

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
 March 26, 2024, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, in Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members: 15 total (10 needed for quorum). Quorum was present.

	Brandon Dugan (Chair)	P	Vaughan Griffiths (CEE)	P	Jamal Rostami (MN)	P	Cortney Holles (HASS)
P	Deb Carney (AMS)	P	Soutir Bandyopadhyay (AMS)	P	Ventzi Karaivanov (ME)		Lawrence Wiencke (PH)
P	Mansur Ermila (PE)	P	Pat Kohl (PH)	P	Sid Saleh (EDS)	P	Ning Wu (CBE)
P	Mark Eberhart (CH)	P	Shubham Vyas (CH)		Cristian Ciobanu (ME)		

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

	Dinesh Mehta (Trustee)	P	Rick Holz (AA)	P	Paul Myskiw (RO)	P	Colin Terry (Student Life)
P	Sam Spiegel (Online)		Tim Barbari (OGS)		Lori Kester (EM)	P	Kristeen Serracino (AA)
P	Auckland Sacco (USG)		Deb Jordan (Trefny)	P	Andy Herring (AA)	P	Nicole Becwar (LB)
P	Lauren Guido (GSG)	P	Jon Johnson (Online)	P	Vibhuti Dave (UGS)		Karla Perez-Velez (CASA)

Special Guest(s): Will Vaughan, Scot Allen, Erin McCaffrey, Micha Barankin, Victoriya Link, Zibo Wang, Charles Powell, Pooja Sankar, Kim Luzechyj

Welcome

Soutir Bandyopadhyay for
 Brandon Dugan

Approval of prior Meeting Minutes

Soutir Bandyopadhyay for
 Brandon Dugan

MOTION: The motion to approve the previous meeting minutes was moved by P. Kohl and seconded by J. Rostami. M. Eberhart made a motion to table the approval of the previous meeting minutes pending edits which was seconded by P. Kohl. The motion to table the approval of the previous meeting minutes was unanimously approved with zero opposition and zero abstentions.

Academic Affairs

Rick Holz

R. Holz reminded that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Beck Venture Center is scheduled for April 4th at 3:00 pm. There are also several events that will be popping up on everyone’s calendar such as the Faculty Awards Ceremony which will be held on April 24th from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Next Tuesday will be the DI&A celebration kickstart which aims to improve culture and conditions on campus for students of color. A presentation is scheduled for 1:00 pm with discussion of what can be done to continue to improve faculty/student relations and interactions.

- **Comment:** J. Rostami announced an upcoming event scheduled for April 3rd at 5:30 pm, Timothy Haddon Distinguished Lecture Series titled “Visionaries in Mining and Minerals Industry.” Please

RSVP and even bring a guest. Dinner will be served. The inaugural speaker is Red Conger, alumni of Mining Engineering and former President and COO at Freeport-McMoRan.

- **Comment:** L. Guido also announced that GRADS is scheduled for April 3rd and 4th in the Student Center Ballrooms with over 90 judges. The keynote speaker is Ricky Arnold, former NASA astronaut who now works at the University of Maryland doing Environmental Science/Marine Geology.

Registrar’s Office

Paul Myskiw

P. Myskiw announced that the Registrar’s Office is wrapping up the migration for the student information system to the Cloud. This project started back in September and the plan is to make the migration over Memorial Day weekend. This has been a major undertaking as there are 65 different softwares that integrate into Banner so there may a few that are not ready to go live by the deadline. The Registrar is working with various vendors to make sure everything is in place for students and faculty. The tools inside of Experience and Self-Service will mostly be the same. Any differences will be pointed out and sent out via communications to everyone. Lastly, P. Myskiw reminded everyone that registration begins next week.

