

**COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**

**January 22, 2013 - 2:00pm
Hill Hall 300**

ATTENDEES: John Spear (CEE), Joel Bach (ME), Bernard Bialecki (AMS), Lincoln Carr (AMS), Dan Knauss (CH), Ken Osgood (McBride), Ivar Reimanis (MT), Chet Van Tyne (MT), Kim Williams (CH), Ray Zhang (CEE)

APOLOGIES: Tracy Gardner (CBE), Thomas Monecke (GE), Candy Sulzbach (CEE)

GUESTS: Terry Parker (Provost), Mark Taylor (Graduate Student Association)

Review and Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the January 8, 2013 meeting were approved, with corrections (Headings corrected: "Undergraduate ~~Student~~ Council" and "Graduate ~~Student~~ Council").

Administration/Guest Updates:

Parker:

Administration is in the process of launching a web improvement effort. This will be approached from two angles; web branding elements and web currency efforts. Included within those two areas is a look at providing the appropriate tool set. Tony Dean is chairing. Broadly, there will also be a consideration for what the next improvements should be, navigation improvements, effectiveness, etc.

The President has announced a strategic planning effort for the future of Mines. Details are still forming.

Mines will be visited by HLC in late April. Faculty will generally not be involved, mostly administrative. Information will be forthcoming on items that effect faculty.

The Faculty Handbook Committee is looking at moving sections that are primarily "procedures" out of the handbook and into the Academic Affairs Procedures Manual. The intent is to formalize campus policies. The committee is looking at putting regulations in place and providing a comment period for the manual. Another committee item being discussed is closing a loophole regarding summer sick leave. An Ad hoc committee has submitted proposal to add Dean language into P&T process. The proposal aims to insert Deans at end of the current process. There would be a review of all P&T packages by the three Deans and the Provost. The ad hoc committee looking at Teaching Faculty promotion is still discussing and has not yet submitted a proposal.

A question was raised, asking if the items in a document submitted by the 2009 Vision Committee are being considered with regard to strategic planning. Parker answered that they had not been broadly adopted or vetted. He does not know if any action was taken after the President's review. There was a request that the document be circulated.

A question was asked regarding the proposed P&T structure and if there will be an adjustment period for the Deans reviewing P&T packages. Currently, the process is very formal within the department and

university committees. The intent is for the new process to operate in a council-like fashion, rather than for each individual to produce their own recommendation. Most authority would remain with university committee.

Discussion regarding formalizing the Procedures Manual on campus will not include the Senate bylaws. The procedures being looked at are primarily those for Financial, Human Resources, Student Life, Facilities Management, Research, Athletics, CCIT, AA, etc. The intent is to provide a standard list of positions that are asked to comment, including the VPs of areas, the Senate Executive Committee, and the Deans. This is still being formulated. There would be a balance between stakeholders and bureaucracy.

Updates to the Senate:

Conference on Earth and Energy Research (CEER):

Continue to send emails to faculty to encourage participation, one now and one the week of the event. There will be a keynote speaker from NREL, as well as judges and presenters. Posters are confirmed from four to five of the six outside universities. It may be useful to announce the conference in colloquia, emphasizing its value to graduate students. Students can get feedback with no cost to them.

Undergraduate Council:

Issues are being discussed with regard to the administrative realignment of departments and its effect on double majors and minors. Some students can't get into minors they could in the past. Students in Electrical Engineering would have been able to get minor in Computer Sciences before. Now that there is a regulation against students getting a minor in the same department, and EE and CS have been moved to the same department, this is no longer an option for them. Other students would be able to take only one additional course and get a minor in mathematics. The Registrar brought forward three proposals. One was to clarify current policy. Another was to alter the policy so that, to qualify for two majors, students would need to earn an additional 30 credit hours. Both were passed by Undergraduate Council. The third proposal was with regard to minors. Council did not vote on it the third proposal.

Graduate Council:

Tom Boyd added a preamble to the Objectives and Outcomes document, as discussed at the last Senate meeting. It was felt that the document doesn't need to indicate different degrees in last sentence. The purpose of the document is for information only, not governance. Senate will recommend that the words "objectives and" be removed from the last sentence of the preamble. The document was approved Approval with changes to language.

Update on moving to electronic applications - Graduate Office wants to move the application deadline to Dec. 15th deadline, the same as CU and CSU. It was felt that this may help to get better grads faster. There should be an exception policy for paper letters of recommendation and the deadline should also be extended for letters. This shouldn't be publicized on the website. One benefit of accepting late applications is that Mines often gets good students who didn't get in to others schools. Mines needs to be flexible with the deadline. This issue will come to the Senate after Grad Council.

