1) Provost / Academic Affairs Update

Boyd was not able to attend. Cath reported that our new provost, Holz, was not able to schedule time with faculty senate this week; will plan to get on the schedule for April.

2) Registrar Update

Timm reported that a note is being drafted pertaining to registration dates. Concern raised about the summer term and whether it was completed yet. There is confusion with schedulers about how to schedule for summer. Timm will check with Douthit.

3) Approval of Minutes – February 12, 2019 and February 26, 2019

MOTION: To approve minutes of February 12, 2019.
Motion: Sitchler, Seconded: Greivel. 1 abstention. Approved.

MOTION: To approve minutes of February 26, 2019 with correction on Herring’s attendance.
Motion: Sitchler, Seconded: Greivel. 2 abstentions. Approved.

4) Nomination of Faculty

Tzahi Cath / Alina Handorean

- Faculty Senate Elections

Handorean sent out a note for nominees. Cath talked to several people that had some interest; Sarazin declined, Dagdelen agreed to be nominated. Kuiper from Geology also expressed interest.

- Distinguished Lecturer 2020

Cath received list of names from Camp regarding the 2020 distinguished lecturer; there are four names in alphabetical order: Wendy Harrison, Carolyn Koh, John Poate, and John Speer. Cath will upload their letters for senators to review and coordinate with Timm to complete voting before the April 3rd lecture so the winner can be announced at this event.
5) **Other Committee Updates**

- **Faculty Research Awards – update**
  
  Tzahi Cath
  
  There are several candidates and the voting is very close. Cath asked everyone to vote so it can be finalized for academic awards in April.

- **Faculty Handbook Committee**
  
  Lisa Nickum
  
  Nickum shared that the BOT will likely support some initiative for a “leave-like experience”. Boyd is developing language for the handbook and will send to all senators. The committee has one last meeting before end of the year; she will work with Boyd to get changes into the faculty handbook.

- **FOCSA**
  
  Lisa Nickum
  
  Nickum is part of this committee and they are doing athlete interviews for end of semester.

6) **Briefings and Information Items**

- **Open Educational Resources (OER)**
  
  Emily Bongiovanni, Sarena Nguyen, Torin Johnsen, Erick Gomez
  
  The group shared a presentation on the subject. They explained what they are and why Mines should consider having more open resources available. They asked for support from faculty senate to expand the program. Question about the existing resources that are available now pertaining to existing programs. Faculty can filter their courses through the various resources and the library has a library research guide for the database resources that are available. Suggestion to have additional open source materials besides textbooks; Simoes offered his assistance.

  There is also an opportunity for faculty to create their own materials in an open source fashion. While there are grants available, it’s a big piece of work to create course materials. Sense is that the first two years, textbooks are very expensive. Many courses have an online homework module that is part of the cost of the book.

  Farca is on the committee and will provide updates as available.

- **Campus Surveys – next steps**
  
  Tzahi Cath / Neal Sullivan
  
  No update.

- **Academic Misconduct Policy – ad hoc committee update**
  
  Jeff King
  
  King shared that they’ve had a 2nd meeting and reviewed information from focus groups. The results reflect some concerns about how many students have been engaged in an academic misconduct policy and some overlap with mental health issues on campus. The goal is to have recommendations for faculty senate in the coming year.

7) **Grad Council Updates**

Marcelo Simoes

No updates.

8) **UnderGrad Council Updates**

Gus Greivel

No updates. Core curriculum committee is data collecting this year; more information coming next year.

9) **Miscellaneous Business**

- **Bylaw Changes**
  
  Tzahi Cath / Alina Handorean
  
  Cath, Handorean and Timm will meet in coming week to develop one document with suggested bylaw changes. All feedback should be sent to Timm to include in the list.
Thesis Submission

Jeff King

King shared that he received note from the graduate office indicating that students were allowed an extra week to submit thesis; concern that the extra time was only allowed for students using Latex and didn’t include others using a different format. Not all students have learned how to use this template tool and King felt that any extension should apply to all students. As well, this sort of decision and communication should have gone up through Grad Council.

Send Silence Packing event

Tzahi Cath / Neal Sullivan

An email was distributed to senators from the counseling center regarding the event planned on May 1st requesting faculty to volunteer and participate in the event. Cath will address at the Academic Council meeting.

FS Coffee Hour – next March 21, 2019

Lisa Nickum

FS Lunch Hour – next April 3, 2019

Four people attended last week. Will continue to advertise upcoming events.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 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.