Attendees:
P  Tzahi Cath (CEE), Chair

Voting Members: 12 total (7 needed for quorum). Quorum was present

P Linda Battalora (PE)   P Andy Herring (CBE)   P Marcelo Simoes (EE)
P Paula Farca (HASS)      P Jeff King (MME)      P Alexis Sitchler (GE)
P Gus Greivel (AMS)       A Jon Leydens (HASS)   P Angie Sower (CH)
P Alina Handorean (EDS)   P Lisa Nickum (LB)     P Neal Sullivan (ME)

Other Attendees and Guests:
P Joe Bourgeois (GSG)     P Michaela Serpas (USG)  P Tony Petrella
P Tom Boyd (AA)          A Colin Terry (Student Life) P Doug Nychka (AMS)
A Tricia Douthit         P Cathy Timm (RO)       P Xiaolong Yin (PE)
P Brian Trewyn (CH)

1) Provost / Academic Affairs Update

- Staffing updates
  - New provost will be announced on the 9th. Dr. Rick Holz from Marquette has accepted the position and will start in June. He’ll be on campus monthly until that date.
  - Boyd provided update on staffing in Registrar’s office. An ad went out on January 7th to begin the search. Another vacancy was created with a resignation over the weekend; they are down 3 positions. Boyd will notify department heads also. Determination will be made on replacing the open positions now or wait until new Registrar is hired. Questions and concerns should be raised to Douthit, the interim Registrar. Question raised about ability to complete all paperwork for census with gap; Boyd assured the group that all will be managed as long as paperwork from faculty is submitted on time.
  - Two resignations were received; Vanessa Gonzalez and Andrea Morello; Boyd will meet with deans and start process to fill the positions.
  - Vice Provost search committee is underway and Boyd is looking forward to feedback. Sitchler indicated that they will be coordinating campus interviews soon.
  - Regarding the Chief Marketing Officer position, Han will post dates in Daily Blast for open forum to meet candidates and is requesting feedback.

- Construction updates
  - The parking garage and building wrap was originally designed for classroom space and to accommodate Trefny. The design team opted to move Trefny and add extra classrooms.
  - In the Green Center, work continues on the 2nd floor; Geophysics, Trefny, graduate admissions, and the testing center will move in when ready. Optimally, the Deans will be co-located in Green along with the international office. Some final decisions should be made in next week and construction is slated to be complete by end of August. TBD if Green Center will be open for big classrooms; intent is to use for conference rooms.
  - At Mines Park, construction debris is located to this area; it will likely become a recreation field.
  - The new USGS building will go just east of current building. It will include a parking garage.
  - A new dorm is being built just west of the welcome center.
2) **Registrar Update**  
Tricia Douthit  
No update.

3) **Approval of Minutes** – December 11, 2018  
Tzahi Cath  
Voting deferred until next meeting when people have had a chance to review minutes.

4) **Nomination of Faculty** – survey update  
Tzahi Cath / Alina Handorean  
Faculty Trustee – two year term ends Dec 2018 – (current representative is Terri Hogue)

5) **Other Committee Updates**  
Tzahi Cath / Alina Handorean  
- **Research Committee member** – nominees  
Herring indicated that the current committee has so many sub-committees and a Faculty Senate representative would have difficulty attending all and being effective. Suggestion raised to ask Stefanie Tompkins to report regularly to Faculty Senate. Cath will talk to Tompkins about this option.

- **Faculty Research Awards** – criteria & request for nominees  
Cath sent note to department heads for nominations which is open until Jan 18th. Sitchler and Cath worked with research office to finalize the criteria.

- **FOCSA Senate Rep** - nominees  
The commitment for this committee involves a monthly meeting and participation with graduating class which involves about 6 hours. Nickum volunteered to serve.

6) **Briefings and Information Items**  
Jon Leydens / Tzahi Cath  
- **Campus Surveys** – next steps  
Cath and Leydens agreed to release the results from previous year and focus on the future. Sower will meet with Seger to get some background. Question raised about who owns the data and controls how it is distributed. Any published material is the face of the University and there needs to be discretion in distributing and writing up the results. All agreed that timely reporting is important for participation.

- **Academic Misconduct Policy** – ad hoc committee set up  
Jeff King  
King reported that committee is up and running; Terry initiated first meeting on January 25th. King will report activity to Faculty Senate.

- **Travel Grants for Teaching Faculty** – update  
Tzahi Cath  
Cath discussed subject at Academic Council and group believes the fund is managed well. Cath will respond to Stone. If there is a compelling case for more funds, a request can be made.

7) **Grad Council Updates**  
Marcelo Simoes  
**New Programs**  
Tony Petrella  
7.1 **Interdisciplinary (IN)**  
[status: apprv’d GC 12/12/18]  
1 new program: Graduate Certificate - FEA Professional  
Petrella shared presentation on the Finite Element Analysis (FEA) fully online graduate certificate program which is made up of 4 classes. All faculty have taken Trefny courses, and while accreditation has not been received for the program, Spiegel and Boyd are in agreement that it’s important to move forward with courses. Two courses are to be finalized. One is currently being taught and will be updated as an online course for Spring 2020, additional adjuncts will be brought on campus to help develop the courses.
MOTION: To approve program as submitted.  

7.2 Interdisciplinary (IN)  
Doug Nychka  
[status: apprv’d GC 12/12/18]  
1 new program: MS-NT in Data Science  
Nychka shared a presentation for a new interdisciplinary program which will have bylaws and a director to oversee the program with an external advisory committee.  Developed the design of 3 modules with each having 3 courses.  Then, a fourth module that includes professional enrichment (or soft skills) with 3 credits.  There will be specialization with various departments.

