Graduate Committee Meeting September 12, 2012

Attendees: Dr. Hongwei Long, Dr. Rainer Steinwandt, Dr. Yuan Wang, Dr. Paul Yiu

The meeting commenced at 9:15 a.m.

**Qualifying Exams:** The committee chair reported the pass/fail recommendations for the algebra portion of the qualifying exam to the committee. The committee approved these recommendations unanimously. One student who failed the exam was required to pass both the algebra and the analysis portion of the exam to stay in the program, and Dr. Steinwandt will advise this student accordingly.

A different student who was also required to pass both the analysis and the algebra exam in September 2012 to maintain in the Ph.D. program decided to take only the algebra portion (and passed). This student provided medical documentation to the committee chair, requesting to postpone taking the analysis qualifier until January 2013. The committee supports this request, and Dr. Steinwandt will inform the department chair accordingly.

**Assessment:** The committee discussed the problem of identifying (quantitative) criteria to assess the graduate programs of the Department of Mathematical Sciences. No decision on suitable criteria has been reached yet, and this discussion will have to continue in a subsequent meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.