

Kansas Core Outcomes for Math

Minutes of October 2013 meeting

Discipline: Mathematics

Courses Discussed (and any modification): Elementary Statistics and Math for Liberal Arts

Minutes:

Paul Walcher called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Introductions were made and role was recorded by the chair. Mark Whisler of Cloud County Community College volunteered to be recorder.

The next two hours and 30 minutes (with a 20 minute break from 10:50 – 11:10am) were spent going through the list of suggested competencies for Elementary Statistics and discussing them line by line. Much discussion centered on the last set of competencies dealing with regression. Language was altered to meet the agreement of the group with two main exceptions. Tim Flood of Pittsburg State University reported that PSU could not approve a list of outcomes that had College Algebra as a prerequisite. Paul Scheuerman of Wichita State University reported that WSU could not approve a list that did not include certain additional material required to satisfy various programs at WSU.

A vote was taken to either approve or reject the updated list with the College Algebra requirement and without the extra material. For Regent's Universities the vote was 5 to approve and 2 to reject. Washburn did not attend. For community and technical colleges the vote was unanimous to approve. Not attending were Flint Hills Technical College, Garden City Community College, Independence Community College, Kansas City Kansas Community College, Northwest Kansas Technical College, Salina Area Technical College, and Wichita Area Technical College.

By KBOR rules the updated list of competencies was approved.

The remaining portion of the time was spent discussing the proposed Math for Liberal arts course. It was noted that college mathematics is getting bad press because of the perceived lack of application of College Algebra even though it is a required course (see New York Times article: [Is Algebra Necessary?](#)). A more application-based course might help with this. One of the biggest perceived obstacles to overcome is getting relevant programs to accept a different required course than College Algebra. Discussion on this course will continue at the next meeting.

It was decided to discuss Trigonometry at the 2014 meeting and have more discussion on the Math for Liberal Arts course.

Paul Walcher was confirmed as chair for another year.