

**COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES  
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES  
September 10, 2008 - 2:00 PM John Dorgan's Home**

**ATTENDEES:** McKinnon, Dorgan, Ganesh, Jesudason, Martins, Petr, Davis (via phone)

The Senate held a special session off campus and after normal working hours to discuss the resolution in support of Amendment 58: A Smarter Colorado. The resolution is attached to the end of this document.

1. Call to order. McKinnon. 5:05 pm.
2. Mission of Senate. The Senators closely scrutinized the by-laws and determined that supporting Amendment 58 would be explicitly in the mission of the body.
3. McKinnon reported on his emails and telephone conversations w/ CSM attorney Anne Walker and Nigel Middleton and their objections based upon the Fair Campaign Practices Act (FCPA).
4. The Senate discussed the issues of the FCPA. It was decided that since the meeting was held after hours and off campus that no state resources were used.
5. The Senate voted 7-0 in support of the resolution.
6. Meeting adjourned ca. 6:00 pm.

**Senate Resolution in support of Amendment 58**

Colorado School of Mines Faculty Senate Resolution in support of A Smarter Colorado

WHEREAS, a highly educated workforce is a critical factor in maintaining and advancing the Energy industries, both fossil and renewable, in the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, a highly educated workforce is also critical for attracting and retaining employers and creating high quality jobs to the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, an effective transportation infrastructure of roads and bridges is also critical for competitive industries and job creation in the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado School of Mines is an exemplary educational institution with a core mission in the Stewardship of the Earth and its resources and is highly capable of educating scientist and engineers which can provide the foundation of a highly educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, Colorado ranks near the bottom in the nation for state funding of higher education; and

WHEREAS, Tuition rates at the Colorado School of Mines and other Colorado public institutions of higher education have risen steadily in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, the faculty of the Colorado School of Mines are in strong support of the President's Diversity Initiative which seeks to expand the student enrollment to include more students from underrepresented groups which are often from low-and middle-income families; and

WHEREAS, low-and middle-income families are disproportionately affected by increased education costs, hindering and even preventing them in some cases from seeking public higher education in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, a lack of state General Fund availability for funding higher education has precluded sufficient investments in state financial aid programs; and

WHEREAS, the actual severance taxes in Colorado are the lowest in the western United States; now, therefore,

*Be it resolved* by the Faculty Senate of the Colorado School of Mines, that we hereby support the citizens' initiative to repeal an outdated oil and gas subsidy, and to make public investments in higher education through the creation of the Colorado Promise Scholarship Fund, in funding roads and bridges, in public health and environmental protection, and in supporting clean, renewable energy technologies in Colorado.

*Be it further resolved*, that copies of this resolution be sent to the CSM Faculty and Staff, Board of Trustees of the Colorado School of Mines, to the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, to Governor Bill Ritter, Jr., to the Colorado General Assembly, to Colorado Counties Incorporated and to the Colorado Municipal League.

J. Thomas McKinnon, Ph.D.

Signed on behalf of the Faculty Senate