professionally oriented pre and post graduate education.*
- *Grow the scale and impact of research, focus on thematic strengths, develop a more social research culture, diversity funding sources.*

The non-thesis program can offer our combined students a more accessible method to get a MS degree in Applied Physics

1.2

ENERGY

[CIM 11/9]

1 program change: MSPHD-AES: MS and PhD in Advanced Energy Systems
AES is cleaning up the catalog language, clarifying course/credit requirements and clarifying PhD requirements.

1.3

MINING

[CIM 11/14]

1 program change: MP-MEM: MP – Mining Industry Management (MP-MIM)

This program has been proposed and approved as an online program, and it is heavily focused on management aspects of the mining industry. It has quickly gained reputation in the first round of offering, making it to the top 25 technical professional masters programs in the US. We have had several applicants that do not have an Engineering background who want to enter the program, and since the contents are not very technical, they could be successful. But with the name Engineering in the title, students without an Engineering degree would be granted one in this program, and the MN faculty did not see that to be appropriate. So, with the change in name, we also propose changing the entry requirements and making the program available to all Mining and other Engineers, as well as to those who have worked in other disciplines in the mining and minerals industry for at least five years.

Also, the original program was a block model with all 33 credit hours prescribed, and we are changing it to allow up to two elective courses (6 credits) to be taken. This will offer flexibility to the student to take some other online courses to become more specialized in certain areas or to opt out of topics in which they already have competency. This also allows students to tap into other online content that Mines has to offer and is attractive to them.