

Abilene Christian University Faculty Goals and Evaluation for 2011-12

Name: John Ehrke Department: Mathematics Date: 5/24/2011

Teaching

Teaching Goals for the Year (completed by June 1 by faculty member)

1. Mentor a student project(s) to be presented at the undergraduate research festival.
2. Link course content from MATH 361 with MATH 490 (PDEs) to provide a continuous experience for students taking the sequence. I will have my first opportunity to teach PDEs in the spring.
3. Work on getting course materials—screencasts, practice exams, answer keys, tutorials, reflection prompt materials—for MATH 120 up on a centralized blog/website for other MATH faculty to use.

Reflections on Goals

(completed by March 1 by faculty member)

1. I began the semester working with Daniel Pamplin on a project involving the three body problem. I thought we would have more time in the Spring to continue working on the problem and present at the UURF, but he opted to graduate early due to money issues. I was able to begin working with Adam Simpson in late January on investigating the number derivative. Adam's work was presented at the UURF and the Texas Section of the MAA. Both presentations went well in my opinion and I look forward to continued work with Adam this year.

2. The PDE course was a great success in my opinion since we had 16 students enrolled and no students dropped the course. I tried to find a text that could link ODE/PDE, but was unable to find one that suits my needs. I have since written my own lecture notes for students so notations we use in ODEs are consistent with those used in PDEs. I will continue to work on the sequencing of the two courses so there is a natural flow from ODE to PDE. I am excited at the prospect of further iterating on both of these courses in the future.

3. I have authored extensive practice exams and answer key materials for all my courses, not just MATH 120. I was able to procure a suitable blog template to house the site in January. Since then I have been collecting items, Cintiq, studio microphone, various

Chair's Evaluation of Goal Completion (completed by April 1)

Not met	Met	Met with Distinction
		✓
		✓
	✓	

software packages, etc... to begin authoring tutorial videos for all my courses. This is an ongoing project and will be for some time. I think this is a very worthwhile project though since it is the most appreciated and most requested feature from my students.

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Additional teaching activities not included in goals:

- 1.
- 2.

Not met	Met	Met with Distinction

Areas of Competence: Faculty are expected to develop competence in each of these areas (completed by April 1 by chair)

Student Satisfaction

Classroom Effectiveness

Syllabi

Integration of Faith/Learning

Class/Course Enhancement

Student Advising/Mentoring

Unsatisfactory	Needs Improvement	Effective	Excellent
		✓	
		✓	
			✓
			✓
		✓	
			✓
		✓	

Teaching (Overall rating by chair)

Unsatisfactory	Needs Improvement	Effective	Excellent
			✓

Comments:

John is an excellent teacher, challenging his students at all levels to think beyond the typical classroom topics. His work to enhance his courses via the blog, video tutorials and reflection materials is a great example for his colleagues.

Scholarship

Scholarship/Creativity Goals for the Year (completed by June 1 by faculty member)

1. Co-author a research article with a student and/or present a paper with a student at a conference beyond the undergraduate research festival held here on campus.
2. Publish a paper dealing with positive solutions of delay differential equations.
3. Continue working on mobile computing usability research including both of my fall 2010 MATH 120 sections to obtain a larger sample size for my results. (This is a continuation of my mobile learning fellowship, but is not specifically supported under the MLF for this year.)

Reflections on Goals

(completed by March 1 by faculty member)

1. As was mentioned before I was able to mentor Adam to presenting a paper at the Texas Section of the MAA beyond the undergraduate research festival. We are working toward a joint paper this summer. I'm still unsure what area undergraduate research mentoring fits in.. scholarship or teaching.. but I discovered that I really enjoy it and am looking forward to mentoring more students in the future.
2. I have worked on this paper and am in a position to submit it for publication soon, but with the increased exposure of my work in mobile learning this got pushed to the side. I am exploring ways of changing my research area so that I can have more student involvement (see 1 above). I am actively interested in signal analysis research that can I can involve students in my PDEs courses with in the future.
3. I made large strides in this area this year. I met on multiple occasions with Texas Instruments offering feedback/consulting on mobile calculator design and implementation of mobile learning in higher education. I anticipate them asking us to pilot a product in the near future. I was asked to speak at MATHFEST on mobile learning but was unable to go due to scheduling conflicts. I was also asked to speak at ICTCM in Orlando and gave a 45 min presentation on the summary of two years worth of data/results in the usability of a mobile platform for in class computing. This data has been submitted for publication and is awaiting review. I was also asked to run a full day workshop at the ICTCM in Orlando the day prior to my speaking engagement. The workshop was very well received and I have already been asked to do a similar workshop at next year's ICTCM in Boston. I get multiple emails per month from people recognizing my work in this area, asking for tips for implementing material and organizing their classrooms around a mobile device. Given the outstanding response to this work, I will continue to pursue this area of inquiry in the future.

