

## Faculty Senate Minutes

April 12, 2018

### In attendance:

Name	Department
-Rice, Rodney (Chair)	HUM
-Brickey, Andrea	MEM
-Corey, Robert	PHYS
-Michael West (proxy)	MET
-Gilcrease, Patrick	CBE
-John Weiss (proxy)	MCS
-Pagnac, Darrin	GEOL/GEOE
-Mitchell, Deborah	HUM
-Novak, Mark	CABS
-Piper, Adam	IE
-Robinson, Marc	CEE
-Romkes, Albert	ME
-Tolle, Charles	ECE
-John Gibson (proxy)	SS

Agenda approved  
Minutes approved

### **Upcoming events:**

- *22 and 23 April University Advisory Board-Pres. Rankin will be seeking input from board on university strategic plan.*
- *Next meeting May 10--new chair and senators will be invited to attend.*

### **Old business:**

- Chair election

*Adam Piper gave an update on the election. After two rounds there is not a majority candidate. Tom Montoya and Bill Cross will go forward for a final round of voting beginning April 16. Results should be by the end of next week. There was some discussion about modifying bylaws to limit the number of candidates.*

- Plus/Minus grades. The AAC meets on 11 April (tomorrow) to discuss. A couple weeks ago Dr. Rice sent Paul Turman some input reflecting SD Mines Senate comments and a link to a Berry College study on the subject. He included snippets from the input in the

material for the meeting (see [https://www.sdbor.edu/administrative-offices/academics/aac/Documents/2018/2018-04-AAC/4\\_H\\_AAC0418.pdf](https://www.sdbor.edu/administrative-offices/academics/aac/Documents/2018/2018-04-AAC/4_H_AAC0418.pdf) )

*All 6 institutions would need to be in agreement for this to go forward. It is unlikely that there will be any changes.*

- EE 301/L and 303/L questions (Chip Tolle):

*Rajan Magesh addressed questions. Two different faculty teach lab and lecture and would like the ability to give different grades for each section. Students were made aware from the beginning of the semester that separate grades would be given for each section (syllabus reflects this). A question was asked whether there has been consideration of the number of students who may pass the course portion but not the lab, which may result in enrollment issues with students needing to retake one section or the other. Rajan does not foresee any issues.*

*Senate voted unanimously to approve*

#### **New Business:**

- AA/BS graduation list (not available until 20 April)
- MS/PHD graduation lists  
*Rachel Howard presented the graduate graduation list. Senate approved the list unanimously*
- April Curriculum requests ( [http://sdmines.sdsmt.edu/cgi-bin/global/a\\_bus\\_card.cgi?SiteID=424028](http://sdmines.sdsmt.edu/cgi-bin/global/a_bus_card.cgi?SiteID=424028) )

*Senate voted unanimously to approve the curriculum requests.*

- Lori Coble Emerita request (see attached)

*Senate approved. Mark Novak abstained since this was not presented at the department level.*

- Fleet vehicle cleaning  
*Facilities is not responsible for fleet vehicles so users are expected to clean them after each trip. Some faculty have complained that this can be time consuming, especially for dusty or muddy field excursions. What can we do about it? Have departments pay a charge that would support a work study student to do it? Include a bucket of cleaning supplies for faculty to use? Other ideas?*

*This stems particularly from Mining and Geology field trips. Faculty expressed frustration at needing to clean vehicles and not having resources available to facilities or fleet management to include this service.*

- Gen Ed Communication requirements:

*Under newly revised system-wide general education requirements, all students—transfer or SD Mines matriculates—will be able to fulfill GenEd Goal 1 & 2 requirements via ENGL 101, 201, and SPCM 101, through any other Regentally approved courses that are mapped to Goals 1 & 2, or via ENGL 101, 279, and 289. As a result, Engl 279 and 289 would now be recommended but not required. For HUM and SS, this is a troubling development and many fear a significant number of students will follow the path of least resistance and will now abandon tech comm courses for in-house or online composition and speech options. On the other hand, some see the new changes as being helpful, especially for junior college transfers. Aside from these concerns and observations, a question was raised about who owns the curriculum, faculty or administration? Dr. Rice reported that Dr. Gilmore had asked Kate Alley and the Provost to meet with HUM/SS to further discuss the situation before the end of the semester.*

*More information is needed to understand the intent of this change.*