

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

April 14, 2009 - 2:00pm
Hill Hall 300

ATTENDEES: Davis, Dorgan, Drewes, Hitzman, Jesudason, Martins, McKinnon, Sacks, Steele, Voorhees

APOLOGIES: Collins, Ganesh, Petr

GUESTS: Tom Boyd – Dean, Graduate Studies
Wendy Harrison – Associate Provost
Rambert Nahm – Representative, ASCSM
Prakash Periasamy – Representative, GSA

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Change Senator Representation from at Large to Department Specific – It was decided that since every department has representatives on the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils the Faculty Senate need not have representation from every department. It was mentioned that Dennis Readey had worked on establishing a new University Senate that incorporated members from outside the faculty. A committee will be established to discuss this issue with Sacks, Hitzman, McNeil, Davis, and Readey as members.
- B. Process of Electing the Senate President – A motion was proposed that the Senate will nominate candidates for Vice President of the Faculty Senate at their first annual meeting. The Senate will then vote in the new vice president at the second meeting. That vice president will then become president the following year. Presidents are expected to offer support to the Senate for one year after their term ends. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Elimination of Senior Senator Designation – This issue was tabled as it may lead to an inexperienced Senate.
- D. Elimination or Increase in Appeal of Faculty Forums - It was decided to leave the Faculty Forum Policy as is. It was noted that topics should be more relevant to faculty to increase attendance. It was suggested that the next academic year's first forum could be a question and answer session with the new provost.
- E. Language Changes to Membership of Undergraduate and Graduate Councils – The proposed changes to the language of the membership of the Undergraduate Council ([ATTACHMENT A](#)) was approved with two modifications. The Senate approves the changes with EPICS moved to non-voting status and Environmental Science and Engineering moved to voting status. Voting status was also approved for members of the Graduate Council for Hydrologic Science and Engineering and Nuclear Engineering and non-voting status for the library and Physical Education and Athletics.
- F. Administration Support for Senate President – Harrison requested an official proposal for course relief for the president. A motion passed unanimously to draft a proposal stating that a Senate President need teach no more than 3 credit hours per semester while they are serving.
- G. Elimination of Senate Approval of Graduation Lists – This issue was tabled with the expectation of being discussed by next year's Senate.
- H. State Budget Crisis – It was reported that the Board of Trustees recently had a meeting regarding the possible decrease in State funding. The Senate requests to be informed of future Board meetings that so directly affect faculty members. The administration will be

informed that the Senate would like to be invited to future meetings. Future Board meetings will be announced campus-wide so that any faculty member, staff, or student that is interested may attend. It was noted that President Scoggins has invited the campus to attend a town hall meeting regarding the budget on April 22, 2009 from 12:00 to 12:45 PM in Metals Hall. It was also noted that the next scheduled Board of Trustees meeting is on April 24, 2009 at 9:00 AM. The Senate urges the Oredigger to announce these meetings in their next issue as well as future Board of Trustee meetings.

- I. Applicants for Next Year's Senate – It was reported that there are already more applicants than positions open for next year's Senator positions. Senators are asked to seek more applicants for both Senator and President positions. An election will be scheduled soon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. The next Senate meeting will take place on April 28, 2009 in Hill Hall room 300.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

ATTACHMENT A

Suggested language changes to the membership of Undergraduate Council (Jim Ely):

MEMBERSHIP: The Associate Vice President for Academic and Faculty Affairs shall serve as chair. Voting members include a Senator appointed by the Senate for a one-year term, and a representative of each of the following departments, divisions, or programs: Chemical Engineering, Chemistry and Geochemistry, Economics and Business, Engineering, EPICS, Mathematical and Computer Sciences, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, Mining Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, and Physics. Nonvoting members shall be the Registrar and the representatives from the Computing Center, Library, McBride Honors Program in Public Affairs for Engineers, BELS, Environmental Science and Engineering, Military Science, and Physical Education and Athletics. All representative shall be elected by the respective departments, divisions, or programs and shall serve two-year terms.

The goal of this redefinition is to restrict voting rights on the undergraduate council to degree granting departments and departments that deliver required courses. If we change the Undergraduate Council voting membership, we should probably have a parallel discussion on Graduate Council voting.