

Minutes
Mathematical Sciences Faculty Meeting
October 4, 2011

Present: Booton, Eisenbarth, Goldwyn, Hoffman, Kalies, Klingler, Lin, Locke, Lubarsky, Magliveras, Meyerowitz, Milman, Moosai, Naudot, Niederhausen, Popova, Qian, Schmidmeier, Schonbek, Steinwandt, Viola-Prioli, Wang, Yiu, Zhang.

Lee Klingler introduced Donna Chamely-Wiik in Chemistry, who is on the Steering Committee for the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for the College of Science along with Jenny Peluso, Rod Murphey, and Jerry Haky. Part of the SACS evaluation, QEP aims to attract and retain the best students with honors and other programs that are achievable and sustainable, within the next 5-7 years. They want to identify high-achieving students as early as their freshman year, and provide them with a culture of research and scholarship through the framework of an honors program. This would not be limited to the Jupiter campus. Nothing is set in stone, and suggestions are welcome.

We will start with what's working and build on that. We need to recruit at the high school level, through such events as Math Day. Some ideas are Living Learning Communities (LLC) and Freshman Learning Communities (FLC) for students in the College of Science; an undergraduate research journal like "Coastlines" in Arts & Letters; Pi Mu Epsilon (which also has an undergrad research journal); Math Club; DIS opportunities; funding to attend conferences; and monetary rewards for students. SACS requires that the university provide QEP with new and existing dollars, beyond the time frame of 5-7 years.

Jay Paredes addressed some concerns about computers. IRM is pushing to have all computers on our networks supported by the manufacturer. Older PC's not supported must be off the network or behind a firewall, for auditing purposes. This is why they have to remove Brain and the current DMZ. The system and hardware are too old. Spyros had three machines on the old DMZ, which is no longer exempt from the firewall. His computers will be on Euler until they move to the new system. Richard Lam will consult with him on that. IRM wants Blackboard to be the only vehicle of communication between faculty and students. Myfau will move to the new exchange and email system. It will be compatible with Macs as long as they run Office. Nearly everyone formerly on Brain has moved their files. Spyros's files will be accessible when the changeover is completed. Some faculty think Euler (math only) is slower than Brain. Jay said it must be the connection. IRM has not been given money for new computers, but hardware changes are not necessary.

Working from home, you need to use a VPN account and have VPN software installed on your computer. Call the help desk (73999) and request an account to get access to university resources from home. Lee has approved several VPN requests already. University email and the university library do not require a VPN account.

Roger Goldwyn said we are in good shape for assessment. All that's needed are exams after October 7, only for courses in the intellectual foundations program. Each instructor should turn in a very good test and an average test.

Steve Locke reminded people that we are still collecting syllabi and CV's. He is maintaining them in a data base.

Roger announced that Tuesday 10/11 at 11 AM in SE 215, a rep from Pearson will be here to discuss best practices for MyMathLab. This would be good for anyone using MyMathLab or MyMathLab Plus.

Lee has asked for two positions, in statistics and bioinformatics, areas which may get funding because they could bring in grants. These fields could be justified by ties to Biomed. No approvals have been made for new positions and there is talk about a 2 ½% budget cut. Even though Bill Mech and H-O Peitgen will retire at the end of this academic year, the money for their positions will probably disappear as part of the budget cut. New ones will be approved based on benefit to the university.

Lee has emailed a CV for Joseph Jerome, who contacted us a year ago about a position beginning Spring 2013 as possibly a research professor, to teach one course per semester, for about \$30,000/year. He has impressive credentials, but needs to be checked as to whether he is slowing down. We can bring him in for a talk in Spring 2012. We can also advertise and invite candidates for any new openings we obtain.