

Math Issues Committee Meeting
11:00-12:30 Friday December 9, 2011
Library Conference Room, Tunxis Community College

Members Present: Joachim Bullacher (QVCC), Harry Burt (NVCC), Elaine Dinto (NVCC), Paul Edelen (MCC), Eli Glatt (NCC), Myrta Groeneveld (MCC), Pat Hirschy (ACC), Mark Leach (HCC), Sal Maimone (NWCC), Mary Rayappan (MxCC), Rachael Schettenhelm (GWCC), Nick Stugard (TXCC)

Sal brought the meeting to order at 11:08.

1. Approval of minutes.

Elaine brought copies of updated minutes provided by André. Rachael moved to approve the minutes, and Elaine seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Thank you, André.

Pat volunteered to take the minutes for this meeting.

2. Old Business.

There were no Old Business items.

3. 2011-2012 Committee goals.

a) Position statement for general education requirements in mathematics for transfer and non-transfer students: **Pat**

Pat distributed a copy of AMATYC's position statement on this issue. The committee members discussed what mathematics concepts were above high school level and how postsecondary mathematics educators could build on high school knowledge. The conversation naturally led to the degree status of Intermediate Algebra. It's possible that this issue might be addressed by the Board of Regents (BOR) which assumed governance on January 1. Intermediate Algebra is often referred to as a single course, but in fact there are a variety of "Intermediate Algebras" depending on the balance between mathematics concepts and general education skills. Program coordinators view the role of Intermediate Algebra differently within the system. Some programs require a mathematics course higher than Intermediate Algebra, some a course as high as, and some a course lower. Pat asked members to consider the issue in light of our system mission, the impact of BOR, the balance between mathematic skills and general education skills, and the interface with high school reforms.

b) Course re-design initiatives: **Helen**, Sal, Nick, Sue, Mark, Eli

Eli reported that Norwalk is realigning MAT* 094 and MAT* 136 so that they will both reside in the Mathematics Department. Previously MAT* 095 was in the Developmental Department. The intention of the move is to increase success rates in MAT* 136. Norwalk is currently looking for the appropriate text. There was general conversation regarding general vs. custom texts and obtaining used texts that are repackaged with MML codes through the Bookstore or other sources.

Harry provided some preliminary information regarding MAT* 092 Statway I, which was piloted this fall at Naugatuck. There is more required reading compared to traditional mathematics classes. At Manchester, 75 of 90 Statway I students are eligible for MAT* 122 Statway II. The Statway materials contain many typographical errors. The amount of instructor preparation time is incredible. Rachael mentioned that there were also some Statway issues at Gateway. The committee discussed the need for STEM literacy for personal and work needs. There will be a Carnegie meeting at the end of January to review the results of the fall semester pilot.

c) Assessment of student success in developmental and degree courses, including MAT 13X Intermediate Algebra Plan: **Sal**, Mark, Karen, Rachael
Sal distributed a handout of the most current draft of IR questions. The committee discussed the questions and suggested revisions. Sal asked members to share the questions with their departments and to send input to him. Sal will resend the questions to the committee.

d) Best practices for College Career Pathways, including assessment results: **Pam**, Elaine
Due to time constraints, the committee decided to defer conversation on this item and address it as the first goal at the next meeting.

4. New Business
Elaine brought up the need to update and maintain the common numbers matrix. The committee asked Elaine to be the point person for this important task. Eli and Joachim volunteered to help. Additional volunteers are asked to contact Elaine.

5. Announcements and other
There were no announcements.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Hirschy