News from the South C's

Volume XIX, Number 2

Fall 2010

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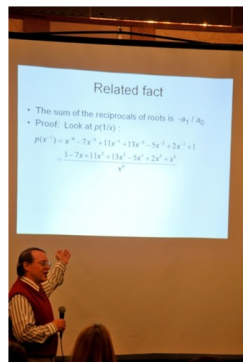
Upcoming Events:

- CMC³-South Fall Mini Conference
 October 16, 2010, Norco, CA.

- CMC South Conference, Palm Springs, November 5 - 6, 2010

- CMC³ 38th Annual Fall Conference, Dec. 10-11, 2010, Monterey, CA.

From the President's Desk

Thanks to all of you who attended the Spring 2010 CMC³-South Conference at the Anaheim, Doubletree Hotel. As many of you know, we celebrated the 25th Annual CMC³-South Conference at that meeting. On Friday, we began the conference with publisher workshops in the afternoon. In the evening, Dan Kalman from American University presented us with a stimulating talk entitled,

"Polynomia: Uncommon Excursions for the Seasoned Visitor."   During this talk, Dan shared lots of fun problems that allowed the audience to experience the study of polynomial equations in a way they may not have previously.

After Dan's talk, we had some humorous entertainment from the performers of Rockin' Math Songs followed by a game night. The CMC³-South Board members want to continue this practice of offering a game night because this allowed us to get to know other members of our organization in a relaxed environment, permitting us to share ideas that we are often too rushed to share. Let us know what you think!

Dan Kalman speaking on Polynomia

Barbara Illowsky, President of CMC³ (our northern affiliate) and Patty George, President of the CMC³-South get some time to meet at the Spring meeting.

From the President's Desk continued:

Carol Murphy, conducting the program as President of CMC[3]-South at the Spring 2010 Conference

On Saturday, President Carol Murphy conducted organizational business at the CMC[3]-South luncheon. Carol was concluding her term as the CMC[3]-South President. Carol has done a great job of leading us the past two years. In fact, we are not losing her expertise. Past presidents serve on the CMC[3]-South Board for two years after serving as president. To add to that advantage, we are lucky to have Carol now agree to take over the position of AMATYC State Delegate. Thank you, Carol!

On the Saturday of the conference, we also heard from Curtis Bennett who is at Loyola Marymount University. He provided us with a thought provoking presentation, "What is the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning? A Working Example: Developing a Knowledge-Expertise Taxonomy for Mathematics." He presented the audience with a "knowledge-expertise taxonomy" for developing and conducting scholarship of teaching and learning projects.

The CMC[3]-South Board Meeting:

In May, the CMC[3]-South Board met at Irvine Valley College to discuss current topics in mathematics and education, to debrief the spring conference and to share plans for the upcoming fall mini-conference that will be held at Norco College. One of the current topics discussed was a recent article, "What Community College Developmental Mathematics Students Understand About Mathematics," by James W. Stigler, Karen B. Givvin, and Belinda J. Thompson at the University of California, Los Angeles. This article is available at http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/sites/default/files/elibrary/stigler_dev-math.pdf. Many community college instructors in mathematics will be familiar with the data and scenarios described in that article. I encourage you to read this article and include the conclusions in your discussions of developmental mathematics curriculum at your institution.

The Summer:

While I intended to send off a summer update to the membership, I instead took a last minute opportunity to travel with one of my nephews to England and Scotland and then visited friends in Sweden. When I returned home, it was off to Texas to visit family. I hope that you all had a fruitful summer.

From the President's Desk continued:

The Fall 2010 Mini-Conference:

Can you decrypt this?

$$B \; \theta\varepsilon\rho\varepsilon \vee b^2$$

(Be there or be squared)

**Thoughts on Geometry, Trigonometry,
and Developmental Mathematics**

Bob Prior is organizing the Fall Mini-conference at Norco College, October 16, 2010. Bob will be updating us about the specifics concerning times and events. I am excited to hear about these topics as a focus for the mini-conference.