Undergraduate Council Updates

Ventzi Karaivanov

1 Curriculum Item(s) for Faculty Senate Vote - Approved by UG Council on 03/13/24

Computer Science		Zibo Wang
CIM 1/22		
1 program change:	BS-CS: BS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE	
	<p>- All tracks: Added CSED435 and INNO444 to the list of acceptable CS Electives.</p> <p>- CS + Business track: Updated list of Business electives to reflect courses that moved to Mines core or are no longer offered; replaced with new courses that have recently been added.</p> <p>- CS + Data Science track: Removed MATH439 (no longer offered) and replaced with MATH433</p>	

MOTION: The motion to approve the BS-CS program change was moved by V. Karaivanov and seconded by S. Saleh. The motion to approve the BS-CS program changes was approved unanimously with zero opposition and zero abstentions.

2 Policy Items from Registrar

2.1 Proposed change in Returning Students Policy (Paul Myskiw)

[General Undergraduate Transfer Credit Information - Registrar \(mines.edu\)](https://mines.edu)

CURRENT	PROPOSED
Courses cannot be more than 10 years old	Students who are separated from Mines



<p>prior to the start of your program at Mines, unless that credit is reviewed and approved by the appropriate Mines academic department</p> <p>Courses cannot be a duplicate of credit already earned at Mines</p> <p>The student cannot have failed the equivalent course twice or more at Mines</p>	<p>more than 10 years will need approval for prior coursework to determine applicability to the degree. Upon request your credit will be reviewed and approved by the appropriate Mines academic department. Undergraduate students who return within the 10 year window and remain enrolled is exempt for this rule.</p> <p>Courses cannot be a duplicate of credit already earned at Mines</p> <p>The student cannot have failed the equivalent course twice or more at Mines</p>
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<p>past three years we have had 475 return to mines about 80 each term</p>
<p>22 more than 10 years</p>
<p>287 within 5 years</p>
<p>it is the 166 between 6-9 years that pose the problem.</p>

P. Myskiw shared that many of the students that are returning in the 6–9-year window come back as part time. Even though they stay enrolled, they do hit the 10-year expiration date. It is best if they complete the courses that are expiring but many do not, which causes them to seek permission via forms for those courses. By implementing this policy, it will ease the frustration experienced by students that fall within that window.

2.2 De-listing the semester offered information in the Catalog.

V. Karaivanov explained that currently, the catalog lists when courses are being offered (fall, spring, or summer). There is ongoing discussion in the UG Council that this information ultimately is not very useful and, in many cases, may be inaccurate so there is a proposal to remove this information. There is no recommendation from the UG Council on this (voting scheduled for tomorrow, 3/27).

- **Question:** C. Holles asked how is this information typically included?
- **Answer:** P. Myskiw answered that is coded (I, II, III) and found at the beginning of the course description. It was brought up in UG Council why this is used and that it is not enforced. Departments have used them in the past for planning but there are better degree audit tools available and most departments now use degree maps telling students which courses to take.
- **Comment:** C. Terry added that departments should not be limited to that code. However, students do need to know when courses are going to be offered, especially for courses that are required but only taught once a year.

- **Comment:** P. Myskiw added that the way it is worded in the catalog, it looks more like a footnote entry as it does not actually say fall, spring, or summer only.

3 Informational Item(s) – Approved by UG Council on 03/13/24

3.3

EDNS		Jack Bringardner
CIM 1/11/24		
3 Course deactivations	EDNS325: CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY	
	Mines Faculty Senate Fall 2023 request to deactivate courses no longer offered.	
UGC Voting Results:	9 approved, 3 opposed, and 4 abstentions	
	EDNS375: ENGINEERING CULTURES	
	Mines Faculty Senate Fall 2023 request to deactivate courses no longer offered.	
UGC Voting Results:	11 approved, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions.	
	EDNS475: ENGINEERING CULTURES IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD	
	Mines Faculty Senate Fall 2023 request to deactivate courses no longer offered.	
UGC Voting Results:	13 approved, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention.	

M. Barankin mentioned that he has been trying to save the cultural anthropology course since 2022 when it was a HASS course. It was transferred to EDNS, but now they are deactivating it again. He introduced alumni Victoriya Link to share her experience with the course.

