

MATH ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING

March 11, 2016

Tunxis Community College

11:00 AM-12:30 PM

Draft Minutes

Present: Karen Colin (NWCC), Teuta Dalip (NCC), Teresa Foley (ACC), Brian Kennedy (TRCC), Bujar Kongusha (CCC), Mike La Barbera (HCC), Mark Leach (HCC), Simmie Nichols (NVCC), Marina Philips (HCC), Crystal Wiggins (NWCC), Arben Zeqiraj (ACC), Michelle Breaker (GCC), Amanda Sweeney (GCC), Harry Burt (NVCC), Michelle Saindon (TXCC), Paul Edelen (MCC), Doug Hoffman (NWCC), June Decker (TRCC), Joachim Bullacher (QVCC), Leonel Carmona (MXCC), Andre Freeman (CCC),

Mark your calendars for the Math Issues meetings for spring: April 8 and May 13

1. Approval of December 11 minutes (5 minutes)

Thank you to Harry for facilitating the March 11 meeting, to Brian for keeping track of time, and to Michelle for taking the minutes. (Note: February meeting cancelled)

Teresa moved to approve the minutes, with Rachel seconding. The minutes were approved.

2. 2015-2016 Committee Goals (15 minutes each, 30 minutes total)

a) Course redesign and assessment-Mike La Barbera, Paul Edelen, Teresa Foley, Pam Frost, Bryan Kennedy, Rachael Schettenhelm

Teresa met with the Mary-Margaret Kerns from the College Board (Executive Director, Higher Education Research) about doing an evaluative study of Accuplacer Scores for the Community Colleges. They concluded that the system has such a wide range of scores that each college would need to request to have the evaluation done individually and handle the results at a campus level. There is a PA 12-40 conference on Friday, March 18th.

b) Best practices for high school/college joint activities, dual credit or otherwise, including CCP-Theodora Benezra, Harry Burt, Paul Edelen, Teresa Foley, Nick Stugard

Harry reported that NVCC does not currently have an active dual enrollment program set up. Paul has 12 High Schools involved in Dual enrollment with MCC. They do high school site visits and classroom observations. He is impressed with the work being done and the expectations of the students. Most content has surpassed what we are doing in our Intermediate Algebra. Students need a B or better in the course plus the same SAT score requirement as MCC students to place out of Intermediate Algebra. Teacher qualifications and calculator requirements are identical and the same or equivalent textbook is used. NWCC has dual enrollment in statistics. They observe the high school teacher and are impressed with the content. They also provide Professional Development by having the high school teachers come observe at the college. They need a B or better in the course and they need to pass the college's final exam. Budget issues make it tough to have the same book. Does this type of program really draw students into the Community College System? What can this committee do? It's up to individual colleges to manage these programs.

3. Report on common course topics and Common Numbers Framework-Parts (b) and (c), 15 minutes for 30 minutes total
 - a) Update on common number discrepancies (held for next meeting)
College participation in Framework numbering system
 - b) Possible name change for MAT* 172: Harry Burt
NVCC changed their College Algebra in Banner to “College Algebra Calculus Prep”. He shared data from a Spring 2016 survey that showed that 10% of those enrolled in College Algebra are improperly placed. There is no comparative data from prior semesters before the name change, but it would be interesting to track student success and withdrawal rates from this group. The name was changed in Banner and transcripts will likely revert back to the “College Algebra” name.
 - c) Role of MAT* 201 in Framework
Norwalk Community College reported that they changed their MAT201 to MAT167. This may fix some misplacements for students that think the 200 level course is higher than, say, MAT172. Since MAT201 is still on the books, can it still be used? We were reminded that any course above MAT13X should have an Intermediate Algebra Prerequisite.
 - d) Defining co-requisite, embedded, accelerated, etc (hold for next meeting)
This topic will be revisited, but we had initial discussions about co-requisite courses. Andre discussed courses that would combine Intermediate Algebra with STATS or TRIG. Other states and the 4-year schools are developing these types of courses. Eastern has MAT135P “Math for the Liberal Arts Plus”. Amanda mentioned that Southern is reworking their MAT095 to funnel into Math for the Liberal Arts or STATS. (Mat137 is for the Calc. pathway). Are these terminal courses? What can students take afterwards? If they change their program then would they need to go back and redo courses? Individual Colleges have the right to create and offer courses. They are then responsible for collaborating with the rest of the system to make sure it fits into the bigger picture. It was mentioned that this committee needs to continue focusing on common course numbering.
 - e) Minimum prerequisite for college level courses (held for next meeting)
4. Math applications: Pam Frost
Pam sent a document via email with an update on her sabbatical project. She needs help identifying and observing examples of student centered lessons. There was no discussion about this topic at the meeting.
5. Announcements and other
MATYCONN Spring meeting: April 15, 2016 at Tunxis Community College

System conference April 8, 2016 (conflict with Math Issues)

Harry shared a document entitled “Gold Standards for Mathematics Faculty”.

Submitted by Michelle Saindon