
Developmental Mathematics Newsletter

*Math SPIN Group of the National Association for Developmental Education
July 1991*

Chairperson's Report

by Betsy Darken

Actually this is a pseudo-newsletter penned by me. We hope to have a real newsletter on line sometime soon, but in the meantime there are various goings-on described below which need your immediate attention. This is a very important time for curricular reform in developmental mathematics and many of our activities are focusing directly or indirectly on this primary issue. Please **note** the following dates and see below for further details.

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| August 1 | Proposal deadline to Innovative Techniques Committee regarding technology's impact on the curriculum |
| August 2-3 | Meeting of Curriculum Committee and other interested parties in Chattanooga, TN to discuss curricular reform |
| August 15 | General NADE proposal deadline for 1992 conference |
| September 15 | Deadline to return form for inclusion on math mailing list |

A business matter: it is time to update our mailing list, so please complete and return the enclosed form regarding your membership in this SPIN group, unless you already submitted it at the 1991 Nashville conference. **YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM BY SEPTEMBER 15 TO REMAIN ON THE MAILING LIST!**

NADE Call for Proposals

The deadline for proposals to the 1992 NADE conference has been extended to **August 15, 1991**. The conference is scheduled for early March in San Antonio. Please consider submitting a proposal!

Call for Proposals: Technology and the Curriculum

Having implemented an extremely successful session for the 1991 conference, Our Innovative Techniques Subcommittee is soliciting proposals for panel members in another blockbuster for the 1992 conference, described below.

Technology's Impact on the Curriculum

The focus of this panel discussion at the 1992 NADE conference will be on ways in which technology impacts the curriculum, For the purposes of this panel, technology includes calculators, computers, video disks, videos, etc. Anyone who has worked with integrating technology into the curriculum -- and integrating the curriculum into technology! -- is invited to submit a proposal for the panel. We are not looking for a panel of "experts" but rather people who, having attacked this curricular problem, will convey their failures as well as successes, discuss unresolved problems , raise questions about. long-term consequences, etc. Our purpose is to pool members' experiences in order to provide insights for the audience. Each panel member will be expected to prepare a handout and a 10-15 minute address. Time will be planned for the audience to ask questions. Please send your proposals by **August 1** to :

Gwen Huber Terwilliger ph: 419/537-3132
University of Toledo/ComTech
Toledo OH 43606-9987

Curriculum Subcommittee

The curriculum subcommittee has plans to conduct a major investigation of the developmental mathematics curriculum in light of calls for curricular reform at all levels, This is a challenging and exciting time for mathematics educators! The subcommittee is going to consider such publications as the NCTM Standards and the National Research Council's Moving Beyond Myth. A workshop is planned for August 2-3 in Tennessee to start considering the main curricular issues and to look into grant possibilities for carrying out this work over the next few years. Curriculum committee members should have already received a communique from their chair regarding these developments. Others who are interested in joining this committee or attending the meeting in Chattanooga should contact:

William Thomas ph: 419/537-3338
University of Toledo Scott Park Campus
2801 W. Bancroft St.
Toledo OH 43606-3390

Effectiveness Subcommittee

The Effectiveness Subcommittee is working on the final draft of its effectiveness model using suggestions made at the 1991 NADE conference. Our purpose is to create an in-depth model that developmental mathematics educators can use to statistically evaluate the effectiveness of their programs and to make comparisons across programs. Various members are already conducting preliminary case studies to test this model and have been able to use their results to justify the effectiveness of their programs. Our long term plans are to:

- (1) Complete the final draft of the effectiveness model;
- (2) Complete case studies based on the model;
- (3) Publish our results in a monograph, including the model, the case studies and a discussion of implications.

We are currently exploring possibilities for obtaining a grant for this work. Anyone who is interested in working in this project or in obtaining a copy of the latest draft of the model should contact:

Betsy Darken ph: 615/755-4545
Mathematics Department
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Chattanooga, TN 37403-2598

Conference Subcommittee

This is a new name for a committee which has in the past organized a "math homeroom", poster sessions and a newcomers' session at the annual NADE conferences. Members who attended the Math SPIN meeting at the 1991 conference made a number of fine suggestions for next year, including:

- (1) arranging with the conference planners to have a table in the exhibit area for posters, extra handouts from math sessions and handouts from our SPIN group and subcommittees.
- (2) planning a math session to be aimed at all math people, especially newcomers. This session should be scheduled at the first time slot with no competition from other math sessions.
- (3) obtaining permission to check over the conference schedule in order to forestall scheduling problems like those encountered at the 1991 conference.

- (4) obtaining a preliminary list of math-related session titles and publishing these in this newsletter no later than January 1992.

I want to thank Sandi Orr for organizing many of these activities in the past few years. She has been very generous with her time and has helped to expand our SPIN group's activities. This year Sandi has moved on to other activities so this subcommittee needs a new chair. Please consider volunteering for this post. In the meantime I have sent a request regarding items (1), (3) and (4) to the 1992 conference organizers. Unless we obtain a chair for this subcommittee quickly, item (2) will have to be deferred to a future year.

Placement Subcommittee

The Placement Subcommittee organized a very successful pre-conference workshop at the 1991 conference, bringing in a team from the MAA's committee on placement. The subcommittee is planning another session on placement at the 1992 conference. Anyone interested in this subcommittee should contact:

Virginia Hamilton ph: 615/355-2342
Shawnee State U.
940 Second St.
Portsmouth OH 45662

Directory Subcommittee

The Directory Subcommittee was busy this past year preparing a questionnaire to solicit information from NADE mathematics members and investigating ways of computerizing and distributing this information. Technical difficulties have arisen regarding the latter, especially the matter of keeping the directory updated. We are very much in need of help from someone with experience in this area. Please contact last year's co-chairs if you can help out with this project:

Patricia Cass ph: 614/227-2620
Columbus State C. C.
550 E. Spring St.
Columbus OH 43215

Kathy Huppler ph: 612/252-1069
St. Cloud State U
720 4th Ave S. ECC 260
St. Cloud MN 56301