

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

April 27, 2010 - 2:00pm
Hill Hall 300

ATTENDEES: Davis, Dorgan, Eberhart, Greivel, Scales, Steele, Voorhees

APOLOGIES: Drewes, Griffiths, Hitzman, Martins, Miller, Sacks

GUESTS: Tom Boyd – Dean, Graduate Studies
Alice Jensen – Faculty Senate
Matthew Liberatore – Chemical Engineering
Rambert Nahm – Representative, ASCSM

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the April 13, 2010 Senate meeting were approved as amended.

COMMENTS FROM GUESTS:

- A. Matthew Liberatore – Excused Absence Policy – See Old Business, Section C.
- B. Tom Boyd – May Graduation List – See Old Business, Section F.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Update: Handbook Academic Freedom Issues – Eberhart reported that he'd recently met with Wendy Harrison and they were currently reviewing the academic freedom policies of other universities. He also reported that a succinct policy was favorable, as it will provide fewer limitations
- B. Discussion: American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Visit – It was reported that the AFT have been useful to faculty of other universities, especially with legal and financial aid.
- C. Discussion: Excused Absences Policy – Davis introduced Matthew Liberatore to discuss concerns regarding the current excused absences policy. Liberatore reported that he had a large number of students getting excused absences for his courses. He expressed concerns that there is no policy defining precisely what activities are currently defined as qualifying for excusable absences. It was decided that Eberhart would discuss this issue with administration officials and offer the possibility of having the Faculty Oversight Committee on Sports and Athletics (FOCSA) have their responsibility of regulating excused absences to all school sanctioned activities.
- D. Discussion Student Concerns Regarding Adjunct Faculty – Concerns were expressed that certain adjunct faculty may grade easier or harder in undergraduate courses. It was noted that this may be a future concern, but that one purpose of common exams was to address this issue.
- E. Update: Grade Appeal Cory D. Jensen – This issue will be discussed at a future Senate meeting.
- F. Approval of May Graduation List – Boyd presented the approval process for the Graduate level degree awards. Steele moved and Greivel seconded a motion to approve the May Graduate level degree recipients. The **motion** passed unanimously.
- G. Approval of New Senators – Dorgan moved and Greivel seconded a **motion** to appoint by acclamation Ivar Reimanis, Tracy Gardner, and John Spear as Senators of the next term of the Faculty Senate. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Dead Day/Week Policy – It was decided that the Senate would wait for input from the Undergraduate Council before making a decision regarding this issue. Due to the limited amount of time left this semester this issue will be reviewed in the fall Senate meetings. It was decided that Eberhart would let the Registrar, Lara Medley, know of this decision.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussion: New McBride Structure – This issue will be discussed at a future Senate meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. An informal Senate meeting will take place on May 11, 2010 in Hill Hall room 300 during which new Senators will be introduced to Senators that will be remaining on the Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

The Senate went into executive session.