

**Department of Mathematics**  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Thursday, October 29, 2009  
331 Altgeld Hall, 9:30am

Present: Dunfield, Junge, Katz, Sowers, Rosenblatt  
Absent: Duursma, Schenck  
Minutes: Moore  
Secretary: Sowers  
Visitor: Jonathan Manton

OPEN MINUTES

Approved 11-10-2009

1. The minutes of October 13, 20, and 22, 2009 were approved as amended.
- 2.\* The Chair reported that:
  - a. The search for up to four Postdocs has been approved by the College, but each offer must be individually approved.
  - b. The GEO has authorized a strike. The Campus has asked that departments make a contingency plan. Muncaster is coordinating this.
3. The charge for the Teaching Quality Committee will be:
  - What methods should be used in individual cases to improve instruction?
  - Should we establish a culture of class visitations?
  - Do we need a math teaching academy?
  - Should our best instructors be put in our large lecture courses?
  - What metrics (such as ICES) is appropriate for identifying success or failure?
  - How should we prioritize and allocate resources for our teaching responsibilities?

The charge for the UAC will stay the same: infrastructural issues (such as course stewards).

The Teaching Quality Committee and UAC will coordinate.
- 4.\* The EC discussed Bradlow's request to incentivize faculty participation in MCTP.
5. The request of the computer steering committee was discussed. Jonathan Manton joined the EC meeting. Katz reported that the College may provide cost sharing for lab computers, but the College would not be able to make a decision for three weeks. Manton said that in order to receive a 10% discount on Apple computers for the labs, the order needs to be submitted soon. Manton will be meeting with ATLAS personnel and explain the urgency in our request. Some EC members expressed concern that 239 AH (computer lab) was not well utilized and were hesitant about committing departmental funds. Manton said that the number of computers (and chairs) in 239 AH is dictated by the size of the largest class (around 60 or 70) using the room. Katz said that he will ask the C&M Review Committee or Muncaster about use of computers in 239 AH.

\*-Details are in Closed Minutes.