

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

August 23, 2016 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Hill Hall 300

ATTENDEES: Dinesh Mehta (President), Linda Battalora (PE), John Berger (ME), Jürgen Brune (MN), Tzahi Cath (CEE), Stephen Liu (MME), Jason Ganley (CBE), Tina Gianquitto (LAIS), Jeff King (NU), Paul Martin (AMS), Reed Maxwell (GE), Mark Seger (CH), Chuck Stone (PH). **Representatives:** Wendy Harrison (BOT), Jonathan Paz (USG)

APOLOGIES: None

GUESTS: Tom Boyd (Interim Provost), Lisa Nickum (LB)

1. Approvals and announcements

1.1. Past minutes (5/10)

The minutes from May 10, 2016 were tabled for approval at the next meeting.

2. Visitors

2.1. Provost Update (Tom Boyd)

Boyd thanked senators for participating in the Campus Conference on August 19 and reported that workshop presentations and summaries will be posted on the AA website. Boyd gave an update on the Handbook and Procedures Manual revisions. He noted that the senate recommendations regarding P&T were brought to the Handbook Committee too late for last year's cycle, instead he incorporated many of the suggestions into the Procedures Manual. The Procedures Manual proposed changes will be shared with campus for feedback on September 9. Boyd asked senators to determine whether the changes in the Procedures Manual are acceptable to the senate or if they need to be added to the Handbook. Senators should report back to Boyd by early October if they would like to propose any additional Handbook changes. Boyd also reported that there will be an internal search to fill the graduate dean position with the goal of a January 1, 2017 start date; Tina Voelker is currently serving as interim graduate dean. Boyd reported that President Johnson is happy to attend a senate meeting(s) and wants to accommodate the senate however they desire, in order to keep communication open. Stone asked about year-round hiring. Boyd explained the current process, noted 28 new faculty members have been hired this year and added that the deans have full control over faculty hires.

2.2. Wendy Harrison (AAUP, BoT)

2.2.1. AAUP - Harrison reported on her proposal to start a chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) at Mines. The professional association is designed to promote the common business interests of the of the academic profession including academic freedom and shared governance. Harrison noted most of the higher education

institutions in Colorado have chapters except Mines. She explained how a chapter can help faculty and can work with senate to support desired initiatives. Harrison will provide more information, including specifics on cost of membership. At the next meeting senators could decide whether to present to faculty the idea of starting an AAUP chapter at Mines. Harrison would attend a meeting of the AAUP Colorado Conference on September 23 and will attend the national conference the following week. Next steps might include inviting the president of the CU Boulder chapter to speak to the faculty senate and then hold an open faculty forum to discuss the issue with the entire faculty.

2.2.2. BOT Report

Harrison discussed best practices for the faculty to better communicate with members of the Board of Trustees. She suggested faculty members host a board member by inviting them to visit campus to attend a class, tour a lab or participate in any area they choose. At these visits, the senate could meet with the member for an informal discussion over coffee. There will be a BOT retreat in September, Harrison can present ideas at that time. Harrison also reported that her term as faculty BOT representative ends in December and suggested the senate start the process for nominating and voting for a new faculty trustee.

3. Committees for 2016-17 (Paul Martin)

3.1. University committee staffing – Martin asked for senators to serve as representatives on university committees, Maxwell agreed to serve on the budget committee. Seger will represent senate at the calendar committee and Stephen Liu will serve on the readmissions committee.

3.2. Senate executive committee – Mehta proposed the senate executive committee be comprised of Paul Martin, Tina Gianquitto and Jürgen Brune along with himself. Brune will also serve as secretary.

3.3. Tuition waiver hardship committee - Mehta reported Cusworth invited senate to have a representative join the committee that determines which students receive reduced tuition based on need. Senators agreed there should be senate representation on the committee. Martin will add this position to the list of service opportunities that will be shared with the faculty. Martin will also collect names of faculty who are interested in serving on the university P&T committee. The senate will nominate four faculty to fill two positions, Boyd will select the two faculty members who ultimately serve on the committee.

4. Reports on breakout sessions from campus conference

4.1. 4th college: Battalora, King, Gianquitto

Gianquitto explained the school is looking for a way to form an administrative structure to deal with programs that do not fit well into any one college. This includes program like Humanitarian Engineering and the LAIS department. King reported that programs such as nuclear and hydrology were not mentioned in the initial proposal.

- 4.2. Achieving our mission (aligning productivity, rewards, resources): Maxwell, Liu, Berger
Maxwell reported the session discussed workloads and budget models. The workload slide presented at the session had very few changes from one of the workload models that was provided to the senate last spring. It was a budget matrix and it raised significant discussion about the value of credit hours taught. Senators discussed how a one-size-fits-all model will work for some departments but will not work for others. New budget models were also presented; the models will calculate how much money each department receives from the budget office.
- 4.3. Project Meridian: King
King reported this session looked at reengineering business practices on campus. The facilitators walked people through the process of reengineering but did not provide information on specific plans for changing Mines' business practices. A committee will first look at reengineering the grade change process; King was invited to serve on that committee.
- 4.4. Signature first-year experiences: Battalora, Gianquitto, Seger
Gianquitto reported this was a brainstorming session and suggested that, while this is an important issue, faculty senate does not need to focus on the first-year experience at this time.
- 4.5. An integrative research culture: Maxwell, Cath
Cath reported this session provided an overview of the work done by the research task force and generated discussion of inter and intra-institutional research issues. The issues will provide areas of focus for research council. Cath will report back to senate on research council initiatives once the council agenda has been set.
- 4.6. Communications & marketing: Mehta
Mehta reported on the presentation by Jake Kupiec, the new Executive Director of Communications and Marketing.
- 4.7. Fostering an empowered and shared mines culture: Liu, Mehta
This session focused on developing leadership at Mines for faculty and staff and announced the on-line learning opportunities that will be provided to campus in the future. Mehta noted the need for leadership development for faculty who become department heads.
5. Discussion of Senate priorities for 2016-17.
Senate will determine priorities for the year after reviewing the breakout session materials that will be posted to the Academic Affairs website. Further discussion on priorities will take place at the next senate meeting.

Next faculty senate meeting: Tuesday, September 13 at 2:00 p.m.