

Mathematics and Computer Science Department Meeting Minutes

05/06/2016

61-2319

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

Absent: J. Sholars, V. Tatoian, M. Munro (banked leave), A. Birca

The meeting began at 2:52.

Old Business

- 1) **Approval of April 2016 Minutes: Cameron:** April 2016 minutes are approved by acclamation.

- 2) **Advisory to students in registration portal: Heidi:** Jennifer T. has created a page that goes through each course, and lists which professors are using technology, and the contact information for the professors.

Scott: Should we put which professors are requiring graphing calculators?

Heidi: It could include that information. We are looking into how to include the link on the registration portal.

Discussion followed about what information to include on the website.

Art: This is a great page. One thought is to vote now to have it go live, then continue, as we go forward, to add other information pertaining to technology, such as which calculators are available from the MARC.

Baochi: What about having a computer icon next to that section, which could pop up and give more details?

Heidi: That's a great idea. I think right now we will go with the present site, then look into these other options.

Motion to have the website go live as soon as possible is passed by acclamation.

- 3) **Math 71 Textbook and Outline, Vote for Approval: Jeff:** We are now going to vote on the outline, which contains the language we changed about 71A and B not being offered in short semesters.

Art: there is a competency exam for 71A, which a student who didn't pass 71 but did well in the first part of the course could take to receive credit for the first part.

Discussion about the pros and cons about students taking the competency tests and 71A or 71B in the short terms.

Motion to approve the 71/71A/71B outlines passed by acclamation.

- 4) **Math 130, Textbook and Outline, Vote for Approval: Debbie (on behalf of Melody):** I'm asking for approval of the outline that Melody presented at the last meeting. Motion to approve the 130 outline passed by acclamation.

New Business

- 1) **Introduction of our new full-time hires: Art:** I present to you our two new hires: Marissa Case and Lisa Morales. Department welcomes Marissa and Lisa.
- 2) **May Birthdays: Paula:** By the way, Scott won \$50 with his lottery ticket that we gave him in March. Congratulations to our May birthday people: Stephen and Horia.

Honoring the women of our department: Tim and Jeff passed out chocolate-covered strawberries to all the women present.

- 3) **Math 120 Text and Outline: Kambiz:** We would like the department's approval for the next Math 120 text. It's a new textbook.
Motion to approve textbook and outline passed by acclamation.

- 4) **Math 150 textbook/outline: Chris P:** The 150 committee is seeking approval for the new edition of the Lial book. There were no changes to the outline.
Heidi: the outline contains a phrase which recommends doing polar equations before complex numbers. I personally do complex numbers first. But anyone can do this in either order. I would propose that we remove this phrase from the outline.
After discussion, Heidi rescinds the motion.
Motion to approve the new Math 150 outline passed by acclamation.

- 5) **Revisions to Math 180 and Math 280 course outline for C-ID approval: Scott:** Here is a handout showing the revised course outline. The language in bold is what I had to put in to get C-ID approval. We need to vote for it. Motion to approve Math 180 and Math 280 course outlines for C-ID approval passed by acclamation.

- 6) **Common Assessment Update: David:** On the screen are the subcommittees for each level of the assessment test. We've included a timeline for the teams to follow. In Spring 2017 all of our incoming students will take the common assessment, so we want to be ready for that.
Scott: were not talking about cutoffs scores, right?
David: We are more focused on certain competencies, instead of an overall score.
Al: Were there any recommendations from the state level? The whole idea of a common assessment is to make things uniform. But if every school is doing their own thing, aren't we back to where we are now?
David: It's common assessment, but not common placement.
Discussion followed about how the adaptive nature of the test will affect placement.
Al: Are we going to have many students falling into no man's land? If each groups' formulas are independent? Tell me how this is not going to happen.

David: The adaptive system will check off the lower competencies.

Debbie: What if the competencies established for one level are harder than the level above it?

Discussion followed about overall oversight, and about the continued revision of the test.

Heidi: are the formulas going to take into account past coursework, etc, i.e. multiple measures?

Debbie: Shall we include Learning Assistance into Level 1? Department agreed to include Learning Assistance into Level 1.

Further suggestions included considering a possible list of competencies to place students into Math 71B or Math 51B.

During the discussion, additional faculty members volunteered to serve on the four subcommittees.

- 7) **Mock Interpreters: Melody:** I went to the Mt Sac conference, formerly known as Parachutes and Ladders. People were talking about how difficult it is for student interpreters to interpret for math classes. So there is a need for teachers to allow mock interpreters in their classes in pairs, to interpret to each other. It gives them good practice, to do this before they have to interpret math for students. Here's the contact person: Tina Jenkins, at tjenkins@mtsac.edu. Let her know if you are interested in helping these interpreters out.

Reports

- 1) **ACADEMIC SENATE: Scot:** Summer session will be counted in this fiscal year, as well as the previous summer, to give the impression of growth. New senators-at-large are Vicki Greco and Liesel Reinhart.

Discussion item: all recommendations of the C&I Council shall be sent directly to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

Scott: this was not recommended in exec board, and now it's going to the full senate.

Scot: this is coming from Michelle Sampat, who consistently asks the senate to suspend the rules.

Stephen: I move that an announcement be made by our representatives, stating that we disagree with the frequent suspensions of the rules, which prevents us from providing feedback to our reps before these items are voted on by the senate.

Motion passed, with one no vote and one abstention.

Scot: Social Justice Warrior task force is seeking members. There are many committees with vacancies; here is the link: <http://www.mtsac.edu/governance/committees/index.html>

Heidi asked Scot how he was going to vote on discussion item #1, pertaining to the AP on Distance Learning. Discussion followed. The reps will ask if the change in language is needed for accreditation. If this is the case, they will vote yes to approve the AP. Otherwise they will vote no.

- 2) **FACULTY ASSOCIATION: Stephen:** Negotiations are continuing on various items, including the 2017-8 academic calendar, office hours, workload, etc. Full-time faculty covered under the FMLA can have up to 30 consecutive calendar days of paid leave. These can be taken to care for a spouse or child before loss of salary or use of sick leave. The FA rep council voted to increase full-time faculty member dues to \$170. Part-time faculty dues,

however, will be lowered to \$70. This was done in order to qualify for CTA benefits such as Crisis Arbitration help. FA is holding many events in the next few weeks. See the report for the list. FA has 97 new members. FA intends to begin interest-based bargaining on low-level items next year.

- 3) **DEPARTMENT CHAIR: Art:** Nominations for dept chair are now open, and will be for the next two weeks. The elections will run from 5/23 to 6/3.

Phebe: I would like to nominate Jimmy Tamayo. Christine seconded.

Art: I would also like to open nominations for the two probationary advisory teams. Nominations will also stay open for the next two weeks. Seven members present at the meeting volunteered to run for the six positions.

Division Report: Art: There is an effort, at the VPI level, to improve the room utilization rate. The scheduling committee has been asked to prepare an alternate winter schedule, in which all classes meet 4 days per week. But I have a concern that scheduling 4 days a week may hurt our department's ability to maintain the high number of offerings we have had in the past.

We need to do SLOs for 70S and 110S. Also, program-level SLOs are needed for our Math AS-T degree.

Announcements

- 1) **Scot:** Integration and Factoring Rally, on May 9 at 2:30 pm, in Room 61-2306.
- 2) **David:** Save the date: May 24th. 6 pm. MAA President Francis Su from Harvey Mudd College will be giving a talk entitled "Mathematical Card Tricks" in Room 11-2402.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm

Submitted by:

Department Chair
Art Nitta

Recorder
Cameron Troxell