# Journal of Mathematics Education at Teachers College

Spring – Summer 2010 Inaugural Issue

A CENTURY OF LEADERSHIP IN MATHEMATICS AND ITS TEACHING

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## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

#### **Foreword**

V Honoring the Past—Anticipating the Future Bruce R. Vogeli, J. Philip Smith, Erica Walker

#### **Preface**

vi Addressing Critical Issues in the Preparation of Teachers of Mathematics

Stuart Weinberg, Director of Field Experience, Teachers College, Columbia University

#### **Articles**

- Examining What Teachers Do When They Display Their Best Practice: Teaching Mathematics for Understanding Edward Silver, University of Michigan
- 7 Current and Needed Research on Alternative Certification Programs

  Edward Ham. Ph.D. Candidate. Teachers College. Columbia

Edward Ham, Ph.D. Candidate, Teachers College, Columbia University

12 Inside the UTeach Program: Implications for Research in Mathematics Teacher Education

Nicholas H. Wasserman, Ph.D. Candidate, Teachers College, Columbia University

17 Improving Preservice Field Placements in Secondary Mathematics: A Residency Model for Student Teaching Through Lesson Study

Theresa Gurl, Queens College of the City University of New York

21 A Study of the Relationship Between Student Teachers' Expectations of Pupil Success and the Management of Classroom Discourse

Stuart Weinberg, Teachers College, Columbia University

25 Increasing Perceived Efficacy for Teaching Mathematics: An Exploratory Study

Deborah Rosenfeld, Teachers College, Columbia University

- 36 An Analysis of a Misconception of Probability among Future Mathematics Teachers
  Patricia Jendraszek, Mercy College
- 46 Slideware Strategies for Mathematics Educators Christian Stryker, United Arab Emirates University

# TABLE OF CONTENTS, continued

## **Notes from the Classroom**

## 51 Ideas for Middle School Mathematics

Amanda Giambruno Heidi Li

## 52 Innovative Instruction in High School Mathematics

Cindy Cheung Meredith Klein Kitty Yang Meredith Brown David Liang

## 54 Student Research in Community College Calculus

Sofya Nayer and Toni Kasper, Borough of Manhattan Community College

## **Other**

## 56 ABOUT THE AUTHORS

# The *Journal of Mathematics Education at Teachers College* is a publication of the Program in Mathematics and Education at Teachers College Columbia University in the City of New York.

#### **Guest Editor**

Dr. Stuart Weinberg

#### **Editorial Board**

Dr. Philip Smith Dr. Bruce Vogeli Dr. Erica Walker

#### **Corresponding Editor**

Ms. Krystle Hecker

#### **On-Line Editor**

Dr. Nii Nartey Ms. Diane Murray

#### Layout

Ms. Sonja Hubbert

#### **Cover Design**

Mr. Mark Causapin

This issue's cover and those of future issues will honor past and current contributors to the Teachers College Program in Mathematics and Education. Photographs are drawn from the Teachers College archives and personal collections.

This issue honors NCTM 2010 Lifetime Achievement Medalist, Dr. Henry O. Pollak, who has completed 22 years as a member of the Program in Mathematics and Education at Teachers College. Dr. Pollak has contributed so much to the mathematical preparation of the Program's graduates and to the communities of mathematics and mathematics education professionals in the United States and throughout the world.

David Eugene Smith, also pictured on the front cover, was the founding professor of the Teachers College Program in Mathematics and Education. Like Dr. Pollak, Professor Smith was widely respected by both mathematicians and educators.

#### **Aims and Scope**

The *JMETC* is a re-creation of an earlier publication by the Teachers College Columbia University Program in Mathematics and Education. As a peer reviewed, semi-annual journal, it is intended to provide dissemination opportunities for writers of practice-based or research contributions to the general field of Mathematics Education. Each issue of the *JMETC* will focus upon an educational theme. Themes planned for the 2010-2011 issues are: *Teacher Education, International Education, Curriculum, Technology, and Equity*—all centered upon mathematics and its teaching. The *JMETC* will have a distinctive niche in the world of education publishing. Our readers are educators from pre K-12 and college and university levels, and from many different disciplines and job positions—teachers, principals, superintendents, professors of education, and other leaders in education.

