STLF Report to CWSEI and Mathematics Department

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Specific activities performed by STLF

1) Professional development
   - Attended weekly STLF meetings (31 aug, 15 sep).
   - Attended weekly Reading Group meetings (23 aug, 30 aug, 14 sep).

2) Department meetings/activity
   - Attended Piazza presentation event (Sep 6)

3) MATH SEI general meetings/activity
   - Meeting with other Math STLFs (23 aug, 29 aug, 7 sep, 14 sep)
   - Attended Math STLF reading group (31 Aug)

4) Course-specific meetings/activities
   **Math 230 – Finite mathematics course (Math for future elementary school teachers)**
   - Met with Steph van Willigenburg (8 August, 26 aug, 31 aug, 8 sep, 12 sep). Meetings were dedicated to finalizing the structure of diagnostic test - and subsequent discussion of diagnostic results. Changes in topics selection were made based on the results of the diagnostic - geometry, as well as review of elementary arithmetic and common misconceptions.
   - Held email discussion with Malgorzata Dubiel regarding diagnostic test; incorporated her suggestions. Math STLF team also reviewed the diagnostic test and made good suggestions - they are now a part of the test, too.
   - Final version of diagnostic test was sent to Malgorzata Dubiel at SFU - to share resources.
   - Gave diagnostic to Math230 students on the first day of class. Results were recorded and analysed.
   - Recommended homework problems on topics requested by instructor.
   - Literature review:

   **Math 220 – Introduction to proof**
   - Met with Andrew Rechnitzer (Sep 2). Discussed future structure of workshops, coordination with course instructors, as well as workshop problem set 3
• Scheduled times and locations for workshops.
• Diagnostic tests were given in both sections of Math220. The results are in process of being analyzed.
• Athena and I ran diagnostics in both Math220 sections.
• The first week of workshops is now over - it was a positive experience and students reported the workshops as useful to them.

Current Project Status (material prepared STLF and/or other members of MATH SEI group)

Math 220 – Introduction to proof

Learning Goals: No changes to the existing document have been made.
Assessments:
• no new assessments were created. Two questions on the diagnostic test need to be validated.

New Methods/Materials:
• Workshop sets 1, 2, 3 are finished. Athena and I are recording post-workshop reflections and recommendations to use in the future semester.

Math 230 – Finite Mathematics

Learning Goals: Learning goals for first 3 lectures and first 3 homework sets were created. Steph and I are also recording special recommendations for instructors - focusing on student misconceptions or likely problems associated with given topic and learning goals.
Assessments:
• Diagnostic test is finished.

New Methods/Materials:
• List of study tips for Math230 students is finished. We now have two lists for this group: one mathematical, and the other one - relating the class experience to the students as future teachers. Both lists are now available to students

Plan for immediate future work

Math 220 – Introduction to Proof
1 Get diagnostic analysis out to instructors
2 Start and finish problem set 4 - this one may need to be a review set before the midterm.

Math 230 – Finite Mathematics
1 Continue writing learning goals.
2 Set up a meeting with Dr Marina Milner-Bolotin (Department of Curriculum and Development) to consult on the mathematics needs of future elementary school teachers.
3 Establish math ed contacts in the Faculty of Education, through Ashley Welsch (CWSEI research coordinator). (these goals have migrated from previous report - they were postponed due to the general hiatus of the start of the semester)