Present: Pat Dintrone, Larry Gitman, Gary Grudnitski, Dong Jung, Kathy Krentler, Fred Raafat

I. Math Transfer Exam
The Committee revisited the issue brought to its attention by CBA Senator Tom Warschauer of whether dropping the Transfer Mathematics Assessment Requirement (Requirement) could have a deleterious effect upon math-related classes in the College. Based on a call for comments on this issue, the Committee received comments from Professors Lackritz and Beatty, and a comment from Professor Vik on the direction the Transfer Writing Exam appears to be headed. Generally the comments from Professors Lackritz and Beatty lamented the fact that students didn’t possess “basic mathematics skills.” They noted instances in which students in their upper-division classes were unable, for example, to prorate numbers or raise numbers to a power. While the Committee concurs with the assessment of Professors Lackritz and Beatty about the state of math proficiency of our upper-division students, it was unable to identify any empirical evidence to show studying for and passing the Requirement correlates with improved math proficiency in upper-division business courses. Further, both commentators expressed reservations about the Requirement’s reliability and validity in differentiating math proficiency. These facts, taken together with the University’s increased emphasis on eliminating bias against community college transfer preparation, led the Committee to vote (four votes for, with one abstention) to reaffirm the conclusion it reached on this matter in its meeting of October 8th, 2001.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 5, 2001, 1:00 P.M.; Dean’s Conference Room