Specific activities performed by postdoc

1) MATH SEI general meetings/activity
   • Attended weekly progress meeting on February 5 and 12.

2) Course-specific meetings/activities

MATH 318 – Probability with Physical Applications

1. Graded the computer component of assignment 4.
2. With Gord, designed a question for assignment 5 involving Octave/MATLAB. This assignment has been finalized and posted. Also discussed possible questions for assignment 6, to go out the week after the Olympic break.
3. With Gord, finalized the Octave question on the first midterm. The midterm was held on February 10.
4. Begun grading the midterm.
5. Have continued to monitor the course discussion board on Vista (though the students are still not using it).
6. Discussed the learning goals with Bruce Dunham, who gave lots of good advice and was able to go more in depth due to his familiarity with the subject. Third draft is now in progress.
7. With Gord and Costanza, planned and conducted a mid-term attitude survey for the students. With Costanza's help, we were able to do it online and got a good number of responses. On top of the standard questions which Gord put on the survey, the math SEI group was very helpful in coming up with questions about the computing portion of the course. We asked a number of questions about how the students feel about it, and about the Octave resources we developed for the course. Results indicate the students are relatively happy with how things have gone. Most students are not using our provided resources, and simply search on Google for programming help; however, the majority of the students who have used our resources are finding them useful.

Current Project Status (material was prepared by either STLF or other members of the MATH SEI group)

MATH 318:
Learning Goals: third draft near completion; will go over with Gord soon.
Assessments: Tracking computer-based exercise marks separately from the traditional exercise marks on each homework. First attitude survey completed. Midterm grading is in progress; will record the Octave question grades separately.
New Methods/Materials: Fifth assignment completed; one computer-based exercise added on.

Plan for immediate future work

MATH 318:
1. Continue writing new assignments with Gord.
2. Finish learning goals.
3. Grade midterm.
4. Continue grading assignments.