

# MATHEMATICS DIVISION 2017-2018

**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**  
Jeremy Jankans, Ph.D.

**Adjunct Rep**  
(Vacant)

**Meeting**  
**Dates | Times | Location**  
Third Mondays  
2:40 - 4:00 pm  
MSB 214

Unless otherwise noted

## Minutes Math Division Meeting, Monday, November 27, 2017

**Present:** Blustein, Brown, Bucher, Cheng, Harjuno, Jankans, Jenson, Movsisyan, Robertson, Swaminathan

**Guest:** Alvin Kim

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m. The agenda was approved.
2. There were no public comments.
3. The consent agenda was approved unanimously.
  - a. Approve minutes of meeting October 16, 2017
  - b. Spring Math Division meetings: Mondays, 2:40-4:00 pm on Feb. 12, Mar 12, April 16, May 14.
4. Blustein gave a brief report on the AMATYC conference, touching on three main points:
  - a. Meeting of math chairs yielded suggestion that the Math Division should have a mission/strategic plan that defines who we are and what we do. This could be a touchstone when we are approached with requests to do this or that. Perhaps this could be tied to a revision of the PLOs. We actually have three “programs” – developmental math; general math; STEM. Discussion: Keep PLOs broad.
  - b. Pathways: reports from across the country show widespread problems. Pathways consist of different paths for different majors, some consist of almost no math, and some only algebra needed for stats. There is a degrading of knowledge. How can we address this?

We will probably need to start looking at a Math for Liberal Studies course (Math 230), and look at CSUs and UCs that correlate with 230.
  - c. Future of developmental math. See the PowerPoint “45 Years of Developmental Math.” Developmental may be gone from the community colleges within 5 years though students will continue to arrive with the same knowledge gaps. Experiences elsewhere with non-credit co-requisite classes have not been encouraging. Enrollment in WLAC Basic Skills math classes is still very low. Trend seems to be toward no more than two math classes before transfer level. We should start thinking about what, if this were the case, we’d want those two classes to be.
5. Proposal for developmental math sequence (Manushak) – approved by consensus. We will reduce the number of sections of Math 105 and 112, and increase the number of Math 110 sections. Full-timers should volunteer to teach more of the 110 classes, and get that group stronger. We may want to consider restructuring the course (same content).
6. DSPS common final exams: Bonnie will find out what days/times are available.  
*UPDATE: Per Dr. Duke, Mon-Thurs 9 am – 7 pm and Friday 9 am -5 pm.*
7. Academic Senate (Jeremy) – no report

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8. Report from Curriculum Committee (Tanshee) –Committee will consider revisions of BskSk 56/57 (Arithmetic Review) and 57/58 (Pre-Algebra Review) to fully align with CORs for Math 105 and 112.. We do not object.

CID status for Math 261 has expired. Tanshee emailed Adriana Martinez to see what we could do to rectify this, and has not heard back yet. Matt recalls this issue. He will forward the email to Bonnie and see who can help go over it. That should include people with significant experience teaching the course. It may need to be 6 units. If so it could possibly take over some of the material from 260)

9. Discussion of “honors” credit in transfer-level math classes. Not in STEM sequence. Possibly Statistics but there are problems with the current model. Bonnie asked Tiffany to investigate models of honors sections of statistics but has not heard back. Zach and Manushak will look into it. (What do they require? Can they transfer out of the class if they find it is too much?)
10. New business

- a) Two research studies – The first had an approval deadline at the end of November. That is not feasible. Bonnie will forward the second one (about college algebra) to everyone and ask interested parties to contact the researcher directly.
- b) “screening” exams for potential tutors and related issues. – Bonnie is revising these to focus on error identification and word problems. She discussed the new tutoring regimen and some of its problems. .
- c) Math 122 as prereq for 227 – This is not in the system so Math 122 students cannot enroll in 227. Possible solutions were discussed.  
*UPDATE: Bonnie contacted Michael Goltermann and Ara Aguiar and it appears that Michael will fix this today 11/29*
- d) Math 122 as prereq for 215 and 245 different problem – This is numerically a much smaller problem.

*UPDATE: COR change for 215 is in process. COR change for 245 is in Bonnie’s ECD mailbox and she will not act on it at this time.*

Students wishing to use 122 as prereq for 245 will do prereq challenge that can be approved on case-by-case basis

## 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Reminder that **ALL exams, tests, quizzes for DSPS students who request accommodations MUST be given in the DSPS testing area. No exceptions.**
- b. Science-Math Holiday party/potluck on December 12. All invited!

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c. Reminder: common final exam committees (these should be in process)

Math 105 \***Manushak, Matt**

Math 110/112 **Jamie**, \*Zach

Math 115 \***Manushak, Mohamad, Thomas**

Math 122 \***Bonnie**

Math 123A \***Jamie**, Henri

Math 123B \***Tanshee, Bonnie**

Math 125/123C \***Vidya, Jeremy, William, Thomas**

d. Comprehensive evaluations next semester for Bucher, Feiner, Harjuno, Swaminathan: will need to form committees early in the semester. Evaluatees should let me know whom they will select from the division. Other tenured faculty should let me know if they want to be the division rep on a committee. Unless there are objections, I will chair all four committees.

e. **Reminder that all instructors are to assign final grades based on students' demonstrated level of mastery of the content as specified in the COR, using the grading rubric provided in the syllabus. Placement issues may have negatively impacted success rates in some courses, but grade inflation is unprofessional and NOT an acceptable response.**

12. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10.

13. Winter enrollments as of 11/27/17 7:30 am

112	11:00 AM	Kim	9
112	02:00 PM	Berns	8
123A	02:00 PM	Simo	15
227	08:00 AM	Tu	7
227	02:00 PM	Perez	33
227	11:00 AM	Vallejo	29
241	08:00 AM	Feiner	16
245	08:00 AM	Arriola	9

There are 3 students enrolled in Basic Skills math classes.