V. Link shared that she is currently employed at Moderna and found this course valuable in understanding different cultures and perspectives. At Moderna, she works with people all over the world and having this course helped her to understand different cultural changes and how to relate to her co-workers. She shared that she thinks students would benefit from this course.

M. Barankin shared data that Mines is increasingly outsourcing 300 and 400-level HASS-eligible courses to Red Rocks and other schools relative to the growing undergraduate population. The number of seats

offered, and the number of students enrolled in these courses has been consistently dropping since 2021. About 50% of students are enrolled in one HASS course each year (was 54% in 2021 and now is at 49.8%). The number of combined seats was 75 in 2021 and 2022 but dropped to 56 last year. However, the vacancy rate in these courses has been falling so students want to take these courses at Mines but are getting less and less of a chance to do so. The last offerings of EDNS325 had 0% vacancy or was over-enrolled which shows that students like these courses.

Mines currently has three Ph.D. anthropologists on campus, two of which are in EDS. By deactivating these courses, it would remove three of the four remaining 300 or 400-level HASS-eligible courses that include culture or anthropology in their title. Pre-med students require knowledge of sociology and anthropology to prepare for the MCAT. This request was initially made by UG Council as a response to the Registrar’s request to remove old courses from the catalog. EDNS325 was last offered in Spring of 2024 so M. Barankin felt that four years seems excessively fast to wipe a course completely off the catalog.

- **Comment:** P. Kohl mentioned his department is dealing with an issue where there are a number of classes on the books that have not been taught in three-plus years. Students then declare a major based on the want to take one of those courses. As a response, the department must tell the student that they cannot take the course. This shows that students are declaring majors, entering the program, or coming to Mines under the reasonable expectation that the courses found in the catalog are ones they will be able to take.
- **Comment:** M. Barankin mentioned that the difference with these EDNS courses is that no one majors in EDNS or cultural anthropology and no one chooses their major based on an elective course such as these. The humanitarian minor has been discontinued so no one will choose a minor based on elective course.
- **Comment:** P. Myskiw mentioned that the request to update catalog content and courses was made to find the balance of what will actually be offered or planning not to teach and remove those so that we have an accurate catalog. It is also reasonable to bring back a course that has been deactivated, but we should not have a course in the books for six or seven years if it will not be taught. M. Barankin brings up a separate issue of whether Mines should offer an anthropology course which P. Myskiw supports.
- **Comment:** N. Wu mentioned that there was a memo from EDS to the Graduate council stating that they do plan to offer this course so there must be a practical issue that they are addressing. Even if the students like the course, their department might not have the resources to offer it.
- **Comment:** C. Holles mentioned that from her perspective as a HASS advisor, cultural anthropology is a broad enough course title that faculty from HASS, EDNS, or other department would have the ability to potential to offer the course but there is still an issue of not being able to offer more classes is due to lack of faculty. Another issue C. Holles brought up is students transferring 300 and 400-level credit. Mines does not allow a lot of transfers of 400-level courses as they do not meet criteria. If additional faculty are hired, new 400-level courses can be proposed that fit the criteria.
- **Comment:** S. Bandyopadhyay mentioned that the Faculty Senate will continue discussion at the next meeting.

4.3

CS		Zibo Wang
CIM 2/29		



1 new course:	CSCI460: SOFTWARE TECH STARTUPS: FROM IDEA TO LAUNCH
	This course offers students a deeper understanding of the dynamics involved with launching a new software startup from the founder’s perspective. In turn, this enables students to enhance their own decisions down the line about pursuing a career as a founding/early team member of a new venture in the software space. This course also offers unique applications when it comes to interpersonal dynamics in building high-performing teams, in developing operational excellence and time management skills, as well as the ability to negotiate with executives in opportunities and awareness of ones’ status. This course is designed to be integrative and allows students to pull from skills across several different facets of their education.

