

Ventura College Sabbatical Leave Proposal

On-site Research Project for Fall 2021

(If Fall 2021 classes are on-line due to Covid requesting Spring 2022)

Submitted by Janine Bundy

Mathematics Department

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college-level course assessment instruments and placement policies have serious implications for equity as students of color are far more likely to be placed into remedial courses; students placed into remediation are much less likely to reach their educational goals. In fall 2016 we offered 20 beginning algebra courses; fall 2017 we offered 17 courses; fall 2018 we offered 13 courses, fall 2019 and 2020 we offered 3 beginning algebra courses. We are offering only 15% of the beginning algebra courses we offered just 4 years ago.

Many students entering our college algebra and math for meds classes are highly underprepared for the classes and lacking many necessary basic algebra skills. The learning gaps must be filled in order for the students to become successful in the transferable level classes. A repository of materials is needed so instructors will have appropriate student practice resources at their fingertips to offer to students on an individualized basis to help fill in the gaps. The instructors in our department recognize the value and severity of this need, yet we have been without the needed time to collaborate on such a significant project. The department has a desire to collect an online library of supplemental materials that instructors can access for beginning algebra topics.

Purpose of Sabbatical Project:

The purpose of this sabbatical project is threefold: **(1)** find and evaluate beginning algebra student practice supplemental material covering operations with signed numbers, linear equations, graphing, linear inequalities, factoring, rational expressions and equations, exponents, factorable quadratic equations, and systems of equations. **(2)** create practice supplemental material for any topics in which quality supplemental materials could not be identified, and **(3)** contribute to our math department Canvas repository with the library of student beginning algebra supplemental material.

Components of Sabbatical Project:

- Find and Evaluate Existing Practice Supplemental Material

The first step in this project is to identify practice supplemental material that is already in existence. Multiple websites and will be researched for these materials including

