

NEWSLETTER / BULLETIN

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The NEWSLETTER is a publication of the Canadian Mathematics Education Study Group

Ce BULLETIN est une publication du Groupe canadien d'étude en didactique des mathématiques

CMESG is a group of mathematicians and mathematics educators who meet annually to discuss mathematics education issues at all levels of learning. The aims of the Study Group are:

Le GCEDM est composé de personnes oeuvrant en mathématiques et en didactique des mathématiques et qui se réunissent une fois par année pour étudier diverses questions relatives à l'enseignement des mathématiques à tous les niveaux. Les buts du Groupe sont les suivants:

- 1) to study the theories and practices of the teaching of mathematics
- 2) to promote research in mathematics education
- 3) to exchange ideas and information about all aspects of mathematics education in Canada
- 4) to disseminate the results of its work.

- 1) susciter une réflexion critique sur la théorie et la pratique de l'enseignement des mathématiques
- 2) encourager la recherche en didactique des mathématiques
- 3) faciliter l'échange d'idées et d'information sur tous les aspects de l'éducation mathématique au Canada
- 4) faire connaître les résultats de ses travaux.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE DU PRÉSIDENT

Elaine Simmt

It is my pleasure to announce our newest members of the executive. David Lidstone, Langara College, British Columbia was elected as a member at large. As well, Miroslav Lovric, McMaster University, Ontario and Lucie DeBlois, Laval University, Quebec have agreed to be co-opted for the 2012 - 2013 year. Thank you to Dave Wanger, University of New Brunswick and Julie Long, University of Alberta for sitting on the nomination committee and looking after the annual election.

After 6 years, Peter Liljedahl is stepping down as editor of the CMESG Annual Meeting Proceedings. Peter has done a remarkable job, ensuring the professional quality of the publication at the same time as transitioning it into a fully accessible electronic document and reducing the cost of its production. On behalf of all of our members, thank you Peter for your work.

At this time we would like to call for a new editor. Our preference is to give this task to a member who has experience with editing and production, and one who has the support of his or her institution. Although there is no fix term for the editor, recent editors have done the job for approximately five years.

Members are encouraged to visit the CMESG website for our 2012 conference announcement. I would like to invite members to consider sharing your work at this year's Math Gallery Walk. For more information about the Math Gallery please contact elaine.simmt@ualberta.ca

C'est avec plaisir que j'annonce le renouvellement de notre comité exécutif. David Lidstone, du Collège Langara en Colombie-Britannique, a été élu membre adjoint. De plus, Miroslav Lovric, de l'université McMaster en Ontario, et Lucie DeBlois, de l'université Laval à Québec, ont accepté d'être coopté pour l'année 2012-2013. Je tiens à remercier Dave Wagner, de l'université du Nouveau-Brunswick, et Julie Long, de l'université d'Alberta, pour avoir présidé le comité de nomination et assuré le suivi de l'élection annuelle.

Après 6 ans, Peter Liljedahl s'arrête comme éditeur des actes de la rencontre annuelle du GCEDM. Peter a fait un travail remarquable en assurant la qualité professionnelle des publications et, en même temps, en assurant un suivi pour la transition vers un accès aux documents électroniques, réduisant ainsi le coût des productions. Au nom de tous les membres, je te remercie pour ton travail Peter.

Nous devons donc nommer un nouvel éditeur. Notre préférence serait de donner cette tâche à un membre qui a une expérience de l'édition et de la production et pour lequel il peut obtenir un support de son institution. Il n'y a pas de durée fixe pour ce travail mais les éditeurs précédents ont travaillé environ 5 ans pour le groupe.

Vous êtes encouragés à visiter le site web de notre groupe pour lire les informations concernant la rencontre de l'année 2012. J'aimerais aussi vous inviter à considérer l'opportunité de partager vos travaux lors de la Galerie mathématique. Pour plus d'informations sur la Galerie Mathématique, vous êtes invités à consulter elaine.simmt@ualberta.ca

NOTICES / AVIS

Up-coming Conferences and Events

CMESG 2012

Université Laval will be hosting the 36th Annual Meeting of the CMESG, which opens at 16:45 on Friday, 25 May and closes at 12:30, Tuesday, 29 May. As in previous years, the meeting will host a variety of working groups, panel, topic and ad hoc sessions, as well as several new PhD sessions. Plenary lectures will be given by Paulus Gerdes, of ISTEg-University, Mozambique, and Margaret Walshaw of Massey University, New Zealand. With an *elder talk* from William Higginson, and an excursion to the charming Île d'Orléans, this year's meeting aims to be an interesting one. Hope to see you there!

