

**MATHEMATICS DIVISION**  
**2018-2019**

DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING - Monday, October 17, 2018

Fall 2018 meetings  
8/23 1:00-4:00 pm  
9/17, 10/15, 11/19  
2:40 - 4:00 pm MSB 214

**Division Chair**

Bonnie Blustein, Ph.D.

**Full Time Faculty**

Mohamad Alwash, Ph.D.  
Bonnie Blustein, Ph.D.  
Zachary Brown  
William Bucher  
Tanshee Cheng  
Henri Feiner  
Thomas Harjuno  
Jeremy Jankans, Ph.D.  
Jamie Jenson  
Manushak Movsisyan  
Matthew Robertson  
Vidya Swaminathan, Ph.D.

**Curriculum  
Committee Rep**

Tanshee Cheng

**Academic Senate Rep**

Thomas Harjuno (F18).

**Adjunct Rep**

(Vacant)

**Adjunct Faculty:**

Patricia Arriola  
Beyenne Bayssa  
Aduana Bedassa  
Brian Carty  
Safaa Dabagh  
Lelisa Dera  
Farrah Esmaeili  
Junko Forbes  
Nancy Foreman  
Dan Franden  
Jilbert Gharamanians  
Juliana Howe  
Carrie Huang  
Alvin Kim  
I-Shen Lai  
Ariel Mazzarelli  
Mehdi Mirfattah  
Rex Perez  
Tim Russell  
Peter Sarantopoulos  
Aaron Simo  
Wendy Tu, Ph.D.  
James Ulrich  
Jaime Vallejo  
Jason Wang  
Lan Xu

The meeting was called to order at 2:43 p.m. Present: Blustein (chair), Alwash, Brown, Bucher, Cheng, Feiner, Harjuno, Jankans, Jenson, Movsisyan, Swaminathan; Guests Alvin Kim, James Ulrich

The agenda was approved.

Public comment: Mr. Kim noted a sign on the copier that it was jammed and asked who was in charge of fixing it. Blustein said she would refer it to Mr. Tibbs, the Science/Math secretary.

The minutes of the meeting of September 17, 2018 were approved. (m Jankans/s Bucher/p unanimously)

Blustein reviewed developments regarding AB 705 implementation, referring to an email message sent out after the DAS Discipline Day for more details. Cheng reported on the status of Math 227S and 241S in the Curriculum Committee.

Blustein presented draft language for a Curriculum Committee motion on automatic approval of prerequisite challenges in specified cases:

“All student petitions for placement into Math 215, 227 or 245 (but NOT Math 236 or Math 241) in accordance with the AB 705 implementation plan are hereby granted, effective immediately and until such time as an appropriate placement model is integrated into the registration system.”

After discussion, a motion was passed to approve this language. (m Bucher/s Movsisyan/p unanimously)

Blustein presented a draft placement form and message created by Angel Viramontes and edited by Blustein. After some time was spent reading and discussing the document, a motion was passed to approve the edited version with a few minor corrections. (m Bucher/s Jankans/p with one abstention).

The Math Division discussed and approved a draft resolution to be presented by the Math Division to the WLAC Academic Senate. (m Jenson/s Alwash/p unanimously):

*The values of West LA College include “each student and employee striving for excellence,” holding ourselves and others to the highest standards,” and the affirmation that “at West, everyone... is empowered by high expectations, respect and acknowledgement in all pursuits.”*

*In the light of the challenges created by AB 705 and the new funding formula, the Academic Senate of West Los Angeles College reaffirms its commitment to the integrity of our programs and fully expects that no faculty will experience any form of pressure to inflate grades, lower academic standards, or engage in social-promotion.*

*We request that President Limbaugh state publicly and unequivocally, as Vice-Chancellor Ryan Cormmer did at the Academic Senate Discipline Day in September, that his office will never condone grade inflation, social promotion, or the lowering of academic standards.*

*We ask Vice-Chancellor Cormmer to put his stated commitment into writing and circulate it to the presidents of all nine colleges with a request that they disseminate it to their senior staff.*

Mr. Harjuno was asked, as Math Division representative on the Academic Senate, to forward this resolution to the Academic Senate President.

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Blustein reported that she had sent a non-binding letter of intent in support of Eric Simoneau’s proposed NSF statistics Curriculum Collaboration project. There was some discussion during which concerns were presented. Brown indicated that he might be interested in participating in this project if the funding comes through.

Brown and Jenson proposed that the Math 122 Final Exam include a formula sheet for probability. There was no objection from faculty who typically teach statistics (or from anyone else).

Harjuno and Brown reported on the Academic Senate discussion of the building program and related shared governance issues. Bucher provided a historical perspective on these issues.

Calculator inventory – no update

Evaluation criteria project: no update

Low-cost/OER textbook project: no update BUT we need to make decisions for Spring soon

SLO report – no update

Facilities/WEC report - none

There being no new business except thanks to Jenson for the muffins, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:**

1. Vacancies for District Academic Senate, Ed Policies & Standards Committee, maybe others
2. **Departmental Final Exam/SLO committees:**

(ALL SLOs for ALL math courses have to be assessed this semester. Instructors are free to create their own SLO assessment instrument, but for multi-section courses it would make people’s lives a little easier if a common assessment instrument is available)

- Math 105 \***Manushak**
- Math 110/112 \***Jamie**, Manushak
- Math 115 \* **Thomas**, Jeremy, Mohamad
- Math 122 \***Zach**, Jamie
- Math 123B \***Henri**, Tanshee
- Math 125/123C \***Vidya**, William
- Math 227 \***Bonnie**, Matt

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