V. Karaivanov mentioned that there was discussion in UG Council regarding this new course and if there is overlap with EBG360 and INNO444 and whether students can earn credit for all courses. Discussion was expanded to include S. Saleh, I. Bahar, Z. Wang, P. Sankar, A. Pederson, and B. LaFrancois. The EB department shared that they are okay with students receiving credit for EBG360 and CSCI460 and might even recommend students to take EBG360 prior to the CS class.

- **Question:** This course is being taught by the former CEO of Piazza. Is that why it was formerly a special topics course?
- **Answer:** Yes. The instructor is the former CEO. She stepped down but founded the company. She teaches this course in person as an adjunct professor. The course has been taught twice and is being taught a third time this semester, so it needs to be a regular course. The course will be offered once a year.
- **Question:** J. Rostami asked if the course is computer science and software rather than a general entrepreneurial class?
- **Answer:** I. Bahar answered that it is both. The idea behind the course is that students come in already with a substantial computer science background. There is one listed prerequisite for this course, CSCI306. To CSCI306, the students must have taken three other CS courses, so students are taking this course with a strong programming background. The idea is to develop some kind of software app Design and teach them how to launch their own software company.
- **Answer:** P. Sankar shared that she started Piazza while attending Stanford Business School and ran it for 13 years. Everything about the course is inspired from her years at Stanford and their MBA program, specifically their Formation of New Ventures course. A big portion of the class is focused on students developing and launching an app and then iterating with users to drive real adoption of the app which is what sets it apart to suit CS majors well.
- **Comment:** S. Saleh mentioned that there is overlap with INNO444 but is meeting with P. Sankar and I. Bahar to differentiate it so that students can take both courses and get additional experience.

Graduate Council Updates

No updates.

Soutir Bandyopadhyay

Research Council Updates

M. Eberhart reminded everyone about the upcoming Research Fusion event on April 1st from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in the Student Center Ballrooms. There were no further updates.

Mark Eberhart



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- **Question:** S. Bandyopadhyay asked if there will be an email going out about the event?
- **Answer:** M. Eberhart answered that several reminder emails have been sent out regarding the upcoming event.
- **Question:** S. Vyas asked which ballrooms the event will be held in?
- **Answer:** M. Eberhart answered that it will be in both Ballrooms A and B.

Request for Posthumous Degree Award

Soutir Bandyopadhyay

S. Bandyopadhyay pointed out the four items that urged the Faculty Senate to approve the request and requested that the Senators review carefully.

- **Question:** C. Terry noted that the request states that the Mechanical Engineering degree would be awarded posthumously but also states it would be a posthumous degree, which are two different things. Which is being requested? He clarified that a posthumous degree is more of a recognition. A degree awarded posthumously means that the student completed the degree or was so close to completion that it was nearly guaranteed. For the request, it should say posthumous degree, not Mechanical Engineering awarded posthumously.
- **Comment:** P. Myskiw clarified that the difference is the student is in their final semester of coursework when the death occurs otherwise it is a posthumous award. The clarification was made in Faculty Senate two years ago.
- **Comment:** R. Holz mentioned that this request has not come through his office yet. Senate should share their recommendation on the request, but it will ultimately come up through the Provost Office and the President since the Board is the ultimate decision maker.
- **Comment:** M. Eberhart added that awarding degrees and posthumous degrees falls to the faculty, the faculty votes, and posthumous degrees would go through the Senate instead of going to the President Office.
- **Comment:** R. Holz clarified that his office has awarded several posthumous degrees. The requests typically go to the Provost and President's office. The Faculty Senate makes the recommendation, and the Board of Trustees approves, although they generally follow the Senate's recommendation.
- **Comment:** V. Griffiths pointed out that the memo includes that the student needed 21.5 additional courses to graduate. This needs to be changed to credits.
- **Question:** N. Wu asked in general, what percentage of credits remaining is considered reasonable? Are there guidelines on this?
- **Answer:** R. Holz answered that there is not a number or percentage stated to be considered for a posthumous degree.
- **Answer:** P. Myskiw shared the language that is found in the catalog which was revised three years ago. It includes the distinction between a posthumous degree and degree award posthumously. It also states that the student must be in their final year.
- **Comment:** V. Karaivanov added an ME degree is 134.5 credits, so the student would have completed 113 credits.

