

Graduate Committee Meeting
September 20, 2012

Attendees: Dr. Hongwei Long, Dr. Rainer Steinwandt, Dr. Jorge Viola-Prioli , Dr. Yuan Wang, Dr. Paul Yiu and Helen Randall

The meeting commenced at 11 a.m.

Qualifying Exams: The committee chair and Dr. Wang reported to the committee, six students recently took the analysis portion of the qualifying exams. Four of the six students passed and two did not. The committee approved these recommendations unanimously. Dr. Steinwandt will provide written notification to the students that did not pass which will include a timetable of when they would need to pass the tests and other valuable information about their stipend. One student who was required to pass both exams in September 2012 in order to remain in the Ph.D. program passed the analysis portion of the exam, but did not pass the algebra portion. The committee chair will be contacting the Graduate College about this student and another student who did not take the analysis exam.

Dr. Kalies has suggested that our first year students be required to take the qualifying exam after the first year in the program, and this proposal was discussed. The discussion has not reached a final conclusion yet and will be continued in the next meeting.

Dr. Yiu suggested that faculty members other than the one who taught the introductory analysis respective algebra sequence could run the 'qual prep course' in summer. The committee approved this proposal unanimously, and would like the committee chair to present this proposal to the department chair.

The committee suggests January 14, 2013 for the next analysis test and January 18, 2013 for the algebra test. The test would take place from 2pm – 5pm on each of the days.

Preliminary Exams: For October 2012 a prelim exam for Parshuram Budhathoki is expected. Dr. Steinwandt, who currently chairs this student's Ph.D. committee, requested a change of the paper the student is working with for the exam. The committee approved the request.

Assessment: The committee continued the discussion on identifying suitable assessment criteria for the departmental graduate programs and approved two new studies. One will analyze the Ph.D. qualifying exam attempts and the other will analyze Master's degree student credits.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30p.m.