

Aspirations and Values of the Mines Faculty

We, the Academic Faculty of the Colorado School of Mines, aspire to foster a community of shared values, united by our commitment to a common mission of educating and inspiring students, advancing knowledge, and promoting the common good, for our planet and for our global community, through our ideas, actions, and impact.

We embrace the values of Inquiry, Inspiration, Challenge, Openness, Respect, Diversity, Compassion and Collaboration:

Inquiry – Our highest aspiration is grounded in the pursuit, dissemination, and application of knowledge; driven by curiosity and the important questions of our time, grounded in evidence and sound reasoning, discovered and disseminated with integrity, shared and pursued with our students, colleagues, and communities ...

Inspiration – Our lives of inquiry are motivated by our passions, and we seek to inspire others, especially our students, to engage with us in the exploration of the complex problems that drive us to learn, to discover, and to exert a positive impact on the world ...

Challenge – Our commitment to life-long learning is a challenge, and we cultivate among ourselves and our students the work ethic, the curiosity, and the tenacity needed to accept this challenge, ever mindful that our end is not work for its own sake, but for pursuing knowledge, achieving fulfillment in our lives, and advancing the common good ...

Openness – Our success in meeting this challenge hinges upon the free exchange of ideas, for our students and our community *writ large*, acknowledging that academic freedom and intellectual vitality encompass questioning, the acceptance of dissent and challenge, the openness to new evidence, new ideas, and new ways of thinking ...

Respect – Our open intellectual community requires respect, a climate in which ideas are shared safely and our students and colleagues are treated with dignity, a climate that values the views of others, that never exploits or takes advantage, and that acknowledges the abilities, perspectives, and contributions of all members of our community ...

Diversity – Our respect for others includes acceptance of diversity in all its forms; in ideas, experiences, and perspectives; in age, race, religion, gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, and country of origin; in all that makes us unique and contributes to the rich exchange of ideas and our shared pursuit of knowledge ...

Compassion – The vitality and health of our community is grounded in the care we show to each other and to our students; our pursuit of great challenges is informed by our empathy, by our recognition of the many demands of life and the need for balance, by the acknowledgment that risk-taking may entail setbacks, by our seeking to advance excellence by uplifting and supporting our students, colleagues, and acquaintances ...

Collaboration – Our shared lives of inquiry are in all respects collaborations, in science, research, and service to others, as in teaching, preparing and engaging our students, and maintaining the productive environment that facilitates all our successes; we acknowledge a commitment to service, to our entire campus community, to our professions, and beyond; we recognize the value of transparency and collegiality, of inviting others to share in decision-making, for only in working with others, and valuing their contributions, do we maximize our potential ...

Each of the values above facilitates our shared success; by our examples and by our encouragement we seek to foster these values throughout our community, and especially among our students, so as to inspire them to pursue excellence in our shared lives of inquiry.