MOTION: The motion to approve the previous meeting minutes was moved by S. Vyas and seconded M. Eberhart. The motion to approve the previous meeting minutes was approved with zero opposition and one abstention.

- **Question:** M. Eberhart asked if the previous posthumous degrees that have been approved gone through the Senate?



- **Answer:** R. Holz answered that he was not sure if they had been voted on by the Senate. Other Senators shared that they do not remember seeing this as an item in the Senate during the last year.

Handbook 10.1 and Online Course IP

Will Vaughan

The changes to the Mines IP policy are because it is very outdated (written 34 years ago) with only a minor update in 2010. The policy does not reflect current or best practices (dispute resolution). Therefore, it is necessary to provide clarity on and address recent issues, reduce duplicative language, and be reactive to changes that have occurred with the Mines ecosystem. Any changes will still require campus input. RTT recommends creating a separate Copyright and Works of Authorship policy which will be submitted for campus comment before implementation. Currently, there is a draft policy written but has not been shared until Discoveries and Patents is separated from the Works of Authorship.

- **Question:** S. Saleh asked if there is any language that reaffirms students' rights and IP that they create when they are not employed at Mines? Does anything in the new language take that away?
- **Answer:** W. Vaughan answered that this language is found in the procedures. No new language will take that away.
- **Question:** V. Griffiths and S. Bandyopadhyay mentioned the letter from the Graduate Council regarding course content being sold. Does the policy mention this issue?
- **Answer:** W. Vaughan answered he is aware of this issue. It will be part of the Works of Authorships in the procedures outside of the Faculty Handbook.
- **Comment:** A. Herring reminded the Senate that they are required to respond to the changes in the Faculty Handbook in the next 30 days from yesterday. If any of the councils need to make any recommendations, time is limited. All changes can be viewed on the Academic Affairs webpage and any feedback can be sent to provost@mines.edu.

Handbook 10.3

Vaughan Griffiths, Scot
Allen, Erin McCaffrey

10.3 includes the policy for research integrity which applies to all researchers on campus. The current version did not adequately address potential misconduct by students, research faculty, postdocs or research associates. There was also no language on the interplay between academic and research misconduct. Because Mines accepts federal money, it must follow federal requirements which change relatively frequently. Currently, the policy for research integrity in the Faculty Handbook includes a longer section that is the procedures for implantation. RTT is recommending that the policy for research integrity stay in the handbook, but move the detailed procedures to the Policy Library, which is maintained by the Office of Compliance, Policy & Risk Management. RTT and the Research Council have established a partnership to ensure input from faculty and other stakeholders on any revisions. RTT also recommends allowing membership on inquiry or investigation committees that represent the status of the respondent.

- **Question:** P. Kohl asked is the fact that faculty and other stakeholders providing input encoded in the policy somewhere, or is that an agreement?
- **Answer:** S. Allen answered that it is a focus to include faculty input but is not written down in the policy. He mentioned that he will work with the Research Council to make sure that it is added.
- **Question:** N. Wu asked if there are any changes to the procedures?
- **Answer:** S. Allen answered that there are no changes to the procedures right now. There will be some in future as federal requirements change.



Upcoming Items

Soutir Bandyopadhyay for
Brandon Dugan

Beck Venture Center Ribbon Cutting [April 4 3:00-4:30]
GenAI survey results (TBD)
By-laws revisions (April)

3:40-3:45 pm **Adjourn**

Soutir Bandyopadhyay for
Brandon Dugan

*Next meeting: April 9, 2024, in the Guggenheim Boardroom. Please send agenda items
faculty_senate@mines.edu 1 week prior.*



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