

TITLE III MATH COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Overview

Host	Title III Math Committee		
Attendees	Herminio Hernando Jefferson Shirley Barbara Fink	Doli Bambhania Gregory Anderson Diana Alves de Lima	
Date/Location	02/18/09 at 11:30am in PSME division office		
Note Taker	Naita Saechao (Title III Project Assistant)		

Agenda

1. Charge of the Math Team
2. Diana's Feedback, Suggestions, and Questions

Minutes

1. What is the charge of the Math Team?
 - The Math Team is charged with driving the Math Department's role in the Title III initiatives, as well as supporting efforts of the support structures (S43); all combined to ensure success of students in developmental math.
 - Initiatives from the Math Team include:
 - Incorporating tutors into the classroom—inspired by successes with the MPS program
 - Math Department Retreat in Spring to discuss best practices for developmental level math.
 - Brainstorming for a qualitative survey for the pilot study of tutorial centers. Goal is to have the questions ready for pilot by week 10. Spring is a possibility as well.
 - Intellectual influence and leadership regarding developmental Math at the Teaching and Learning Conference
 - Math modules – still in its' early conception phase. The goal is to establish a self-paced instruction module which would be integrated into the Tutorial Center, point person for this project is Anne.
 - Impact of developmental math is referred to in many documents regarding BSI and Title III – self-assessment, developmental student research findings and Susan Dean's report.
2. Diana's Feedback/Comments/Suggestions:
 - How does the tutorial fit into Math efforts? All student learning support centers are now housed under the Division of Learning Resources and are no longer a part of the Language Arts Division, which could have various positive benefits for S43.

- Under Title III, two new positions were created – the Supervisor and the Instructional Associate position. The Supervisor position is potentially a 3.5 years position (until the end of the grant), and the Instructional Associate position is now a nine month position.
- Increasing faculty involvement has been the biggest hurdle. The programs that have been the most effective in getting faculty involved are programs that have faculty working in teams/groups.
- Similar issues still arise (even with successful programs) regarding student maturity, intrinsic motivation, etc. A strategy to deal with this is to structure incentives into the green sheet, and also when faculty work together to agree on practices that work.
- Regarding developmental math, there is less continuity compared to statistics courses.
- Adjunct skills program, where there is a ½ unit attached to the courses have been successful in courses with general appeal. A unique cohort is created and they work together to improve the programs goals in the upcoming terms. The instructors learn more effectively from their mistakes and are able to apply the lessons into the next quarters.
- The Math department may have trouble with buy-in from students to take these courses. These efforts must be well-coordinated and well-organized.
- The new Tutor Training was approved by the curriculum committee with very little changes requested. This new two unit course will provide more content specific tutor training, and higher expectations among tutors; some of the challenges will be recruiting and the need for more faculty mentoring of tutors built into the class. The tutors will have a larger role in the successes of their students, will work with instructors more, will design a research project specific to the needs of the class.
- There could be a more unified effort in Spring to recruit students for this class. Some of the main concerns are with regards to diversity and cultural competency of tutors. Currently, recruiting efforts include emails and flyering to faculty. A holistic approach to tutoring must be developed.
- Tutor training workshop about Cross Cultural Communication will be held on February 27, 2009. Will MPS tutors be paid to attend?

Action Items

- Hire a supervisor and Instructional Associate for the Math Science Resource Center hopefully by Spring 2009.
- Share qualitative questions with Diana Alves de Lima to generate ideas.
- Pilot quantitative study soon and try to conduct the first focus group by Week 11.

Next Meeting:

Host	Math Faculty
Attendees	Title III Math Team
Date / Location	Wednesday, February 25, 2009, 11:30 a.m., PSME Conference Room