

**COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
**February 6, 2007 – 2:00 PM**  
**Green Center Room 270**

**ATTENDEES:** Andersen, Collins, Jesudason, McKinnon, Mishra, Mooney, Romberger, Vincent, and Walls

**APOLOGIES:** Dagdelen, Ganesh, Martins, and Petr

**GUESTS:** Nigel Middleton - Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty, Tom Boyd – Dean of Graduate Studies, Robert Applegate - President, CSM Graduate Student Association (GSA), and Regina Hutchings - ASCSM Undergraduate Student Representative

Mishra, Senate President, called the meeting to order and welcomed the guests.

**COMMENTS FROM GUESTS:**

A. Nigel Middleton announced Mike Dougherty, is drafting a policy to conduct background checks on all new hires. This policy will be brought to the Senate before it is adopted.

The proposed revisions to the budget process should result in developing a more transparent budget. Feedback from the department/division heads includes abolishing the university budget committee or having a more formalized academic budget.

B. Tom Boyd stated that the Graduate Council will considered two action items at their February 7, 2007 meeting. One is decreasing the institutional minimum number of required hours for a master's degree from 36 to 30. For those degrees that require 36 hours, a student could double count courses and for those requiring 30 hours, a student could not double count courses. The other item is the proposed nuclear engineering degree program.

There are three discussion items: (1) a proposal coming from Engineering Division to change its degree title from engineering systems to engineering; (2) a proposal from mathematics and computer science to use different course prefixes on computer sciences and mathematics courses; and (3) the GPA and grade appeal process.

C. Rob Applegate announced the research fair will be moved to April. GSA heard from the Sustainability Committee on the negotiations with RTD for increased bus routes to CSM and RTD passes.

D. Regina Hutchings told the Senate that ASCSM was in favor of keeping the current PRG system and agreed that the "retaking of courses" policy should be changed. ASCSM would like to see a limit set on the number of times that a student could retake a course.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The January 23, 2007 Faculty Senate Minutes were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Final Exam Policy - Mooney reported the Academic Standards Committee does not see a need for a final exam policy. The Committee would like the Undergraduate Council to (1) revisit the benefits of presenting graduates with metal diplomas at the graduation ceremony considering the cost and the hardships placed on faculty and the registrar's office and (2) reevaluate the final exam schedule particularly the necessity of Saturday exams. A suggestion was made to have the final exam hours posted in the CSM Bulletin. The Senators agreed with these recommendations.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Emeritus Status - McKinnon announced that the current Faculty Handbook does not state how a faculty member is nominated for an emeritus status. The Handbook Committee is considering having the Promotion and Tenure Committee recommend faculty for emeritus status and forwarding their names to Academic Affairs.
- B. Senate Retreat - The Senators agreed to hold a Senate retreat on March 30, 2007 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Lunch will be served. The Senate's Executive Committee will develop the agenda.
- C. Faculty Forum - The Senators agreed on the following topics for future Faculty Forums:
  - 1. February - John Poate, Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer, will be asked to present the February forum. The Senators also requested Mishra to extend an invitation to Dr. Poate to be a guest at Senate meetings.
  - 2. March - Reorganization Task Force update

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

- A. Senate Councils
  - 1. Graduate Council - A **motion** to eliminate the PhD minor and to establish an 18 credit hour minimum course limit was made by Vincent, seconded by Collins and passed unanimously by the Senate.
  - 2. Undergraduate Council - Vincent made a **motion** to accept the Undergraduate Council's recommendation - "to have a course grade count only once towards a student's GPA. The last grade the student obtains will be the one counted. However, all grades will appear in the transcript. This rule will take effect in Fall 2007 for all students taking undergraduate courses. L. Medley noted that the new rule would only take effect for classes taken in Fall 2007 (it would not be retroactive)" - *from 1/23/07 Senate Minutes* and leave PRG policy for freshman math and physic courses as stated in the Bulletin unchanged. The motion was seconded by McKinnon and passed with a vote of 7 in favor and 1 opposed.

The Senators present agreed that the Latin system for academic honors should be adopted at CSM.

- B. University Committees
  - 1. Budget - Mooney stated the Budget committee is discussing how the new campus budget committee can be most effective in the overall process. The new structure is formalizing the way things should or did operate in the past.
  - 2. Handbook and Subcommittee on Outside Activities - McKinnon the subcommittee on Outside Activities is working on clarifying issues associated with this topic.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. The next Senate meeting will be February 20, 2007 in Hill Hall room 300 at 2:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.