More:

Please read the following submissions to the CMC^3-South newsletter and if you would like to be a future contributor to this newsletter, please submit your work to Paul Swatzel at the address, jswatzel@citruscollege.edu, and to Patty George at the address pgeorgecmc3s@sbcglobal.net.

I hope you have a great year!

Patty George
President, CMC^3-South

For the Students of CMC^3-South
Bob Crise, Crafton Hills College

We wish to congratulate Los Angeles City College for finishing 1st among the CMC^3-South's colleges that participated in AMATYC's Student Mathematics League; also we wish to congratulate the top three students from our area.

First Place: *Haykaz Stepanyan*, Los Angeles City College
(Haykaz was the top student in AMATYC's Student Math League for 2009- 2010)
Second Place: *Tigran Ter-Stepanyan*, Los Angeles City College.
Third Place: *Sumit Chawla*, Los Angeles City College.

If you would like to bring students to CMC^3-South's Spring Conference at the Doubletree Hotel in Anaheim on March 4-5, 2010, contact Bob Crise at rcrise@craftonhills.edu .

CMC³-South Fall 2010 Mini-Conference

$$B \; \theta\varepsilon\rho\varepsilon \vee b^2$$

(Be there or be squared)

Thoughts on Geometry, Trigonometry, and Developmental Mathematics

This year's Fall Mini-conference will be held Saturday, October 16, 2010, at Norco College in Riverside County. Norco College is California's newest Community College, having recently been accredited along with its sister colleges in Riverside and Moreno Valley. Conference attendees are in for a treat as Keynote Speaker, Phu Tran, discusses the art and mathematics of origami. (Dr. Tran is the creator of the famous Phu Tran Rose.)

Check-in begins at 8:00 AM. Enjoy a continental breakfast while catching up with colleagues. The conference starts at 9:00 and ends at 2:00.

There will be two breakout sessions with four presentations each, including a panel discussion on Geometry in the College Classroom and another on Trigonometry: What comes first, the circle or the triangle?

Other sessions include presentations on

- college readiness of freshmen math students.

- the use of media in the geometry and trigonometry classrooms

- developmental mathematics,

- graphing software, and more

Please send in your registration by October 9 to receive the low conference rate of $20/member ($25/non-member). Late postmarks and at-the-door registrations are $5 extra. Registration forms are available on-line at www.cmc3s.org. Click on the "Conferences" link to find the form.

If you are interested in being a panelist for either panel discussion, there is still time to apply. From the Conferences page, click on "Call for Speakers."

For more information, please contact Bob Prior at bob.prior@rcc.edu.

CMC³-South Fall Mini-conference

$B\ \theta\epsilon\rho\epsilon \vee b^2$

(Be there or be squared)

Thoughts on Geometry, Trigonometry, and Developmental Mathematics

Saturday, October 16, 2010, at Norco College

➢ Check-in starts at 8:00 AM (continental breakfast included)

➢ Conference starts at 9:00 and ends at 2:00 (lunch included)

Registration Form

Name	
College Affiliation	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip	
E-mail	
	Lunch: Vegetarian ☐ Non-vegetarian ☐
Payment	Please check the box if this is a new mailing address or e-mail address: ☐
Member:	➢ $20 postmarked by Oct. 9, 2010 ➢ $25 postmarked after Oct 9, or at the door $
Non-Member:	➢ $25 postmarked by Oct. 9, 2010 ➢ $30 postmarked after Oct 9, or at the door $
	Total: $

➢ Please use a separate form for each registrant.

➢ Mail the form, together with your check, postmarked by Saturday, October 9, 2010 for on-time registration. Please note that late postmarks and at-the-door registrations are $5 extra.

➢ Please make checks payable to **CMC3-South** and mail to   Mark Greenhalgh
                                                                      Fullerton College
                                                                      321 E. Chapman Ave.
                                                                      Fullerton, CA 92832

Norco College is located in Riverside County, near the Orange County border, at 2001 3rd St., Norco, CA 92860

The Statway Project

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching is organizing a "joyful conspiracy" to help community colleges provide pathways to success for students who initially are placed in developmental mathematics courses. The Statway will bring non-STEM students from the level of elementary algebra up to and through a transfer-level statistics course in one year.

