

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
February 28, 2012 - 2:00pm
Hill Hall 300

ATTENDEES: Braun, Davis, Dean, Gardner, Greivel, Miller, Reimanis, Spear, Scales, Steele, Van Tyne, Williams

APOLOGIES: Miller, Zhang

GUESTS: Terry Parker, Provost; Carl Mitcham, LAIS; Kathleen Hancock, LAIS

Dean, Senate President, called the meeting to order.

Provost Parker updated items:

- Parker has responded to the Senate's memo summarizing its activities during the Fall term via email. The one point of contention regarding those actions was the Senate's recommendation that the Summer Field session no longer be a requirement for every undergraduate degree program at CSM, but that it be at the discretion and recommendation of the faculty that are delivering the degree program. He informed the Senate that he was hesitant to change course regarding modifying the Field Session requirement.
- An email was sent campus-wide yesterday, addressing the subject of potential formation of two new colleges. Parker will be meeting with departments to facilitate that discussion and to move things forward.
- Two bills currently in the state legislature are of interest to CSM. One would mandate that research funding first go to the state and then be allocated to CSM. It is not likely to pass. The other concerns public-transparency and has only been opposed publicly by CSM. This bill would mandate the creation of a database that would be searchable by faculty or staff member names to find out salaries, expenses, research volume, credit hour production, etc. If it passes, it will have an enormous financial impact on the school in the neighborhood of \$200K. The bill would affect any university that accepts COF. The greatest fear is that this would be an unfunded mandate.
- Van Tyne asked to clarify Parker's email response to the field session requirement that the Senate voted to amend, specifically what was meant by complexities and timing as barriers to adopting this change. Parker cited the field sessions' value as a competitive feature of CSM's curriculum. He also indicated that a more appropriate time to revisit the discussion would be in two years, after the reorg changes have been worked out. Van Tyne asked if the Senate could go to the Board in order to move the decision forward. There was discussion of the history of the Board's actions around the field session requirement. Further discussion included questions about the state's credit hour requirements and about the income for CSM related to field session. Gardner asked if a new undergraduate degree program in LAIS, for example, would be required to have a field session. Parker said that, from a Board standpoint, it would, but may cause other issues with the state.

Minutes of the February 14, 2012 meeting were approved with minor typographic corrections.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Executive Committee

Chet Van Tyne was nominated by Dean to the vacant Senior Senator position. An earlier email discussion within the Senate indicated no concern as to Van Tyne's position as Associate Department Head conflicting with this appointment.

The Senate voted unanimously in favor of appointing Van Tyne to the Executive Committee.

B. March 28 Faculty Forum

Provost Parker will use this Faculty Forum to discuss the state of the university, with specific attention to potential reorganization issues.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

A. Undergraduate Council:

A vacancy for Chair of the committee has been created by the absence of an Associate Provost. It was suggested that the Senate representative to the council be appointed as interim chair. The Registrar is currently taking lead to help fill that gap. The Senate voted in favor of appointing its representative to the Undergraduate Council as interim chair until the Associate Provost vacancy has been filled or another administrator is designated to chair this council.

B. Graduate Council:

Graduate council will be meeting during spring break.

C. Research Council:

Council has a number of nominations for research awards in the senior and junior levels. Some people on the research council were nominated, so a subcommittee was assembled to independently review them. The subcommittee has solicited letters from external parties in support of 3 candidates from each category. Council hopes to vote by their March meeting.

The lecture series in the library continues with Andy Herring (CBE) three weeks from Friday.

Council is working on several tasks, each chaired by a council member. These tasks are daycare on campus, mentoring young faculty, and getting higher level of grad students to come to campus. They are hoping to have recommendations in four or five areas by the end of the semester.

A question was asked about the junior research awards – what does “junior” mean and what the likelihood of a junior faculty application being considered for the awards? The Research committee is considering candidates for the senior award as those who have contributed to research on campus for 10 years or more and candidates for the junior award would be anyone who is Associate, Assistant or Research faculty making a research contribution for about 5 years or so.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Institutional Objectives and Outcomes for Doctoral Programs

Senate voted to endorse the following document from Grad Council.

