

Colorado School of Mines – RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
 December 6, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Hill Hall 300

Attendees:

Voting Members: 18 total (12 - majority needed for quorum). Quorum was present

P	Mark Eberhart (Chair)	P	Yvette Kuiper (GE)		James Simmons (GP)
	Hussein Amery (HASS)	P	Annalise Maughan (CH)		John Spear (CEE)
P	Mark Deinert (ME)	P	Erdal Ozkan (PE)		Kenneth Steirer (PH)
P	Diego Gomez-Gauldron (CBE)		Emmanuel De Moor (MME)		Eric Toberer (PH)
	Elizabeth Holley (MN)	P	Steve Pankavich (AMS)	P	Seth Vuletich (LB)
P	Joice Hu (EB)	P	Elizabeth Reddy (EDS)	P	Mike Wakin (EE)

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

	Lisa Kinzel (RTT)		Carson Snow (USG)		
P	Matt Morgan (CGS)				
	Barbara O’Kane (EHS)				

Special Guest(s):

Welcome

Mark Eberhart

Approval of prior meeting minutes

MOTION: Motion to approve previous meeting minutes by Mike, seconded by Yvette. Motion to approve previous meeting minutes was passed.

Subcommittee Appointments

- 1) Lectures Series
 Chair: Steve Pankavich
 Members: Matt Morgan, Seth Vuletich, Mike Wakin, Diego Gomez-Gauldron, Hussein Amery
 - Kristeen will be able to assist with room reservations and food.
- 2) Excellence in Research Awards
 Chair: Seth Vuletich
 Members: Mark Eberhart, Mark Deinert, Emmanuel De Moor, Elizabeth Reddy
 - Last year, the Excellence in Research Awards subcommittee ‘s main role was to review submitted applications and rank them. Last year, they reviewed 10 applications in total, which took about 3-4 hours. There were only 3 members last year, but we need more participation.
- 3) Research Instrumentation Awards
 Chair: Mark Eberhart
 Members: Andrew Petruska, Yvette Kuiper, Annalise Maughan
 Equipment Manager: Ed Dempsey
 - In the past, we had had 10-15 applications for REI. Please reach out to additional people to join such as equipment managers.

Updates

- 1) Status of RC website: We have been working with Kristeen to get our website up and running. Please schedule a time to meet with Kristeen to provide subcommittee information that needs to be updated on the website. We want to have this done by our next meeting on January 10th. We also need help figuring out what the process was for REI last year. Did REI applicants submit via the website?

- Comment: The proposer completed the excel spreadsheet, but I cannot remember how to submitted it. Andrew will look through his files to find out how things were submitted in the past.
- 2) Currently, our next meeting is scheduled for January 4th. That is right after we get back from break, so we suggest moving the next meeting to January 10th. All were in favor.

Discussion Items

- 1) Research Advisory Board/Research Council Differentiation
- Mark attended a meeting with the Research Advisory Board to discuss what are the main differences between the role of the Research Advisory Board and the Research Council. Lisa wrote a new modified version of exactly what the Research Advisory Board does (see below). The Research Council currently has a description of our role in the bylaws. Given the discussion, we think it is imperative that we come up with a new description of what the Research Council does, especially the role of providing recommendations to the Senate in March. We have an opportunity now to change or modify what it is we do. In the past, it has not gone so well so we would like to focus on what we feel is the correct role for the Research Council. It might involve having additional meetings beyond the monthly meetings.
- Comment: I think we should be able to accomplish our role/tasks once a month if everything is organized within the subcommittees.
 - Comment: Last year, the subcommittees had a lot of insights and accomplished tasks, but not a lot of action. What happened that action wasn't taken when recommendations were sent to Faculty Senate?
 - Comment: There are several obstacles that researchers and research faculty face including the increase of graduation tuition rates, sick leave does not apply to research grant to pay researchers, adequate representation.
 - Comment: It feels like there are way too many steps and a lack of urgency between the Research Council and administration which makes us feel like we are not heard.
 - Comment: Maybe we can come up with three pressing issues to present to the administration/Faculty Senate. After discussion, we decided our main three issues will be graduation tuition, a more formal student bridge funding, and HPC. We could start developing a plan that says we would like these things implemented. We could also look at other institutions and how they run their research programs to put together a solid case. We could present to Walter to get valuable feedback. We could also possibly present our case to Tim B.
 - Comment: Other issues research faces: space, representation, departmental assessments, consistency of metric expectations.
- 2) Spring 2024 Focus: Update our bylaws. Think about which you would prefer: only focus on subcommittee tasks or present issues/feedback on Mines research and give valuable recommendations to the Faculty Senate? Most members agreed to focus on presenting issues/feedback. We will continue our discussion at the next meeting.

Research Advisory Board Original Description: *The Research Advisory Board shall advise and make recommendations to the VPRTT in matters pertaining to research at Mines. This Advisory Board will be responsible for reviewing, evaluating, and recommending changes to university research practices, infrastructure, and policies and for helping to communicate their recommendations and other research initiatives to the campus at large.*

Research Advisory Board Modified Version: *The Research Advisory Board will be asked to review,*

*evaluate, and recommend changes to matters pertaining to university research practices, infrastructure, and policies at Mines to the **Vice President of Research and Technology Transfer** (VPRTT). The Research Advisory Board members will also be responsible for informing campus of these recommended changes and any other research initiatives they become privy to by providing summaries to their respective departments.*

Research Council Bylaws Description: *The role of Research Council is to make recommendations to the Senate on matters pertaining to the Mines research enterprise as agreed on each academic year by the members of Research Council, Senate, and Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer. Research Council will make a recommendation each academic year by the end of March to Senate on the ranking of the academic research awards.*

Adjourn

Next meeting: January 10, 2:00-3:00 pm Hill Hall 300.