

MATH SPIN News

Newsletter of the NADE Math Spin Group

January 2000
(Revised February 18, 2000)

Greetings from the Chair

Hi! Where did the time go?! There are less than two months until Biloxi. The folks in charge of scheduling for the NADE conference heard our recommendation to attempt to avoid conflict with presentations, but have since changed the scheduling. **Our math SPIN meeting is now scheduled for Thursday, March 16, at 2:30 p.m. in Room B-01.** We have been working on four items that may need attention at our meeting. I welcome suggestions for others.

1) We still have not figured out how to spend the money that was donated last year. Two suggestions have been to pay partial conference registration for members needing assistance or to offer assistance to members involved in research projects. Deann Christianson (dchristi@uop.edu), from whom the money originated, has agreed to take charge of collecting ideas, setting criteria, and making the hard decisions. If you have ideas and are interested in being involved in this, I'm sure she would welcome your input.

2) How can we improve the listserv attendance? The surveys all indicated that the list is a good idea, yet only 34 of our more than 200 members are currently on it. Is the current commercial site keeping members from signing on? I have tried (unsuccessfully) to move it to a non-commercial site. Are there any downsides to the present location (<http://www.egroups.com/list/mathspin/>)? Is anyone interested in hosting the list at a noncommercial site?

3) Shawna Mahan, our longtime webmaster, has changed colleges and can no longer host the site at <http://owl.ccd.cccoes.edu/asc/math/spin/nademath.htm>. We are in the process of moving the main pages to a new host at <http://www.way.peachnet.edu/devstudies/mathspin/>. Daryl Stephens (stephen@etsu.edu) has agreed to maintain the "newsletter" and "math links" pages. He welcomes suggestions for links to sites relevant to developmental studies (including sites that members have developed).

4) A final topic is the possibility of additional exchange of ideas at our SPIN meetings. Is there continued support for a poster session or other opportunity to share ideas and teaching methods at the conference? I am currently aware of one SPIN member who would like to do a poster session. Are there others? Would anyone be willing to bring copies of their favorite worksheets or teaching strategies? Should we try to set up a breakfast meeting to share ideas? Please contact me if you would be interested in taking charge of this effort.

If you cannot attend the SPIN meeting at Biloxi or would like to give input in advance, please contact me at the address, e-mail, or phone listed below. I would appreciate any input you can give. Your taking the time to respond encourages me to find time for the SPIN as well. Speaking of which, next year's meeting will mark my last year as Chair. We all know what that means ... if you are interested in taking a leadership position, please let me know. The position comes with free registration to the annual conference and relatively few headaches.

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Waycross, GA 31503
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RSLace@mail.way.peachnet.edu

Newsletter Plans

Responses to the survey sent out this fall by our chair indicate that SPIN members are still interested in the publication of a newsletter, but that few have time to contribute to it during the academic year. Consequently the spring newsletter will focus on the proceedings from the upcoming conference in Biloxi. We plan to use the newsletter to share the conference with members who cannot attend or who attended but had to make choices between the presentations.

To that end, we are asking SPIN members who will be presenting at the conference to consider making the following commitment. We would appreciate if you could give us a short (one page or less, if possible) summary of what you consider to be the highlights of your presentation. We will compile these as a sort of “conference summary.”

Conference attendees who are not presenting are also invited to contribute to this effort by writing a summary of one of the presentations they attend. We would like summaries to briefly describe main ideas and major points so that members interested in particular topics can contact presenters for additional information or exchange of ideas. If you would be willing to participate, we will have a list of the math presentations at the information desk and will ask for your initials as a commitment to writing a summary of the presentation. This will help assure that we receive a wide variety of summaries. (PLEASE NOTE: we are asking for summaries, not critiques.)

We would also like to ask SPIN members to consider submitting information about resources or professional development opportunities, along with any other notices, articles, reviews, tips, or announcements. Items can be given to Roberta Lacefield or Tom Armington at the SPIN meeting or sent to the address below. Thank you in advance for committing to this project.

Thomas Armington
Academic Services Department
Slippery Rock University
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
(724) 738-2309
thomas.armington@sru.edu

NADE Math SPIN Meeting
Thursday, March 16
2:30 P.M. — B-01

Enhancing the Teaching of Developmental Mathematics through Hand-held Computer Technology

The Ohio State University Technology College offers short courses in the US designed to enhance the teaching and learning of Developmental Mathematics through hand-held computer technology. The courses are **FREE**, last 1-3 days, and are offered throughout the academic year at your college.

Applications are being accepted for mini-grants to cover instructor expenses. The target audience is full-time developmental faculty, adjunct faculty, or teaching assistants. Each DEV short course participant will learn "hands-on" how to use the TI-83 Plus graphing calculator to enhance the teaching and learning of beginning and intermediate mathematics taught in colleges and universities. Each ARITH course participant will learn "hands-on" how to use the TI-73 graphing calculator to enhance the teaching and learning of arithmetic as taught in colleges and universities. Mathematics reform consistent with the AMATYC Crossroads Standards will be implemented. Applications, problem solving, pedagogy, implementation issues, and testing issues may be featured in short courses. The Calculator-Based Laboratory (CBL) system will be used to collect data that will promote mathematical ideas and analysis.