Proposed Institutional Objectives and Outcomes for Doctoral Education Revised

Institutional Educational Objectives:

- 1.A) PhD graduates will advance the state of the art of their discipline (integrating existing knowledge and creating new knowledge) by conducting independent research that addresses relevant disciplinary issues and by disseminating their research results to appropriate target audiences.
- 2.B) PhD graduates will be scholars and international leaders who exhibit the highest

standards of integrity.

3.C) PhD graduates will advance in their professions and will be at the frontiers of their fields whether employed in industry, government or academia.

Institutional Student Outcomes:

- . 1) Demonstration of exemplary disciplinary expertise.
- . 2) Demonstration of a set of skills and attitudes associated with our understanding of what it is to be an academic scholar (e.g., intellectual curiosity, intellectual integrity, ability to think critically and argue persuasively, the exercise of intellectual independence, a passion for life-long learning, etc.).
- . 3) Demonstration of a set of professional skills (e.g., oral and written communication, time-management, project planning, teaching, teamwork and team leadership, cross-cultural and diversity awareness, etc.) necessary to succeed in a student's chosen career path.

B. Revised MIPER degree program

Carl Mitcham gave a brief background and summary of the proposed program changes. The proposal originated last spring as an effort to create a parallel second Master's program in LAIS on energy, policy and society. President Scoggins strongly recommended that the proposed program be combined with the MIPER program. After reviewing the program, it was proposed to have two parallel tracks – a set of core courses that all MIPER students would take, then specialization in either in international political economy track or an energy and policy track. The proposal would keep the acronym, but alter the interpretation slightly. It is the hope that this modification to two tracks won't require action by CCHE. Kathleen Hancock (Director of MIPER) added that the acronym would now stand for "Masters in Policy Energy and Resources." Three of the current core courses are the same; one would be added in - Science Technology Policy. 23 students are enrolled in the current MIPER program. Students would have to take a minimum of 18 hours in the program. All courses substituted in are subject to approval by the MIPER director. LAIS is in the process of hiring a new faculty member to create a new course in energy and policy. The STEP track would be for people who already have an engineering degree. All of the core classes would be 500 level courses.

The Senate requested more specific information about prerequisites, course descriptions, bulletin language, etc. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

C. Next Year's Distinguished Lecture

Four nominations have been received for next year's lecture. The Senate discussed what guidelines are given to the speakers and where the guidelines, if any, come from. Graham Davis read aloud the guidelines listed on the nominee form. The Senate decided to make a decision at this meeting, rather than to wait until the next meeting. A motion was seconded and approved to select the Distinguished Lecturer. This will vote be confidential until announced at the April Faculty Forum.

D. FACTIR Group

Kay Schneider and Gardner will co-chair the group. Terry Parker and several others have been interested in joining FACTIR (Faculty Administration Collaboration to Improve Retention). Dan Fox, Heather Boyd, Kay Schneider, Colin Terry, Wendy Harrison, John Spear, Gus Greivel, Scott Houser (EB), Zach Aman, Brenden Swensen, Hugh Miller, and a third student are all involved. Discussion with CCIT about the photo rosters is underway.

E. Senate elections

Chet VanTyne is taking care of arrangements regarding the Senate elections as well as Senate committee assignments.

F. Field Session

Van Tyne would like to continue moving forward with this issue. Several programs were very supportive of it and he would like to keep it on the table. Although the economic aspect clearly needs to be taken into consideration, it is important that faculty be able to provide the best quality education in the mode that is most conducive to providing that information to their students. Further discussion will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The next Senate meeting will take place on March 20, 2012 @ 2:00pm in Hill Hall room 300.

Approved,

Anthony Dean,
Faculty Senate President

Approved,

Tracy Gardner
Faculty Senate Secretary

Recorded,

Jennifer P.
Faculty Senate Recording Secretary