#### **Manuscript Submission**

We seek conversational manuscripts (2500-3000 words in length) that are insightful and helpful to mathematics educators. Articles should contain fresh information, possibly research-based, that gives practical guidance readers can use to improve practice. Examples from classroom experience are encouraged. Articles must not have been accepted for publication elsewhere. All manuscripts may be submitted electronically at www.tc.edu/jmetc. This system will help keep the submission and review process as efficient as possible.

**Abstract and keywords.** All manuscripts must include an abstract with keywords. Abstracts describing the essence of the manuscript should not exceed 150 words. All inquiries should be sent to Ms. Krystle Hecker, P.O. Box 210, Teachers College Columbia University, 525 W. 120<sup>th</sup> St., New York, NY 10027.

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## Journal of Mathematics Education at Teachers College

#### **Call for Papers**

The "theme" of the fall issue of the *Journal of Mathematics Education at Teachers College* will be *International Mathematics Education*. This "call for papers" is an invitation to mathematics education professionals, especially Teachers College students, alumni and friends, to submit articles of approximately 2500-3000 words describing research, experiments, projects, innovations, or practices related to international or comparative mathematics education. Articles should be submitted to www.tc.edu/jmetc by September 1, 2010. The fall issue's guest editor, Dr. Juliana Connelly, will send contributed articles to editorial panels for "blind review." Reviews will be completed by October 1, 2010, and final drafts of selected papers are to be submitted by November 1, 2010. Publication is expected in late November, 2010.

#### **Call for Volunteers**

This *Call for Volunteers* is an invitation to mathematics educators with experience in reading/writing professional papers to join the editorial/review panels for the Fall 2010 and subsequent issues of *JMETC*. Reviewers are expected to complete assigned reviews no later than 3 weeks from receipt of the blind manuscripts in order to expedite the publication process. Reviewers are responsible for editorial suggestions, fact and citation checking, and identification of similar works that may be helpful to contributors whose submissions seem appropriate for publication. Neither authors' nor reviewers' names and affiliations will be shared; however, editors'/reviewers' comments may be sent to contributors of manuscripts to guide further submissions without identifying the editor/reviewer.

If you wish to be considered for review assignments, please request a *Reviewer Information Form* from Ms. Hecker. Return the completed form to Ms. Krystle Hecker at JMETC@tc.columbia.edu or Teachers College, Columbia University, 525 W 120th St., Box 210, New York, NY 10027.

#### **Looking Ahead**

Anticipated themes for future issues are:

Spring 2011 Curriculum
Fall 2011 Technology
Spring 2012 Equity
Fall 2012 Leadership
Spring 2013 Psychology

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## **FOREWORD**

## Honoring the Past—Anticipating the Future

This first issue of the *Journal of Mathematics Education at Teachers College* marks the reincarnation of an earlier Teachers College series entitled *Contributions to Mathematics Education*. That series dates back to the era of David Eugene Smith, the founder of the field of mathematics education, who arranged and financed the publication of Teachers College dissertations, including the first two theses in the field written in 1906 by Alva Walker Stamper and Lambert Lincoln Jackson. Although financial circumstance brought on by the Great Depression of the 1930s and World War II and its aftermath limited publication to selected theses, the series *Contributions to Mathematics Education* continued until the final publication appeared in 1970 as a tribute to Professor Myron F. Rosskopf by his doctoral graduates.

The resurrected version of the *Contributions to Mathematics Education* is not devoted to the publication of doctoral dissertations, but rather is a semi-annual journal that will feature both practice-based and research articles of interest to today's broad spectrum of mathematics education professionals. The *Journal of Mathematics Education at Teachers College (JMETC)* should provide peer-reviewed publication opportunities for novice as well as experienced mathematics educators. Each issue of the *JMETC* will focus upon a theme to permit contributors to prepare thematic articles for future issues. Themes selected include the first issue's theme of *Teacher Education* and subsequent themes of *International Education* (fall 2010), *Curriculum* (spring 2011), and *Technology* (fall 2011). All issues and themes will emphasize mathematics and mathematics teaching.

While *JMETC's* Editorial Board cannot hope to match the skill and wisdom of previous sponsors of the series *Contributions to Mathematics Education*, including David Eugene Smith, John Roscoe Clark, William David Reeve and Howard Franklin Fehr, we hope our colleagues in the community of mathematics education professionals will find the contributions of the authors of *JMETC* useful additions to the growing body of literature in the field.

Bruce R. Vogeli J. Philip Smith Erica Walker