Math Basic Skills Committee of Connecticut  
December 10, 2010  
Minutes

Present: Paul Edelen (MCC), John Callaghan (GWCC), Teresa Foley (ACC), Rachael Schettenhelm (GWCC), David Gross (UCONN), Sue Ricciuti (TxCC), Senan Hayes (WCSU), Alain D’Amour (SCSU), Pam Frost (MxCC), Jeffrey Kenausis (NCC), Marty Hartog (SCSU), Marlene Lovanio (Bristol PS)

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm
2. The minutes of the November 19th meeting were unanimously approved.
3. No Announcements
4. Old Business
   a. Analysis of test scores of students transferring to CSU’s:
      • John shared the data for Math for the Liberal Arts comparing SCSU with CC students
      • Alain shared a side by side comparison of CC with SCSU students for Math for the Liberal Arts, Mathematics for Elementary Education I, Elementary Statistics, Mathematics for Natural Sciences, College Algebra, and Precalculus. The SCSU student population represents students that either placed into these courses or took Intermediate Algebra at SCSU. The CC student population represents students that took Intermediate Algebra at a CC in CT.
      • Jeffrey distributed another comparison of SAT scores vs. course grades. The distributions are what would be expected. The sample of the CSU’s is much larger than the CTC.
      • The group raised concerns about the number of D, F, W’s in both groups. Midterm grades and other warning systems at various schools were shared. UCONN submits D’s and F’s around the 5-6 week with a notice going to the student and their advisor. Questions were raised about which courses are required at the CC’s to enter various math courses at the CSU’s and many folks shared about their learning outcomes for many of their courses.
      • Summary: For the basic courses both groups are doing ok but for the higher level courses there is a large cohort that is not completing the course, especially for the CC’s.
      • Thanks to John, Alain, and Jeffrey for putting all this information together for our review and consideration.
   b. The email list has been updated from the information from last month’s meeting.
   c. The meeting dates for the year have been set and we will stay at TxCC.
   d. Emporium courses: Senan reported that at Western they will be offering fewer 098 classes next Fall with a larger class size in a hybrid model. Senan’s class will have more required attendance and participation. The other class will only meet the first day and for tests. A letter will go to new students that the requirement is still in effect, but they
should fulfill it over the summer or outside of Western (like at NVCC or NCC) at their cost during the semester.

5. New Business
   a. Marlene shared information on a new course, Advanced Mathematical Decision Making, which they are adding in response to the change in the law that will require high school students to take four years of math for graduation. This course will follow Algebra 2 for students that are not ready or do not want Precalculus. This is designed specifically for high school students and includes general problem solving, probability, statistics, modeling, and mathematical decision making in general. The Dana Center will be coming to CT to do training and Marlene has been contacting other districts. She is looking for University partners to take the training and work with the districts and teachers for follow up training and support. It was suggested that we should look at the interested high schools and use partnerships with the universities that already exist. Southern expressed interest if there are several high schools in their area that they already have partnerships formed. UCONN might have some assistant professors in residents paired with a regular faculty member interested. It was mentioned that Eastern may also be interested.

6. Next meeting is February 11, 2011 at TxCC at 1:30 pm

7. Motion to adjourn at 3:15 pm

Respectively submitted,

Pam Frost