

Mathematics and Computer Science Department Meeting Minutes

03/04/2016

61-2310

Present: A. Birca, D. Chavez, S. Childress, B. Edwards, C. Graham, H. Griffith, S. Guth, M. Johnson, K. Khoddam, C. Kim, A. Kirchgraber, T. Kojima, I. Lai, S. Lancaster, P. Lee, J. McMullin, B. Nguyen, A. Nitta (Chair), H. Parra, C. Perez, D. Rivers, K. Rivas, M. Summers, C. Sun, T. Takashima, J. Tamayo, F. Tran, C. Troxell, T. Vo, J. Wakefield, P. Young

Absent: D. Beydler (Common Assessment Initiative Meeting), J. Sholars, H. Pop, J. Terreri, V. Tatoian, M. Munro (banked leave) S. Zicree (AMATYC), R. Loyd

The meeting began at 2:53.

Old Business

- 1) **December 2015 Minutes: Cameron:** The December 2015 minutes were approved by acclamation.
- 2) **Advisory Page in Registration Portal: Heidi:** I talked to Janet, Jennifer Turner-Wiseman, and Karelyn Hoover about this. Karelyn was supportive. We need to know what information this advisory page will contain. Will it contain info about online homework systems? Calculators? How can we come to a common understanding of what needs to be in there? Chris Perez keeps track of what textbook and supplemental materials each instructor will use. Jennifer is willing to design the web page.
Scott: I think we need an ad hoc committee to design this, but we need to not have too much information so as not to confuse the students.
Melody: maybe for now we could just put the basic information in there about who is using what technology. I move to get the project started as soon as possible.
Motion: To put an advisory link in the registration, that links to our website, about online homework systems and calculators required by the instructors. Motion passes by acclamation.
Heidi: after we get this up and running, then we can think about putting other things on the advisory page.

New Business

- 1) **Birthdays for February/March: Paula:** We had some birthdays this past month, in February: Hugh and Candice, who share the same office, and the same birthday. Also Scott and Jennifer Turner-Wiseman. In March we have Steve Z, and Chris G.

- 2) **Scholarship Updates: Al:** The three recipients of last year's scholarships sent thank you letters to us. I will pass them out. You can donate to this either online or by direct deposit each month. If you want to write a check, you can either drop it off to the Foundation Office itself, or I can take it over. What we would like to see, ideally, is for people to give \$5 a month through payroll deduction. It's a wonderful thing to see the students receive these awards. We would love you to be a part of this.
- 3) **Phone List: Paula:** I'm going to send out a spreadsheet via email so we can collect information to update our phone list. Put what you are comfortable sharing among the department members. Michelle: let's think about making a phone tree, to relay information quickly in case of an emergency.
- 4) **Revised course outline for Math 110-Navidi 2nd ed: Stephen:** The revised Math 110 course outline was approved by the Math 110 curriculum committee last month.
Cameron: There are no changes to any of the mandatory sections; only one change to an optional section. I will send out the outline to the department, so we can all review it and I will submit it for your approval at the next meeting.
- 5) **Counseling Report: Jim Smith:** There are several different programs with the Pathways name on campus. For the Pathways to Transfer program, they are linking general ed classes such as English and History. Hopefully math will join us in this program. Our new Student Success building opened up. There will be a grand opening on March 9. Finally, I have a great story about a student who failed multiple classes, but passed Scott's 70S.
Debbie: I've seen a number of students try, after not passing my course, to take the placement test, and they are showing up in my subsequent class. I'm concerned that they're getting advice from somewhere to try skipping courses by placing out of them.
Jim: We don't tell our students to do that. Discussion followed about the source and the wisdom of such advice.
- 6) **Forged ID Card: Baochi:** I had a student who was taking a course for another student. They had a forged ID card. The student attending class was male, while the picture for this student on my Mountie App was female. Discussion followed about the necessity to check IDs.
Art: If something happens, please report it, because the school doesn't always do something the first time the student is caught. Please let me if you would like any assistance with submitting the student misconduct form to Student Life.
- 7) **DSPS Update: Debbie:** Christine Tunstall teaches sections of a class, DSPS 33. She invited us to take a look at the class. One issue that comes up is the calculator in Math 50. We've loosened things up, and we now let students use calculators at the instructor's discretion. But even if you do not allow calculators, students may qualify for accommodations through DSPS to use a 4-function calculator. Please specify on the form that you want them to use the 4-function DSPS calculator, not just any calculator, if that is your intention.
Melody: I have a set of 25 4-function calculators, if anyone is interested in using them.
Baochi related a story about a student with a scribe and a life coach. Discussion followed about students' life coaches, and the need to minimize their potential disruption to a class.

- 8) **CFIT Update: Paula:** Here is an update on our committee. We've been meeting and have had some great conversations. Feel free to join us for our next meeting on Friday, March 18 from 11:15 to 12:15.
- 9) **Kepler Distinguished Lecture and Scholarship Dinner: Janet:** I want the math dept to have a gift basket for the silent auction that takes place at this dinner. We have someone who puts the baskets together. We just have to come up with the items for the basket. I can come up with the theme. Perhaps \$10 per person. I will be contacting you later to ask for the donation.
- 10) **Debbie Borocho Discovery Day: Janet:** Baochi and I have been doing this for several years with great success. It invariably involves launching water balloons, which never gets old. We can always use extra help. It's on Saturday, May 14. It lasts from 7:30 to 12 noon.
- 11) **Car Accident: Baochi:** A beloved part-time faculty member, Hoan-Quyen Nguyen, was injured yesterday in the car chase at Cal Poly. Her car was totaled I believe. Let's think about how we could help her. Discussion about how best to help.
- 12) **Math 71X as a Pre-Statistics course: Scott:** There is a C-ID Math 110 for Elementary Statistics. Both our Math 110 and Math 110S have applied for this C-ID designation. The UCs have dropped Intermediate Algebra as a prereq for Statistics. This opens up a possibility for a Pre-Stats course, which would complete a two-course sequence culminating with statistics. We should talk about this possibility of 71X being the Pre-Stat course. Discussion followed about possible prerequisites, or no prerequisites, for Math 71X, and also about the different sequences.
- Art: this would be a great topic for a work-group.
- Scott: so the question remains, do we want to re-jigger Math 71X in some way? Do we want it to be a Pre-Stats course?

Reports

- 1) **ACADEMIC SENATE: Scot:** The AS met last week. The VP of Instruction requested a review of the block schedule. A revision was made to the campus smoking policy to include e-cigarettes. There was discussion about the coming Pathways Initiative. Ed Design has sent out some pleas for volunteers. Janet and Paula have both moved their schedules around, so that they can start serving in Fall 2016. Free faculty training is available through Lynda.com, through the faculty portal. The contract has changed with regard to PGIs. The new rules for PGI will take effect in June. The senate, by acclamation, voted to improve compensation for department chairs. Student engagement survey is coming in April 2016.
- 2) **FACULTY ASSOCIATION: Stephen:** Thanks to Alina, who wrote this up. You can support Puttin' on the Hits, by attending the show tonight or tomorrow night. The news about COLA for next year is not good. Because the school is having trouble meeting their growth targets, there will be little new money available to support faculty interests.

- 3) **DEPARTMENT CHAIR: Art:** We tried purchasing the Universal brand markers, but the reviews are not good, so we will no longer purchase those. Also, please don't move furniture from one class to another. Next year might be the last good year for purchasing equipment. Please make suggestions for instructional equipment to include in our PIE. There have been issues with instructor load not being correctly entered. Check your paycheck to see if your LHE is being properly credited to you. Accreditation is coming up, so please include information about SLOs on your syllabus. SLOs must be on your syllabus, or there should be a link to them. There is a luncheon on March 17 hosted by the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership featuring Dr John Mulcahey. Faculty from our division are encouraged to attend. Please contact Matt Judd if you are interested in attending.
- Debbie: ELAC is hiring 8 full-time math positions, to support growth. We are hiring 2.
- Art: AACC Pathways is coming – I believe this is something that should be faculty led. If there is an opportunity, please get involved in the discussion. Also, as part of the Pathways to Transfer program, if you have an interest in pairing your course with other subject areas, let me know. Finally, if you have a school-issued Dell computer, the school wants to issue you a replacement.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm

Submitted by:

Department Chair
Art Nitta

Recorder
Cameron Troxell