

**Committee on Preparatory Education Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**April 19, 2011**

Present: Frank Bauerle (NSTF Rep), Gabriel Elkaim, Donna Hunter, David Smith(Chair),  
Susanna Wrangell (staff).

Absent: Sarah-Hope Parmeter (ELWR Coordinator).

**I. Announcements** None.

**II. Systemwide Math Diagnostic / Placement Test**

Chair Smith updated members on the UCOPE agenda which has included CPE's interest to have a systemwide math placement test, here at UCSC the students can take the test at orientation and have the diagnostics printed out. The Mathematics Department can advise the students on what they need to improve on or indicate where their strengths are. With the present budget cuts this may not be possible it would be great if they could go on line and take the test and get the print out. Our advisers would give the students the link and they could print out the results. Could be optional, but we must stress how important this is for future class choices. Placement tests are important and having MDTP taken early is helpful. Using the diagnostic feature will be discussed at a meeting this week and Frank will report back to CPE how the Mathematics Department plans to proceed and what results they want from this test score. MDTP is what is used but there is research going on to see what is now available on line with all the advanced computer techniques now in place.

\*\*\*Minutes of March 14, 2011 moved forward to our next meeting after Professor Weissman submits his comments.

**III.Meeting with Pablo Reguerrin of Retention Services move forward to next meeting.**

**IV.Math 11A Threshold Grades (A- or higher) act as Pre-Requisite for Math 19 A / B.**

The students may need the Math 19 series but don't place due to their score. For a small number of students, who receive a grade of A- or higher in Math 11A, but really needed Math 19A, the student would be allowed to skip Math 19A and enroll in Math 19B, saving the student from having to take additional courses and delay time to degree completion. The student may not receive credit for both courses, (i.e if you took Math 11A and then Math 19A). Instructors would have to evaluate each student on a case by case basis.

**V. Math 2 and Khan Academy.**

A suggestion to the Mathematics Department on Math 2, use the Khan Academy <http://www.khanacademy.org/> as a tool for math online help. It was developed by an MIT math geek in finance, in algebra for his nephews, and then presented on YouTube. Bill Gates used the Khan Academy with his kid and found how great they were for teaching math and created funding for the Khan Academy. The program can help very unprepared students. CPE supports Math in securing outside funding for Math 2. The class is successful with students, bridging has helped the students progress at a normal rate, they complete requirements in the same amount of time as students who were placed in higher math classes. CPE Chair Smith will write a brief support letter to the Mathematics Department Chair.

So attests,

David Smith, Chair  
Committee on Preparatory Education