

**Minutes of the
Academic Committee on Mathematical Subjects
February 21-22, 2002**

The Academic Advisory Committee on Mathematical Subjects (ACMS) met on February 21 and February 22, 2002 for its annual meeting at the campus of Waycross College. The conference began at 1:00 pm on February 21 with meetings of the various subcommittees. The Committee was officially welcomed to Waycross College at 2:30 pm by Dr. Barbara Losty, President of the College.

Dr. Kathleen Burk opened with discussion on the background and rationale for the Regents' Quantitative Skills Test (RQST). She informed ACMS members of their representation on both the RQST Steering and Test Development Committees. Dr. Jean Bevis and Dr. Wayne Bosché will serve on both of these committees. The initial timeline for this project was given as follows:

Spring 2002	definition of test specifications and details
Summer 2002	test item development
Fall 2002	item review, standards setting, field test
Spring 2003	field test
Fall 2003	testing begins for students entering Summer 2003

Dr. Burk also commented on the “grandfathering” of students enrolled prior to Summer 2003, with details to be addressed by the Steering Committee. Preliminary plans call for computerized delivery with online availability of remediation.

Jean Bevis and Wayne Bosché then led a discussion on the RQST format and content. Concerns and observations ranged from content background to remediation to calculator use. ACMS members were encouraged to communicate additional concerns to Jean or Wayne and to forward any test item suggestions to Kathleen Burk.

Ed Green followed by voicing concerns on the (increasing?) use of part-time faculty. ACMS members agreed with his concerns and a proposal was made to draft a resolution to the Board of Regents formally expressing these concerns. The proposal was approved and the recommendation was formally stated at the ACMS Business Meeting.

Business Meeting

Chair Ed Green of North Georgia College and State University convened the business meeting at 9:00 on Friday, February 22.

Representatives and Visitors Attending

The following persons attended the two-day session:

University of Georgia	Dan Kannan
Georgia State University	Jean Bevis
Georgia Southern University	Donald Fausett
Albany State University	Samuel Masil
Armstrong Atlantic State University	Jim Browner
Augusta State University	Sam L. Robinson
Clayton College & State University	Catherine C. Aust
Columbus State University	Tim Howard
Fort Valley State University	Alvina M. Johnson
Georgia College and State University	Craig Turner
Georgia Southwestern State University	John Stroyls
Kennesaw State University	Lewis Van Brackle
North Georgia College & State University	Ed Green
Southern Polytechnic State University	Kathy Hall
	John Gordon
Valdosta State University	Tom Carnevale
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Joy Shurley
Atlanta Metropolitan College	John Morrell
Coastal Georgia Community College	Robert Balman
Dalton State College	Wayne BoschJ
Darton College	Barbara McLendon.
East Georgia College	W. Edward Bolton
Floyd College	Brent Griffen
Gainesville College	Danny Lau
Georgia Perimeter College	Robby Williams
Gordon College	Allen Fuller
Macon State College	Steven M. Davis
Middle Georgia College	Roberta Yauck
South Georgia College	Charles Douglas
Waycross College	James Helms
Georgia Board of Regents	Kathleen Burk

Report from Dr. Kathleen Burk

The Chair recognized the Board of Regents liaison, Dr. Kathleen Burk. Items of her report include:

The Chancellor's Math Initiative given to the Education Coordination Council. The Initiative addresses underachievement at all levels. Possible strategies may deal with college access, college retention, teacher preparation and possible teacher shortages.

The Mini-Core DTAE/USG transfer articulation is now being implemented. Beginning this semester (quarter) College Algebra, Introduction to Mathematical Modeling, and Precalculus will transfer between systems provided that all prerequisites have been satisfied. Transfer of credit will only be received from those DTAE schools that are C.O.C. certified.

USG minimum Compass and CPE test scores for placement and exit are being raised. The minimum CPE score is being raised from 75 to 79 and the minimum Compass score is being raised from 30 to 37.

An analysis of Test Scores and Performance on all core-curriculum courses was conducted in Fall 2001. Results indicate low passing rates in mathematics at many institutions and this information was relayed to all Vice Presidents to share with their mathematics departments. Data for the current reporting period is expected and will be passed on to the Vice Presidents as it becomes available. Dr. Burk also presented preliminary results of an analysis of Placement Test scores and Course Performance. These results suggest that raising placement scores may be appropriate, particularly when the relationship between MATH 1111 and Compass placement scores is investigated.

Calculators are now allowed on both the Compass and CPE tests. Institutions will be required to provide calculators to test takers. Graphing calculators will not be allowed on either test. For the CPE, 4-function (w/ square root key) calculators will be allowed. For Compass, the Windows pop-up and other scientific calculators will be allowed (see ACT calculator guidelines).

Approval of the Minutes of the 2001 meeting

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the Minutes of the 2001 meeting as distributed by Chair Green.

