Meeting: 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP V1, MAA Session on Research on the Teaching and Learning of Undergraduate Mathematics

Brian H Felkel* (felkelbh@appstate.edu), Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, ASU Box 32092, Boone, NC 28608-2092. Investigating Factors that Affect Student Achievement in Virtual Business Calculus. Preliminary report.

This research project involved our "virtual" business calculus class. This class met only for tests and the final exam. Students taught themselves with the text, which was on a CD. This text included video tutorials of many examples, as well as solution sets to exercise problems. Suggested homework exercises and practice quizzes were delivered through WebCT, and students also had access to a Help Lab and the instructor's office hours. Also, a WebCT discussion tool was activated so that students could communicate with each other outside of class.

We will report on the differences on math SAT scores and college GPA's between students that earned a C- or better and those that did not. We will also look at test performance comparisons between this class and a standard section of business calculus, taught by the same instructor. A short questionnaire, relating to study habits, was administered at the end of the semester. In this presentation, we will also consider some comments, from the questionnaire, made by class participants. (Received September 10, 2004)