

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

Attendees:

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

P	Shubham Vyas (Chair)	P	Mike Wakin (EE)	Elizabeth Reddy (EDS)
P	Samy Wu Fung (AMS)		Yvette Kuiper (GE)	Eric Toberer (PH)
P	Diego Gomez-Gauldron (CBE)		Kenneth “Xerxes” Steirer (PH)	James Simmons (GP)
	Annalise Maughan (CH)	P	Emmanuel De Moor (MME)	Patricia Andersen (LB)
P	Timm Strathmann (CEE)		Xhexuan Gong (PH)	P Erdal Ozkan (PE)
	Maxwell Brown (EB)		Mark Deinert (ME)	P Nicole Smith (MN)
P	Hussein Amery (HASS)			

Other Regular Attendees and Guests

	Barb O’Kane		Lisa Kinzel (RTT)	Runeem Al Abssi (GSG)
P	Ellie Miller (USG)	P	Kristeen Serracino (AA)	

Special Guest(s): Seth Vuletich, Carl Frick

Welcome and Introductions

Shubham Vyas

Graduate Student Research at Mines

Carl Frick

Graduate Student Enrollment trend information was presented from 2008 to 2024. Enrollment has increased from 3,392 to 5,813 UGs and 932 to 1,816 Grads (MSNT, MS, PhD). UG percentages have decreased from 78% to 77%, Grads 22% to 23%. For graduate students, there are currently 847 post-BS (47%), 728 PhD (40%), and 241 MS-Thesis (13%). Please note that the certificate and non-thesis students are lumped into the post-BS numbers. Since 2018, growth in graduate student enrollment is primarily due to MS-NT students.

From 2016-2019, most IGPs were launched in this timeframe and admissions processes were streamlined for most departments. In Fall 2019, Admissions changed to Slate and changed Admissions marketing (text messages, drip campaign, etc.). Since 2018, thesis-based student growth has been stagnant. The PhD student increase has been offset by the MS-thesis student decrease. The minimum MS/PhD stipend has increased from \$26K in 2021 to \$38K in 2025. 87% of thesis students are fully funded. From 2016, 2,244 students did not come to Mines but went to different institutions. These institutions include CU, CSU, CU Denver, Univ Washington Seattle, Purdue University, Arizona State University, Texas A&M, Geroge Institute of Tech, University of Maryland. These other institutions are the same caliber of research institutions but are major state schools. Additionally, information was shared including the relative cost compared to other institutions (non-resident tuition). CSM is at the top at \$39,618. In summary, MS-NT tuition, stipends, and revenue expenditures have been substantially increasing since 2018. Thesis based students (PhD and MS-NT) and the number of T/TT faculty has not increased.

- **Question:** E. Ozkan asked student numbers are growing but what about faculty? Has there been any change?
- **Answer:** C. Frick answered since 2018, T/TT faculty has increased from 222 to 246, research expenditures have increased \$66M to \$96M. There is currently no data for 2024. TF

and POP and adjunct are not included but that data can be made available.

- **Question:** E. De Moor asked is revenue data included with the enrollment data?
- **Answer:** C. Frick answered this isn't in the data provided. Also, the cost of students is not included as well as research revenue.
- **Comment:** S. Vyas added there has been mixed messages on research at Mines. However, research provides indirect benefits for the institution.
- **Comment:** C. Frick added research has had a significant impact on the economics of the city and state as well as has a significant footprint on the community.

- **Question:** S. Vyas asked do we track student who take medical leave of absence for more than one semester? If they don't return, is there follow-up? Also, if these students have insurance through the school, are they able to utilize medical services on campus while on medical leave of absence?
- **Answer:** C. Frick answered yes, these students are tracked and followed up with. The medical leave of absence will be looked into to provide more answers. However, medical leave over multiple semesters is quite rare.

- **Question:** N. Smith asked what is the 5-year plan for increasing the graduate student stipend? How would that evolve and is it planned?
- **Answer:** C. Frick answered yes, there is a plan to increase the grad student stipend. CSM is starting to be on the higher end nationally which correlates to the higher cost of living. The goal is to maintain competitiveness and incentivize grad students to apply.

- **Question:** E. De Moor asked is there coordination with the Foundation to help fund graduate students?
- **Answer:** C. Frick answered yes, there is connection with the Foundation through additional fellowships, but it is very competitive.

MOTION: The motion to approve the previous meeting minutes was moved by M. Wakin and seconded by D. Gomez-Gauldron. The motion to approve the previous meeting minutes was unanimously approved with zero opposition and zero abstentions.

Announcements

Shubham Vyas

The next Research Council meeting is currently scheduled for December 4th. S. Vyas will be out of town that day so there was a suggestion to move this meeting to the following Wednesday (12/11 at 2:00 pm). A poll will be sent out on Canvas.

RC subcommittees need to be formed. A poll will also be sent out to sign up for subcommittees.