

Minutes of Math Issues Committee Meeting
Friday, April 4, 2003
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Nutmeg Room, Central Connecticut State University
New Britain, CT

Present: Rob Clark (Tunxis), Elaine Dinto (Naugatuck), Miguel Garcia (Gateway), Alice Grandgeorge (Manchester), Kathy Herron (Capital), Joe Karnowski (Norwalk), Bob Lynott (Naugatuck), Linda Musco (Middlesex), Slav Sharapov (Quinebaug)

Intermediate Algebra

The meeting started with Kathy voicing concern that many Intermediate Algebra students are unsuccessful - nearly everyone immediately concurred. The group discussed possible reasons for this occurrence. Some explanations included poor attendance, not doing homework, length of time since Beginning Algebra. Does any college have a requirement that limits the amount of time between taking Beginning Algebra and Intermediate Algebra? Does anyone have a requirement for Intermediate Algebra that is greater than a C or C- (in Beginning Algebra)? The answer to both questions was no.

Retirements

Discussion turned to the number of retirements and the impact it will have on each of our departments. Several members of the committee are concerned about the number of full time faculty remaining in each of our departments and how many we will be able to replace. Is there a "requirement" or suggested ratio by NEASC of full-time to part-time faculty. Several of us were going to check, but some members, who had recently been through the reaccreditation process, said that there was no specific ratio stated. Each of us is to find the full-time to part-time ratio (of mathematics faculty) for the next meeting (April 25).

Old Business - Liberal Arts, Science Option at Middlesex

During the last meeting, Alice Burstein brought up the possible removal of the calculus requirement for the Liberal Arts, Science Option. It was decided that the program will still include calculus, with an asterisk, indicating that biology majors should check with their transfer university to see if they are required to take calculus.

Some of the concerns we will talk with Paul Susen about (at a future meeting) will be: common "bands" for Accuplacer scores, common course renumbering, effects of retirements on our departments, and tech prep. It was noted that if we bring him something in final form (for common course renumbering), then it will be much easier for

the central office and thus may be sooner.

Kathy Herron will get a room for our meeting on April 25th at 10:30 a.m. (at Capital Community College).

Submitted by Joe Karnowski