

# The AP Microeconomics Development Committee

2011

# I. Committee Composition

- Seven Members - three from universities, three from secondary schools plus one College Board Adviser from either HS or HE level
- Terms are renewable for up to four years
- All members have extensive teaching experience and have participated at readings
- Ex-officio members include the Chief Reader and ETS representatives

# A. The 2011 Committee

- Pamela Schmitt - Co-Chair  
U.S. Naval Academy - Annapolis, MD
- Michael Brody - Co-Chair  
Menlo School - Atherton, CA
- Luis Fernandez,  
Oberlin College - Oberlin, OH
- Margaret Ray  
University of Mary Washington - Fredericksburg, VA
- Sandra Wright  
Adlai Stevenson High School - Lincolnshire, IL
- Dee Mecham  
The Bishop's School - La Jolla, CA
- Mary Kohelis - College Board Adviser  
Brooke High School - Wellsburg, WV

## B. Meeting with the Committee

- David Anderson - Chief Reader  
Centre College - Danville, KY
- Fekru Debebe - Educational Testing Service
- Huanwei Zhao - Educational Testing Service

## II. Course Development

- Committee is involved in writing/updating Microeconomics course description.
- AP courses have undergone a course Audit.
- Syllabi are submitted to and evaluated by college faculty and AP consultants.
- Consistency among all courses labeled AP.

# II. Course Development

- At each AP Reading, college and high school teachers gather to grade and note changes in the emphasis of material.
- At Test Development meetings, members disseminate information on material students perform poorly on.
- Additional problems/focus materials are written to assist high school teachers in teaching difficult material.
- Workshops taught by college and high school teachers to assist new AP teachers.

# III. Exam Development

- Test Development committee consists of college and high school teachers; co-chaired by college professor and AP teacher; attended by chief reader. The committee creates each exam form two years before its launch.
- Multiple Choice and Free Response questions are written by AP teachers and college teachers.
- Multiple Choice questions are pre-tested at select colleges.

# III. Exam Development

- At each meeting Multiple Choice questions are discussed by committee members; they are rewritten/reworded as applicable
- Multiple Choice questions released every 5 years
- Free Response questions are written each year; released yearly (with grading rubric and examples)

# III. Exam Development:

Committee is also engage with:

- Determining the appropriate scope and difficulty level of questions
- Revising the course content specification
- Critically reviewing results of past year's tests and grading
- Maintaining contact and consulting with the College Board and ETS personnel who work with us

# III. Exam Development

Maintain standards similar to previous year.

- Use of common multiple choice questions "equaters" to insure reliability of different exam forms
- Link multiple choice scores to free-response scores

Comparability study conducted every 5 years.