

OK-AR MAA Section
Department Chairs Luncheon Report
April 13, 2018

Attending: Jeanine Myers, Matt Myers, Cherith Tucker, Darryl Linde, Tom Mcnamara, Nicholas Zoller, Farrokh Abedi, Ramesh Garimella, Ron Smith, Carolyn Eoff

After an enjoyable lunch, the chairs had good discussions on a number of topics. This included working with vision-impaired students, co-requisite mathematics courses, teaching differential equations, placement in calculus, AP-calculus credit, and hosts for the 2021(OK) and 2022 (AR) section meetings.

There was a brief discussion about how vision-impaired students are accommodated in college mathematics classes. It was noted that most students have their own devices to assist them with printed materials. Also, web-sites are supposed to be ADA compliant; there are several features that can be integrated into a website to make it more user friendly to vision-impaired students.

Several chairs shared their experiences with implementing the co-requisite model at their institutions. While there seemed to be common principles, the logistics varied somewhat from school to school. Some require students to register for two courses, while others have a stand-alone three or four-credit course. Some do offer co-requisite courses in the summer, but others do not. Most reported improved success rates with this model. OSU even has co-requisite sections of calculus.

It seems there is a trend towards a more applied approach to teaching elementary differential equations; this includes more modeling and numerical methods.

There was a question about calculus placement. Some use math ACT subscores; these varied from 24 to 28. OSU uses an Aleks placement exam. Also, most gave credit for an AP calculus exam score of III, but encouraged students to retake calculus I if they were planning to take calculus II.

Finally, the need for host institutions for the 2021 (OK) and 2022(AR) section meetings was discussed but not resolved.

Carolyn Eoff