

Florida Two-Year College Mathematics Association
Officer's Meeting
October 2, 2009

Attending: Kaye Betz, Janette Campbell, Byron Dyce, Bill Hemme, Ryan Kasha, Altay Özgener, Rick Pal, Don Ransford (presiding)

The minutes of the May meeting were accepted with a few punctuation corrections.

Plans were made for tomorrow's Fall Retreat and officers were paired to lead the respective sessions. It is not yet known if Donna Saye will be able to attend. Dr. Eileen Holden, (President of Polk State College) and Mr. Stephen Hull (provost of the Lakeland campus) will bring greetings at the opening session.

The discussion then focused on preparations for a phone conversation with Matthew Bouck, the deputy director administrator of the statewide course numbering system. One repeated idea was that the state objectives should be reviewed regularly. Other suggestions involved the function of the state course-numbering committee, the future of the CPT, and the progress being made in the American Diploma Project in Florida.

At 3:30 we participated in the phone conference with Matthew Bouck and Heath Martin regarding the objectives which we had developed in the previous retreats. Don Ransford did an excellent job of expressing our goals in examining these new objectives. Our question of these two men was "What should be the next step?"

Matthew related that the state-wide course numbering committee has been pretty much dormant primarily due to the challenge of travel funds. He has begun collecting course syllabi from state institutions and looking at existing courses. Perhaps the next step would be a meeting of the committee.

Don suggested that, due to budget issues, this meeting might be conducted as a webinar. However the problem may be that the member institutions might not have the specific equipment needed, especially since video should be included. Matthew also commented that, since this issue has risen to the level of the state commission and its strategic plan, the state might be willing to help defray costs. Any money spent would certainly need to be justified.

Ric Pal then asked which syllabi had Matthew been looking at. He responded that they involved a wide variety of community colleges, state colleges, universities, and even some private colleges. Matthew stated that he was trying to examine, categorize, and combine them in some way. Even though some were very detailed and others more general, he thought it would be possible to get a general picture of each course. His primary focus was MAT 1033, MAC 1105, MGF 1106 & 1107; but someone needs to examine his work.

Discussion then revolved around the comparison between these syllabi and our list of objectives, seeing where they match, perhaps using college algebra as a starting point.

Matthew then expressed his hopes for a meeting of the statewide math committee in the spring. When it was suggested that their meeting be combined with the Joint MAA/FTYCMA spring meeting, Heath Martin observed that it might be difficult to reach consensus with such a large group. However, it would be nice to have a document available for that meeting. Matthew said that he would continue working on his analysis and report not only to the state committee but also to our officers.

Next Ric Pal brought up the transition of community colleges to state colleges and asked Matthew if he foresaw resultant changes coming in curriculum. He said that he was unaware of any but agreed that this should be watched. Byron noted that the 4-year programs are treated separately from the 2-year ones and there are accreditation standards that must be met.

Don next asked Matthew about the latest decisions on the CPT. Matthew responded that he was not involved in the negotiations for the test. Two companies have submitted proposals and a new contract should be in place for next year.

In addition, no work has been done on changes to the Gordon Rule. CLAST has taken up most of the state's effort. Matthew then discussed work that has been done on the American Diploma Project.

Finally Don offered our recommendation that a state committee meet on a regular basis, perhaps every two years, in order to review course outlines.

Following the phone conversation, we were reminded that there is a course numbering website

http://scns.fl DOE.org/scns/public/pb_index.jsp

Discussion followed on the requirements for teaching the mathematics courses at the expanded 4-year colleges. Byron then observed that perhaps we are headed in the direction of teaching more in our courses but teaching it correctly. Yet we are bound by our state objectives. Don responded that this validates our concern for more regular review.

Next was an update on rewriting our constitution, particularly rewriting references to means of communication. There was much discussion as whether to follow the old constitution in making changes - ie, do we need to resort to a vote by mail on the revisions.

Ric asked that we get personal e-mail addresses, particularly from our lifetime members, in order to keep the membership list current. It was suggested that this be announced at the February meeting. Ryan Kasha will work on verifying the list of lifetime members.

Don announced the slate of officers for next year and announced the names of the delegates for AMATYC. He also reminded us that this would be the year for the Teaching Excellence award. He also recommended that we recognize the Math League participants at our meetings.

We agreed not to have another workshop at the Joint Annual meeting.

Don passed on to Ric a document regarding a grant from AMATYC encouraging membership.

In Don's continuing research concerning attaining tax-exempt status for donations, he found that OHIOmatyc has done their own but there is a lot of paperwork involved. In discussion with Rikki Blair it was suggested that donations could be made to AMATYC and then they could be held for FTYCMA.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Janette Campbell, secretary