The Statway 2010 Summer Institute brought teams from 19 community college campuses (including Los Angeles Pierce College, Mt San Antonio College, and San Diego City College) to the Stanford University campus July 25-30 to meet, share with, and learn from each other and from Carnegie Foundation leaders and consultants.

We practiced the protocol for presenting, critiquing, and giving feedback on the lessons we will be piloting in the coming year. Each lesson will involve students working on a rich task with clearly defined learning goals. A key assumption of Statway is that statistics can provide a context for students to learn to think and reason quantitatively. The necessary algebraic skills will be embedded within the lesson, rather than holding center stage.

Another core part of the instructional experience is that having students struggle with problems is desirable. This student engagement, even when students do not discover or invent the necessary mathematics on their own, can be crucial to preparing the students for making sense of the central topic of the lesson.

The Statway project has collaborated with AMS, ASA, MAA, AMATYC, NADE, NACME (National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering), and CAUSE (Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education). Selected faculty from the professional mathematics societies make up the Carnegie Committee on Statistics Learning Outcomes, which has identified Statway's core concepts, topics, and learning outcomes for transfer-level statistics. The CCSLO also identified the developmental math learning outcomes needed to prepare students for learning statistics.

For further information about Statway, visit http://bit.ly/bCRQDN or
http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/statway/statway-resources.

B I T S   A N D   B Y T E S
by Sister Rita M Basta, BVM

Do you have some students this semester that seem 'really into mathematics' but you do not have enough time for them? Read <u>A Decade of the Berkeley Math Circles</u> by Stankova and Rike to get ideas and input on after school sessions where students explore complex concepts, challenging problems and enjoy coming just because they love math.

You may want a free subscription to eSchool News (a monthly publication on school technology issues) at: http://www.eschoolnews.com/freesn/index.cfm

Interactive math and science resources as well as 'virtual manipulatives' can be found at this interesting Web site: http://www.teachscienceandmath.com/

If you are a teacher educator you may want to see the teacher training technique developed by University of Wisconsin, Madison education researchers. It is called Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI).

The John Hopkins Center for Data-Driven Reform in Education is conducting one of the largest research review projects undertaken, to increase the use of evidence in education to improve student learning. For information on their work visit: www.cddre.org

Interested in using the NCTM <u>Student Math Notes</u> as classroom activities? Ten years of great classroom ideas can be downloaded from: http://my.nctm.org/eresources/journal_home.asp?journal_id=5

The Association of Math Teacher Educators (AMTE) will be hosting their annual meeting this year at the Hyatt Regency in Irvine, January 27-29, 2011. You will enjoy learning about teacher educator issues and making connections with other teacher educators at this energizing meeting. For more information: http://www.amte.net/

BITS or BYTES are welcome for next Newsletter. Please email: rita.basta@csun.edu

Mathematics Adjunct Faculty

The CMC^3-South faculty members include many interesting and talented adjunct faculty members. Sometimes these faculty members are full-time faculty members at one institution, but work part time at other institutions; other times these faculty members work at several colleges to put together a full schedule.

Recently, I met with one of these adjunct faculty members who was working on a Sunday to complete a project associated with a learning community.   Working on a Sunday was not an issue for Mr. Huang. He said that he had been working on weekends since the age of 13. Even though Mike comes from a family of educators – his grandmother was a teacher and his father was a Chinese literature teacher and a dean of a junior high school in mainland China. His sister earned a Ph.D. in high energy theoretical physics under Dr. Andrew Strominger from Harvard University and is currently working for Goldman Sachs. His brother is pursuing a MBA from Cal State Fullerton and is working as a consultant in the computer industry. However, at the same time, Mike has worked in restaurants since a child after moving here, working long hours every weekend and all holidays for over ten years.

