Dear Math 141 student,

You are receiving this email because you are registered for Math 141 (Calculus I) in the fall 2013 semester. Beginning this semester the Mathematics and Computer Science department is requiring **all** Calculus I students to take an online "placement assessment" called ALEKS. **You must take this assessment before classes begin on August 27 - it is a requirement for entering Math 141**. The ALEKS system is free of charge, and also includes review and practice problems, which you can access after you take the initial assessment. The purpose of the ALEKS system is to improve your readiness for calculus, and ultimately, your grade.

The ALEKS Placement Assessment has about 30 questions and covers basic math up through precalculus. It will take around 60 to 90 minutes to complete the initial assessment. After you take the initial assessment you will then have access to review and practice problems using the ALEKS Preparation and Learning Module. The time spent in ALEKS will help you prepare for your upcoming course and ultimately lead to better grades. I recommend that all students spend at least five hours working with the ALEKS Prep and Learning Module. Students who score below 80% on the initial assessment should spend more time in the learning module. Also, you can take the placement exam up to five times to improve your score. More information on ALEKS, including more detailed recommendations regarding the amount of time you should spend in the Prep and Learning Module, can be found on the Math/CS page on the H-SC website:

http://www.hsc.edu/Academics/Academic-Majors/Mathematics-and-Computer-Science/ALEKS-for-Assessment-and-Learning.html

To take the assessment you will need your **H-SC student ID number** and your **H-SC email address**. If you've forgotten your student ID number (or haven't memorized it yet), you can retrieve it at the following link:

http://www3.hsc.edu/registrar/advising/

To sign up for ALEKS you will also need the following course code, exactly as it is written here:

4TJQN-JCVTR

Simply go to www.aleks.com and sign up as a NEW USER on the left side of the screen. Then, under K-12-Higher Education, enter the Course Code above, exactly as it is written above. After entering the course code, click on "Continue." As you fill out the personal information **please enter your official Hampden-Sydney student ID number when prompted**. Though this is marked "optional" on the form, we need this number to track your results. Once you have registered and taken the initial assessment you can login with your login name and password at a later point to practice or re-take the placement assessment.

If you have questions about this, please don't hesitate to email me.

Regards,

Dr. Marcus Pendergrass
Chair, Mathematics and Computer Science
Hampden-Sydney College