CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT: MATH

MAY 2006 - A Working Group comprised of the Chief Academic Officers from UCF’s six partner community colleges and key UCF administrators met and choose Math as the first subject to begin working on common course alignment. The primary objective is to improve student success for transferring students.

SEPTEMBER 2006 - Nearly 25 math faculty from Brevard Community College, Central Florida Community College, Daytona Beach Community College, Lake-Sumter Community College, Seminole Community College, Valencia Community College and UCF met and choose MAC 1105, MAC 1114 and MAC 1140 as the three courses to focus on. The objective is to align curriculum between and among institutions.

JANUARY 2007 - Faculty from all seven institutions attended a half-day Workshop and compared their respective math course content, student learning outcomes and share best practices. They agree more work needs to be done regarding course alignment and will meet again in the fall of 2007. In addition, UCF math faculty gathered input from the six community colleges regarding MAC 1140, and as a result offered MAC 1140 in fall of 2007 for the first time.

SEPTEMBER 2007 - A representative from the Florida Department of Education State Course Numbering System gave a presentation to the faculty and stated the regional initiative to align curriculum is far ahead of the Department’s statewide attempt at the same process. Faculty discussed specific learning outcomes for MAC 1105, MAC 1114 and MAC 1140, and will take the information back to their respective institutions and share with colleagues. Best practices and giving examples of teaching aides and showing various textbooks used in class were also addressed. Faculty will meet in early 2008 and focus on student contact hours for each of the three courses.

FEBRUARY 2008 - Nearly 20 faculty representing all seven institutions gathered to compare student contact hours for MAC 1105, MAC 1114 and MAC 1140. Although generally the same, there were a few differences that were discussed with explanations regarding the number of hours spent on each area. Faculty agreed to take this information back to their respective institutions and share with colleagues. Best practices were discussed and information shared among participants. The next meeting in fall 2008 will focus almost entirely on learning outcomes for MAC 1105 and MAC 1140 and will compare them by institution. The goal is for the group to agree on a single set of learning outcomes for each course.

October 2008 - The math faculty met at Valencia Community College's Criminal Justice Institute for this fifth meeting. The focus of the group was to clearly define the information to be covered in MAC1105, and MAC1140. The group went through each topic that is specified by all of the colleges and identified those topics that were mandatory, those that were overview, those that were optional, and those that were review. The faculty then discussed how they would implement these changes to the courses so that alignment could take place successfully. The group agreed to meet again in April 2009 to finalize learning outcomes for MAC1105 and 1140 and to start discussing alignment for trigonometry.

April 2009 - First, learning outcome assessment was tackled by the group. The group then discussed specific ways in which they assessed the learning outcomes that are tied to MAC1105 and MAC1140. The following items were introduced by the group participants during this time. Next, the group went through MAC1114 Trigonometry and agreed to the major topics to be covered and included in the
The group used the same identifying system of M for mandatory coverage, V for overview, R for review, and O for optional.

**October 2009** - First, the group discussed best practices for Trig (MAC 1114). Next, online examinations were discussed, particularly how UCF handles testing. Then, the group went through MAC2311 Calculus I and agreed to the major topics to be covered and included in the course (see excel spreadsheet). The group used the same identifying system of M for mandatory coverage, V for overview, R for review, and O for optional. On the next page is the table listing the results of this effort.

**February 2010** - The group discussed the idea of a “best practices” conference for the fall of 2010. All in attendance were in favor of such a conference. The group then spent the majority of the time covering the major topics and sub-topics for Calculus II and III. The topic list was reduced and combined to make a shorter and more relevant list.

**September 2010**
The group started out the meeting with a discussion of early and late transcendentals for both Calc I and Calc II. They then made some changes to Calc I and II course content. Next, they briefly discussed the need to align Business Calculus and discussed the possibility of aligning Differential Equations at a future meeting. They then spent time looking at Liberal Arts math MGF 1106 and 1107 and covered the major topics for both courses. Then they proposed for 1107 that the first 2 topics should be mandatory, and then select 3 topics from the remaining sections listed. Lastly, faculty from engineering, biology, and chemistry discussed with the group the math skills that are needed in their respective areas.

**February 2011 (Next meeting)**