

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
 April 11, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Guggenheim Boardroom and Zoom

Attendees:

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

P	Jeff King (Chair)	A	Cristian Ciobanu (ME)	P	Linda Figueroa (CEE/MN)	P	Joseph Horan (HASS)
P	Mark Eberhart (CH)	A	Brandon Dugan (GP)* Sabbatical Spring 2023	P	Mansur Ermila (PE)	A	Soutir Bandyopadhyay (AMS)
P	Bettina Voelker (CH)	A	Lawrence Wiencke (PH)	P	Pat Kohl (PH)	P	Ventzi Karaivanov (ME)
P	Sid Saleh (EB)	P	Deb Carney (AMS)				

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

P	Andrew Herring (AA)	P	Rick Holz (AA)	P	Paul Myskiw (RO)	A	Colin Terry (Student Life)
P	Sam Spiegel (Mines Online)	P	Emmelia Ashton (USG)	A	Liam Witteman (GSG)	P	Mara Green (AA)
P	Vibhuti Dave (UGS)	A	Tim Barbari (OGS)	P	Lori Kester (EM)	A	Nicole Becwar (LB)
P	Karla Perez-Velez (CASA)	A	Deb Jordan (Trefny)	A	Jen Gagne (Graduate Admissions)	A	Terri Hogue (Dean)
A	John Berger (Dean)	A	Todd Ruskell (PH)	P	Dinesh Mehta (Trustee)		

Special Guest(s): President Paul Johnson

Welcome

Jeff King

Approval of Minutes – March 28, 2023 and Approval of the Agenda

Jeff King

MOTION: To vote to approve the March 28, 2023 minutes by Horan, seconded by Figueroa. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: To vote to approve April 11, 2023 agenda by Horan, seconded by Figueroa. Motion passed unanimously.

Academic Affairs Announcements

Rick Holz

Holz thanked faculty for ongoing hard work and dedication; Holz had not heard complaints from students and noted increasing excitement for graduation on campus.

Graduate commencement scheduled for 5/11 at 3pm. Undergraduate commencement scheduled for 5/12 at 9am, 1pm, and 5pm ([click here for details](#)). Three separate commencement ceremonies are scheduled to accommodate all majors with an expected three hundred students to walk at each ceremony. King to carry *De Re Metallica* and Ryan Richards to carry the mace. Holz invited faculty to attend commencement and support students.

Holz reported E-Days begins 4/12. Fireworks expected on 4/15. Holz encouraged faculty to attend E-Days festivities on campus ([click here for event details](#)).

Academic Affairs hosting the Faculty Awards Ceremony the afternoon of 4/26. Holz encouraged a strong Senate and department presence. King to be honored at the ceremony. Holz would announce who was

promoted and tenured for teaching and tenure-track faculty. The University Distinguished Professors and University Distinguished Teaching Professor to be announced, as well.

Registrar's Office Announcements

Paul Myskiw

Myskiw announced priority registration the week of 4/3 for summer and fall were completed. There had been technical issues with server capacity and bandwidth. Myskiw noted ITS was responsive during that time; overall a successful week. Registrar's Office to move forward in plans for the incoming Fall 2023 freshmen class.

Committee Reports and Presentations

Core Curriculum

Proposal to replace EBG201 with EBG321

Scott Houser

Houser reported there had been several discussions of integrating appropriate business acumen into the core curriculum; Houser noted business acumen was a key part of the MINES@150 plan and the current core does not have an explicit inclusion of business within the current core proposal and revision. EBG321 was identified as a course with business-related skills considered important to business acumen by several Mines faculty, alumni, and the Board of Trustees. EBG321 was cited by alumni as one of the most important courses for the business part of engineering and applied science careers.

President Johnson thanked faculty and Senators for considering the proposal late in the semester; President Johnson noted feedback from alumni, potential employers, and stakeholders included students falling behind due to lack of business understanding. A replacement of the current EBG201 in the core would not require development and piloting a new course.

The current core revision includes HASS100, HASS200, and EBG201 as required courses. The proposal would recommend replacing EBG201 with EBG321 for 2023-2024. Should the Futures course be successfully piloted, it would replace HASS200 and EBG201; CAS electives would decrease from the revised twelve credits, then, to nine credits. HASS200 and EBG201 would then be recommended as part of the Culture and Society (CAS) electives following the successful piloting of Futures. A future proposal may include expansion of CAS electives to include a range of economics and business courses.

A proposal would need to be put forward for the integration of Futures into the core and the update to the CAS electives.

- **Question** on the prerequisites of EBG321 being EBG201 and if there were any prerequisites expected for EBG321; Houser reported EBG201 would be removed as a prerequisite for EBG321, and the course would then require junior status or sixty credits.

Holz had reviewed program flowcharts and noted several degrees had EBG201 listed in junior or senior year; a few programs included EBG201 within the sophomore or freshmen year. The department head with the degree program placing EBG201 within freshmen year had been contacted, DH notified Holz the change to moving the course into a later year would not cause significant issues.

