

MATHEMATICS DIVISION
2017-2018

Spring 2018
meetings

2/12, 3/12, 4/16, 5/14
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

Jeremy Jankans, Ph.D.

Adjunct Rep

(Vacant)

Adjunct Faculty:

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Aaron Simo
Wendy Tu, Ph.D.
James Ulrich
Jaime Vallejo
Jason Wang
Lan Xu

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, **March 12, 2018** 2:40 – 4:00 p.m. MSB 214

Present: Blustein (chair); Brown, Bucher, Cheng, Feiner, Harjuno, Jankans, Jenson, Robertson, Swaminathan

Guest: Alvin Kim

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m. The agenda was approved with the addition of several items of new business. (M/S/P)

There was no public comment.

The minutes of the meeting of February 12, 2018 were approved. (M/S/P)

There was further discussion of AB 705 and “Guided Pathways.” The following motions were made and approved:

1. The phase-out of the Math 123 sequence will begin by cancelling Math 123A in the fall (last section offered Summer 2018), offering the last Math 123B section(s) in Fall 2018 and the last Math 123C section(s) in Spring 2019. Archive 123 ABC in summer or fall of 2019. Indicate phase-out in schedule and catalog. (M Swaminathan/S/P)
2. Un-archive Math 100 and revise as 1-unit, 2-standard hours lab course to use as co-requisite for “just-in-time” algebra remediation. Each Math 100 section would be linked to a particular Mathematics class and would be taught by the teacher of that course. (M/S/P)
3. We will start the curriculum process to adapt (from LAVC) and adopt Math 134 (6 unit combined elementary-intermediate algebra) in spite of potential problems with it, in case it seems to be advisable to offer it at some future time. (M Bucher/S/P)
4. We will revise the COR for Math 236 to change the pre-requisite to Math 245 (College Algebra) instead of Math 125 (Intermediate Algebra), in line with many other colleges in the area, noting that students will still have the pre-requisite challenge option, and we will review and possibly revise the COR for Math 245 to focus appropriately. (M Jankans/S/P)

Two other action items were considered but not voted on:

5. We will consider options for linking Math 245 to Math 241 (Trigonometry): a. Make 245 prerequisite to 241; b. Make 245 co-requisite to 241; c. Add 245 as another prerequisite for Math 260.
6. We will invite all WLAC math faculty to consider signing the public letter being prepared by the LACCD District Math Committee and to consider participating in lobbying activities regarding AB 705.

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The letter on safety sent to the College president by the Science Division was presented and discussed. Motion to support the letter passed (M Robertson/S/P)

Mr. Cheng reported on progress with the Math 261 COR update and the related change in the Math 262 COR.

There was a brief discussion of common textbook adoption and moves toward low-cost solutions for students. We agreed informally to look at Vitaly Shvetsov's MyOpenMath class (Course ID: 32207) -- see Announcements (below)

Dr. Blustein gave a brief report on bringing faculty evaluations up to date and creating a schedule for the next six years.

Dr. Jankans reported on the upcoming Academic Senate vote on Division Realignment.

Mr. Kim indicated that he would like to start a math club. Ms. Jenson has recruited some interested students and others offered also to recruit. Mr. Kim should consult with Dr. Alwash about the previous incarnation of the Math Club. Students who wish to re-organize the club should consult ASO about how to proceed with the paperwork.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Departmental Final Exam committees:

Math 105 ***Zach**, Matt

Math 110/112 ***Henri**, Manushak

Math 115 ***William**, Thomas, Mohamad

Math 122 (Jamie has the only section)

Math 123A ***Jamie**, Bonnie (*Jeremy will help*)

Math 123B ***Tanshee**, Bonnie

Math 125/123C ***Vidya**, Jeremy, Tanshee

- Starting with Fall 2018, all instructors on the adjunct seniority list must be offered a 2nd class before anyone who is not already on the list can be offered one. The 2nd class offers do NOT have to go by seniority; the seniority list is treated as a "pool." NO classes can go to anyone not on the seniority list until everyone on the list has two classes, is maxed out, or refuses another assignment.
- Reminder that exams, tests, quizzes for DSPS students who request accommodations should be given in the DSPS testing area. They are working on a waiver form for students to sign if they would prefer another arrangement.
- NO math classes are due for SLOs this semester. If you have an old SLO evaluation that is overdue, Mary Jo and Luis would be happy to get it.

