3.2 PROPOSED ACTIVITY ABSTRACT

Provide a one-page activity abstract describing the proposed activity, the focus area and objectives of Vision 2011 that it is aimed at and how it will assist in accomplishing the objectives of the plan.

Background: The entire mathematics program (major, endorsements, minors) is offered online. This allows service to 5 audiences: 1) traditional on-campus students (including hybrid offerings), 2) those from off-campus who want 1 or more math courses, 3) currently certified teachers or those with a BA who wish to add a mathematics teaching endorsement, 4) those seeking the MSE in mathematics education, and 5) transfer students completing the AA who wish to continue to the BS in mathematics or the BSE in mathematics education.

A limited number of ads have been placed in various publications in recent years to publicize the online program. In AY 04-05, an ad was placed in the American Mathematics Association of Two Year Colleges (AMATYC). Two mailings of the department newsletter were made, one including brochures on careers in mathematics and brochures on the Information Sciences program. Advertising was continued in the NCTM Annual Conference Program and the NSEA Voice. The advertising in 2004-2005 reached all 5 of the target groups listed in paragraph one. During this AY, we have asked those inquiring where they learned of the program, and the responses (less than 40%) were varied. About 30% of those responding cited “word-of-mouth”, some mentioned the NSEA Voice, and at least one the NCTM program booklet. The balance of the responders found CSC by extensive and persistent web searches. The program has been listed in the Peterson’s Guide to Online Programs, and two found it there. The number of inquiries during AY 04-05 is much higher than in previous years, and enrollments are continuing to increase. A conservative estimate is 50 inquiries this AY.

Visits were made to Northeastern Community College in Sterling, CO, Morgan Community College in Ft. Morgan, CO, Mid-Plains Community College (both North Platte and McCook campuses), Casper Community College, and Central Wyoming Community College. Dr. Bare and Dr. Fickel attended the Wyoming AMATYC meeting in Gillette and presented a session on the CSC online program to 22 community college math instructors. Presentations were also given at the NCTM Regional Conference in Minneapolis and the International Conference on College Teaching and Learning with Technology in Jacksonville, FL.

Students in the online math program are both on-campus and widely scattered. We have enrollees in Okinawa, Kentucky, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Washington, and other states. Of 20 students enrolled in College Geometry, 14 are off-campus, many of them teachers adding a mathematics endorsement to their credentials. A New Jersey student who completed that process two years ago is now enrolled in the MS in Education Administration program. We have students in each of the categories listed in paragraph one. The number of math majors has grown from 51 in August 04 to 61 in December 04. More have enrolled, but exact data are not readily available at this time. The number of graduate students in mathematics/mathematics education has grown from 3 in August 04 to 9 at this time.

The activities proposed for AY 05-06 include visits to 7 regional community colleges, publication of the newsletter, advertising in 1) the AMATYC journal 2 times, 2) the NCTM National Conference program booklet, and 3) two ads in the NSEA Voice. Deadlines for placing some of the advertisements are as early as 1 July 05.