Comment raised on schedule creation; Holz reported the Registrar's Office and the Office of Undergraduate Studies worked to pull courses that do not have prerequisites. Courses would then be looked over to fit into curricular plans. Significant number of students had twelve credits in the fall following transfer of AP or college credits. Myskiw noted EBG201 had been held back from freshmen until all other courses had been filled; four to five hundred incoming freshmen still take the course.

Houser reported the transfer equivalency for EBGN201 had been changed to make transferring credits easier for students.

Senator noted the original revision included an expansive list of business electives or requiring a business elective within the CAS electives. Senator noted there were programs encouraging EBGN321 as an important course both for graduate and undergraduate students.

EBGN321 had been developed as a sixteen-week online course during the COVID-19 pandemic but has not been approved as a hybrid course. The course would be residential.

EB currently has several searches available for a professor of practice and teaching faculty positions, the searches had been approved and would remain open until filled.

Senator requested details on the process for administering the change; all degree programs had submitted program changes for the core revision in the Curriculum Inventory Management (CIM) system to appear in the Catalog, Senator questioned resubmission of the changes should the proposal be approved. A recommendation was made that, following any approval of the proposal, that a change be made to the backend for programs.

The proposal presented by Houser would be presented to Undergraduate Council, Senate would consider a vote following Council decision.

- **Question** on process for students currently enrolled in EBGN201; Houser reported the students would be an exception. Catalog language for “if, then” situations would be drafted similarly to what had been done for CSCI128.

MOTION: To move to Graduate Council business by Horan, seconded by Voelker. Motion passed unanimously.

Core Curriculum Core Assessment Committee

Joe Horan

Potential Committee – Proposal

Horan proposed the charge and membership of a Faculty Senate Core Assessment committee. Dave and Horan see the core as an iterative, ongoing process. The committee would work proactively on core changes. The charge included conduction of regular reviews of the core, periodic proposal of revisions based on the results of assessment, and promotion of communication and coordination among relevant stakeholders. The committee would have co-chairs from Faculty Senate and AA. Membership included at least one representative from each department or unit responsible for core classes alongside representatives from academic departments outside of the core. The committee would potentially include membership of the Trefny Center, Admissions, Mines Foundation, and Undergraduate Student Government.

- **Question** if the committee would collaborate with the Trefny Center; Horan confirmed the committee would work together with Trefny. The committee would focus specifically on the core. Language of the membership includes representation from Trefny, departments, and other stakeholders.
- **Question** if the committee would be ad hoc, standing, or a subcommittee of Undergraduate Council; Horan recommended a standing committee, but other options could be considered, as well.

King noted a standing committee entry would be an addition to Appendix B of the Academic Faculty Bylaws; modification to this section does not require vote of the faculty. Should an entry be made to Undergraduate Council's section of the Bylaws, a vote of two-thirds of the academic faculty would be necessary. Ad hoc committees are renewed each academic year and do not require an official vote or election; Horan recommended against the formation of an ad hoc committee for continuity.

Faculty Contracts

Todd Ruskell

Ad Hoc Committee

Holz reported AA had received feedback from the committee and awaited additional communication. No further updates.

Bylaws and Rules

Jeff King

Ad Hoc Committee

King reported there would not be ample time to vote on the recommended changes at the end of the academic year. King would like the committee to continue work over the summer and have the proposed changes presented to the 2023-2024 Faculty Senate for consideration.

The committee considered looking at Senate proxies and the requirements section of Senate membership.

Faculty Workload

Mark Eberhart

Ad Hoc Committee

Eberhart reported the committee met the week of 4/3 and put together comments on the faculty workload document. The committee perceived deficiencies with the workload as stated and considered metrics of assessing service, research, and assessment. Additional comments from committee members are still standing.

Council Reports

Undergraduate Council

Undergraduate Council had been meeting every week since February 2023 for review of the core curriculum revisions and proposals; Council to meet 4/12 with intent to review the EB proposal. No further updates.

Graduate Council

Appendix A – Graduate Curriculum Item for Senate Presentation

1.1 New Program – Tailings Engineering Graduate Certificate Program

A new program was presented to Graduate Council by Figueroa. The Tailings Center had been offering online short form courses; there was student desire to expand to a graduate certificate for credit. The program proposal did not receive extensive discussion at Council and was considered uncontroversial. The required courses, MNGN581 and MNGN582, had been offered as three credit courses.

Research Council

Research Council invited Tim Barbari to meet with Faculty Senate and Research Council to speak on the graduate stipend increase. Saleh reported Council members unhappy with lack of details on the stipend increase including downstream effects of the decision and departmental and program assistance needs.

Council member had raised an issue with lab managers' classification shift to hourly. Information requested from HR on whether the change was a broad policy or case-by-case occurrence.

Briefings, Informational Items, and Updates

Faculty Trustee Report

Dinesh Mehta

Mehta provided review of the 4/7 Board of Trustees meeting; the meeting begun with a presentation from the President, reports, and updates. President Johnson mentioned E-Days festivities, commencement, and graduation.

