

Math Issues Committee Meeting  
11:00-12:30 Friday May 4, 2012  
Tunxis CC, Library Conference Room

Present: Larissa Alikhanova (TRCC), Joachim Bullacher (QVCC), Karen Collin (NWCC), Elaine Dinto (NVCC), Paul Edelen (MCC), Teresa Foley (ACC), André Freeman (CCC), Pam Frost (MxCC), Eli Glatt (NCC), Miguel Garcia (GWCC), Pat Hirschy (ACC), Mark Leach (HCC), Nick Stugard (TxCC)

1. Approval of minutes

Thank you to Teresa for taking the minutes at the April 27 meeting. The minutes were approved.

Facilitator for this meeting: Pat, minute-taker: Nick, time keeper: Teresa

2. Old Business

There was no old business

3. Special Topics: Legislative and BOR updates

a) Legislative SB 40: Teresa reported on a meeting with legislators Bye and Willis, co-sponsors of SB 40. Teresa, Rachel, and Pat represented Math Issues. The conversation addressed the status of the bill, the importance of an evaluation component, current practices to support developmental students, the impact on the college mission and student base, the opportunity to offer a menu of remediation approaches, and external factors that impact on student success.

b) BOR-TAP: André reported that the TAP Steering Committee and 8 Competency Subcommittees will be working over the summer to develop goals and learning outcomes to frame the system General Education Core. André was selected to serve on the Quantitative Competencies Subcommittee.

4. Executive summary of 2011-2012 Committee Goals

a) Position statement for general education requirements in mathematics for transfer and non-transfer students: This is a worthwhile goal, and it is timely given the Common Core State Standards being implemented in K-12. It is not recommended as a stand-alone goal but could be incorporated into other goals.

b) Course redesign initiatives: Examples considered this year included Statway, combined courses, and computer supported courses. It will be beneficial to continue sharing information regarding these initiatives, but it is also important to collect data regarding effectiveness on student success.

c) Assessment of student success in developmental and degree courses, including MAT 13X Intermediate Algebra Plan: It is important to continue to chip away at the Plan developed in 2007. A system approach to assessing student success would be of great value and should be pursued with the new BOR system. Some initial research questions are "in progress."

d) Best practices for College Career Pathways, including assessment results: Information continues to be collected regarding on-campus approaches. Middlesex has been bringing high school students to the campus, where they take the

Accuplacer and get tours of the college. There appears to be a dearth of evidence regarding the effectiveness or the impact of CCP.

4. New Business

a) The following Committee goals were selected for 2012-2013

i) Best practices for high school/college joint activities, dual credit or otherwise, including CCP-Paul Edelen, Pam Frost, Mark Leach,

ii) TAP updates-André Freeman, Pat Hirschy

iii) Course redesign and assessment-Larissa Alikhanova, Joachim Bullacher, Teresa Foley, Pam Frost, Eli Glatt, Nick Stugard.

iv) Continued review of common course topics and Math Issues Common Numbers Framework-Karen Collin, Elaine Dinto, André Freeman, Eli Glatt. It is timely to reevaluate our 80% common content and to expand common topics to common outcomes. Statistics and Intermediate Algebra may be first on the list for review, and the initial conversations regarding a sunset clause for Accuplacer/SAT score might continue in this goal. The Framework is sorely in need of updating, and Elaine is ready and willing to input the revisions.

b) Committee governance for 2012-2013

The members decided to keep the Executive Committee structure (currently Elaine Dinto, Miguel Garcia, and Pat Hirschy), with the addition of the MATYCONN president (currently Teresa Foley). They liked the practice of rotating meeting facilitators and getting homework assignments/action items from meeting to meeting.

5. Announcements and other

Good wishes for the summer break were extended to all.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nick Stugard.