

MATH ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING

11:00-12:30 on Friday, November 19, 2010

Draft Minutes

Present: Helen Cloherty (NCC), Elaine Dinto (NVCC), Paul Edelen (MCC), Pam Frost (MxCC), Pat Hirschy (ACC), Mark Leach (HCC), Susan Ricciuti (TxCC), Rachael Schettenhelm (GWCC)

Meeting called to order at 11:10

1. Approval of minutes: The minutes from the October 15 meeting were unanimously approved, as moved moved Paul and seconded by Sue. Thank you Sal!
2. Old Business
 - a) Statway: Continued discussion of purpose, content, instruction, and intended student population. Update was given from NVCC regarding the progress of Statway on their campus. Paul shared that reports were given at the Board of Trustees meeting regarding Statway and the Board supports this initiative. (MCC shared their information about their developmental math redesign and HCC about their Achieving The Dream project at the Board meeting as well)
 - b) MAT 13X and college-level standards: discussion postponed in Sal's absence
 - c) College Career Pathways – not discussed due to lack of time
 - d) Placement practices, including SAT/ACT scores, Accuplacer

Update progress on Math Issues Committee proposed plan for MAT 13X

Report from Rachael regarding member input on impact of 2007 Accuplacer changes

Plan for potential report to Council of Deans

Rachael shared the feedback she received from seven of the colleges. Thank you Rachael! Out of these seven colleges GWCC and TxCC changed their cut scores. Both of them lowered their cut score for Intermediate Algebra. At GWCC their course offerings only changed by one course offering and their average class size increased by a few students each. Of course, their enrollments are growing as well. Their initial research showed that success rates did not change as was predicted. At TxCC they changed their topics at the same time. The number of sections has not changed significantly and pass rates have not been studied yet. Mark shared that at HCC they raised the cut scores but found no significant change in sections. Mark also shared that HCC is working with a high school that is using the diagnostic portion of the Accuplacer test. This information will be used in the potential report to the Council of Deans.

Updates were made to the Action Plan. We feel that we are complete with item 1. A suggestion was made to request that the research be conducted at the system level. Additional resources are needed for assessment. Sue shared that at TxCC they have looked at the success rates of students having an arithmetic score below the Ability To Benefit levels and they are around 10%. Mark shared that the data collected from Achieving The Dream showed that there are very few predictors of success and correlation with Accuplacer. Pat will approach the Council of Deans for an opportunity to present at a council meeting. The presentation will include the updated Intermediate Algebra plan as well as innovative college initiatives addressing math student success and support strategies.

Self-paced options at various schools were discussed. Most schools are using MyMathLab. MCC will be using ALEKS in their developmental emporium model. Hawkes has some unique features including an error analysis feedback mechanism for the student.

2. New Business

AMATYC Sharing: Overall, all reactions were extremely positive.

Sue shared about MAC³ embedding math curriculum in various vocational programs. For example, they calculated a car's speed using the skid marks in a criminal justice course.

Rachael shared about intensive developmental courses meeting 5 days a week that offers a student an option to complete two courses in one semester.

Pat shared that her theme for this year was research. One session that was excellent was: "How can we Measure Teaching and Learning in Math?" More information can be found at [Http://bit.ly/measurmath](http://bit.ly/measurmath) and [Http://bit.ly/seindex](http://bit.ly/seindex). The presenter is hoping to use AMATYC to develop working definitions of terms and to collect more data on teaching and student success as well as other areas of interest such as attitude about math, etc. Another free resource is "xyAlgebra: Computer-Based Instruction In Basic Algebra and Verbal Problems" at www.xyalgebra.org.

College DEI updates: not discussed

Other: Pat shared a draft document regarding an articulation between the CCC system to UCONN for Business Administration Transfer Pathway Program. There is a question regarding whether traditional Calculus I (MAT*254) can be substituted for Applied Calculus (MAT *230) for the purposes of the articulation. Smaller colleges such as ACC do not have the enrollments to run both calculus courses. Other sister colleges also have difficulty getting sufficient enrollment to run Applied Calculus. Paul stated that he has the same problem with UCONN not accepting the MAT*254 because it is more theoretical and does not include the business applications that an Applied Calculus would include. The prerequisites for these courses are different as well. Pat asked everyone to send her information on what math courses that your school has that the UCONN Business School currently accepts, their enrollments, and prerequisites. This will also be discussed at the Math Basic Skills meeting today.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm.