

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
November 24, 2009 - 2:00pm
Hill Hall 300

ATTENDEES: Drewes, Eberhart, Greivel, Griffiths, Hitzman, Miller, Sacks, Voorhees

APOLOGIES: Davis, Dorgan, Martins, Scales, Steele

GUESTS: Tom Boyd – Dean, Graduate Studies
Wendy Harrison – Associate Provost
Alice Jensen – Faculty Senate
Rambert Nahm – Representative, ASCSM

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

COMMENTS FROM GUESTS:

- A. Boyd submitted a report outlining how departments on campus review and approve graduate degree graduation lists. These requirements include the submission of an approved advisor/thesis committee request form, an admission to candidacy form, an application to graduate, a statement of work completion, thesis/dissertation format review, a checkout card, and approval by the Senate and Board of Trustees. It was requested that these requirements be added to official Colorado School of Mines policy.
- B. Harrison reported on the status of the policy regarding joint appointments. She reported that President Scoggins would like the Senate's input regarding the policy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from the November 10, 2009 Senate meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Posthumous Degree Award – Eberhart submitted a proposal outlining the requirements for students to receive posthumous degrees ([ATTACHMENT A](#)). It was decided that posthumous degrees would only be awarded at the May commencement ceremonies. Sacks moved and Voorhees seconded a motion to approve the policy. The motion passed unanimously. Tom Boyd and Wendy Harrison were requested to decide where the policy would be posted. It was decided that the policy would be presented to the Board of Trustees as an informational item.
- B. Proposal to Create Position of Institute Professor – Eberhart submitted a proposal to create a new faculty designation to be called Institute Professor. The purpose of the new position is to create a group of respected and accomplished faculty who have as their primary responsibility the maintenance and growths of the scholarly and intellectual life of the institution as a whole. The Senate requested that Eberhart discuss the proposal with Provost Castillo at their next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. The replacement of Senators unable or unwilling to attend Senate meetings will be discussed at a future Senate meeting.

- B. Approval of Undergraduate December Graduation List – Voorhees moved and Hitzman seconded to approve the Graduate Degree December Graduation List for all students listed pending that they fulfill all requirements for their degrees. The **motion** passed unanimously.
- C. Proposal to Change Membership of the Budget Committee – Sacks proposed a change in the membership of the Budget Committee (Faculty Handbook, 12.3.2). Rather than entirely removing the Vice President for Institutional Advancement from the Budget Committee, it was recommended that this position remain on the Committee as an ex officio non-voting member. Sacks reported that this VP has valuable insight that should be lent to Budget Committee deliberations. Additionally, Sacks recommended fully supporting the membership of the Senior Vice President for Strategic Enterprises as a voting member of the Budget Committee. Hitzman moved and Sacks seconded a motion to approve the proposal. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. The next Senate meeting will take place on December 8, 2009 in Hill Hall room 300.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

ATTACHMENT A

The faculty may recognize the accomplishments of students who have died while pursuing their educational goals. If it is reasonable to expect that the student would have completed his or her degree requirements, the faculty may award a Baccalaureate or Graduate Degree that is in all ways identical to the degree the student was pursuing. Alternatively, the faculty may award a Posthumous BS, MS, or Ph.D. to commemorate students who distinguished themselves while at Mines by bringing honor to the School and its traditions.

Consideration for either of these degrees begins with a petition to the Faculty Senate from an academic department or degree granting unit. The petition should identify the degree sought. In the event that the degree-granting unit is seeking a conventional degree award, the petition should include evidence of the reasonable expectations that the student would have completed his or her degree requirements. For a Baccalaureate such evidence could consist of, but is not limited to:

- The student was a senior in the final semester of coursework,
- The student was enrolled in courses that would have completed the degree requirements at the time of death
- The student would have passed the courses with an acceptable grade, and would likely have fulfilled the requirements of the degree.

For a Graduate Degree:

- For graduate degrees not requiring a research product, the student was enrolled in courses that would have completed the degree requirements at the time of death, would have passed the courses with an acceptable grade, and would likely have fulfilled the requirements of the degree.
- For graduate degrees requiring a research product, the student had completed all course and mastery requirements pursuant to the degree and was near completion of the dissertation or thesis, and the student's committee found the work to be substantial and worthy of the degree.

The requirement that there be a reasonable expectation of degree completion should be interpreted liberally and weight should be given to the judgment of the departmental representative(s) supporting the petition.

In the event that the degree being sought is a Posthumous BS, MS, or Ph.D., the petition should include evidence that the student conducted himself or herself in the best tradition of a Mines' graduate and is therefore deserving of that honor.