

## **AMTE PRECONFERENCE EVENTS**

### **Thursday morning, January 24, 2008**

There will be several Preconference Events held on Thursday morning, January 24, 2008, at the 2008 AMTE Conference at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel and Convention Center. Each session requires pre-registration; information is below. No onsite registration will be available. Please contact the organizers for more information.

#### **Developing a Research Framework for Mathematics Methods Courses**

Organizers: Bob Ronau ([bob@louisville.edu](mailto:bob@louisville.edu)) and P. Mark Taylor ([pmark@utk.edu](mailto:pmark@utk.edu))

Panel Members:

- Lew Romagnano, The Metropolitan State College of Denver
- Laura VanZoest, Western Michigan University
- Denise Mewborn, University of Georgia
- Gail Burrill, Michigan State University

Time: 8:30 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.

Session limit: 40 participants

Session Description: This session will begin by discussing a proposed framework for developing a shared research agenda on methods courses. A detailed description of the framework will be emailed to the participants a month prior to the meeting. Through this discussion, we will seek to determine:

1. How and to what extent is this proposed research framework useful in studying methods courses across institutional, geographic, and political boundaries (where state standards differ widely)?
2. How and to what extent does this framework support the process of establishing shared goals across the entire mathematics teacher education community?
3. What other essential components need to be addressed, added to, or modified in this proposed framework?
4. How does this framework modify, clarify, or enhance the proposed goals?

We will conclude the session by planning for future sessions and setting goals for research projects and publications.

To Register: Email Bob Ronau at [bob@louisville.edu](mailto:bob@louisville.edu)

#### **Working Group for the Mathematical Preparation of Elementary Teachers**

Organizers: Frank Lester ([lester@indiana.edu](mailto:lester@indiana.edu)) and Tom Bassarear ([tbassarre@keene.edu](mailto:tbassarre@keene.edu))

Charter Members of the Working Group:

- Sybilla Beckmann ([sybilla@math.uga.edu](mailto:sybilla@math.uga.edu))

- Christine Browning ([christine.browning@wmich.edu](mailto:christine.browning@wmich.edu))
- Chrystal Dean ([chrystd@CLEMSON.EDU](mailto:chrystd@CLEMSON.EDU))
- Jim Gleason ([jgleason@as.ua.edu](mailto:jgleason@as.ua.edu))
- Tracy Goodson-Espy ([goodsonespyt@appstate.edu](mailto:goodsonespyt@appstate.edu))
- Francine Johnson ([fejohanson@jhu.edu](mailto:fejohanson@jhu.edu))
- Thomasenia Lott Adams ([tla@coe.ufl.edu](mailto:tla@coe.ufl.edu)),
- Joanna Masingila ([jomasing@syr.edu](mailto:jomasing@syr.edu))
- Al Otto ([alotto@mac.com](mailto:alotto@mac.com))
- Diane Thiessen ([diane.thiessen@uni.edu](mailto:diane.thiessen@uni.edu))
- Mary Lou Witherspoon ([wITHERSPOONM@apsu.edu](mailto:wITHERSPOONM@apsu.edu))
- Sharon Young ([syoung@spu.edu](mailto:syoung@spu.edu))

Time: 8:30 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.

Session limit: 30 participants

Session Description: The goal for this workshop is to continue discussion begun at the 2007 AMTE conference of the many interconnected issues that underlie the mathematics content preparation of elementary teachers. While many of us devote considerable individual attention to this area and some people do collaborate and discuss issues in small groups, there has been little sustained, organized effort beyond that level. In this session we aim to establish the PME-NA notion of working groups around the topic of the mathematics content preparation of elementary teachers. In an attempt to establish specific directions and activities for the working group, participants will pursue the following set of goals: (1) to articulate a framework of activities/tasks that are reasonable and appropriate for AMTE members; (2) to develop a structure that will ensure that the working group will continue to be viable for several years; (3) to develop both long- and short-term plans for the working group; and (4) to provide research-based information about the mathematical preparation of elementary teachers.

