

# Department of Mathematics - Monthly Meeting

## Fall 2018

October 19, 2018  
9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.  
Pecan Campus Bldg. Y Room 2.112

### Agenda

---

- **Welcome!**
- **Guest Presentations**
  - Student Activities – Jose Pena
  - Philosophy Department - Aaron Wilson
- **Continual Business**
  - Required Blackboard Fundamentals workshop completion – Fall 2018 (no exceptions!)
  - Math & Science Division Meta-Majors (Calculus I recommendation)
  - MATH 2412 – Pre-Calculus Course Description + Syllabus Topic List – Eric J. Garcia
- **New Business**
  - Texas Success Center Mathematics Pathways Survey\*
  - New ACGM Recommendation: BUSI 2305 – Business Statistics (Open Comment Period through tomorrow, October 20<sup>th</sup>)\*
  - NACEP Accreditation – new guidelines & expectations for Dual Credit support
  - FLAC NOE creation/verification system – Spring 2019 implementation
  - STC Student Enrollment Revenue Projections\*
  - College-wide SWOT Survey Results\*
  - Degree & Certificate Awards AY1718\*
  - Traditional Sections/Enrollment Comparison Report – MSB\*
  - Grants Update
    - UTRGV NSF STEP Sub-Award
    - Catch the Next – ASCENDER
  - Curriculum Committee Update – Eric Garcia, Lily Rai



- Faculty Senate Update – Veronica Dominguez, Daniel Montez
- Professional Development
  - Rio Grande Valley Council of Teachers of Mathematics (RGVCTM) Annual Conference
    - Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 8am – 4pm, UTRGV  
(presentation proposals due by October 31<sup>st</sup>)
  - American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC)
    - Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, Orlando, FL

**Thank you for all of your hard work and contributions!**

SOUTH TEXAS  
COLLEGE

**Next meeting:**

Friday, November 16, 2018

Friday, December 7, 2018 (Potluck Luncheon w/Mathematics Graduates)





## **Mathematics Department Meeting**

**Fall 2018**

**October 19, 2018**

**9:00am-12:00pm**

**Pecan Campus Bldg. Y. 2 -112**

**Present:**

**Absent:**

**Guest Presentation:** Jose Pena

- Over 80 student organizations and Intramural Sports. The first-year connection is the first contact they have with the student's two-hour event. When they first started 95 percent were first generation the orientation was geared towards them. They are allowed to bring two guests. They have parent sessions relating to financial aid. They hire a professional motivational speaker. It's treated as a family event (first year connection). After the first two hours there are several tables available for the various programs. Every year they do about 13 sessions with a 2000 student – 4800 students. All the events that they have are used as opportunities to disseminate information about our programs to the students. Fall Festival starts next week. Mr. Pena is talking about some various activities that we have. The students need to feel a connection with the college says Mr. Pena. The audience gasps at the huge snake on screen. Over 80 student organizations (academic, religious, and political). John Bell is in charge of a Math Club for the ASCENDER program.
- An advisor, five students, and filled out form are required to start a club. Mr. Pena is showing the form on screen. A constitution needs to be filled out. Takes about 90 minutes to complete. Club fair is for the organizations to recruit new members. Club Olympics is a competition within the clubs for bragging rights.
- Student Government Organization represents the voice of the students. If they see something wrong with the college, they have a voice to fix it.
- The largest program is the intramural sports is open to all students, faculty, and staff. There are several sports to choose from. The students are given a trophy and shirt.
- Student Leadership Academy exposes the students to different leadership characteristics 10 workshops and 20 volunteer hours are required. They have a pinning ceremony and are given a certificate at the end. The goal is to get them involved here first and light that "spark" in the students to go out in the community. They partner with the local organizations.
- All the information is available on the Student Activities websites.

- Dr. Hassanpour asks if students receive anything for excellence in the classroom. Mr. Pena states that studies show that when students feel a connection with the college they are more likely to succeed. The student leadership is a program to help develop students. The students were able to meet Hilary Clinton and Barack Obama among others as part of the program.
- Mrs. Rai states that students need outside activities other than academic excellence because in her experience, students have problems getting jobs when they don't.
- Mr. Pena is sharing a personal story about how a student had a 4.0 GPA and trying to get into the PTA program. The student was not involved in the community or any extra-curricular activities. The student and forgotten how involved he actually was with the community.
- Mrs. Punsalan wants to know what the charge is to use the wellness center. The kinesiology department is overseeing it now. It is free but subject to certain hours available on the site.
- The Facebook page has various pictures of all the activities.
- Mr. Pena has completed his presentation.