Chair's Evaluation of Goal Completion (completed by April 1)

Not met	Met	Met with Distinction
	✓	
✓		
		✓

Additional scholarly/creative activities:

1. Since I was not able to find any texts that fit my idea of what the ODE/PDE sequence should look like, I have begun working on an e-text to facilitate the needs of students in those courses. Though it will be some time before this text is ready, I have done a lot of work on identifying subject matter, software to use, etc.. and will always be working on this "pet" project.

2. I served on a faculty panel at the ACU connected open house in March, and I have also given input on several mobile learning related initiatives in the Adams Center with colleagues from around campus.

Not met	Met	Met with Distinction
	✓	
	✓	

**Scholarship/Creativity
(Overall rating by chair)**

Unsatisfactory	Needs Improvement	Effective	Excellent
		✓	

Comments:

John's interests have taken him in several directions (student mentoring, use of technology, etc) beyond his graduate research.

Service

Service Goals for the Year (completed by June 1 by faculty member)

1. Serve on the UGEC committee.
2. Serve on the LINK team.
3. Become more involved with ministry opportunities at the Highland Church of Christ.

Reflections on Goals

(completed by March 1 by faculty member)

1. I was able to finish my term on the UGEC this year as we completed the general education menu course overhaul. I enjoyed my time on this committee and look forward to being on it or UUAC again at some point in the future.
2. I completed my first full year on LINK with several exploratory meetings in the fall culminating in setting budgets in the spring and exploring areas for strategic innovation in the future.
3. I have started being more involved with my Highland Church family. From regular attendance and participation in the Sojourner's class to meeting in various small groups and events with members I am feeling more like I have found a true church home here in Abilene. I look forward to taking on more a leadership role/involved in community oriented ministries in the future.

Chair's Evaluation of Goal Completion (completed by April 1)

Not met	Met	Met with Distinction
	✓	
	✓	
	✓	

Additional service activities not included in goals:

1. I served as the library liaison for the department, submitted several requests to fill out our library holdings for students in the ODE/PDE sequence.
2. I served on the research council during the Spring semester and will continue to serve in that capacity for two more years.
3. I served on the engineering advisory group. I attended several of the talks given by interviewees and consulted with the Physics department during the selection process in addition to attending several Adams center meetings held throughout the year.

Not met	Met	Met with Distinction
	✓	
	✓	
	✓	

NOTE: Activities should reflect service in at least two of the following categories: Profession, University/College, Department, Community/Church.

Service (Overall rating by chair)

Unsatisfactory	Needs Improvement	Effective	Excellent
		✓	

Comments:

Exhibits service to the department and the university/college. Recommend continuing to develop other areas.

Summary Assessment by Department Chair

Written Comments:

1. Collegiality

John is very collegial and works well with others in the department and in other departments/offices on-campus.

2. Progress toward tenure

John is making excellent progress toward tenure in all three areas: teaching, scholarship and service. He is an excellent teacher and has been active in his scholarly endeavors. He also has service to the department and the university.

3. Progress toward promotion

John is making excellent progress toward promotion to associate professor in all three areas: teaching, scholarship and service. He is an excellent teacher and has been active in his scholarly endeavors. He also has service to the department and the university.

4. Constraints on performance

none

5. Comment on church membership

Active at Highland Church of Christ

6. Other



Faculty

9-6-2012

Date



Department Chair

9-6-2012

Date