



## **Chair's Statement of Goals for the Department Department of Mathematics**

1 November 2007

This memorandum constitutes my Statement of Goals as Chair of the Department of Mathematics for my initial four-year appointment as Chair. I have formulated this as a list of 12 goals rather than as a narrative. It should be noted that there is a high degree of interconnection between the listed goals. Note also that much of my work to date has been directed at creating and promoting these goals in one form or another.

### **Students and Programs**

1. Increase the overall number of majors in the department, especially in the areas of general mathematics and applied mathematics, whose numbers are small relative to the size of the department. Explore ways to attract students in other disciplines to choose mathematics as a second major. Work with the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences to offer the Applied Mathematics major through their college. Actively recruit area high school and community college students.
2. Grow the new Minor in Actuarial Science, and facilitate entry of graduates to the actuarial science profession.
3. Better connect our undergraduate majors to the department. In this regard, examine options for undergraduate advising, student clubs, social events, etc.
4. Institute a program of undergraduate and/or graduate internships in government, business, and industry for department majors. Increase awareness among students about the role of mathematics and mathematicians in larger society. Leverage these new opportunities for students to attract more majors.

### **Budget**

5. Work with the College and the Office of the Provost to increase the number of tenure-line faculty positions in the department. Continue to clearly communicate with upper administration about the department's critical needs in maintaining strong programs and quality instruction through adequate staffing. Explore possibilities for one or more endowed professorships in the department.
6. Substantially increase stipends for graduate assistantships in order to better align our offerings with national standards, attract the best possible students to our

graduate programs, and better reflect the quality of the programs we offer.

7. Make the best strategic use of strong internal department resources, including endowments for scholarships and student support, Foundation account monies, and research support funds.
8. Identify and implement development goals for the department for a period of 3-5 years.
9. Remodel our main teaching spaces in Rood Hall in order to create an improved learning environment, and better serve our students.

**Other**

10. Clearly communicate to faculty the needs of the department, and articulate the challenges we face in the coming years. Foster a spirit of service and cooperation whereby real progress can be achieved in the areas described above, and without which the department cannot continue to thrive.
11. Support and enhance the research profile of the department. Facilitate networking, visiting scholars, conference hosting, and leadership in activities of professional societies.
12. Better communicate to the University, to our alumni, and to the broader community the manifold activities and achievements of department faculty, students, and staff.

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Department of Mathematics