

Colorado School of Mines – FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES  
 November 12, 2019, 2019, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Hill Hall 300

**Attendees:**

**Voting Members:** 13 total (7 needed for quorum). Quorum was present

P	Marcelo Simoes (Chair)	P	Robin Bullock (EDS)	P	Sebnem Duzgun (MN)	P	Gus Greivel (AMS)
P	Alina Handorean (EDS)	P	Andy Herring (CBE)	P	Yvette Kuiper (GE)	P	Jon Leydens (HASS)
A	John McCray (CEE)	P	Lisa Nickum (LB)	A	Alexis Sitchler (GE)	P	Angie Sower (CH)
A	Neal Sullivan (ME)						

**Other Regular Attendees and Guests**

A	Linda Battalora (Trustee)	P	Rick Holz (AA)	P	Paul Myskiw (RO)	P	Colin Terry (Student Life)
P	Cathy Timm (AA/RO)	A	Jennifer Veloff (Trefny)	P	Brock Gagna(USG)	P	Muthu Thyagarajan (GSG)
P	Lori Kester (Admissions)	P	Rachel Morrish (CBE)	P	Dustin Olson	P	Amanda Davis
P	Camille Torres	P	Mark Ramirez	P	Sue James	P	Jason Hughes
P	Tzahi Cath (CEE)	P	Marla Draper	P	Sara Schwarz	P	Mike Erickson
P	Monique Sendze	P	Mike Erickson				

**Welcome**

Marcelo Simoes

**Provost / Academic Affairs Update**

Rick Holz

Holz had two items to share. The comments for the faculty evaluation form have been incorporated, fine-tuned, and the new form is ready to launch. Question raised about where leadership and entrepreneurship items belong on the online form; these can fit into several different areas or it could be included in the free commentary section. Holz is open to adding a separate section for the following year if it's needed.

Holz shared that the core committee headed up by Greivel and the Undergraduate Council is underway and has a meeting set up with them. They will continue to discuss what a new core might look like. As well, there is another committee meeting to discuss the signature student experience. These items fit in with the Mines@150 plan and how to educate the engineer of the future. Holz is excited about the momentum on these projects.

Online courses for summer continue to be developed; there are about 25 online courses either developed or in the process. There may be another 15 added to the mix. Goal is to have at least 20 and Holz is pleased with the response so far. Question raised about Trefny's ability to handle an increased load of online courses; Holz has been in touch with them and if there are more courses being developed, they will be able to hire an additional course builder to handle the increased volume.

**Approval of Minutes – October 22, 2019**

Marcelo Simoes

**MOTION:** To approve minutes of October 22, 2019. By Bullock; seconded by Greivel. No abstentions.  
APPROVED.

**Approval of December 2019 Graduation Lists**

Marcelo Simoes

Question raised about the process and specifically, why the Faculty Senate is approving a list of graduating students that appears to be a rubber stamp exercise. The Senators don't have the detail to make an educated decision and Simoes feels that it should be handled by departments. Myskiw raised an issue that this list is not complete; there will be some edits in the coming weeks. All graduation requirements are certified and validated by the Registrar's office.

Simoes has shared his concern in the past with the interim-Provost and he indicated that this is part of shared governance. Simoes does not believe this is an example of shared governance. The Faculty Senate represents the faculty and this is a duty that they are to perform according to the bylaws which would have to be changed to implement a different policy.

**MOTION:** To approve December 2019 graduation list of graduate students pending successful completion of requirements. By Kuiper; seconded by Herring. No abstentions. APPROVED.

There was discussion about cancelling the Faculty Senate Meeting on Nov 26<sup>th</sup>. There is one topic for that meeting related to the grade change policy which was approved at both the Grad and UnderGrad Council. There is some clarification on language that is being discussed at Undergrad Council on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Myskiw agreed that this could be brought up at the first meeting in December.

**MOTION:** To cancel the Faculty Senate meeting on November 26, 2019. By Herring; seconded by Bullock. No abstentions. APPROVED.

### **Briefings and Updates**

- **Disability Support Services**

Colin Terry, Marla Draper,  
Ramsey Williams

Draper shared a presentation on the subject. She outlined some background information and indicated that the numbers have grown; there are currently 302 students and the expectation is that this will continue to increase.

