

Mathematics Departmental Meeting

Binnion 304 3:30-4:45 pm

September 11, 2013

Attendees: Stuart Anderson, Yelin Ou, Derege Mussa, Nikolay Sirakov, John Heath, KaSai Un, Charles Dorsett, Joshua Patterson, Lymeda Singleton, William Pleasant, Mickell Bruce, Thomas Boucher, Debra Newton, Pamela Webster, Hasan Coskun, Tingxiu Wang, Vanessa Huse

Absentees: Bill Aslan on sick leave

Dr. Dorsett motioned to approve Aug. 22, 2013 minutes; Mrs. Singleton seconded.

UPDATES:

Dr. Ou, Faculty Senator, announced the Faculty Senate mentioned there are 16 new faculty positions; the undergraduate enrollment is up, however, the graduate enrollment is down about 10%. The new Provost wants to request all departments to rethink their strategic plan. New Core Curriculum is to start Fall 2014. Everyone is to give Dr. Ou their input on any new changes. Dr. Dorsett added Linda Openshaw, over Social Work, is President of the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Coskun, QEP committee member, announced that QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) is all about the students and the supporting environments. Accreditation is necessary for the university to receive federal funds, award degrees, and be able to transfer credits. The purpose is to increase students' global competency. When SACS comes to review the campus on March 3-6, 2014, their focus is on student learning outcomes; as well as the environment supporting student learning.

There are two programs proposed:

1. Global Fellows – Documented in e-portfolio – global courses, global events, global travel, global research and personal/professional development.
2. Global Scholars - Outcomes will be to demonstrate and apply knowledge of global dynamics and view themselves as engaged citizens.

Benefits of internal support funding are \$2,000 in four areas: global course development, global travel, global research, and global events. Faculty can apply for funds and it starts 2014.

Dr. Wang sent recommendations to QEP. Math 1314, 1324, 179, 2413, 380, 401, 426, 453, 501, 502, 580 are named as global courses. Upcoming requirements are to take one global course.

Dr. Webster announced LeoTeach / STEM Teachers (early classroom exposure) has a goal to get upcoming teachers into the classroom earlier so they know if they want to be teachers. Ed South computer lab is remodeling specifically for STEM education. Kit Blunt is helping with this process. Dr. Wang thinks LeoTeach is a good program, and he would like the math department be more involved in advisement.

Dr. Webster announced Homecoming is Nov. 2 and cards need to be sent to alumni so they can refer to website. She needs blurbs from everyone on what you've done this past year. Feels this is a great event and allows faculty to reconnect with alumni.

Conference Room A is reserved from 8:30-11:30 a.m. which is the same room as last year. Dr. Aslan has volunteered to meet with Sodexo food services regarding the menu. Mrs. Singleton has volunteered all six officers to help.

Dr. Dorsett remarked about all of the extra programs and is concerned about teachers to teach the classroom.

Dr. Wang announced there are indirect costs of \$500-\$800/year to support travel for each faculty member. However, this money does not carry over to the following year. We have \$10k of indirect costs. Adventures in Mathematics will be Feb. 7 and we have received a request from last year's winner, Denison High School. Joshua Patterson and Mickell Bruce volunteered to speak at this event. Mrs. Singleton suggested her son who is a math/computer science person.

CURRICULUM CHANGES:

The Physics Department wants to cross list Physics with Math 317. Dr. Sirakov feels Cal III should be a prerequisite because vector calculus is learned in Cal III. Dr. Anderson and Mrs. Singleton question if it will be counted as a math course. Dr. Wang explained students need to take 120 hours for a bachelor's degree so we don't need to worry about if it is required or elected. Dr. Anderson feels if physics gets stronger, we should get stronger. He is concerned if students take classes, will the Math Department get the credit?

DEPARTMENT SERVICE:

Dr. Wang thanked Dr. Dorsett for his service in Departmental Service. Dr. Dorsett wants everyone to email him their research and to communicate with him so he can organize.

Debra Newton volunteered to be on Scholarship Committee.

Dr. Wang announced there are only three weeks left to complete the Curriculum Committee.

Regarding the two year course rotation, Math 436 and 438 are complex variable. He is working on the Spring Schedule and everyone should expect it this Monday.

Faculty should double check their rosters by tomorrow. All new hires should be able to access now. Dr. Sirakov said this is unreasonable to ask for by tomorrow. Dr. Wang said he would forward the concern to the Registrar's Office.

Dr. Dorsett wanted to let Dr. Wang know how much he is appreciated and understands his job is not an easy one.

Mrs. Singleton gave motion to dismiss; Dr. Dorsett concurred.

GOALS

University: "Transforming Lives"

CoSEA: "Discovery and Innovation"

Mathematics: "Discovering the Keys to Success"

Mathematics Department Goals (Administrative):

- Become a national center of excellence in secondary and middle school mathematics education, and undergraduate mathematics
 - Develop a strong graduate program
 - Technology will be used in the classroom in various courses.
 - Recognize the Faculty contributions and excellence
 - Support the faculty in their attempt to secure grant funding
- Beautify our "Home" to support and enhance student learning and faculty productivity
 - Support students who wish to attend conferences and make presentations.
 - Maintain a high graduation rate.

UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides a personal educational experience for a diverse community of life-long learners. Our purpose is to discover and disseminate knowledge for leadership and service in an interconnected and dynamic world. Our challenge is to nurture partnerships for the intellectual, cultural, social, and economic vitality of Texas and beyond.