

Math Division Meeting
Thursday, August 24, 2017
1:00 – 4:00 p.m. MSB 214

Present: Bonnie Blustein (chair), Mohamad Alwash, Zachary Brown, William Bucher, Tanshee Cheng, Henri Feiner, Thomas Harjuno, Jeremy Jankans, Jamie Jenson, Manushak Movsisyan, Matt Robertson, Vidya Swaminathan, James Ulrich, Alan Stillson

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

1. The agenda was approved.

2. The Consent Agenda was unanimously approved:

- a. Students shall automatically be allowed to enroll in a course one level below that into which they have assessed.
 - b. Math 122 shall serve as a prerequisite to Math 215, 227, 245.
 - c. Math 125 instructors are asked NOT to “add” students to their classes unless the student has or is considering a STEM major or another program that requires Trigonometry, Finite Math or Business Calculus.
 - d. Math 115 instructors are asked to make sure students know about the Math 123ABC option before deciding to “add” them.
 - e. Math Division meetings will generally be held on the 3rd Monday of each month from 2:40 – 4:00 pm.
- 3. Scheduling and enrollment issues** – check and let Bonnie know if your schedule is off and needs revising.

Discussion of possible class cancellations.

We should enroll students who are STEM majors into 125; others should be redirected to 122.

You can go by the waitlist to add students, because they should already be eligible to add the class.

Send students to the first floor of the library for help enrolling.

Make sure on the first day of class to have substance, don't let enrollment chaos eat up the whole day.

- 4. Textbook issues** – Status of 122 and 125 book: XYZ website has the book. In 122, the Binomial Theorem is missing (needs to be rectified). Also, probability as a function (can do a handout) Also, no chapter review and chapter test for Chapter 3, the stats and prob stuff. This means it is probably not in the cumulative review either. Those who are teaching 122 should be taking notes as they go along on what they want to fix/change etc. Matt will be point-person for contact with XYZ on this.

Questions about level of rigor of 125 text. There are a lot of flaws, but they did admit that their graphics are questionable. It is the first edition, so maybe we shouldn't have decided to use it. There are good and bad with this book. People need to work on their pacing for this course. (The book is set up pretty closely to the last book)

Issues about 122 go to Bonnie, issues about 125 go to Jeremy

Suggestion that Division should vote on any book proposed for adoption.

Problems with Math 112 Martin-Gay text: we are short on used copies; students can't afford it.

Make sure to email your students now so they can buy the book now, if they need a calculator, etc.

- 5. Division's role in planning new building(s)** – Plans to tear down the SC, CE, and library buildings and replace using SS bond money. The state has a formula about what it would cost to get it to standard vs. building new. William will represent Division at planning meetings (dependent on time)

6. **Assessment “cut” scores for Math 215, 227, 235, 236, 241, 245** – the cut scores need to be adjusted for 215, 235, 236.

Reports that some international students just select randomly -- perhaps because they are not used to multiple-choice, or have language problems. (or possibly want to learn English better by taking a math class they already know)

Questions about how “section transfer” and drop/add will work for students, after the no penalty date?

7. **Discussion of proposed division goals for 2017-2018** – What kinds of things do we want to accomplish this year:

Get this adjunct office cleaned up, and functional. (MSB-214 makeover) Place to stash final exams, books in the cabinets; need keys

Adjuncts need classroom keys (at least to MSA)

Math should figure out what we want to do with Basic Skills/Non-credit Math. We should put together an outline of the noncredit classes and credit classes and which way these should go. A committee was formed to look at success rates, curriculum, visit classes, find out what other campuses do, formulate proposal for Math Division. (time frame: first 2/3 of the semester)

Committee volunteers: Zach, Matt, Manushak, Jamie, Bonnie (ex officio)

Look at data on 115, 123, 125 (compare with old 117/118/127/128) and start thinking about updating algebra tracks.

Academic Advisement: Find and advise math majors. Survey 263 students and encourage them to file papers for an AA in math. Create a formal checklist for math majors (Zach working on this). Put together list of what Math 2xx classes are needed for different majors.

8. **Review of committee assignments** – (see updated list)
9. **Math Major “Pathway”** -- The Math Division does not believe that we can or should prescribe the “most important” or “valuable” GE courses for Math majors. Our division goal is to identify math majors and potential majors and arrange academic advisement in our department.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Reminder: AMATYC conference in San Diego – you can get \$150 for the conference and if you want to go, you need to join first then register as a member. End of September is the last time to do early bird. (Investigate for scholarships) Alvin Kim wants to go (adjunct) Ask Bonnie if you have questions or need help or need money.
2. please email your Fall 2017 syllabus (for each section you teach) as a *Word* or *.pdf* document by the first week of instruction to the Office of Academic Affairs at academicaffairs@wlac.edu. It would be helpful to send it also to harjunt@wlac.edu, make it pdf.
3. Pacific Math Alliance Workshop on October 14th at CSUN – read the email.
4. Minitab should be available. Matt is coordinating. Iris said it is being worked on. Would be good for 122 students to practice with.
5. AFT retirement benefits conference, Sept 15.
6. Remind students that 123 texts are in the library, to check out for the semester.

Next Meeting:

1. Final Exam Committees – sooner rather than later.
2. Textbook 112 – workbook or martin-gay