Mike Fuze Huang, alias bigbadsnoopy1@yahoo.com mailto:bigbadsnoopy1@yahoo.com is often asked, "Where did you get that email identity?" His friend and constant companion is his black Labrador, Snoopy. However, this week his students have informed me that he is changing his email identity to DrMikeHuang@gmail.com. On Wednesday, Mr. Huang completed his dissertation defense at UC Riverside, and, as you can imagine, he has quite the feeling of relief. Working under the direction of Dr. Subir Ghosh, Mr. Huang's dissertation topic was "Robust and Optimum Fractional Factorial Designs." Dr. Huang informed me that this area of research can be applied to the pharmaceutical industry as well as to areas in which factorial experiments may be performed.

Mike Fuze Huang is currently an adjunct faculty member at Cerritos College and at Coastline Community College.   He enjoys teaching at the community colleges because he feels he can make a positive impact on the community college students' lives.   A question he likes to pose to beginning statistics students is, " When throwing a pair of dice, what is the probability that the first die is larger than the second?" One way to solve this is by writing out all of the outcomes. The first number in the ordered pair represents the first die and the second coordinate represents the second die. Students can list the thirty-six possibilities, and then determine the probability. However, there

Mathematics Adjunct Faculty continued:

are other ways to determine this probability. One other way is to determine this result is by using a symmetry argument. The student subtracts the probability that the dice are the same from the total number of outcomes and then divides the result by two in order to determine the probability. The reason Mr. Huang likes examining this type of problem is because the students have the opportunity to look at the same problem from multiple points of view.

Now, Mr. Huang … or should I call him Dr. Mike? … is working weekends on projects as an adjunct faculty member. His weekends now involve writing learning community proposals, working on grants concerning using tutors in the classroom, and involve learning to use technology to enhance the delivery of course content. Furthermore, on his free time Dr. Mike likes to do research in financial mathematics, stochastic processes, optimum designs and develop option trading strategies. We are lucky to have such intelligent, dedicated and knowledgeable adjunct faculty working with us at the community colleges.

Job Listings

Did you know that many California Community Colleges announce full and part-time openings in mathematics at the California Community Colleges Registry Plus? If you are interested in getting more information about full and part-time employment opportunities, please go to http: //www.cccregistry.org.

Meet One of Our Newest Board Members!

My name is Eduardo Jesus Arismendi-Pardi. At the moment I am the President of the Academic Senate. When teaching I teach precalculus, Calculus 1, Calculus 2, and Calculus 3. My area of interest is ethnomathematics, statistics, and mathematics education. I have published a few academic articles related to diversity issues, Funding and the Budget, and Institutional Review Boards. I coauthored two books: A Primer in Elementary Functions (2007) and Research Methods (2004).

Some Important Dates for Your Fall Schedule

CMC^3 South Fall Mini Conference, Norco College, October 16, 2010

MAA Section Meeting, University of California, Irvine, October 16, 2010

History and Pedagogy of Mathematics (HPM),Americas Section,
2010 West Coast Meeting, Cal Tech, October 23-24, 2010

CMC South Conference, Palm Springs, November 5 - 6, 2010

36th AMATYC Annual Conference, Boston, MA, November 11-14, 2010

CMC North Conference, Asilomar, December 3 - 5, 2010

Elizabeth Hamman

I am saddened to announce the loss of our colleague, Elizabeth Hamman. Elizabeth was a well loved and well respected colleague. Many of you know her and some of you may have attended Elizabeth's talk at the CMC3-South Conference last Spring. She presented the talk, "Connections, Concepts, and Clickers."

A math scholarship has been initiated in Elizabeth's name. If you are interested in donating to the Elizabeth Hamman Math Scholarship at Cerritos College on line, please go to the Cerritos College Foundation office web site at the following address https://secure.cerritos.edu/foundation/donation_form.asp. You may also contribute directly by mailing your donation to the Cerritos College Foundation.

The Elizabeth Hamman Math Scholarship
Cerritos College
Attn: Foundation Office
11110 Alondra Blvd.
Norwalk, CA, 90650

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