

Colorado School of Mines – UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
 April 19, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members: 19 total (10 needed for quorum). Quorum was present.

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|---|---|---|-----------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|
| P | Joseph Horan (chair) | P | Andrew Pederson (EB) | P | Mike Nicholas (AMS) | P | Chuck Stone (PH) |
| P | Michael Barankin (CBE) | P | Cortney Holles (HASS) | P | *Gerald Bourne (MME) proxy for Corinne Packard (MME) | P | Nicole Smith (MN) |
| P | Dylan Domaille (CH) | P | Ge Jin (GP) | P | Rob Thompson (CS) | P | Dave Benson (GE) |
| P | *Mark Miller (PE) proxy for Linda Battalora (PE) | P | Hongyan Liu (CEE) | P | Oyvind Nilsen (ME) | P | Emmelia Ashton (USG) |
| P | Chelsea Salinas (EDS) | P | Brianna Buljung (LB) | P | Hisham Sager (EE) | | |

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

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|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| A | Sam Spiegel (Mines Online) | A | Dixie Cirillo (PA) | P | Mara Green (AA) | A | Paul Myskiw (RO) |
| A | Karla Perez-Velez (CASA) | P | Vibhuti Dave (UGS) | A | Deb Jordan (Trefny Center) | A | Kendra Stansbury (RO) |
| P | Katie Ludwin (CASA) | A | Danielle Boileau (CASA) | A | Cheryl Medford (GE) | P | D. Scott Heath (RO) |
| A | Rachel McDonald (PE) | A | Colin Terry (SL) | | | | |

Special Guest(s): Scott Houser (EB), Becky Lafrancois (EB), Provost Rick Holz

Welcome

Joe Horan

Horan notified Councilors that the 4/26 meeting conflicts with the Faculty Awards Ceremony and the meeting would be cancelled; Council would meet again on an off week on 5/3.

Horan reported Faculty Senate did discuss the proposal brought forward by Economics and Business (EB), Senate awaits the decision of Council.

Proposal to replace EBG201 with EBG321

Scott Houser

Houser reported no changes to the proposal presented on 4/12. Houser reported a few questions were addressed offline including the format of the course; the proposal had stated EBG321 could be scaled for online or hybrid but there is no current plan to develop hybrid pedagogy for the course. An approved, online version was delivered during the pandemic in a sixteen-week asynchronous format. EBG321 would remain residential.

Houser restated the reasoning behind the proposal was addressing business acumen within the core for MINES@150 strategic plan; the current core does not address business specifically and led to the selection of EBG321. Houser noted Andrew Pederson has taught the course and could address course-specific questions.

- **Question** on how the course would fit into the revised core curriculum; Dave reported HASS100 and EBG321 would remain required courses within the core and the placement of HASS200 and the piloted Futures course would be determined and proposed by the committee.

- **Question** if the Catalog publication date would be pushed; Heath reported the Catalog publication date had been pushed to 6/1. The Registrar's Office recognized the constraints of updating the Catalog for program changes involving the EB proposal.
- **Question** on whether the department has enough instructors to scale up the in-person course and if there was an estimate for the expected EBG321 class size; Pederson reported the current structure of the course allows for 150 students per section. EB would then need to offer ten sections if the structure would remain constant. Houser reported there is one teaching faculty whose primary responsibility is EBG321; there were currently not enough faculty with the capacity or expertise in the subject matter to teach. The department had discussed with the Provost on additional resources; Provost Holz confirmed that discussions had begun and resources had been pre-approved.
- **Question** on the feasibility of updating all programs, Councilor noted there were several majors with EBG201 listed in sophomore year; Heath confirmed the Catalog date had been pushed to provide additional time to make programmatic changes.

Councilors gave feedback on the course's junior placement; Applied Mathematics and Statistics (AMS) expressed concern for student flexibility and ability to choose when to take it. Chemical and Biological Engineering (CBE) to consider moving the course closer to senior design and moving HASS200's placement within their degree program.

Councilors were concerned with the proposal's timeline and justification for the course content being required of all students.

Council discussed how EBG321 would fit into different programs and curriculum; Councilor expressed concern with the change occurring at the end of the semester when students, departments, and programs have planned for the fall semester.

Department feedback was provided during the meeting: there was concern for student choices with some seniors having a backlog of classes needed to graduate, concern was raised on prerequisite issues being introduced with the change, and further concern had been raised on the expedited timeline and motivation of the proposal. Provost Holz notified Councilors that the proposal was not motivated by donors, but alumni and employer feedback had been collected on business acumen in the core and its importance to students.

