

To: Deans Christensen and Haefner  
From: Faculty of the Department of Mathematics  
Subject: Reaction on the Academic Program Review Report  
Date: April 2006

The Faculty was pleased by this very professional and thorough report. We react below to the challenges listed in the report.

1. We plan to increase our enrollments and graduation rates. In particular, we will explore ways to establish joint programs with the College of Education regarding mathematics education.
2. The Faculty agrees that the Department relies too heavily on part time lecturers. It urges the higher administration to allow the Department to replace our two retiring professors with two tenure track positions.
3. The transition period before the actual move to LAS has been rather smooth so far. We will continue working with both Deans to ensure that Faculty and students do not suffer from the move.
4. We plan to vigorously pursue one reviewer recommendation to offer a coordinated (through CU Denver and Boulder) PhD program. If approved, this would give new life to the current program.
5. While the tuition has gone up significantly our graduate fellowship stipend has remained flat. We believe we may be able to offset the tuition increase by creative reallocation of some of our general funds. Details will be discussed with the Deans.
6. The Faculty agrees that junior faculty member should teach less. We will request some flexibility from the Dean of LAS regarding this issue.
7. We will work with Student Success to describe the MLC director position and to select a qualified person.
8. We plan to do a better job at communicating with the departments that we serve. In particular, we will explore the possibility of a new Calculus sequence for Science majors (the current one is mainly designed for Engineers majors). We will also better coordinate the mathematics needs of mathematics education majors with the College of Education.

Our (and the reviewers') highest priority in the list above is # 2. It is essential for all three aspects of the department's role and mission (teaching, research, service) that we do not lose two faculty positions to retirement. For the last several years we have had at least one tenure track faculty teaching at least one section of Calculus I, II and III. This is very important because Calculus is such a pivotal subject for Engineering, Mathematics and Science. Should we lose these two positions, not only we will not be able to have tenure track faculty teaching Calculus courses, but we will also need part time lecturers for some 200 and 300 level courses. Although our part time lecturers are competent and dedicated individuals they cannot be expected to participate in long term pedagogical projects. With a drop from 11 to 9 tenure track faculty, the hard earned high quality of the mathematics program at UCCS will not be maintained.