For information, contact Ed Laughbaum at any of the following:

(614) 292-7223

elaughba@math.ohio-state.edu

<http://www.math.ohio-state.edu/shortcourse>

Academic Services Department
Attn: T. Armington
Slippery Rock University
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Math/Science Presentations at NADE 2000

The following is a list of math and science presentations currently scheduled for the conference in Biloxi.

For additional information contact the conference co-chairs.

Thursday, March 16

- 10:45-11:45** ➤ Teaching Online Developmental Math (Mary Susan Hall)
➤ Meeting the Challenge of Math Standards with Graphing Calculators
(Bob Pesut)
➤ Comparative Performance Standards and Retention Rates of Math
Students (Terrence R. Sundeen)
➤ Portfolio for Success in Developmental Math (Lisa Yocco)
- 1:15-2:15** ➤ Collaborative Learning and Academic Integrity (David Busekist)
➤ Applications - Have No Fear - the TI-83 Is Here! (Jane M. Cason)
➤ Elementary Algebra Activities for the Kinesthetic Learner (Anita
Hughes)
➤ Unleashing the Web in Developmental Math (Dr. Marva S. Lucas, Dr.
Nancy J. Brien)
- 2:30-3:30** ➤ Improved Success in Math through Alternative Learning Environments
(Dianne F. Clark)
➤ Using Multi-media to Promote Learning Strategies in Math (Dr. Sally
P. Search)
➤ Math SPIN Meeting
- 2:30-4:45** ➤ The Developmental Math Home - Developmental Studies or Math
Department (Barbara A. Jur,
(2 hrs) Irene Duranczyk, Kelly Goldnetz, Carolyn Haase, Frances Lichtman,
Timothy McKenna)
➤ Exploring Developmental Algebra Concepts Using the TI-83 Graphing
Calculator
(Dr. JoAnne Thomasson)
- 3:45-4:45** ➤ Is Sequencing of Topics Important? (Josette M. Ahlering)
➤ Creative Wonders on the Web in Math Word Problem Solving (Girija S.
Nair)

Friday, March 17

- 10:45-11:45** ➤ Low-cost, Low-tech Ways to Effectively Reach Developmental Algebra
Students
(Diana L. Hestwood)
➤ Sharing an Experience with Computer-aided Animations in Developmental
Math
(Meredith Anne S. Higgs)
➤ The Function of the Function in Developmental Math (Dr. Salina
Vasquez)
➤ TI-82/83 Graphing Calculator Activities for Algebraic Modeling
(Denise Pocta Wilkinson)

2:30-3:45 ➤ Fun Math Activities to Enhance Learning Support Algebra Classes (Don K. Brown, Donna B. Saye)
➤ Maple Programs: Plotting a Straight Course into Safe Harbors (Dr. Otis E. Byrd, Jr.)
➤ Using the TI-92 Calculator in the Geometry Classroom (James H. Sanders, Patrick Perdew)

2:30-4:45 ➤ The Handheld CAS in Developmental Algebra for College Students (Dr. Amelia S. Kinard,
(2 hrs) Dr. Laurie B. Hopkins)

3:45-4:45 ➤ Interactive Math: Using Technology with the Instructor in Charge (Monty Briley)
➤ Building Numbers with Primes (Dr. Kathleen Lopez)
➤ Stepping Up: A Hands-On Approach to Slope (Connie Rost)

Saturday, March 18

10:00-11:00 ➤ Enhancing the Developmental Algebra Curriculum (Thomas Armington)
➤ Effects of Math Anxiety on Academic Performance and Persistence (Dr. Wilton A. Barham,
Dr. T. Nelson Ikegulu)
➤ Teaching Strategies for Rational Expressions and Graphing Inequalities I (Samuel Richardson)

11:15-12:15 ➤ Office Hours: From Wisdom to Waste (Harley F. Anton)
➤ Success Tips for Pre-Algebra Plus Magic Tricks that Work! (Joanne Methven)
➤ Retention and Precision: Rewards and Penalties in Developmental Math (Chris Oehrlein)

Graduate Programs in Developmental Education

Last spring's newsletter carried an article by Margaret C. Bell and Nelson T. Ikegulu making an argument for the necessity of graduate programs in Developmental Education. Graduate programs in Developmental Education are currently offered by Appalachian State University, North Carolina which houses the National Center for Development Education and the Kellogg Institute for the training and certification of developmental educators and by Grambling State University, Louisiana which offers master's and doctoral degrees in developmental education. The addresses of these institutions are listed below. SPIN members are encouraged to submit the names of other institutions offering graduate studies in developmental education.

National Center for Developmental Education
Appalachian State University
P. O. Box 32098
Boone, NC 28608
(828) 262-3057

Director of Doctoral Programs
Grambling State University
Campus Box 4305
Grambling, Louisiana 71245
(318) 274-2238