

**COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES**  
**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
October 13, 2009 - 2:00pm  
Hill Hall 300

**ATTENDEES:** Davis, Dorgan, Eberhart, Greivel, Griffiths, Martins, Miller, Scales,

**APOLOGIES:** Drewes, Hitzman, Sacks, Steele, Voorhees

**GUESTS:** Zach Aman – Representative, GSA  
Tom Boyd – Dean, Graduate Studies  
Rod Eggert – Director, Division of Economics and Business  
Wendy Harrison – Associate Provost  
Lara Medley – Registrar  
Rambert Nahm – Representative, ASCSM

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

**COMMENTS FROM GUESTS:**

- A. Harrison submitted a draft on guidelines for joint academic appointments. It was requested that senators review this report for discussion at the next meeting. It was also noted that a policy requiring department heads to offer specific support to all new academic appointments might be constructive.
- B. Harrison reviewed a report from an ad-hoc committee reviewing the academic re-admissions process. It stated that there have been issues with the policy of forgiving failing grades if a higher grade is earned after repeating the class. Many students see no consequences for failing grades and there have been cases of students retaking a course more than five times. It was requested that advisors and instructors be notified when a student retakes a course and students only be allowed to do so with advisor approval. This issue will be a priority at the next Senate meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes from the September 22, 2009 Senate meeting were approved pending language corrections.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Posthumous Degree Awards – Scales submitted a draft policy on posthumous degrees and certificates of merit. Scales will work on language issues regarding where requests for posthumous awards should originate. The Senate will vote on the new language at the next meeting. Dorgan moved and Scales seconded a motion to not award Certificates of Merit to three undergraduates and one graduate student meeting the requirements at this fall's commencement. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Name Change for Degrees from the Division of Economics and Business - Eggert submitted a proposal to change the name of the Division of Economics and Business M.S. and Ph.D. programs in mineral economics. It was reported that the new titles are more appropriate and that the Graduate Council has approved the proposal. Dorgan moved and Griffiths seconded to approve the proposal. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. EPICS II Change to Core Curriculum - Greivel submitted a recommendation from Wendy Harrison and Barbara Olds regarding removing EPICS II from the core curriculum of the departments/divisions of Chemistry, Economics and Business, and Mathematical and Computer Sciences ([ATTACHMENT A](#)). It was reported that the Undergraduate Council

has unanimously approved this proposal. Dorgan moved and Davis seconded to approve the proposal. The motion passed unanimously.

- D. Subcommittee to Address Recommendations to the Faculty Handbook – It was decided that several committees would be established with each reviewing language changes for one specific issue. Eberhart requests Senators to send him the issues that they would like to address. Senators may begin working on language changes now and the committees will be established at the next meeting.
- E. Committee Appointments – Davis was appointed as Faculty Senate Secretary.
- F. Anne Walker and Auditor Invitation – Eberhart reported that Walker declined to meet with the Senate and to instead meet with Provost Castillo. The Executive Committee met with the Provost but the issues were not resolved. Eberhart also reported that the auditor would be contacted to provide details regarding travel forms.
- G. Status of October 28, January 27, and February 24 Faculty Forums – A committee reviewing ethics across the curriculum has requested to present at the October 28 Faculty Forum. A review of the committee's progress and goals was submitted ([ATTACHMENT B](#)). President Scoggins will present at the January 27 Faculty Forum. Senators were asked to begin drafting a list of questions for him at the Forum and a future meeting will include time to finalize the list.
- H. Changes to Senate Bylaws Regarding Graduate Council – Davis moved and Greivel seconded a motion to change the Senate Bylaws to include a Physical Education and Athletics Division representative as non-voting member of the Graduate Council. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **REPORTS:**

- A. President's Report – Eberhart reported that the Executive Committee had met with Provost Castillo and that he approved the Senate's request to have a seat at Department Head meetings. The seat will allow for a member to represent all Faculty members.
- B. Senate Councils
  - 1. Undergraduate Council – Greivel asked the Senators to review a survey regarding the increase in undergraduate enrollment. The survey will be submitted to all Faculty members after the Senators review it and report any comments to Greivel.
  - 2. Graduate Council – Boyd announced that the Graduate Council has approved a proposal regarding the reimplementation of a time-to-degree requirement. It was also reported that replacing audit with a pass/fail has been controversial and the Council is waiting for the Undergraduate Council to pass such a policy before they continue.
  - 3. Research Council – Senators are invited to meet with John Poate this Thursday to discuss changes to the Senate Bylaws regarding the Research Council.
- C. Informational Item – The library has submitted a memorandum to the Senate requesting the Senate to appoint a liaison to the library for the 2009 – 2010 academic year. It was noted that Sacks is the current liaison and he will need to meet with a library representative.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Senate Position New Board of Trustees Members – This topic was discussed in an Executive Session.
- B. Materials for Board of Trustees Meeting – Eberhart will meet with Harrison to discuss this issue.
- C. Status on Senate Distinguished Lecturer – It was decided to formalize the membership of the Committee that nominates the Distinguished Lecturer in the Senate Bylaws.
- D. Administration Reviews – There has been discussion regarding the re-implementing of administration reviews at the end of the spring semester. This issue will be further discussed at the next meeting.

