Math Basic Skills Committee of Connecticut
September 9, 2011 Tunxis CC, Room 7-206
Minutes

Present: Larisa Alikhanova (TRCC), Karen Collin (NWCC), Paul Edelen (MCC), Pam Frost (MxCC), David Gross (UConn), Senan Hayes (WCSU), Marty Hartog (SCSU), Jeff Kenausis (NCC), Mark Leach (HCC), Rachel Schettenhelm (GWCC), Sue Spencer (GWCC), Nick Stugard (TXCC)

Fall 2011 meetings: October 14, November 11 (Note: this is scheduled during AMATYC’s national conference in Austin, TX). BRING YOUR CALENDAR TO SCHEDULE SPRING MEETINGS.

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. The minutes of the April 15, 2011 meeting were approved.

3. Announcements
   a) Marty Hartog announced that SCSU has a new liberal education program with two tiers. Tier one is for competencies and tier two is for areas of knowledge. Transfer students can come in under the old or new system. Community colleges will not have to change their classes to meet these new requirements. Some examples of tier one requirements for math can be math 106, 107, 108 and precalculus. Geometry is an example of a tier two class.

   b) A MATYCONN workshop and meeting will be held at Capital Community College October 21, 2011. Herb Gross will be speaking on every day calculus and then the teacher as a coach. The day starts at 1 pm and concludes at 5:30-6:30 with dinner. The total cost is $20 for the whole day.

   c) ALEKS is being used at MCC to teach prealgebra and elementary algebra. They did a comparison on the final exam in elementary algebra to compare how students did in a traditional class as opposed to ALEKS. Under the same criteria including no partial credit, the students who learned using ALEKS got twice as many right compared with the other students. Also, in prealgebra it was statistically better although not as dramatic.

   d) There is going to be a pretest given on the first day in intermediate algebra to further measure the impact of ALEKS. Three comparisons will take place: students who placed in directly to intermediate, students who had the traditional class in elementary algebra, and students who used ALEKS to learn elementary algebra.

Respectfully submitted, Mark Leach