MOTION: To approve program as submitted.  
Motion: Simoes, Seconded: Greivel.  No abstentions.  Approved.

7.3 Interdisciplinary (IN)  
Xiaolong Yin  
[status: apprv’d GC 12/12/18]  
1 new program: Professional Masters in Petroleum Reservoir Systems  
Yin indicated that this is an existing program that is listed in three different catalogs; it will be removed from each individual department and be one joint interdisciplinary program.  Credit hours will change from 36 to 30.  Question raised about Professional Masters vs. other type of Masters; this is a legacy name.

MOTION: To approve program as submitted.  
Motion: Simoes, Seconded: Greivel.  No abstentions.  Approved.

Program Changes  
Marcelo Simoes

7.4 Applied Math and Statistics (AMS)  
[status: apprv’d GC 12/12/18]  
3 program chgs: MS, MS-NT, PhD Applied Math / Statistics

7.5 Interdisciplinary – Hydrology (HSE)  
[status: apprv’d GC 12/12/18]  
1 program chg: MS & PhD Hydrologic Science & Engineering

7.6 Program changes regarding double counting  
Simoes shared a document with notes on each of the changes.  No concern about changes.  The majority of items are to include individual bulletin language relating to double counting at the request of OGS.  
MOTION: To approve program changes as submitted.  
Motion: Simoes, Seconded: Greivel.  No abstentions.  Approved.

8) UnderGrad Council Updates  
Gus Greivel  
- Policy regarding approval of courses for new program  
No discussion due to time; will review at next meeting.

New Programs

8.1 Mechanical Engineering (ME)  
Neal Sullivan  
[status: apprv’d UGC 12/12/18]  
1 new program: ASI Aerospace Engineering
Sullivan shared overview of the new ASI aerospace. Goal is to see it become a full-fledged minor in the future. Expect student interest to be high and partner with industry. Question about competing with CU; Sullivan indicated that as an ASI it likely will not be an issue.

MOTION: To approve program as submitted.  

8.2 Chemistry (CH)  
Brian Trewyn  
[status: apprv’d UGC 12/12/18]  
1 new program: BS in Biochemistry  
Trewyn shared a presentation outlining the new BS which is being developed due to student demand. In prior year, all 11 chemistry students elected the biochemistry minor and exit interviews indicated that students would have preferred a major. In addition, the department is looking to attract new students to campus. Target student is one that desires a medical-based profession. Trewyn shared information on competition in the state; as well, the content is a large component of the MCATs and will serve students better. All core classes exist except for a lab and several special topic courses. Total credits will be 130.5.

MOTION: To approve program as submitted.  

Program Changes:  
Gus Greivel

8.3 Computer Science (CS)  
[status: apprv’d UGC 12/12/18]  
1 program chg: BS in Computer Science

8.4 Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE)  
[status: apprv’d UGC 12/12/18]  
2 program chgs: BS in Civil Engineering  
BS in Environmental Engineering

8.5 Physics (PH)  
[status: apprv’d UGC 12/12/18]  
1 program chg: BS in Engineering Physics

Greivel shared a document with notes on each of the changes and indicated that all are minor changes to programs with nothing substantive.

MOTION: To approve program changes as submitted.  
Motion: Greivel, Seconded: Nickum. No abstentions. Approved.

9) Miscellaneous Business

- Taskforce for Evaluation of Instructional Effectiveness – objectives  
  Alina Handorean  
  Handorean reported that the team has met once and considering expanding the committee members to complete the work.

- FS Coffee Hour and/or Happy Hour – update  
  Lisa Nickum  
  Nickum shared dates and will coordinate events with Timm.
- **Distinguished Lecture Series** – April 3, 2019
  Tzahi Cath
  Cath indicated that they've put out a call for 2020 nominations. Moving forward with lecture on April 3rd.

10) **New Business**

- **Registrar Processes** – pre-req override and closed courses
  Tom Boyd / Gus Greivel
  Boyd received recommendations on several registrar processes related to the prerequisite override and signing up students into courses that has been closed due to capacity (blue form). There were 2500 forms processed and a working team has put together some proposals for consideration. He asked both councils to review and make recommendations. Greivel and Simoes will bring to their council members and coordinate a response to Boyd by end of February.

  Concern raised that committee had no faculty representation and perhaps some of these items can be addressed with an automated process or addressing the department that has the most issues versus instituting an entire new policy.

  As it relates to closed courses, need to consider options on wait listing classes and how they can be communicated and managed for all involved. For pre-reqs, there appears to be a large number of upper division courses that are waiving pre-reqs that are specified in bulletin. Simoes indicated that graduate classes don’t appear to have an issue with pre-reqs. One recommendation from the committee is to remove requirement to enforce pre-reqs; this is an unacceptable solution. Other options include a regular review all pre-reqs or creating a report on the departments that have the majority of the changes and work with those specific departments. Greivel indicated that reports can be run to see which departments have higher instances.

- **Overhead Rate**
  Alexis Sitchler
  Sitchler reported that she was informed that overhead rate is increasing and expressed concern about being competitive with other Universities. The rate seems to put Mines at the high end for public institutions. Cath shared that this was discussed in a recent meeting and sense is that the cost of doing business continues to rise and it is a challenge. Cath will talk to Johanna Eagan for additional information and potentially invite her to faculty senate for presentation.

*Meeting adjourned* at 4:05 pm.

**Next Meeting**: Tuesday, January 22, 2019, 2 – 4 pm, Hill Hall 300. Please send all items for agenda to Cathy Timm (cgtimm@mines.edu) one week prior to the meeting.