

Academic Governing Council
Decision Form

*This form is to be used when the Academic Governing Council makes a decision on an issue.
This form is sent to the Provost.*

Decision:

- Revise Mandatory Placement Policy 8.2 to require mandatory placement testing for all students seeking to take a mathematics course at the college who do not have a valid prerequisite or placement score.
- Remove vendor/product names from Mandatory Placement Policy 8.2.

Rationale:

- To implement a policy to accurately assess students' current prerequisite knowledge for placement into the math course that will provide the best opportunity for success.
- Reduce the number of under-placed and over-placed students.
- Currently, only students who have HS GPA below 2.00 and an ACT score below 18 on ACT mathematical knowledge are assessed. Current placement only allows these students to be placed into developmental courses.
- All other students regardless of their mathematical knowledge may enroll into any math course up to Calculus.

Supporting Data:

- Peer recommendations.
- External research.
- Internal data from Math Dept.
- Experiences of FastTrack and current Math faculty with ALEKS.

Findings:

- External research indicates negative correlation of success and time between courses.
- Other institutions that have adopted ALEKS have had a positive experience.
- Internal data demonstrate shortcomings of current placement practices.
- Faculty see potential to use ALEKS as a remediation tool.

Implications for Action:

- This policy will be complex to implement and a cross-College implementation team will be needed to oversee the project and ensure that all stakeholders are represented and students are not negatively impacted because of implementation errors.

Evaluation Plan:

Return to AGC in Fall, 2018 for Review.

Date of Decision by AGC: November 11, 2014

Response from Provost:

Approved.

Guidelines for implementation:

1. *Make changes to 8.2 to reflect this decision*
2. *Convene the implementation team in January. Ask the Deans of Student Affairs; Student Success and Retention, and Arts & Sciences for their input on formulating a team.*
3. *Mandatory Mathematics Placement will be implemented by Fall, 2016. This means the implantation needs to be worked out by early February 2016, so the information can be included in the 2015-16 Catalog.*
4. *Updates should be made to the Provost Office:*
 - *End of February, 2015*
 - *End of Winter semester, 2015*
 - *October 1, 2015*
 - *End of Fall Semester, 2015*
5. *Please let the Provost's office know if any help is needed at any time during the planning.*
6. *The final implementation plan should be submitted by February 1, 2016.*

Patricia Fupri 1/6/15