### **Continuing Business**

- Dr. Werfelli is at home.
- Mario would like us to partner with the Philosophy department for a speaker series.
- Everyone must complete the Blackboard Fundamentals training this year. It must be done for dual as well.
- Mr. Ethridge is wondering how we know if we are deficient in Blackboard Fundamentals. Mario will request a list.
- Quality Matters has changed to the 6<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Mr. Etheridge asks if we have done the QM training do we still need to do the Blackboard Fundamentals
- It is a growing expectation for everyone to be familiar with online services. It's part of the emergency response protocol.
- If you're not sure whether you are deficient in the Blackboard Fundamental training, get in touch with Mario or distance education.

### **Meta Majors**

- We don't want students to take unnecessary courses.
- Do we include any specific science course for our program?
- We only have one last opportunity to get this into the catalog (November 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Eric States that an Emergency Division meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will follow up with him.
- Lily would like us to form a committee to deal with the "Pre-calculus topic list issue"
- We will focus on the degree plan for right now. Largest degree is interdisciplinary studies. The meta-majors give students a generalized starting point so that within the first year they can pick a specific area.
- Dr. Fathelden is in favor of letting the student decide what is best for themselves. We would be forcing them to take something they might fail. Better to let them doing something they like and any 8-hour option will be fine.
- Kelli stats that if a specific major has a specific course then they will have to go back and take it. In two years it may be a moot point.

- Dr. Fathelden reiterates that we leave it up to the students.
- Mr. Bell has a concern that if we try to make a decision based on UTRGV, some of the students may transfer to a school where they have a better diversity of courses.
- Mario – Meta Major is for students to identify a general area that the students are interested in. The design is that there is a common 1<sup>st</sup> and/or 2<sup>nd</sup> semester to help undecided students having issues retaking classes or unnecessary courses. We are trying to help the majority
- Celina Jorge shows off her college catalog.
- Recommended and strongly recommended are options for us.
- We are trying our best to match up with the bigger group.
- Committee of 5 will finalize the science option and course description.
- Mario will send out an e-mail selecting the committee.
- Dr. Hassanpour asks if other departments have been putting calculus 1 as the entry level math course.

### **Pre-Calculus Course Description**

- A good majority of people are in favor of the ACGM description.
  - There was a committee through the ACGM that created that recommendation
  - The ACGM leaves too much open ended.
  - Dr. Hassanpour argues that he is in favor because it gives faculty freedom. We need to be a little more flexible with the topics.
  - Mario argues that comparing two students would be more difficult with several optional topics.
  - Dr. Hassanpour asks why we would want to expose the students to series and sequences in pre-calculus.
  - Dr. Fathelden argues that the purpose of sequences and series is to prepare for power series. In his opinion it's too much for calculus 2 students to do the pre-calculus and calculus 2 work.
  - We will have 3 votes:
  - Recommendation for the meta-major.
  - What starting course for our degree plan will we use?
  - What description will we use for pre-calculus?
- 
- If we go with the ACGM we will have time to select the topic list.
  - The only way that students are allowed in calculus 1 is if they meet the prerequisites.
  - Eric Garcia states that the idea is to help the students, by having calculus 1 first the students can then choose from discrete math, linear algebra, or differential equations.
  - Dr. Fathelden really likes our degree plan because there are no "hidden prerequisites"
- 
- Mario states we should not have a core class in the degree plan.
  - Mr. Gaytan is wondering if there will be a review in two years based on a comment Dr. Davis made earlier.

### **Texas Pathway Survey**

- The Texas Success Center is taking the charge.
- The focus is on corequisites but there are questions about what they are and what they could be.
- Our “homework” is to read through it.
- Principle 4 “Instruction incorporates evidence-based curriculum and pedagogy”
- Mario wants our attention on what they list. What they are looking for in our instruction.
- He needs us to give him some information/feedback on “these things” scan and send it to him or make a copy. No names are needed. It’s a general survey of what we do in our class.
- Mario is stating how he desires that we diversify our teaching strategies and make time for self-reflection.
- Mario and Pablo were required to present to the board. The board is very interested in corequisites.
- By next fall we need to be at 50 percent of students enrolled in a corequisite class. After that 75 percent will need to be in a corequisite class.
- Mr. Pena has concerns about the readiness of coreq students to continue their academic course.
- Dr. Pezeshki says that it’s up to the instructor to manage it correctly. It’s a fantastic course for the students.
- Mario talks about the pre-cal/cal 1 combo and how seeing the students everyday affects the success of the program.
- Mr. Shaath is giving a testimonial about how amazing the pre-cal/cal1 class was for him.
- Eric Garcia is asking Dr. Pezeshki how he goes about teaching the college algebra corequisite. He would go through the r section first and give two exams (front loaded).
- Mario wants for us to collaborate with developmental math on the corequisite courses in general.
- Dr. Fathelden uses open resources in place of a chapter r for stats and contemporary math
- Lily is using review sections from MML (skills review) the first hour and forty-five minutes she teaches the academic class and the last fifty minutes for the lab.
- Mr. Bell is wondering if it’s possible to select 2-day or 4-day a week corequisite class.

