To be received and placed on file:

1. The Committee met four times in 2005-06 and expects to meet one or two more times before the end of the academic year. In the fall, the Committee reviewed changes to the remedial and preparatory Math program, including the deletion of Math 3, the adoption of new pre-calculus courses (Math 4: Introduction to College Mathematics for Business and the Social Sciences and Math 8A: Introduction to College Mathematics for the Sciences), and changes to prerequisites for Math 5, Math 15, Math 22, and Math 23. The Committee determined that the changes were consistent with SR 761’s definition of remedial and preparatory coursework and approved all of them. At the same time, the Committee was concerned about the way the new program would be implemented and about its impact on future students. The Committee discussed these concerns with Al Stalka, Chair of the Math Department; Andrew Grosovksy, Vice Provost of Undergraduate Academic Programs; and Michael Paul Wong, Director of the Learning Center. Discussions are ongoing and will continue into the next academic year.

2. The Committee also worked on a request from the Advisory Committee to review and report on remedial/preparatory education at UCR. The Advisory Committee’s charge is as follows:

   1. Review the preparatory and remedial curriculum that is currently in place and revise the courses and/or sequence of courses as needed.
   2. Develop guidelines that will be used to evaluate the curriculum every 5-7 years.
   3. Develop guidelines for tracking and evaluating student success in the preparatory curriculum.
   4. Develop strategies to avoid inefficient use of resources.

The Committee hopes to complete its report by the end of this academic year.

3. As reported by the ELWR (Entry-Level Writing Requirement) Office, the number of incoming freshmen held for the Entry Level Writing requirement at the beginning of the 05-06 year totaled 1520 (down from 1626 the previous year). This group represented approximately 51% (up from 47%) of the entering "New Freshman" class of approximately 2988 (down from 3452 in 04-05). Pass rates for Entry Level Writing students at the end of Fall quarter '05 were 77% in English Writing 4 (down slightly from 80% in 04-05) and 88% in English Writing 5 (up from 84% the previous year).  Pass rates for Entry Level Writing at the end of Winter '06 (mainly for repeating students) in English Writing 4 were 67% (up from 51%) and in English 5 were 85% (up from 54%).  The increase in the EW 4 pass rate is largely the result of more students failing fall Basic Writing 3 in the fall and being held for an additional quarter in the ESL course during the winter. This pattern reduces the number of failing students in winter EW 4. Another factor was the small enrollment in winter English 5: pass rates in a population of a few dozen students can vary considerably from year to year. Current overall spring enrollment (made up of repeaters and students emerging from BW 3) is approximately the same as last year.
4. The Committee also received statistics from the Learning Center about 2005-06 math placement: 1003 out of 2968 (34%) of incoming freshmen tested into remedial math (IMP or Math 3). Another 1069 (36%) tested into the pre-calculus course Math 5. Only 30% of the total placed into a calculus course (Math 9A or above). This is, however, a slight improvement over last year, when only 28.9% of incoming students tested were "calculus-ready."

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