

The following was passed at the April 5, 2010, Faculty Senate Meeting #166:

MOTION:

THAT THE FACULTY SENATE RECOMMENDS THAT THE CHANCELLOR APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:

EFFECTIVE: Fall 2010 and/or
 Upon Chancellor's approval.

RATIONALE: See the program proposal #29-UNP on file in the
 Governance Office, 314 Signers' Hall.

engineers/geologists that had the proposed minor because it saves them training time. Note that the industry currently hires “non-mining” engineers and geologists; but they play a limited role. In conclusion, the employers indicated that any engineering or geology major that had a minor in mining engineering would be significantly more employable in the industry than without. They, however, indicated that the minor would be very useful to them regardless of the major.

The second aspect of the minor is that it would increase enrollment in junior/senior level

MIN courses that are currently under capacity. Most classes are non lab based and

therefore, it is easy to bump up the enrollment without adding to the costs.

Proposed Minor Requirements:

1. Complete MIN electives at the F300-level or above—15 credits
2. Minimum credits required: 15 credits

Mining engineers are trained on a broad variety of topics since mining engineers are normally responsible for many aspects in a mine, such as mine ventilation, ground control, mine operation, economics, environmental laws and labor management. The minor will allow non-mining engineering majors to pick topics within mining engineering courses that are of interest to them as we will not restrict them to any specific

production and the need for a large number of highly skilled employees demands an education program that produces and

research applied to the development, planning, and management activities of the State". The proposed minor in mining engineering feeds directly into that since it produces graduates that will be in high demand in a key industry in this resources state.

Need for the minor

As stated earlier, the mining industry has a severe shortage of skilled labor, especially mining engineers. The industry resorts to hiring non-mining engineers and then training them to fulfill mining engineering roles.

Mine operators around the state such as Usibelli Coal Mine, Barrick Gold etc were surveyed on their acceptability of the proposed minor. Their response was clear: they see the minor as a positive development. All respondents thought that a "non mining