Councilor noted the change would not impact incoming freshmen for another three years unless continuing students change Catalogs. Council discussed the importance of the course content as a requirement of all Mines students; Councilor recommended allowing students to choose between EBG201 and EBG321 within the core.

Heath reported EBG201 was one of the highest transfer courses excluding math and chemistry; Heath recommended consideration of how transfer credits would count if EBG201 was replaced, many students do not have free electives left to satisfy the transferred credit. EB recommended EBG201 be moved to the Culture and Society (CAS) electives and would not be a free elective.

Chemistry (CH) was supportive of tabling the proposal for Fall 2023 for further information on how the changes would be processed and how students would be impacted. Petroleum Engineering (PE) was supportive of the proposal.

MOTION: To vote to approve the minutes of April 12, 2023 by Nilsen, seconded by Barankin. Seventeen (17) for, zero against, one (1) abstention.

Briefings and Information Items

Office of Undergraduate Studies

Vibhuti Dave

Curricular Practical Training (CPT) Course

Dave provided background on the two options to become compliant with federal guidelines. The first option would be the development of an institutional internship policy with the ability to sign up for a three credit CSM course. Domestic students could take the course, too. The second option would request CSM497 become a credit-bearing course; however, the option would be for international students only. Dave noted students may not be prepared to pay for a credit-bearing internship course. Dave reminded Councilors the credit-bearing course would need faculty involvement in vetting the internship and assessing the internship matching course learning outcomes. A third option would be the deactivation of CSM497, but international students would not be able to participate in any kind of CPT.

Feedback from departments had been requested on 4/12. Chemical and Biological Engineering (CBE) provided feedback on the ratio for the internship course; 168 hours to three credits was noted as low in comparison to other institutions or the co-ops offered at Mines.

Dave asked that further feedback or comments be sent to her. Recommendation made to consider an interim option and consideration of what should be done moving into the next academic year. Dave asked Councilors if degree programs are willing to consider internships as independent study, technical or free electives. Dave noted students have accepted internship offers; consideration for an interim option for Summer 2023 would be needed.

Dave noted optional practical training (OPT) can be done after graduation if CPT is out of the question during the academic year, students are unable to do both.

- **Question** on what would happen to international students who have accepted internships if an option is noted chosen by the body; Dave reported the students would be notified that Mines does not offer internship for credit courses. If the option is chosen for a credit-bearing course, students would accept an internship and pay tuition. Dave noted students may not be prepared for this option.

Distributed Science (DSCI) Credits

Dave reported distributed science electives are moving out of the revised core curriculum; the memorandum distributed to Council considered options for students that had taken DSCI courses or continuing students that switched to the new Catalog and revised core.

Option one would allow DSCI electives to count as free electives through an institutional policy. Option two would leave the decision of counting DSCI credits to degree programs. Dave noted the second option is more flexible for students but would require communication with the Registrar's Office on how the credits are counted.

Gerald Bourne provided perspective on the Ceramics Engineering program beginning in Fall 2023. Students considering switching to the new degree, having taken DSCI credits, expected to transfer those

credits into the new degree. Bourne noted juniors in their spring semester, expected to graduate in May 2024; have distributed science electives such as GEGN101, CBEN110, MATH201, or CSCI101 (Bourne noted most students do not have CSCI101 and would need to then take CSCI128 in Fall 2023 or CSCI101 in Summer 2023). Most students have completed their free electives. Students looking to pursue the new ceramics engineering degree would have to switch to the 2023-2024 Catalog in which the degree is listed.

- **Question** if the issue only presented in MME; Dave reported MME had come forward with student impacts, but other reports had not been brought forward. Bourne noted students would be impacted if switching Catalogs to 2023-2024. Bourne noted existing students frustrated that the new degree could be earned with less credits.

Dave noted students in the 2023-2024 Catalog with the revised core should complete all the core requirements. Councilors agreed that making exceptions for a single degree would be unfair to others.

Heath noted the core revision; the Registrar's Office would look at course exception workflows over the summer to adjust. Heath asked that departments with feedback on the workflows should reach out to him.

Registrar's Office

D. Scott Heath

Heath reported the publication of the Catalog had been postponed to 6/1.

Adjourn

Joe Horan

Meeting adjourned: 5:04 pm.

Next meeting: May 3, 4:00-5:00 pm via Zoom. Please send agenda items to Mara Green (mgreen1@mines.edu) one week prior.