For the first time, membership and registration will be processed online. Links to the forms can be found on the CMESG website at: <http://publish.edu.uwo.ca/cmescg/>.

GCEDM 2012

La 36e rencontre annuelle du GCEDM sera a l'Université Laval, et débutera le vendredi 25 mai à 16h45 et se terminera le mardi 29 mai à 12h30. Comme les années précédentes, la réunion sera l'hôte d'une variété de groupes de travail, séances thématiques sélectionnées et les nouvelles thèses de doctorat. Conférences plénières sera donnée par Paulus Gerdes, de ISTEg-Université au Mozambique, et Margaret Walshaw de l'Université Massey en Nouvelle-Zélande. Avec *la parole aux anciens* par William Higginson, et une excursion à la charmant Île d'Orléans, la réunion sera très intéressant. Nous espérons vous y voir!

Pour la première fois, les formulaires de renouvellement des membres, et d'inscription au colloque seront traités en ligne. Ils sont disponibles sur le site du GCEDM, à <http://publish.edu.uwo.ca/cmescg/>.

CMS 2012 Summer Meeting

The Canadian Mathematical Society's Summer Meeting will be held in Regina, Saskatchewan on June 2 - 4, 2012. The theme of this year's Mathematics Education session is *Connections*. The session is organized by Roberta La Haye (Mount Royal), Patrick Maidorn (Regina) and Kathy Nolan (Regina), and will include talks addressing connections across communities and cultures, between mathematics, the arts, and children's literature, and between problem solving and playing games and puzzles. For more information, visit: <http://cms.math.ca/Events/summer12/>

OAME 2012 Annual Conference

This year's annual conference of the Ontario Association for Mathematics Education is being hosted by St. Lawrence College in Kingston, Ontario, on May 10 – 12, 2012. The conference themes focus on making connections, building communities, and life-long learning; speakers include Marian Small, Doug Clements, Cathy Bruce, and Ruth Beatty. For more information visit, www.oame12.ca

Fields Institute for Mathematical Sciences 20th Anniversary

The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences is celebrating its 20th anniversary this July 2012 – June 2013. Celebratory activities include the Inaugural Fields Medal Symposium, October 15-18, 2012. The symposium is being held in honour of Fields Medalist Ngô Bào Châu and will be centred on his work with the Langlands Program and its current and potential impact.

The Symposium will feature a public opening with Ingrid Daubechies, President of the International Mathematical Union, Le Sy Vuong Ha, Ambassador of Vietnam to Canada, and a senior official of the Ontario government. There will also be public lectures by Ngô Bào Châu and James Arthur, former President of the American Mathematical Society and current professor of Mathematics at the University of Toronto.

The Symposium aims to reach a wide audience, and will include activities and workshops for high school students and undergraduate students, including a panel hosted by Zach Paikin (son of Steve Paikin, host of TVO's *The Agenda*).

For more information, visit: <http://www.fields.utoronto.ca/>

Are there other meetings or events that might be of interest to members of this community? If so, please send information to AMamolo@edu.yorku.ca for inclusion in future newsletters.

Remembering Margaret Patricia Sinclair (1950-2012)

With regret and sadness comes the news of Margaret Sinclair's passing, this February 21, the day of her 62nd birthday. After fighting a courageous battle with cancer, Margaret died peacefully at home, surrounded by her loving husband and best friend of 43 years, Larry, and their five children.

For 15 years, prior to earning her doctorate, Margaret worked as a teacher and vice-principal with the Toronto Catholic District School Board. Amongst periods of teaching, Margaret spent time at home, raising 5 children, who were the centre of her personal life. After having taught mathematics at the elementary to secondary levels, Margaret renewed focus on her own education, returning to part-time studies, combined with full-time work, first for a Master's in the Mathematics for Teachers program at York University, and then a PhD in Mathematics Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) at the University of Toronto, under the supervision of Gila Hanna. At age 50, Margaret successfully earned her PhD and was subsequently hired by York University, where she worked as Associate Professor of Education and codirector of the York-Seneca Institute for Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (YSIMSTE).



Margaret's research and teaching were strongly connected; her PhD thesis focused on examining the use of pre-constructed, web-based dynamic geometry sketches in secondary school, while her more recent work focused on developing a model for visual learning for mathematics teaching. She is a contributing author on several curriculum materials and textbooks, research papers and chapters, and has supervised over 20 graduate students.

