PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE

MATHEMATICS CLUSTER AGENDA
Tuesday, October 13th, 2015
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Lake Worth Campus
BA 207

ITEM 1. What can faculty do to support the four Performance Funding measures (Job Placement/Continuing Education, Completion to 3-4 years, Retention, and Entry Level Wages)? (Gingras)

Discussion:

- Feedback on MAT1033C has all been positive
- The plan is to press to continue the 30 student maximum class size
- Burkett – the administration wants to compare this semester's pass rate to last fall's even though last fall's was abnormally high at 58%
- The PASS (Peer Assisted Study Sessions) Program is being piloted on the PBG campus
    - A means of retaining students and improving success rates in MAT 1033C
    - There have been over 300 visits
    - 60 – 65 students per week
    - Average visit lasts for 1.5 hours
    - Some professors are requiring students to participate
    - 95% of visits are recommendations from professors (not mandatory)
- The state will be using the entry level wages of each school's graduates as one of the factors in determining whether that school will be a Gold, Silver, or Bronze school. It was discussed that the problems with this system is that we have no control over those salaries.

Action: None

ITEM 2. General Education Problems (Porro)

Discussion:

- Results will be looked at in the spring and any changes to the Gen Ed Problems will be discussed then. The deadline for submitting new problems will be approximately April 15th to April 30th.
- Students that do not do an assessment problem should not be given a zero.
- Cluster voted unanimously to remove Calculus 2 & 3, Differential Equations, and Linear Algebra as Gen Ed courses, since very few students take these courses to fulfill the Gen Ed requirement.

Action:

- Porro will put a folder in the Math Cluster Folder with information on Gen Ed problems
- Dr. Pain will find out how to remove courses from the Gen Ed list and let Porro know.

ITEM #3. QEP – Professional Learning Group Program - (Lukacs, Piccolino)

Discussion:

- Lukacs provided information about using a rubric for her College Algebra course.
- Piccolino provided a handout of student projects that would help build conceptual learning and develop algebraic thinking in Intermediate Algebra to help students transfer skills to later math courses.

Action:

- Lukacs & Piccolino will put worksheets and rubrics in the Math Cluster folder.

ITEM #4. STEM Sabbatical - A brief summary (Heath)

Discussion:

- A sabbatical is paid leave for work, education, and/or travel.
- The PBSC website has the application, rubric, and names of past recipients.
- Participants receive 100% of their pay for a 1 semester sabbatical.
- Participants receive 75% of their pay for a 1 year sabbatical.
- Applicants must show how their sabbatical will benefit the college and students.
- Heath's sabbatical:
    - Increase knowledge of science, technology, and engineering topics – took courses in Calculus based Physics 1 & 2
    - Researched global STEM initiatives
    - Built a Robot in one of her courses
    - Attended a number of conferences:
        - Great Minds in STEM (N. Orleans) – took a group of PBSC students
        - Teachers Teaching with Technology (TX)
        - Experiential STEM Conference (Denver)

Action: Heath will be starting a blog soon and will invite cluster.

ITEM #5. MAT1033 (Burkett, Abbondanza, Berthiaume)

Discussion:

- Report of discussions from Breakout Session
- 30 student maximum class size is for Fall 2015/Spring 2016 only
- New cluster Final Exam is on the Math Cluster Folder
- MML will be simplified for spring with 2 versions available for professors to choose from.
    - 1 with only homework
    - 1 with the adaptive learning study plan

Action:

- Berthiaume has placed Test Gen versions of the Final Exam on the Cluster folder.
- Cox will create a final exam for MML.
- Burkett's SI will make youtube videos for Final Exam review.
- Burkett will email Cox with address to youtube videos so that Cox can send to cluster.

ITEM #6. MAT1100 (Burkett).

Discussion:

- New course that PBSC will offer for the first time this spring.
- Required topics can be covered in the order that each professor chooses.
- ISBN:
    - Bundle: Text + MyMathLab 978-1323293898
    - Custom Text alone 978-1323293911
    - Standalone MyMathLab code 978-0321199911

- Cluster voted to remove MGF1107 as a prerequisite for Statistics (1 abstain & 1 against) since 1106 provides a better foundation for Statistics. Also, most Florida schools use 1106 as the prerequisite for Statistics.
- Two paths for students to get to Statistics:
    - MAT1100 to MGF1106 to Statistics
    - MAT1033 to Statistics

Action: Burkett will put a folder in the Math Cluster folder for professors to share ideas and materials for 1100.