Action items followed. Approval was granted by the Board to purchase property. The Provost went through promotion and tenure, sabbatical requests, and outstanding faculty awards.

A general presentation and discussion section followed with a budget presentation from Volpi. There had been a twelve percent increase in the state's contracts, the institution is considering an increase of tuition between four and five percent, and potential salary increases of five percent.

- **Question** on tuition increase and what it was being guided by, a Senator noted Volpi had presented an elasticity study and if there had been an update; Mehta reported Volpi's report had included competitors such as Colorado State University.
- **Question** on the five percent salary increase and how the process would occur; President Johnson reported there was a discussion in progress on a more merit-based allocation of the general salary pool. President Johnson confirmed there would not be a general blanket increase.

The Office of Research and Technology Transfer (RTT) provided a report on rebranding to include the Frontiers Institute which would include forward-reaching projects like space resources and artificial intelligence; Mehta reported there should be space within the pillars to expand into future projects that do not fit into energy and environment.

The Faculty Oversight Committee on Sports and Athletics (FOCSA) presented to the Board; Mehta reported athletes' GPAs were the same as the general population of students and athletes were doing well academically.

USG provided an update on activities that occurred over the last two weeks.

Open Announcements

Joint Resolution

Emmelia Ashton

Due to the February incident on campus, Undergraduate and Graduate Student Governments drafted a joint resolution. A portion of the resolution recommends classroom-specific emergency evacuation information be added to all syllabi starting Fall 2023.

Ashton reported confirmation was being awaited by the authors on who would be responsible for this information within syllabi; USG working with facilities. Ashton noted there were classrooms that move or change during the semester. USG and GSG gathering feedback on overall difficulty in adding information into syllabi.

Senator noted individual faculty do not have qualifications to provide bespoke evacuation procedures for classrooms. Senator recommended standardized language comparable to that provided by the Writing Center and Disability Services; classroom-specific language would be harder to obtain. Senator

noted information such as room layouts could be uploaded into online formats; additional recommendations made for postings to be added to the room or door of the classroom and referenced within the syllabus or during class.

Senator noted the Run, Hide, Fight model was available to faculty but not readily advertised; students were recommended to learn the model.

Faculty feedback requested on the resolution and the efficacy of the syllabi addition.

Confirmations and Appointments

Cristian Ciobanu

Election Plans

King reported that Ciobanu began election plans and the process of the next Faculty Senate election. Four senators would be voted in to serve full terms; Ciobanu soliciting nomination letters. Depending on the number of letters, an election may not occur. King noted there was desire for an election for both President and four vacancies.

Graduate Council

Tina Voelker

Appendix B – Graduate Curriculum Item for Senate Vote

2.1 Program Change – Engineering Technology Management (ETM) Master of Science

Minor Catalog language changes were proposed to align with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Assumed Practices document. 400-level or undergraduate courses were removed.

MOTION: To vote to approve the program change to MS-ETM-NT: Engineering Technology Management (ETM) Master of Science by Voelker, seconded by Horan. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Floor

Jeff King

Senator requested updates on the upcoming freshmen class. Kester reported enrollment one hundred deposits down and the class size is on target for Fall 2023 between 1,450 and 1,480 students. Transfer students appear the same as 2022 at seventy-five; Holz noted the deadline for transfer students was June 2023 and there was still time for deposits.

Adjourn

Jeff King

Meeting adjourned: 3:27 pm.

Next meeting: April 25, 2:00-4:00 pm in the Guggenheim Boardroom and Zoom. Please send agenda items to Mara Green (mgreen1@mines.edu) 1 week prior.

Appendix A

Graduate Curriculum Items for Senate Presentation

1.1 MINING ENGINEERING

[CIM 4/4; Provost 4/4]

1 new program proposal: CRTG-TAIL: Tailings Engineering Graduate Certificate Program
Tailings Center was created in 2020 to perform research and educate students, people in mining industry, and regulators in the US and foreign countries as well. The center has provided many short courses to various audiences, and it is time to establish a graduate certificate program at Mines.

Tailings and the proper management of them are essential and mining industry has paid much attention these days. However, the effort from each company cannot be comprehensive or educational but limited to its immediate needs. Tailings engineering graduate certificate program at Mines will provide a semi-comprehensive curriculum that can be beneficial to engineers and other professionals who are involved in mining business. It is a great opportunity to create a graduate certificate program in Tailings Engineering at Mines that benefits our students and recruits more future students. It also fulfills the Mission and Vision of the Colorado School of Mines, and that supports the Mines @150 goals.

Appendix B

Graduate Curriculum Items for Senate Vote from 3/28/23

2.1

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

[CIM 3/1; GC 3/15 [Consent Agenda]

1 program change: MS-ETM-NT: Engineering Technology Management (ETM)
Master of Science

Catalog language changes to align with HLC.