A recent example was shared by a Senator that had a situation in class with a particular student who cannot work in a group and is concerned about how to discuss with the other students as the course is designed to do group work. Having a resource to find best practice in handling various situations would help faculty to manage situations like this and others. Terry also indicated that there are responsibilities required of the student so that the school can help them. This is a training process that will help them succeed at Mines as well as in the workplace.

Suggestion that a forum or an ad-hoc committee be created to get feedback and have ongoing dialogue. Simoes indicated that perhaps this committee could be created for the following year; it will be included on the current list of projects that the Senate is coordinating and prioritizing.

- **Clery Compliance**

Dustin Olson, Amanda  
Davis, Camille Torres

The team shared a presentation on the subject. There is a federal regulation that all schools must report any sort of crime on and around the campus which includes anything within a mile radius of the school. There are guidelines about how and when to report an incident and there are steep fines associated with non-reporting. Question raised about the distribution of crime being published regularly; the team is working on a comprehensive way to share this. More information can be found at [Mines.edu/compliance/clery](http://Mines.edu/compliance/clery). Duzgun indicated that she has worked in this field and is interested and willing to help the team.

Question about students traveling with faculty and the regulations. There is a regulation requiring Mines to send a notification to local law enforcement and to the place where the student is staying to inquire about crime in the area. This is a cumbersome process and they are working with Department of Education and federal government to make this easier.

- **Web Site Migration**

Mark Ramirez, Jason  
Hughes, Sue James

Hughes shared a presentation and indicated that most of the sites on campus have been migrated which includes a small number of personal pages. The web site migration team has found additional server space and has spent time to review the situation regarding personal pages migrating to WordPress. This is an ongoing conversion. 23 faculty have migrated to WordPress, 131 have begun. Several other initiatives are underway to support faculty and departments. Question raised about creating templates on other platforms; they are looking at other options, and if not feasible, will look at ways to facilitate the migration.

Comment that the number of items in the Daily Blast is overwhelming. The model is one that gives people across campus the ability to manage and post their own items. The repetition of posts can be problematic; they are reviewing policies for the system. Suggestion that it be weekly vs. daily. Prior to change, the inside mines was easier; it seems more difficult to find items with existing system. The team is looking at creating a calendar feature which should alleviate some of these issues.

- **Tech Fees**

Mike Erickson

Erickson shared a presentation on the subject which included history on fees and distribution of funding for the past 9 years. Question about how faculty are elected for committee. The Technology Fee Committee is a University Committee. The Faculty Handbook, chapter 12.16.6 Method of Appointment states: "The academic faculty committee members shall be nominated by the Faculty Senate and appointed by the President".

Comment raised about departments that have received funding and the disparity in distribution of money. The allocation goes to departments that have some physical space available; there are departments that don't submit proposals because there is no space available. The existing space committee focuses on availability of space, but it does not include the technology needs. Erickson pointed out that IT infrastructure, after 2015, was no longer being funded out of tech fees. Awarded funds, if not used in two years, are returned. Simoes suggested that questions be raised for additional follow up.

### **Other Committee Updates**

- **Campus Surveys** – update

Jon Leydens

Leydens indicated that the climate survey data, contrasting 2016-18 was presented at a forum. Leydens would like to provide an update on issues that were requested at the forum and feels that it's important to have some action on items that were raised. Time will be allocated on the January agenda for review.

- **Faculty Handbook**

Lisa Nickum

A two-page document has been posted on Canvas that outlines some of the changes being proposed; Nickum asked Senators to review and respond directly to her by Tuesday, 11/19/19 at noon.

### **Graduate and Undergraduate Council Reports**

No report

### **Miscellaneous Business**

- **Graduate Degree Audit Change**

Marcelo Simoes

Simoes asked people to review before the next meeting.

The Senate went into executive session at 3:50 pm.

Next Meeting: December 19, 2019, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Hill Hall 300. Please send all items for agenda to Cathy Timm ([cgtimm@mines.edu](mailto:cgtimm@mines.edu)) one week prior to the meeting.