



33rd Annual Math Conference Anatomy of Teaching

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Fern resort
Orillia, Ontario
May 22 to 24, 2013

Wednesday, May 22

Topic: College Student Achievement Project (CSAP)

Keynote Speaker: Laurel Schollen (Associate Vice President Academic-Educational Excellence, Seneca College)

Bio: Laurel's career as a community college educator spans almost 30 years. She has been a faculty member, coordinator, chair and dean before assuming her present role as Associate Vice President Academic – Educational Excellence in 2011. As the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering Technology, Laurel represented Seneca on the provincial Heads of Technology (HOT) group. It was through her association with HOT that she became interested in examining the relationship between secondary school mathematics experience and first year college technology mathematics performance with a view to create a seamless math experience for students. This led to the College Mathematics Project in 2004. Over the years the College Mathematics Project grew from a single institution study of technology students to involve all programs at all 24 colleges in the system. The project concluded with the release of the CMP2011 final report in early 2012. Laurel is now directing the extension of the CMP, the College Student Achievement Project (CSAP).

Description:

"The College Student Achievement Project is designed to analyse the mathematics and language achievement of students in their first year of college in Ontario and to support deliberations over ways to increase their success in college." Laurel Schollen will provide an update on the status of this important project.

Topic: Wonders of the Night Sky

Presenters: Ramin Ghalati (Sheridan College) and John Kezys (Mohawk College)

Description:

This is a preparatory session for viewing tonight's night sky. We will review the basic mechanics of astronomical motion. Constellation, star and planet placement will be described. We will enrich our instruction with tales from Persian mythology. If we live in an infinite universe with infinitely many stars, then our night sky should be blazing bright. We will attempt to explain this paradox with an intriguing geometrical model. We will display and talk about resources for the budding amateur astronomer. You are encouraged to bring binoculars or a telescope for the evening observation session at Fern.

[Download the presentation.](#)

Topic: Using pre-class reading and WeBWork to encourage learning outside the college classroom

Presenter: Sandeep Bhargava (Humber College)

Description:

During the past year, I made two new attempts to engage students in doing mathematics outside the college classroom. The first asked students to do some preliminary reading from the (free) course textbook and answer three basic questions through our course management system before each class. The second asked students to complete weekly homework sets through the open-source online homework system WeBWork. I will talk about some of the successes, failures, and challenges that I experienced in trying these approaches.
