Minutes of Math Issues Committee Friday, April 20, 2007 Central Connecticut State University Memorial Hall, Nutmeg Room

The meeting convened at 11:05 a.m.

Present —Jean-Marc Cenet (Tunxis), Elaine Dinto (Naugatuck Valley), Paul Edelen (Manchester), Miguel Garcia (Gateway), Pat Hirschy (Asnuntuck)

Minutes from March 30, 2007 meeting were approved.

Examination Procedures

A brief discussion concerning common finals or common portions of finals in MAT* 095 and 137 took place; colleges have different policies that serve their students.

New Course/Common Number at Gateway

Miguel told the group about Gateway's new MAT* IO98 (Special Topics in Math), a 5-contact hour combination of MAT* 075 and 095. Manchester has a similar course, MAT* B096 (Algebra Concepts, Number Sense & Geometry), with 5-contact hours (4 hours lecture plus 1 hour lab; students are placed by Accuplacer, or by a grade of less than C in MAT* 075). Because Manchester's course is a 3-credit hour course, which may create a financial problem (faculty load versus what students pay), the System Office required a new number. Discussion took place about what makes/should make one course different from another: should content alone be the determining factor, or should the number of credit hours or cost also affect the number?

Dialogue regarding Course Common Numbering

The first meeting of the CCNSMTF (Common Course Number System Maintenance Task Force) is scheduled for May 4, 2007, at the System Office. As its name implies, the mission of the Task Force is to recommend a process for maintaining the integrity of the system-wide common course number system.

- Any system-wide curriculum committee must have appropriate representation.
- Efficiency is a major concern: the timeline for affecting a change will be extremely long if individual college curriculum committees, a system-wide curriculum committee, the Council of Deans and the System Office all must approve.
- The procedure for changes must be flexible and must include a periodic evaluation of the process.
- The procedure must designate someone who will be responsible for facilitating communication and for dissemination of accurate and timely information. It was recommended that the System Office create a repository for course content/topics, and contacts for more information.
- Since a common number is needed prior to going to the college curriculum committee, it makes sense to recognize the professionalism of discipline faculty and to work with a discipline committee prior to working with the college curriculum committee.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Elaine Dinto