COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
December 13, 2016 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Hill Hall 300

ATTENDEES: Dinesh Mehta (President), Jürgen Brune (MN), Tzahi Cath (CEE), Jeff King (MME), Jason Ganley (CBE), Paul Martin (AMS), Mark Seger (CH), Chuck Stone (PH), Steve Liu (MME), Linda Battalora (PE) Representative: Heather Lammers (GSG proxy), Madison Northrup (USG)

APOLOGIES: John Berger (ME), Tina Gianquitto (LAIS), Reed Maxwell (GE)

GUESTS: Tom Boyd (Interim Provost), Lisa Nickum (Library), Carol Smith (University Librarian), Ye Li (Library), Rachel Osgood (LAIS), Ken Osgood (MB)

1. Visitors

1.1. Interim Provost Tom Boyd: Regarding the 4th college discussions and decision making, Boyd noted the Senate input was very helpful and productive and he thanked senators for engaging in the process. The little response received thus far has been positive. Boyd will present the current draft at the January 12th meeting.

1.2. Rachel Osgood and Ken Osgood (International Study memo): The senate members shared feedback from their departments regarding study abroad as outlined in the OIP memo, and there was much discussion on the subject. Re-naming the office is only a recommendation. Boyd asked to clarify whether, OIP is ‘the office’ stated in the memo. Brune confirmed this was correct. There was some concern with the flexibility of prerequisites receiving credit when they return to Mines. The faculty could compare the international course syllabus, exams, and homework with the Mines class and help the registrar determine credit. The registrar has had a difficult time in the past comparing the credits, without faculty input. Boyd said that ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) was created to make that evaluation of transfer credit, and agreed that faculty should have some broad input on transfer credit. There is a mathematical precept involved that must be followed it is not adequate to only look at the content. R Osgood explained, ECTS was created for this in theory, but it hasn’t been working that way in practice. Brune said one example is when a student has a five ECTS credit class, but when it transfers, only three credits are accepted at Mines, and then where does the student get another ½ credit? This is not an OIP issue to evaluate transcripts, it is a registrar issue. The registrar has a responsibility to the state, and has precise criteria to evaluate the credit, and that should not be overlooked. Battalora would like the memo to say that the registrar, the departments, and faculty should work collaboratively to determine satisfactory credit for specific courses. Motion to approve the current memo pending minor changes: Brune, second: Seger. Vote to approve: Unanimous. (10 present)
1.3 Ken Osgood (Aspiration and Values statement): There were two surveys distributed to campus, one surveying conduct issues, and the second surveying campus culture. Delivered the survey to the entire campus, and received over 400 total responses including 100 faculty responses. The survey asked respondents to identify what they believed are the school community’s current values, and what they think the values should be? The top three values the community perceived as existing values were not the same top three values that people felt should be at the top of the list. The faculty senate would like to empower people to aspire to a this set of principles.

The faculty senate will take this statement to their departments and get feedback. Faculty may have some additional wording and inclusions to add to the document. The senate goal is to reach consensus and produce a finalized document. Mehta will email the statement to all department heads with the goal to discuss (or to finalize) at the January 24 meeting. Motion to collect feedback and then prepare final version of statement at January 24 meeting: Seger, second: King. Vote to approve: King. Vote to approve: Unanimous. (10 present)

Senators will follow up and make sure the discussion is moving forward in departments.

1.4. Carol Smith (University Librarian): Smith reported that her door is always open, and she encouraged senators to come by and say hello. Smith gave a power point presentation on the future vision of the library. She encourages the Mines community to think differently and more collaboratively about the library. The goal is to transform the library into a creation centric space and to digitize the repositories so they are discoverable and useful to the community. Smith envisions community platforms to create knowledge, social sharing, creativity, and facilitate community aspirations. Smith introduced Ye Li, the Scholarly Communications and Instruction Librarian. Li said she can help faculty leverage their data so it is discoverable worldwide, even in a different field of study. That is just one of the many ways she can help the faculty and students with the library and data communications.

The library renovation and design is on hold for now. Smith wants to broaden the discussion for the library and the new design. Most libraries at state institutions are renovating now, Smith showed pictures of examples of successful library renovations. Smith would like to bring in more community events, demonstrations, art, music and lectures from people in the area. She also supports bringing in the writing center, CASA, tutor centers, maker space and idea labs. She also proposes increasing the square footage of the library. A world-class institution such as Mines deserves a world-class library.

Smith will host a series of brown bag lunches to discuss the future of the library in 2017, and she encourages all members of the community to join the discussion. Smith is also creating a “Friends of the Library” organization in 2017 and invites the faculty to join.

The vision and design for the library must be done all at once, but the money can come piecemeal. Smith asked for faculty support to increase the size of the library, and would like to
create a faculty senate library committee with student participation. The senate will create an ad-hoc Library Committee to get started.

2. Approval and announcements

2.1. Minutes from October 11 and November 29: Motion to approve both minutes: Brune, second: Martin. Vote to approve: Yes: 9, No: 0, Abstain: 1.

2.2. Reschedule senate meeting in January. The senate agreed to move the meeting from Tuesday January 10, to Thursday January 12.

3. Senate Working Group Updates

3.1. Campus Climate Survey (Seger): Overall results of the faculty survey are posted on the senate website. The committee is working on the conclusions, and will compare them to the results from the previous survey from two and a half years ago. Seger will have a draft of the results in January and will post the final conclusions on the senate website.

3.2. Salary/Workload/Evaluations Committee (Stone and Mehta) Faculty salaries memo update: The senate would like some statistics added to the memo. Nickum would like librarians included in the faculty salaries memo. The senators agreed the wording will be changed to include librarians. Senate agreed to request a formal, written response from the administration. Mehta will update the memo and bring back to the senate for approval.

3.3. Sustainability (Ganley) The committee visited the Facilities office. The office is working on a sustainability page draft for the faculty handbook. The committee will meet again next semester.

3.4. Research/Graduate Education (Brune, Cath) Did not discuss.

3.5 Possible subcommittee on teaching evaluations (Mehta) Concerns about student evaluations for faculty during finals week. Mehta will create an ad-hoc committee for the spring semester to find a solution for faculty evaluations. Northrup (USG) said in two of her computer labs, the teacher stepped out for ten minutes and asked students to fill out the faculty evaluations. Her other professors requested students please fill out the evaluation during the class as well. Northrup thought it was helpful to have time in class to fill out the faculty evaluations.

4. Committee and Council updates

4.1 Executive Committee updates (Mehta) Did not discuss

4.2 Undergraduate Council (Ganley) Have a meeting on 12/14/16.
4.3 Graduate Council (Brune) Approved a program change in Materials Science including minor changes in the Bulletin. Three required courses for Materials Science were supposed to be taken in the Fall; however, only two were offered in Fall and one in Spring. Now these required classes must be taken during the students’ first academic year. Changes also include moving the qualifying exam from Fall to Spring semester, allowing non-passing students the opportunity to retake in the Summer without having to register for another semester. **Motion to approve changes: Brune, second: Seger. Vote to approve: Unanimous.**

4.4 Research Council (Cath) Did not discuss

**Next meeting January 12, 2017, 2-4 pm, Hill Hall 300**