#### **ACGM Recommendations BUSI 2305**

- A business committee decided that they would create a business statistics class. Another example of a program competing with ours.
- Our statistics course should be the standard, states Mario.
- It’s still open for comment, e-mail them to [Rebecca.lislie@theccb.state.tx.us](mailto:Rebecca.lislie@theccb.state.tx.us)
- Mario wants to make sure we balance the theory and application (business, nursing, psychology, etc.)
- Dr. Hassanpour talks about how every department has a statistics course at the last level that applies to that specific discipline.
- Eric Garcia wants to know if they are holding us accountable after the fact for not giving more business examples.
- Rosa says that psychology for statistics does not cover as much as we do. Mario states that it’s very “weak”.

- Mario is encouraging to let your voice be heard.
- Several faculty are voicing their concern and Mario is reiterating that we need to send Rebecca Leslie an e-mail.
- Lily is talking about how three programs have removed math from their degree plan. Two have added an additional math class to their program.
- Mario is talking specifically about how culinary arts invited us to their next meeting. We need to see what can be done to strengthen our offerings. Get out of the office and collaborate.
- Math department will hold a breakout session for college-wide in spring asking other departments to tell us what their math needs are.

#### **NACEP**

- Biggest dual credit program in the state.
- Programs come to visit to learn how to implement dual enrollment.
- Issues are students that go to school out of state they do not recognize dual credit work.
- This is the reason for the national accreditation.
- The standards are program based (professional development, etc.). Curriculum is not being scrutinized.
- The accreditation shows the strength of the program and will benefit the students.

#### **NOE**

- NOE's will be moved to an electronic system (FLAC)
- Training for supervisors soon. MJ and Abigail will give us a presentation on what to expect.

#### **STC Student Enrollment Revenue Projections**

- Enrollment has decreased.
- Each student represents money that we need.
- Mario disagrees with the practice of dropping students.
- "Was there an oversight when planning for the buildings we erected recently?" was asked by Mr. Eric Garcia

#### **Mary Jane**

- If you wish to go to RGVCTM you must let Mary Jane know by Tuesday. You must CC Mary Jane, Mario, and Abigail.
- AMATYC is in November. If you already have gone, you should give someone else an opportunity to go.
- New Payroll system demo will be available, and Mary Jane will guide us.
- At anything above 30 credit hours you will lose a class.
- If the day of census your actual capacity exceeds your cap, you will get paid an overload.
- The high schools pay a penalty to the college, so they do not fall under these new rules.
- Developmental Math now has a common final for three corequisite courses.
- We need to form committees to meet the need of the new CLO/PLO models.
- The faculty is expressing their desire to be a part of the developmental math discussions regarding corequisites in the future.

- Regarding upcoming travel please contact Mary Jane and Abigail.
- Blackboard is coming to Austin let Mary Jane know by January along with your justification.

#### **SWOT Results**

- The climate of the college is reflected, and we need to be aware and study these results.
- Enrollment-Traditional sections and enrollment 2017/2018 for the Math department we were at 108 percent meeting our goal. We meet this goal with the help of corequisite.
- Eric Garcia is bringing up that they have not installed Mathematica on the computers at Mid-Valley.
- Mid-Valley schedule will be done by Tuesday.

#### **Grants Update**

- Dr. Amro is gauging interest in the minimester course.
- MyMathLab issues are getting ironed out.
- Names are subject to change for the minimester if you have interest in teaching or questions in general please talk to Mario.
- Dr. Amro offered to cover Johnathon Bell's course.

#### **CURRICULUM COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- CITP added a course in lieu of their capstone course.
- BAT is reducing hours from 45 to 30 also adding a computer engineering track.
- Faculty are needed to teach a minimester course for the bachelor's program starting Monday.
- Dr. Amro states that it's similar to the stats course we are teaching now.
- The shells are ready to go and we are responsible for the courses. Mario will now assign and fill out the NOE's.
- Teaching online is the way we are going and it's helping our program. The enrollment reflects this.
- Eric is asking for clarification on the maximum 30 hours. There is skepticism about the implementation of it. Vice President will now receive the electronic NOE's for approval.
- There are no other questions, meeting is adjourned.

Next meetings:

Friday, November 16, 2018

Friday, December 7, 2018

**Adjourn 11:47 am**