



UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

To: Computer Science Retention, Tenure, and Promotion Committee
From: K. D. Taylor, Interim Dean of University College
Re: Dr. Chuck Allison's Service on the UVSC Math Task Force
Date: November 16, 2010

Dr. Chuck Allison served as the Chair of the Subcommittee on Interdepartmental Coordination as part of the larger Math Task Force organized on the campus of Utah Valley State College (now Utah Valley University) in October of 2005 and continuing for two years. Chuck was a tireless leader of his subcommittee to explore two issues: the inconsistency of departments in their designation of mathematics courses for their majors, and the need for regular coordination of the content of mathematics service courses for majors.

Chuck's committee of four talked with every department chair on campus about these issues and asked them to carefully consider their math pre-requisites and requirements for their major programs. As a result of these discussions, at least seven changes were made in the pre-requisite math courses for entering a major or in the required math courses within the major. In each case, the department felt the change would reflect a more accurate expectation of math understanding, whether the requirements were eased or strengthened. Whenever possible, the quantitative literacy course required for the major was changed from a more challenging course to a less challenging course, as long as it still met the needs of the major. In a few cases, higher level courses were recommended to improve a student's level of understanding and ability to gain college-level credit.

Chuck's group also recommended better coordination of the Mathematics Department and other departments regarding content of mathematics service courses for majors, consistency among departments in their designation of appropriate levels of math for their majors, and encouragement of mathematics across the curriculum in the form of application awareness.

Chuck served responsibly and diligently from October 2005 through December 2007 in the initial subcommittee chair assignment and in follow up assignments to see the recommendations through to completion. The Math Task Force and the institution are grateful for the countless hours Dr. Allison committed to this assignment and for his vision and professionalism in carrying out its purposes for the benefit of students.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'K. D. Taylor'.

K. D. Taylor

Former Co-chair of the UVSC Math Task Force