Mathematics and Computer Science
Department Meeting Minutes
6/7/2014
Room 61-2316


Absent: J. McMullin, D. Rivers, J. Sholars, V. Tatoian, P. Young

The meeting began at 2:52.

Old Business

1) MAY MINUTES: The May minutes were approved, with minor revisions.

New Business

0) MATH 180: TEXTBOOK UPDATE: Scott: We did not realize that we approved a course outline based on a different version of the book we plan to use in Math 180. We are planning to use the early transcendental version Stewart’s Calculus, but the outline we approved was for the version of that does not have early transcendentals. We will be using the new edition for fall. Big O and little o are not in the book. Hyperbolic functions have always been in 181, but they come up early in transcendental functions. So I think we should put them in 180. We are leaving out separable differential equations, so that should help.

The problem with the book we intend to use is that it doesn’t include the logarithm defined as an integral. But this topic is in the outline of record. We can’t change that today. Joe T – why not have a standard handout given to all instructors. Hugh – let’s leave it to each teacher to supplement it if they want to. Further discussion followed.

Art – we need to approve an outline at this meeting. Melody – we should just go with the outline of the book we ordered.
A motion was made to approve an amendment to the outline, that the logarithm defined as an integral is added, by the instructor, to Chapter 5. Motion to prove the amendment passed. Motion to approve the new outline as amended then passed as well.

1) ELECTION FOR THE SCHEDULING COMMITTEE: Art: Kambiz ran unopposed so he will be continuing with a new three-year term.

2) ELECTION FOR DEPARTMENT CHAIR: Art: I also ran unopposed, so it looks I will be your department chair for another year.
3) **NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION: Jim Smith:** Our new student orientation is now four hours long. It’s pretty popular. About 10 – 15% of students are doing this. Most, however, are doing the online orientation.

4) **STUDENT PLANS IN MAP: Jim Smith:** Students with a completed assessment, completed orientation, and an abbreviated ed plan will be getting better priority registration, up to 36 hours earlier.

5) **THREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BETTER REGISTRATION: Jim Smith:** If students do not have an assessment, a completed orientation, and their ed plan, their registration will be held until the Friday before school starts. It’s a big change – counselors were not informed. We are planning workshops for students who are doing their ed plans on the computer, to advise them en masse.

6) **ASSESSMENT UPDATE: David:** We will be having workshops in the fall about the Math assessment tests, to tell people why they are important, how to prepare for them, and which test may be most suitable for them. Give them one-on-one advice. No math content is involved. We received a grant for this. Al: here’s an idea: invite the students, counselors, teachers, and Principals of the local high schools as well.

7) **MISSING EQUIPMENT: Art:** We had a recent theft of an elmo and a computer. Please make sure to lock up the rooms. Matt - I think we should seriously think about how we are taking care of our equipment. I found a remote control on the floor recently. Discussion followed about the need to lock the door between classes, including whether to lock it if there is a 10-minute break before the next class.

**Reports**

1) **ACADEMIC SENATE: Scott:** Not too much to report, but here’s one statement: Dan Smith said he went to a Common Core event, and it was stated that Common Core changes in high school will eventually come to the community colleges. Also, there is a proposal for the college to go carbon-neutral, but that will take time. Matt - Scott won a 10 + 1 Award from the Senate for advocating for a new testing center. The department congratulated Scott.

2) **FACULTY ASSOCIATION: Al:** The governor proposed a plan to close the unfunded liability shortfall with STRS. Percentage-wise, we as employees would pay more, from 8% up to 10.25%, then it would be capped. The employer’s contribution could even go up to 19%. The district has an obligation to help pay for the shortfall, which could diminish the possibility of us receiving raises in the future. We could potentially lose our one-time 1% raise, because this year’s COLA did not reach 2%. The negotiations are going on, but we are in the dark this year about how things are going. We were supposed to receive some backfill money. Around December, you are going to have to verify the identity of your dependents, i.e., that your wife is really your wife, your kids are really your kids, etc. Be ready to bring marriage licenses and birth certificates. This pertains to your health benefits. It is in response to fraudulent activity.
3) **DEPARTMENT CHAIR: Art:** The PIE report is due at the end of the month. A draft copy of the Resources Needed to Achieve Goals was sent to you along with your department meeting agenda. We still don’t have an evacuation chair. Someone was stuck in a wheelchair the last time we had an emergency drill in this building. Let me know what you think should be our top PIE priorities. There are different budgets for different things. If there are things here that are missing let me know. Also, if there are certain things that are really important to you let me know.

I sent out a list of department meetings dates for next year. Any objections or changes to these? No objections or changes were voiced by any department members present.

There’s no Division Report, due to no division meeting. We will meet next week.

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**Announcements**

1) **MATHEMAGICS SHOW: David:** In the design center, today at 5:30 PM, there will be a mathemagics show by Prof. Art Benjamin. He is really amazing, so I urge everyone to attend.

2) **GRADUATION DINNER: Phebe:** Let me know if you would like to join us at Applebee’s next Friday before graduation.

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The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm

Submitted by:

Department Chair  
Art Nitta

Recorder  
Cameron Troxell