ITEM #7 Textbook Update (committees).

Discussion:
- MGF 1106/07, Liberal Arts Math, 9th Ed., Angel, Abbott, Runde, 2013, Pearson
- MAP2302 Differential Equations, 10th Ed., Zill, 2014, Brooks/Cole
    - PBSC just started using this book in fall 2014.
- MAC 2233 Survey of Calculus, 9th Ed., Larson, 2013, Cengage
    - Rogers was chosen to be the chair of this committee.

Action:
- Boulware will contact Brooks/Cole to request an extension of use for the Diff Eq book if needed.
- Cox will contact Pearson to request an extension of use for the Liberal Arts book.
- Survey of Calculus committee will decide on book by February 28, 2016.

ITEM #8. Math Awareness Week 2016 on each Campus (Chairs of committees)

Discussion:
- The name of MAW 2016: "The Future of Prediction".
- BG – Siassi & John Pearson (from SLC)
    - MAW will be run through the SLC. Students will have an opportunity to play games to promote critical thinking, such as Chess, Dominos and Backgammon. We will see if students are interested in going to Lake Worth campus and bus them over there, if they want to go.

- BR – Rogers – We have a meteorologist that will be presenting
- LW – Thomasson
    - Larson will be presenting on 3 campuses.
    - Working on getting an author from Pearson to present.
    - Will use vouchers again so that professors can give extra credit.
- PGA – Porro
    - Campus has open timeslots for more presenters.
    - Looking for a meteorologist to present.
    - There will be no game this year.

- There will be an update on the poem in January.

Action:

ITEM #9. NSF Innovate grant (PI: Dr. Jay Matteson, Co-PI's: Oleg Andric and Ira Rosenthal)

Discussion:

- Rosenthal and Andric informed the cluster about the scope of this grant that PBSC recently received.
  - The main goal is to increase the number of graduates in the EPT (Electrical Power Technology) and ET (Engineering Technology) programs through targeted recruitment, retention and minority outreach efforts.
  - Ultimately, there will also be an articulation agreement between PBSC and select universities, so that ET graduates who choose to continue their education will be able to transfer seamlessly.

- Rosenthal is creating contextualized 1033 Labs (with topics from engineering/physics and other applications)
  - First group of students will be taking the contextualized course this summer.

- Degrees in Electrical Power Tech require students to only take MAT1033 and MAC1105.
- EPT and ET program flyers were distributed and faculty was asked to mention these programs to their students. Currently there is a high demand for graduates of these programs.

Action:

ITEM #10. Math Jump During Summer 2015 (Opritsa, Ramos)

Discussion:

- 1 week program that covered material from MAT0056
- Actual program went very well but there were many problems before the actual week of classes.
- Students attended from 8am to 8pm and worked very hard.
- All but 1 student finished and is taking MAC1033. The one student that did not finish is currently earning an A in 0056.
- This program was originally done for minority students in California.
- The course must be taught during the summer.
- It has been shown that offering the course over a 2 week period does not work.
- PBSC plans to offer 2 sections of MAT0056 next summer and 1 modified (2 credit) version of MAT1033 (with a different course number). The new course needs to be developed.
- The plan is to make the new course count as the prerequisite for MAC1105. Students will not earn college credit toward graduation for taking this course.
- There will need to be a group of committed Lake Worth professors for next summer.

Action:

- Opritsa is collecting data on how these students are doing in 1033.
- Opritsa will research to find a suitable Florida developmental math course number for the modified 1033 course.
- Ramos & Opritsa will present data at the January Cluster meeting.

In Attendance:

Cluster Chair: Dr. Eugenia Cox
Scribe: Scott Berthiaume

Sullivan, Pick, Talebi, Librun, Toohey, Sharp, Domnitch, Siniscalchi, Gordon, Rodrigues, Rogers, Piccolino, Boulware, Burkett, Rosenthal, Lukacs, Pena-Lopez, Thomassan, Wilson, Basant, Langston, Porro, Siassi, Gingras, Alexandre, Heath, Abbondanza, Stevens, Ivanova, Simms, Graziose