Ed Green then called for confirmation of the email response to the nomination of Wayne Bosché as Chair-Elect. The motion was approved. It was suggested that each member visit <http://www.usg.edu/admin/comm/math/> to verify current institutional representation and correct contact information.

Executive Committee (2002-2003)

Dr. Green brought from the Executive Committee the following persons to serve as the Executive Committee for the coming year. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to elect these persons as the new Executive Committee.

Ed Green	Past-Chair	North Georgia C & SU
Wayne Bosché	Chair	Dalton State College
Catherine Aust	Chair-Elect	Clayton C & SU
Jean Bevis	Representative	Georgia State University
Don Fausett	Representative	Georgia Southern University

Next year's site

Ed Green informed the committee that the 2003 meeting will be held at Georgia Perimeter College in conjunction with the annual GPC Mathematics Conference. The time and date will be determined and distributed when available.

Committee Reports

Assessment

Don Fausett reported on the Program Review conducted by Georgia Southern University. He told the Committee that Georgia Southern does not have a formal Exit Exam or a formal Exit Interview Process but that schools may find these useful in their own Program Review process. An Alumni Survey was administered which returned much useful information. Data on Graduate School acceptance of GSU alumni was also incorporated into the Program Review. Student participation in national competitions was included in the report.

Report from the Academic Advisory Committee on Computer Science and Systems Analysis Liaison

Dr. John Stroyls from Georgia Southwestern State University reported that there were no issues of mutual concern expressed by the ACCSSA at this time. He informed members that he would ask the ACMS membership for feedback, and report it via the ACCSSA list serve for discussion. He suggested that ACMS representatives consult with Computer Science personnel on their own campus to solicit common issues for discussion.

Faculty Development

No report.

Mathematics Awareness

Dan Kannon expressed concerns relating to mathematical literacy and what it means to be “numerate”. He pointed out that mathematicians need to “advertise themselves” better. The need for interdisciplinary communication and research was supported by a recent NSF report that strongly advised mathematicians to recognize this need. Remarking on low numbers of mathematics majors, Dan recognized three groups in need of mathematics awareness; mathematicians, students, and parents (the public). Similar concerns and possible remedies were included in a written report distributed to all members.

Textbook

Jack Morrell informed the membership that responses to the online textbook survey can be found on the WebCT site. The data exists in an Excel worksheet and can be retrieved and sorted as desired. He discussed the possibility of including course and textbook information from non-USG institutions. The sharing of textbook information between USG and DTAE institutions may facilitate the Mini-Core initiative.

Transfer Credit

Jim Brawner opened the report of the Transfer Credit committee with discussion of the Mini-Core project and its implementation. The committee expressed concern that some institutions exclusively offer Introduction to Mathematical Modeling *or* College Algebra, and commented on possible transfer of credit issues. The

Transfer Credit committee will also investigate minimum Credit by Exam scores for College Algebra and Precalculus at system institutions.

Distance Learning

Catherine Aust informed the group that a SACS Substantive Change review was conducted and that eCore was included in this review. She indicated that the SACS report was favorable. She also gave eCore contact information and shared information on eCore student demographics. Catherine gave evaluation and assessment information, discussed current and future course development activities, and shared information on access to the SCOUT website (course review/adoption information).

Placement

Kathleen Hall informed the committee that Barbara McLendon will serve as liaison to ACDS to identify and discuss areas of mutual concern. Changes in ACT, SAT, and Compass entry and placement scores was discussed. The Placement committee will gather and distribute ACT and SAT trigger scores from system institutions. The committee expressed concern over the perceived gap between the end of learning support and the beginning of MATH 1111 or MATH 1101.

New Business

Successful Motion

The following recommendation will be forwarded to the appropriate BOR office.

Recommendation of the
Academic Committee on Mathematical Subjects
February 22, 2002

The Academic Committee on Mathematical Subjects (ACMS) is concerned about the increasing use of part-time and non-tenure track faculty. Compared to tenure-track faculty, such faculty are generally not as available to students, are not as informed on curricular matters, and do not provide the same level of student-support services. Furthermore, part-time and non-tenure track faculty usually do not serve on committees or participate in faculty development. The over-

reliance on instructors that are not academic professionals tends to weaken the development and implementation of programs of excellence, as tenure-track faculty assume a disproportionate load in the service and professional development areas. The ACMS recommends that the Board of Regents seek ways to enable and encourage the greater use of tenure-track faculty.

Ed Green made an ACMS request that Dr. Burk seek differentiation in the Area F Teacher Education requirements in the three areas of Early Childhood, Middle Grades, and Secondary education. Catherine Aust will send a list of specific ACMS concerns to Dr. Burk.

The Chair thanked Jim Helms for hosting the meeting.

Successful Motion

The 2001-2002 meeting of the ACMS will adjourn.