Math 4 Vets LEAP Action Summary

LEAP Workshop Year: AY 2014-2015 Action dates: Summer 2014-Spring 2014	For more information, contact: Maureen Vandervest, x1570, vandervm@uww.edu
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General Goal:

Establish a new, research-based mode of delivery for a Veterans-only section of Math 041 and 141. Provide tutors, training and support to Veterans (ideally from Veterans). Maintain research-based mode of delivery for a Veterans-only section of Math 041 & 141.

Planned Actions:

- Develop and conduct a survey regarding veterans' experiences with math.
- Research different pedagogical approaches and High Impact Practices which have shown to be effective or are promising in helping our student Veterans succeed in Math 041 and 141.
- Provide instructor(s) with information on issues facing our student Veterans and opportunities to receive additional training.
- Recruit and train tutors ideally student Veterans to provide support both in and out of the classroom.
- Pilot Math 041 in Fall 2014 and Math 141 in Spring 2015, implementing and assessing the effectiveness of these approaches.
- Analyze grade results of Math 041/141 from Spring and Summer 2014.
- Continue to research the obstacles which military students face in learning math and the approaches they employ to overcome those obstacles.
- Create a follow-up survey to use in determining the effectiveness of the approaches, tools, and strategies employed in Math 041.
- Conduct a follow-up focus group to evaluate program and future needs.
- Finalize teaching strategies and tools to be used in military section of Math 141 in Spring 2015

Deliverables, Completed Actions:

- Scheduled dedicated military sections of Math 041 for Fall 2014 and Math 141 for Spring 2015.
- Chose instructor(s) for the sections and will provide them both with information on issues facing our student Veterans.
- The survey IRB was approved by the Office of Research and Sponsored programs on

April 28th, 2014. The focus group IRB was approved as well.

- The survey was created and sent to all Veteran and military students, which provided data related to contributors or obstacles to success.
- Dr. Leda Nath has five confirmed volunteers and is currently in the process of scheduling the focus group.

Notes:

• Actual Barriers:

- o The rate to the survey was lower than anticipated. As of June 3, 2014, there were 55 respondents, which equates to a response rate of approximately 13.9%. End of semester processes in the Registrar's Office delayed the collection of data.
- o It was difficult to find participants for the focus group. As of June 3rd, 2014, we have five volunteers for the group and Dr. Leda Nath informed us that she was moving forward with that number.

• <u>Continued Barriers</u>

o Recruiting additional tutors in mathematics who are also Veterans.