

1023-K5-158

Timothy D Comar* (tcomar@ben.edu), Department of Mathematics, Benedictine University, 5700 College RD, Lisle, IL 60532. *Biocalculus at Benedictine University and College of DuPage: A Collaboration Between Mathematicians and Biologists and Between Four-Year and Two-Year Institutions.*

Benedictine University (BU) has been offering a rigorous two-semester biocalculus sequence for research oriented majors in the biological sciences since the fall of 2003. Through a collaborative effort between BU and the nearby community college, College of Dupage (COD), the BU sequence is now being implemented COD. A team of mathematicians and biologists from both BU and COD are developing a new textbook and computer laboratory manual for the courses, recruiting students through a joint seminar, and assessing the effectiveness of these courses. We address the implementation differences between the two schools due to different student populations and institutional considerations. We also present the assessment data of the effectiveness of the courses. Our data indicate that students from both tracks have comparable calculus skills, biocalculus students are more likely to continue with the second course, and a substantial percentage of former biocalculus students become involved with research activities. (Received August 15, 2006)