To Register: Email Frank Lester at [lester@indiana.edu](mailto:lester@indiana.edu).

### **NCTM'S NCATE Program Reviewer Training Workshop**

Sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

Organizer: Monique Lynch ([mlynch@nctm.org](mailto:mlynch@nctm.org))

Time: 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Session limit: 30 participants

Session Description: The mathematics program review process for NCATE has undergone a complete change since the completion of spring 2004 reviews. This session is designed to prepare potential program report reviewers for the new NCATE system.

To Register: E-mail [nctmncate@nctm.org](mailto:nctmncate@nctm.org) and indicate that you are interested in attending reviewer training on January 24. There is no charge to attend, but the completion of an application and pre-registration for the workshop are required. For more information, see <http://www.nctm.org/ncate.aspx>.

## **Using Elementary Math Software to Improve Teacher Effectiveness**

Sponsored by PLATO Learning

Organizer: Terri Reden ([treden@plato.com](mailto:treden@plato.com))

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$10/person

Session limit: 30 participants

Session Description: The goals of this session are as follows:

- To provide attendees with an overview of an innovative mathematics software program designed to focus on difficult math concepts and improve teacher effectiveness;
- To provide attendees with examples of how the software can be implemented in a K-6 setting; and
- To provide attendees with suggestions for incorporating the software within a Professional Development program aimed at improving teacher instruction.

Attendees will leave with an understanding on how they can use Straight Curve™ Mathematics software as a tool within a Professional Development program for K-6 mathematics teachers. Given high teacher turnover and teacher retention issues, it is a key tool that can be used to help facilitate increased mathematics knowledge by our teachers.

To Register: E-mail PLATO Learning at [scmath@plato.com](mailto:scmath@plato.com). The \$10 registration fee includes continental breakfast and subscription to the product. All attendees will receive a one-year subscription to Straight Curve Mathematics (grades K-6) for use within a teacher education program.

## **Linking Dynamically Connected Representations and Computer Algebra Systems with the TI-Nspire CAS**

Sponsored by Texas Instruments

Organizer and Presenter: Doug Lapp ([lapp1da@cmich.edu](mailto:lapp1da@cmich.edu))

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

Registration Fee: None

Session limit: 40 participants

Session Description: This session gives hands-on training on the TI-Nspire CAS™ and makes connections to its use with pre-service mathematics teachers. This hand-held device and accompanying computer software allows the user to dynamically link various graphical, numerical, and algebraic representations so that change in one automatically updates changes in the others. In addition, the device contains a dynamic geometry system and computer algebra system (CAS) that allow students to explore patterns without the tedious need for symbolic manipulation with pencil and paper. As secondary curriculum materials are being revised to include the use of CAS (e.g. UCSMP, Core-

Plus) this session will be of particular interest to pre-service secondary mathematics teacher educators. Activities from an NSF curriculum development project for pre-service secondary mathematics teachers that are connected to secondary curricula (Core Plus and Interactive Mathematics Program) using the TI-Nspire CAS™ will be shared. The purpose of this session is not to specifically discuss the NSF project, but to train mathematics teacher educators on the use of the TI-Nspire CAS™; however, the training will be situated within the context of pre-service teacher education.

**To Register:** Email to Paula Watson at [pwatson@ti.com](mailto:pwatson@ti.com). Please include the phrase “AMTE TI Workshop” in the subject line of your e-mail. The session includes a free continental breakfast.

*Please see the Featured (Highlighted) Sessions Info Sheet for information on other sessions, including the Technology Workshop, organized by the AMTE Technology Committee, which will be held on Thursday from 1:30 – 4:30 (pre-registration is required, using the Conference Registration form). The Highlighted Sessions Info Sheet can be found on the same page as you found this document (on the 2008 Conference Information page on the AMTE.net website, <[http://www.amte.net/conf\\_index\\_2008.shtml](http://www.amte.net/conf_index_2008.shtml)>).*