

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
January 24, 2017 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), Chuck Stone (PH), Linda Battalora (PE), Jon Leydens (LAIS) **Representatives:** Heather Lammers (GSG)

APOLOGIES: John Berger (ME), Steve Liu (MME), Mark Seger (CH), Reed Maxwell (GE)

GUESTS: Tom Boyd (Interim Provost), Kirsten Volpi (VP Finance), Tina Voelker (Interim Graduate Dean), Lisa Nickum (Library), Carol Smith (University Librarian), John Persichetti (CBE)

1. Visitors

1.1 Kirsten Volpi – 2018 Fiscal Year Academic Budget presentation

- **Academic Budget Allocation Model** – Driven by student credit hours (SCH). Cost per credit hour weighted for each department using historical costs for FY18. FY19 will use national benchmarks for each department. Model allocates operating dollars given to each College and Department to use at their discretion, and excludes summer, field sessions and interdisciplinary programs. Stone asked where the total dollar amount comes from? Volpi said the money comes from the general fund, already in the system and \$6.9 million will be allocated to the colleges in FY18. The dollar amount excludes all faculty and adjunct salaries. Any unspent budget does not roll over in the department, but goes back into the general fund. Faculty will be incentivized to teach more credit hours and more PHD graduate students.
- **Summer Course Incentive** – Allocate funds to each college of \$250 per SCH in the summer, does not include field sessions. These funds can rollover, except for the interdisciplinary programs which will roll directly to the program. Goal is to increase summer enrollment.
- **Example of Summer Incentive** – The department will receive \$250 per SCH. Mines will pay salaries, and the department keeps any leftover funds. If there is a shortage, the department will be responsible for the overage amount.
- **Non-Thesis and Non-Degree Seeking Incentive** – Base allocation averages SCH using AY14-15, AY15-16 and AY16-17 using a 3-year average enrollment by department. Includes on-campus and off-campus (on-line) courses. Growth incentive for colleges. If the department adds SCH over this amount, the colleges will keep the excess and allocate as necessary. Interdisciplinary will roll directly to the program. This money will roll over from year to year. Research hours count towards SCH. There was some discussion on the masters thesis program, and the lack of incentives, as the amount of teaching time and effort is the same as a PHD.

The FY18 budget has a \$4.5 million deficit, and there are several causes of this: declining graduate enrollment, undergraduate enrollment is flat, declining continuing education, and research funding is flat. Mines is only increasing tuition by 3%, a slight uptick in state spending. Financial aid is expensive for Mines. Projecting a 3% raise for faculty and a 2.5% for classified, which takes the increase in tuition. Enrollment is flat; Mines will maintain a cap for undergraduate students and graduate degrees are flat or declining. How can Mines bring in more students? Also, looking at abolishing and freezing job positions. Some of these incentives can bolster the bottom line, and start to bring some activity. A hiring freeze is in effect on the administrative side. Open faculty searches will continue for now, but no new searches will begin. Mines receives money from the Mines Foundation annually, but it is very specific as to what the money can be used for. The goal is to find new and different ways to bring in revenue to Mines. Boyd stated that this is the first step to add transparency to a budget process which has previously been rather opaque.

2. Productivity Metrics Discussion – Senate will produce a memo with their input and suggestions for President Johnsons regarding the productivity metrics proposal.

3. Library Committee – Mehta wants to follow up on the ad-hoc library committee voted on at the December meeting. Martin, Battalora and Brune will join the Committee. Nickum said they will need a fourth faculty member, and two students (one undergrad and one graduate) to finalize the committee. Smith would like input on the collaborative strategic planning, the architectural plan and the library materials budget. The library budget has been flat for the last 10 years. The weekly brown bag lunches continue every Wednesday in the Boettcher room for the next 6 weeks.

4. Organize meetings with President Johnson. Not discussed.

5. Committee and Council updates.

5.1. Undergraduate Council (Ganley and Persichetti) – UGC voted to create a new degree BSE (Bachelor of Science in Engineering). The following reflects the discussion at the senate faculty meeting:

The BSE degree would be built upon a previous program that does not exist any longer before its accreditation runs out. Persichetti is a member of the working committee that designed the degree to span all four years, and include 127 robust credit hours. This degree was not to replace any of the discipline specific degrees. It was to create a degree that encompasses three to four engineering disciplines, and include the social studies, humanities and business aspects of engineering. Ganley said the proposal was given a second vote in January to establish a good faith vote. It passed with the minimum 8 votes on January 19th, and the plan was to get it processed by the Registrar deadline if it passes in Senate. Mehta asked if this is common degree at other universities? Persichetti reported that it is a stand-alone degree at several other universities and students get placed well after graduation. Ganley added that Mines is not like a lot of these other schools that have this degree. Ganley said some of the discussion has been is this degree rigorous enough, or designed to be a catch basin? The goal of the committee was to create a top shelf degree. What do recruiters think about this degree? King asked if there was a

demonstrated demand for this degree, or are hoping to create that? Persichetti shared that a survey was sent out to job recruiters, and 51% wanted someone with a basic engineering degree, but that is no guarantee for a job. This degree addresses someone in project management or an advisory position. Stone added that a graduate with an engineering degree needs work experience before becoming a project manager. Persichetti said the goal of this degree is for the graduate to have the technical depth, and have a broad understanding of business. If we are trying to create a degree for broad practitioners, we must make sure there is a place for the students to go. Lammers asked if anyone discussed licensure of a general engineer and how that would look? Has anyone spoken to NCES to see if there is an accredited test for licensing? You would need a masters or a specialty such as electrical or mechanical engineering. Ganley added that it could be a good major for students engineering degree, good for pre-med or pre-MBA. There is concern over creating a new program with a budget shortfall, “breadth vs. depth”, and rushing a program through to get it into the bulletin. Lammers is a consultant as well as a student, and indicated her company they would not hire a consultant without an engineering specialty. Difficult to gauge what a general engineer could do, and an employer would require a license. Brune also wondered why Mines would offer a general engineering degree that does not lead to professional licensure?

Ganley moved to vote for the approval of the BSE degree program, second: Cath; 2 yes, 3 no, 3 abstentions. Motion failed (9 present)

Senate is not philosophically opposed to this program, but there is not enough information regarding this program, and it feels rushed.

6. Announcements

6.1 Science/Climate change statement. Ganley and King are in the process of creating a statement on behalf of the Senate.

6.2 Title IX for graduate students – in process

7. Executive Session

7.1 Research task force 2.0

7.2 Teaching evaluations subcommittee

Next meeting February 14, 2017, 2-4 pm, Hill Hall 300