

**Math Issues Committee Meeting**  
**Friday, May 6, 2011**  
**Naugatuck Valley Community College, Room T531**

**Present:** Larisa Alikhanova (TRCC), Elaine Dinto (NVCC), Paul Edelen (MCC), Teresa Foley (ACC), Pam Frost (MxCC), Miguel Garcia (GWCC), Pat Hirschy (ACC), Mark Leach (HCC), Sal Maimone (NWCC)

Pat provided the following **handouts**: (1) agenda, (2) minutes of the April 15 meeting, (3) preliminary IR questions

**Pat called the meeting to order** at 11:20 a.m.

**Minutes of the 04/15/11 Math Issues Committee meeting** were accepted — thanks, Helen!

**OLD BUSINESS**

**System Institutional Research questions**

- a) Share college research
  - Pockets of research are currently going on
  - Math Issues Committee goal is to brainstorm, first focusing on broad questions, then to form more specific questions
  - Guidance of Corby Coperthwaite, the System Director of Planning, Research & Assessment would be very valuable and appreciated (statewide consolidation will not be in place until December of 2011)
  - The IRC (CCC Institutional Research Council) should be involved; perhaps Paul will be the MI connector to the IRC
- b) Compare data collection techniques
  - Data collection/reporting of interest to all might already exist on some campus
  - It is now possible to add local questions to Accuplacer
  - Some colleges now have their own sunset provisions on Accuplacer scores; these vary from college to college
- c) Incorporate resources from other sources
  - Will be part of homework for the fall semester
- d) Design unified research assessments
  - Will be part of homework for the fall semester

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Committee goals for 2011-2012**

- a) **Assess student success in developmental and degree courses (include MAT\*13X Plan)**

There are so many reasons, both qualitative and quantitative, causing students not to be successful. Perhaps by learning the specific issues causing students not to be successful we could increase their potential to become so. Data should be used wherever possible to improve student success; perhaps IR could assist in identifying these students, to hold their account somehow so that intervention could take place.

- Look at other variables: perhaps require students to complete a drop form stating the reason for dropping would be helpful

- Lack of attendance is a major factor; in some places, instructor or administrative withdrawal is possible after a given number of classes is missed
  - Perhaps students who withdraw should have to take a 4-credit course or a 3-credit course with a lab component the next time around
  - Maybe there should be a system-wide limit on the number of withdrawals or the cost or retaking a course should be higher if a student withdrew previously without good reason
- b) **Formulate a position statement for general education requirements in mathematics for transfer and non-transfer students**
- Conversations regarding intermediate algebra (13X) should take place on our campuses in the fall
- c) **Generate common practices for College Career Pathways, and share assessment results**
- Based upon department input, committee members will generate and make recommendations regarding best practices
- d) **Review current course redesign efforts and other initiatives to improve student success and explore new techniques**
- Committee members will share information on the innovative efforts taking place on their campuses
- e) **Other**
- Pam will send Elaine information regarding the **Chancellor's response to CC Deans' recommendation regarding developmental education**
    - Developmental education is preparatory work for college level course work
    - If prerequisites for math courses should be in place, what will be the process for determining those prerequisites, what will these prerequisites be, will they include reading and writing, and when must students satisfy the prerequisites
  - MI Committee goal is to **make recommendations regarding prerequisites** for math courses and to respond to the Chancellor's letter in the fall
  - MI Committee is looking for more people to contribute in a **leadership role**, to include "point people" for different tasks
  - **Sunshine Fund:** The suggestion was made and agreed to unanimously that Committee members should donate to a fund to supply coffee/tea and munchies for business meetings, or else that members take turns supplying the food and beverages
  - **MI Committee Chair:** Members present voted unanimously that Pat should continue chairing the Committee during the 2011-2012 academic year

The **meeting adjourned** at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by



Elaine J. Dinto