

**COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES**  
**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
January 10, 2012 - 2:00pm  
Hill Hall 300

**ATTENDEES:** Braun, Davis, Dean, Gardner, Greivel, Steele, Van Tyne

**APOLOGIES:** Hitzman, Reimanis, Scales, Spear, Williams, Zhang

**GUESTS:** Terry Parker, Provost; Lara Medley, Registrar; Erin Nawacki, ASCSM

Dean, Senate President, called the meeting to order.

Provost Parker updated items:

- IT Council established: Terry Parker, Dan Fox, Joe Trubacz, and Derek Wilson. The council's mission is to look at campus policies and address campus-wide issues related to IT.
- Registrar's working group established to focus on smoothing out the registration process.
- Space-planning Council launched to look at the organization of space on Mines campus and forecast longer term space needs.
- ORA is looking at putting a new contracts person in place.
- Faculty Handbook Committee is looking at proposed changes to University Promotion & Tenure process wherein faculty applying for P&T who are part of the new college will include one additional step that allows for the Dean's input.
- One of the two final candidates for the Associate Provost position withdrew. Action pending.

**Minutes from December 13, 2011 were approved, with the clarification that the intent of the amendment to that meeting's field session motion was that any changes in timing of the course needs to go through council and senate, not just changes to the content of the course.**

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- A. Distinguished Senate Lecture  
Date set for February 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is important for the faculty to show up *en masse*.
  
- B. Admissions  
Applications are up this year by 12%, admits are down by 15% deliberately. ACT scores are up by 1 from last year - now at 30, SAT scores are up - 1331, and GPA is the same as last year at 3.8. 11,000 applications have been processed so far. These are started applications, not accepted students. Most of the increase is from non-resident applicants: 2800 resident, 7700 out-of-state.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

- A. Undergraduate Council:  
Approved 6 new degrees at the last meeting:
  - B.S. in Applied Mathematics and Statistics
  - B.S. in Civil Engineering
  - B.S. in Environmental Engineering
  - B.S. in Computer Science
  - B.S. in Electrical Engineering
  - B.S. in Mechanical Engineering

**Senate approved all 6 degrees unanimously.**

- B. Graduate Council:  
Hugh Miller will be returning as representative to the Grad Council. Murray Hitzman was covering for the Fall term while Hugh was on sabbatical.
- C. Research Council:  
Research awards: Nominees are due near the end of the month. Concerns with administration-council interaction have been resolved satisfactorily. A meeting is set to take place next week with Poate and several faculty members to discuss major research initiatives.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- A. Survey  
Kay Schneider is currently compiling a list of ideas and T. Gardner will bring her suggestions to the senate at the next meeting. It may be useful to poll faculty, staff, administration and students together in order to determine priorities for where resources should go. Space issues and IT issues were suggested as topics to consider.
- B. Final Exam Schedule  
Gardner suggested that the senate seek input from departments. There has been a significant increase in the number of students since this issue was last discussed during Arther Sacks' tenure as Associate Provost. Federal Financial Aid determines the requirements for the number of student contact hours: 750 contact minutes per credit hour and either two 75 minute periods or three 50 minute periods for 15 weeks. CSM counts final exams as contact hours. Renting off-campus space presents logistical problems.
- C. Earlier teacher evaluations  
Student government drafted a preliminary survey. The draft was taken to council, council was asked to review the draft over the break and to bring their response to this Thursday's council meeting.
- D. Faculty Forum Scheduling  
The next Faculty Forum is to be scheduled for March. Senate asked to brainstorm suggestions for speakers, panels, topics, etc.
- E. MLK Activities  
Friday, Jan 20<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm - President Scoggins and a panel of campus leaders will discuss efforts at CSM to build an inclusive campus climate. Junko Marr has requested faculty attend. Please RSVP to Deb Lasich.
- F. Photo rosters  
T. Gardner asked if there is interest in building a photo database of students. Request to get access to the Blaster Card photos was denied. Two possible barriers are FERPA and IT resources. Banner cannot be modified to accommodate a photo roster. Trailhead may be a suitable option. CU has a photo roster, but they utilize PeopleSoft software and have more IT resources. Approval would need to come from CCIT management and the Banner steering committee in order to modify Banner. Pictures would also need to have a student release signed before they could be posted. Student identification and integrity of exams are two important reasons in support of a photo roster. This information could also be used for security in the event of a threat.
- G. Wednesday common exams

The Senate discussed the possibility of opening Wednesday nights up for exams. Wednesday night is currently reserved for McBride and other student activities. No classes are allowed on Tuesday and Thursday nights, but there are still not enough time slots to accommodate all of the exams. The two exam periods on these days are 6:30 pm, which is not a full 2 hours, and 8:30 pm, which is a 2 hour period. Monday night is unavailable because of a conflict with classes. There will be 8 new classrooms in Marquez Hall – 2 will seat 12, 1 will be an 80-seat auditorium, and the rest will have 50, 60, or 70 seats. There is also an issue with having enough proctors. Another consideration is trying to avoid a situation where students have two high-level exams in one night during the middle of the week. Some students may also perform poorly in the evenings.

Discussion will continue at next meeting.

H. Grade Changes

Current policy does not allow faculty to submit a change of grade form that lowers a grade. Changes could affect financial aid and degree status. What if grading mistakes occur? Lara to research.

The next Senate meeting will take place on January 24, 2012 @ 2:00pm in Hill Hall room 300.

Approved,

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Anthony Dean,  
Faculty Senate President

Approved,

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Tracy Gardner  
Faculty Senate Secretary

Recorded,

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Jennifer P.  
Faculty Senate Recording Secretary