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5. Software giveaway (test banks etc) in Bonnie's office. Will be discarded if nobody claims it.
6. Please turn in Work Block form and syllabi for Spring 2018 if you haven't already done so.
7. If you taught a 100-level class in Fall 17 and have not yet gotten back to Bonnie with the students' grades/final exam scores, please do that soon
8. From Vitaly Shvetsov:

Last meeting we discussed using OERs in our Beginning and Intermediate Algebra Classes.

I use MyOpenMath.com (Course ID: 32207) with the following texts:

Beginning and Intermediate Algebra by Tyler Wallace

<http://www.wallace.ccfaculty.org/book/book.html>

College Algebra by Stitz and Zeager

<http://www.stitz-zeager.com/>

Tyler Wallace has workbooks available for his class. This will be useful if we teach Math 134 with the lab.

Feel free to browse through my template course.

Sincerely,

Vitaly Shvetsov

Los Angeles Valley College

Department of Mathematics

ShvetsVS@lavc.edu

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SCIENCE DIVISION

James Limbaugh, Ph.D

President

West Los Angeles College

9000 Overland Ave.

Culver City, CA 90230

Re: Campus Active Shooter Safety

Dear President Limbaugh,

We, the undersigned faculty of the Science Division, wanted to reach out to you to respond to your heartfelt email regarding the most recent shooting in Parkland, Florida.

The recent epidemic of school shootings has concerned us greatly. Our concern stems primarily from the fact that faculty have no way of locking the classroom doors from the inside, quickly, easily and safely. Locking classroom doors from inside was thought to be one of the reasons why more students were not killed at Parkland. To begin to address this issue, we invited Vice-President Iris Ingram to attend our November 2016 division meeting so that we could review the College's action plan for active shooters, and discuss how our doors could be altered to keep faculty, staff and students safe. VP. Ingram informed us that the College plan includes reviewing and practicing the approved active shooter drills. In addition, she mentioned that district could not afford the cost of retrofitting doors so that they can lock from the inside of the classrooms and laboratories.

The overwhelming opinion from the faculty following this meeting was that this answer was unacceptable. While we recognize that there are a variety of doors in each campus building, monetary issues should never be the reason why we refuse to keep our campus community safe. While we wait for a more appropriate response and solution from our campus administrators and district officials, a few science faculty members have come up with their own creative systems to try to secure our doors during an event like this. These initiatives originated from the collective concern regarding VP. Ingram's response. While these are not the most elegant solutions, they could potentially slow an active shooter long enough to allow our students to protect themselves or deter him/her from entering a room entirely. These initiatives are also proof of the concern that our faculty has for the safety of our students. Undeniably, the best solution would be to install locks that could lock with a key on the outside and lock with a deadbolt from the inside. We were very disappointed and frustrated to hear from one of our vice-presidents that the district is unwilling to install such an option because of costs. After all, how much is a life worth? There are budgets for the construction of new buildings, but what

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about the safety of the old ones?

Therefore, we are respectfully asking you, as our president, to take up the charge on behalf of our faculty and students to contact our district officials to demand that the LACCD establish a budget to invest in the safety and protection of our faculty and student. As these tragic and horrifying mass shooting events continue to happen, we should not continue to delay the implementation of active shooter safety measures in our campus buildings. Other colleges, such as Santa Monica College, have recently taken real steps to protect their student body. We do not know what the exact solution for our doors is, but we do know that finding one is of the utmost importance.

We know how much you truly care about this college, and we cannot think of a better person to represent us in this most important and pressing matter. We hope that you consider our request for representation.

Sincerely,

Science Division

West Los Angeles College

(signatures follow)