- E. Graduation List Approval – It was decided that the process of approving the graduation list needs to be more formal. Tom Boyd and Lara Medley will be invited to future meetings when this occurs to provide any needed details.
- G. After-hours Access to Volk Gymnasium – Davis reported that a meeting occurred to discuss this issue, but that Provost Castillo has denied the request to allow after-hours access due to budget constraints.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. The next Senate meeting will take place on October 27, 2009 in Hill Hall room 300.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.

TO: Faculty Senate  
FROM: Wendy Harrison and Barbara Olds  
DATE: October 12, 2009  
RE: EPCIS II recommendation

The Core Curriculum Committee (April 7, 2009) and the Undergraduate Council (September 9, 2009) have both voted unanimously to endorse the requests from the Departments/Divisions of Chemistry, Economics and Business, and Mathematical and Computer Sciences to eliminate the requirement for EPCIS II in the common core. The Committee members concur that the reasons for this elimination are valid:

1. Design experience is not required in the non-ABET accredited degree programs;
2. Students will still benefit from the design experience through EPICS I which will remain a core requirement; and
3. Elimination of 3 credits from the core will reduced the total credits to degree for these three programs. Because these programs are not engineering degrees they are under greater pressure from CCHE to reduce their total credit hours for graduation to be closer to 120 (CH 136.5; EB 135.5; 132.5)

The EPICS Program has reviewed and endorsed this proposal noting that some students may, of course, select EPICS II as a free elective in their programs.

Following Senate approval of this recommendation, the removal of the EPCIS II requirement for these three programs will be in effect with the AY10-11 Bulletin.

**Thomas Boyd email:** [tboyd@mines.edu](mailto:tboyd@mines.edu) **Tel:** 303-273-3020 **Fax:** 303-273-3244  
**to:** DHDD, Faculty Senate & Senate Councils **DATE:** 21 September, 2009  
**cc:** Steve Castillo, Provost; John Poate, VPRTT  
**SUBJ:** Ethics Across the Curriculum  
**ENCL:**

Since 1999-2000 a number of efforts have been made to initiate an Ethics Across the Curriculum (EAC) program at Mines. One culmination of these efforts was a July, 2003 report from an Ad Hoc EAC committee that was submitted to the VPAA for consideration, but never acted upon. Since that time, although isolated efforts have been made by individual departments and faculty, this initiative has not received significant or sustained attention at an institutional level. Mines clearly has an obligation to educate well-rounded engineers and scientists. This obligation extends beyond the technical aspects of a student's chosen discipline and is, in part, codified in our graduate profile. According to the graduate profile, "Graduates should exhibit ethical

behavior and integrity... They should assume a responsibility to enhance their professions through service and leadership and should be responsible citizens who serve society, particularly through stewardship of the environment”.

In addition, to our own assessment of the importance of this aspect of a student's education, externalities also make it imperative for Mines to be proactive in addressing the ethical underpinnings of the practice of engineering and science. ABET criterion 3f requires all of our accredited programs to demonstrate that their students attain and understanding of their professional and ethical responsibility. In addition, beginning 1 October, 2009, the National Science Foundation (NSF) is requiring institutions receiving NSF funds to certify that students and post doctoral fellows working on NSF-sponsored research grants received training in the responsible conduct of research (RCR). Non compliance would leaves Mines exposed to forfeiture of all of its NSF sponsored research.

Given these points, the Provost is enthusiastic about Mines developing and implementing a meaningful Ethics Across the Curriculum initiative in the very near future. As such, he has authorized the following activities.

1) Reconstitution of the Ethics Across the Curriculum *ad hoc* committee. The initial charge to this committee would be to review and update its previous EAC proposal. Committee membership includes;

1. Carl Mitcham (LAIS, co-chair)
2. Roel Snieder (GP, co-chair)
3. Tony Dean (CE)
4. Tom Furtak (Head, PH)
5. Deb Lasich (Director, WISEM)
6. David Munoz (EG)
7. Elizabeth Davis (Head, LAIS)
8. Kathleen Hancock (LAIS)
9. Natalie Van Tyne (EPICS)
10. Wendy Harrison (Associate Provost)
11. Tom Boyd (Dean of Graduate Studies)

2) Incorporate into the new EAC proposal an institutional response to the NSF RCR requirement. Initial thinking on this response from a small subset of the reconstituted EAC *ad hoc* committee has suggested that an appropriate response should be in the form of several coordinated departmental/divisional efforts that must 1) meet our institutional obligation to NSF, 2) provide a meaningful experience for participants, and 3) allow for a maximum of departmental/divisional flexibility. Some ideas of components that may be included in this response are;

1. creation of 5-week ethics modular course modeled after the highly successful oral communication course,
2. creation of a 3 to 4 day intensive ethics workshop that could occur either prior to, or during a given semester,
3. creation of an RAC standing committee modeled after the WAC committee that could help guide – through workshops, one-on-one review, etc. – and institutionally certify departmentally led efforts related to RCR; using current WAC operations as a working model,
4. creation of regular coursework focusing on ethical issues that interested students could attend, and
5. creation of a regular RCR colloquium.

3) Upon completion of a revised EAC proposal, this proposal would be provided DHDDs and the Faculty Senate for their input, review and discussion.