PALM BEACH STATE

COLLEGE

MATHEMATICS CLUSTER MINUTES
Friday, August 19th, 2016
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM
Lake Worth Campus
BA 207

ITEM #1.   General Education Embedded Assessment for Fall 2016 (Porro)

Discussion: Changes in Gen Ed for Math –
- Questions available in shared folder (DO NOT MAKE CHANGES): Computer→Math Cluster→General Education→ *1Gen Ed Problems* Fall 2016
- Include questions in the midterm test corresponding to the relevant sections and NOT IN FINAL EXAM.

Action: None

ITEM #2.   Introduction of New Faculty

Discussion: Self introduction of all cluster members

- Boca Raton   Tim Finamore
- Palm Beach Gardens   Dr. Michael S. Barad
  Lake Worth   Milan, Zenaida
                         Opritsa, Alex
                         Chan, Kenny

ITEM #3.   MAT1033C Updates (Burkett, Abbondanza, Berthiaume)

Discussion:
- Burkett – No word from administration suggesting a change.
  - Analysis of results from Spring 2016 not yet available to be compared to fall's abnormally high at 58%, but most faculty members seemed to agree that the pass rate was noticeably lower than in Fall 2015. One theory that was offered to explain this is that students who are more intimidated by math put it off until the spring.
  - Feedback from faculty on extra 25 minutes—voted in favor
  - Credit for Participation
    Discussion: Many thought that we should consider reducing the amount of credit awarded for participation because it makes it to for underprepared students to advance. Some believe that the credit serves as motivation to stay and try harder. No agreement was reached.
Action: Gingras will verify whether or not we can choose to reduce or not offer credit and get back to the cluster. The tentative plan is to make a decision before Academic Development Day this fall.

- Abbondanza: We've been asked to participate in the Pearson's Links to Success program and consideration is in progress. Burkett—program is in progress already at the Gardens campus, but participation has been low.

ITEM #4.   MAT1100 <u>online</u> for Spring 2017 (Burkett).

Discussion: Adjunct wishes to create and teach an online section. Faculty voted and agreed since Heath is doing the same for MAT1033c, but on the following conditions:
1. One time as a trial
2. All tests must be taken in a campus testing center.
   NOTE: All campus testing centers anti-cheating precautions need to be reassessed. Tests in MML can be preset by the instructor with preventative features.
3. No more than 30 students per section
4. Instructor understands that creating the course does not guarantee being contracted to teach it in the future.

Action: Pennea agreed to follow up with the testing centers regarding prevention of academic dishonesty while test taking either online or with paper and pencil. She will recommend and follow up on installation of Feronics Insight. Abbondanza will ask for demo at Boca testing center and will serve as consultant for achieving the most effective settings using Insight.

ITEM #5.   Textbook Update (committees).

Discussion: Committees will begin to work on Fall 2016.
- MGF 1106/07, Liberal Arts Math, 9th Ed., Angel, Abbott, Runde, 2013, Pearson
  Committee will begin search this semester (Cox).
- MAP2302 Differential Equations, 10th Ed., Zill, 2009, Brooks/Cole
  Will keep through 2018 (1 and 2).
- STA2023 Elementary Statistics, 12th Ed., Triola, Pearson
  Committee will begin search this semester (Stevens).

Action:

ITEM #6.   Math Awareness Week 2017 on each Campus (Chairs of committees)

Discussion: Dates of MAW Week are April 3 – 6, 2017
    Reduce MAW 2017 to two days
    We will keep 4 days, but each campus MAW committee can choose to hold events on fewer days, or fewer events on each of the 4 days.

- BG – Siassi & John Pearson (from SLC)
- BR – Rogers & Finamore
- LW – Gordon and Pena-Lopez
- PGA – Porro and Thomasson
  - Rooms reserved

Action: None

ITEM #7.   Partnering with our Math Labs to Improve Student Success (Pick)

Discussion: Present Possible Options on How Math Faculty can Partner with Math Labs.
                Brainstorm with Math Cluster for Additional Partnering Possibilities.
- STA2023 taught differently across instructors
- During office hours, optionally we can volunteer in the Math Lab in order to promote understanding
- Ideas?
- Gail Burkett – Pass program for MAT1033c---extend to STA2023
- Laura—Assign learning specialist to learn from the instructors and pass on to math lab tutors
- Leave it up to each campus how to navigate and equip each SLC
- Suggestion from Ira Rosenthal: refer star students to be tutors at the SLC

Action: **David Simms**
- Please provide answers on practice tests so that SLC tutors will be able to verify correct work.

ITEM #8.   Update on the Contextualized Intermediate Algebra Course (Rosenthal)

Discussion: This course was offered during Summer B, as part of the NSF-funded InnovATE grant. As the co-PI of this grant, Ira developed the contextualized Labs, and also taught the course. She will provide a brief update on the overall experience and share with the cluster the pdf document for the [Contextualized Labs](). Your feedback is greatly appreciated, especially if you use any of the labs. The contextualized course will be offered again in Spring 2017.

Natural Science Foundation Grant—to increase enrollment in environmental engineering program
Link in agenda
Example: fueleconomy.gov---Can a Hybrid Save Me Money? Ira will provide link to resources.
Offered first as a summer camp for 3 weeks, will do again, advertise to high school students
High demand
High (50k plus) starting salaries
Promotes math awareness in context
Only math classes required are MAT1033C and MAC1105
Open to ideas to improve the program, how to restructure to allow more time for labs? Somehow Ideas
- Incorporate into MAT1033C
- Time constraints biggest challenge
- Students needed a lot of help. Small classes is best.
- Perhaps use some of the labs in other courses, maybe just for extra-credit
- Need more activities, esp. quadratic
- Would be ideal for MAT1100

In Attendance:

Cluster Chair: Dr. Eugenia Cox
Scribe: Carrie Stevens

1	Abbondanza	x
2	Alexandre	x
3	Barad	x
4	Basant	x
5	Boulware	x
6	Burkett	x
7	Bush	x
8	Chan	x
9	Cox	x
10	Domnitch	x
11	Finamore	x
12	Gingras	x
13	Gordon	x
14	Heath	x
15	Ivanova	x
16	Knysh	x
17	Langston	x
18	Librun	x
19	Lukacs	x
20	Manesh	x
21	McCallister	x
22	Millan	x
23	Opritsa	x
24	Pena-Lopez	x
25	Pennea	x
26	Piccolino	x
27	Pick	x
28	Porro	x
29	Rodrigues	x
30	Rogers	x
31	Rosenthal	x
32	Sharp	x
33	Siassi	x
34	Simms	x
35	Siniscalchi	x
36	Stevens	x

37	Sullivan	x
38	Talebi	x
39	Thomasson	x
40	Wilson	x