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Questions and issues that the group will address:
The math division has been offering hybrid classes for at least five years now. In addition, since summer 2013, the division has been offering online algebra courses due to college demands. All the while, the division has not created guidelines for creating and teaching a quality online or hybrid course. We would like to research and examine existing best practices created in different divisions on campus, as well as comparable math divisions in other colleges to start the process of creating our own for the division to consider. We believe the quality of online math education and student learning outcomes will improve if we have consistent and clear expectations. We hope to bring the finding and writing of such best practices to the division to adopt as a whole in the very near future.

Tentative outline of planned activities (5 meetings – Spring 2014).

Week 6  Creating Online Courses: Research and discussion of how other departments and colleges develop and approve online courses, with a focus on online course quality. In particular, the group will study ‘Quality Matters’ in depth.

Week 7  Pedagogical Best Practices: Research and discussion of pedagogical practices of other departments for online courses. Continue discussion of ‘Quality Matters’ as related to pedagogy.

Week 8  Assessment Best Practices: Research and discussion of assessment practices of other departments for online courses. Continue discussion of ‘Quality Matters’ as related to assessment.

Week 9  Start developing a best practices document for online math courses.

Week 10  Finalizing writing and discussion of best practices and discuss logistics of presenting our results to the math division.
What do you see as potential outcomes of this FIG?

Improve the quality of online math courses by providing the division guidelines for best practices in online teaching.

Provide a brief overview of proposed budget.

$200-$300 for food and beverages over the course of the five meetings.

$0-$300 for materials needed for the group.

Electronic Signature:  Stephen Selph, Berri Hsiao