Research Council:

The presentation of the Deans' research vision will be this Thursday at 3pm in the Guggenheim boardroom. The meeting is open to campus.

Applications are in for the Research Excellence Award. Nominations were due by Dec. 20th. The subcommittee then looks at the applications, recommends 3 junior and 3 senior nominees, solicits letters of recommendation, then votes. The subcommittee is now about to request letters.

The Research Strategic Initiative Council has met. The council is focused on revenue sources, collaboration with foreign universities, research infrastructure, and industry initiatives.

FACTIR:

Junko Munakata-Marr gave her presentation on the Engage Grant at the last FACTIR meeting. The intent is to include this in a Faculty Forum addressing CSM admissions and retention, potentially occurring on Feb 27th. A second event, Freshmen Connections, is scheduled for April 2nd from 6-8pm in the Student Center ballrooms. This event was created to connect freshmen with alumni. A sophomore event is being planned for Spring 2014.

Faculty Handbook Committee:

Some faculty are against moving committees out of the handbook, because it gives the administration too much control. Spear met with Hussein Amery and Terry Parker last week, regarding this issue. Handbook committee is also working on some editorial changes due to colleges (adding Deans into the P&T process), promotion for Teaching and Research faculty, and the Nepotism policy. One concern with relocating committees is that there needs to be a central, easily accessible place to find information. Redistributing committees to multiple locations complicates the nomination process. Once language is moved from the handbook, it is no longer part of faculty contracts. The Senate has major concerns regarding this issue. It may be important to relay these concerns prior to the comment period set aside for faculty input. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

President's Cabinet (past 2 weeks):

- Dan Fox reported that there is flu on campus. The Health Center is seeing 1-2 people per day.
- Kevin Moore mentioned that colleges are doing walk-arounds to buildings for space.
- The Humanitarian Engineering minors are up to 54. A curriculum committee is forming.
- John Poate reported that the DOE Rare Earth Materials hub will bring \$40 million to campus over 5 years.
- 12 CSM Alumni are turning 100 years old this Spring.
- New campus boiler is being installed by the Plant Facilities building. Will heat the campus via natural gas.
- U.S. Geological Survey is moving to campus on Jan. 31st. CCIT is looking at how to integrate their web materials.
- Nationwide, a security concern has risen over thumb drives and shared devices. One CSM Faculty member was affected and the FBI was involved.
- 95 new grads enrolled for this Spring, up from 86 last year.
- Marquez Hall had an electrical issue last Thursday. A student was hurt and had to go to the hospital. Apparently, faulty wiring in the building.
- Resident halls are 99.2% at capacity.
- 1,250 graduate students on campus as of today.
- Undergraduate research program is starting up, with funding.
- Moodys Bonds rated higher education bonds with a negative outlook. Tuition, research \$ being less available, student loan debt, public scrutiny, and corporate influence were cited as reasons.
- Fall applications are up by 5% over last year. Mines will take 10% less admissions than last year.

- Campus bandwidth, due to wireless access, is being overloaded.
- Two more sexual harassment prevention trainings will be open this week.

Faculty Distinguished Lecturer Award:

Call for nominations is out, deadline is February 1st. Jim McNeil's talk will take place on March 27th.

Budget Committee

CSM is forecast to have a net of \$4.3 million, with \$2 million set aside for reserve and capital improvements. There will be a net of 8 faculty hires for next year.

The Senate would like to address salary concerns with the administration. There are wide discrepancies in salary across campus, which may be affecting faculty retention. This raised the issue of how the Senate communicates with the administration in general. How do we make sure concerns are on the table? A mechanism for communication, both to the administration and out to the faculty, should be discussed. This is currently done informally. Senate must make sure what is communicated appropriately represents the faculty. Maybe one mechanism can be a faculty survey. A three-level approach was suggested – 1) Memo to administration, 2) memo to campus, 3) solicit input. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Discussion Items:

Undergraduate Representative Comments:

Alyssa Brown forwarded two comments from "What's Your Beef" to Spear. One is a concern about updated grades not appearing on Blackboard. Grading policies should be stated clearly in the course syllabus. Senate feels that it should be supportive, and not dismissive, of this issue. More grading support is needed. Student rep will be asked to provide more information to clarify the problem.

The second comment was regarding cancelled classes prior to holiday breaks. This is not a Senate issue.

Board of Trustees/Senate Meeting:

Senate meets with the Board on Friday, March 22nd from 12pm-1:30pm. Senators should think about what the presentation will include. The Executive Council will be present. Materials will need to be distributed ahead of time.

CSM Web Presence:

A Working Group and Committee is forming and will need a Senate representative. Spear asked for a volunteer. Members of the Research Council are heavily involved in this effort. Carr will look into asking a research council member to report to the Senate.