During her time at York University, Margaret was an essential partner with Walter Whiteley in establishing the Graduate Diploma in Mathematics Education program, designed in part to help other students in the MA in Mathematics for Teachers program transition to a PhD program in Mathematics Education. Margaret took on a coordinating role with YSIMSTE after the retirement of its founding director Graham Orpwood. Through YSIMSTE she contributed to the College Mathematics Project, the Youth Science and Technology Outreach Program, and Summer Science programs, which brought middle and high school students to campus for science and math related activities. Margaret's passion was teaching and she advocated for the preparation of future teachers by contributing to the development and implementation of the Mathematics for Education major within the Mathematics Department at York U., as well as actively initiating the development of a BA program in Science for Education for future elementary teachers at the time she took medical leave.

Margaret was a regular participant at CMESG, most recently co-chairing the local organization of the 2009 CMESG meeting at York University. She served as member and Chair (2005 – 2007) of the Fields Mathematics Education Forum, as a member of the Curriculum Review Steering Committee responsible for advising the next review of the Ontario mathematics curriculum, and was recently nominated as a Fields Institute Fellow in recognition of her contributions to the Fields institute and the Canadian mathematical community. Margaret was a dedicated and compassionate teacher, and will be remembered fondly by her family, friends, colleagues and students.

MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES / ACTIVITÉS DES MEMBERS

African Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (AIMS)

Elaine Simmt

On behalf of AIMS I would like to share this information they passed on to me this winter.

AIMS centres are globally recognized centres of excellence for postgraduate education and research. Their mission is to rapidly and cost effectively expand Africa's scientific and technological capacity by providing advanced training to exceptional African graduates, harnessing Africa's most abundant natural resource: the talent and drive of the continent's brightest young minds.

Since its establishment in 2003, the first centre – AIMS-South Africa – has graduated 360 students, almost 30% of them women, from 31 African countries with the AIMS Postgraduate Diploma in Mathematical Sciences. These graduates' track records are outstanding, with over 95% continuing to Master's and PhD degrees and the majority remaining in Africa to apply their skills in African universities, research centres, government, NGOs and industry.

Thanks to support from the Canadian government, the Next Einstein Initiative is now working to expand AIMS to become a pan-African network of 15 centres. A second AIMS centre opened in Senegal in September 2011 and a third centre will open in Ghana in 2012. The network of AIMS centres will provide the environment for exceptional talents to emerge and flourish, feeding a stream of thousands of skilled alumni into government, industry, research and academia. AIMS graduates will form a highly skilled community, working towards the economic, political and educational self-sufficiency of Africa.

Getting involved with AIMS

AIMS programs are taught by international quality lecturers from universities across the world that each come for a period of three weeks to teach a highly interactive, intensive course. Proposals for courses are accepted on the AIMS website at: <http://www.aims.ac.za/en/apply/diploma-course-proposals>.

The cohesion of the program however is provided by the teaching assistants who are PhD students and graduates that spend the year with the students at the AIMS centre providing support through group and individual tutorials and assessing students. More information about tutoring at AIMS can be found at: <http://www.nexteinstein.org/teaching-assistants>.

For enquiries please contact Trust at info@nexteinstein.org.

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE / DES NOUVELLES DE L'EXÉCUTIF

Report of the Nominations / Elections Committee 2012

112 regular members were invited to participate in the election for the CMESG/GCEDM Executive and for the FLM Board of Directors. 71% of the regular members voted in the 2012 Elections.

Here are the results and the terms of office of our elected members:

Dave Lidstone, member of the executive of
CMESG/GCEDM, 2012-2014

Elaine Simmt (acclamation), president of
CMESG/GCEDM, 2012-2014

Brent Davis, member of the Board of Directors for
FLM, 2012-2016

Florence Glanfield, member of the Board of
Directors for FLM, 2012-2016

Congratulations to the newly elected CMESG/GCEDM Executive members and the members of the Board of Directors for FLM. Sincere thanks to those members who let their names stand for election. Our organization was very fortunate to have a strong list of nominees for the elections this year.

The members of the CMESG/GCEDM Nominations & Election Committee are Julie Long (julie.long@ualberta.ca) and David Wagner (dwagner@unb.ca).

Rapport du comité de nomination / sélection du GCEDM 2012

112 membres réguliers ont été invités à participer aux élections pour le comité exécutif du GCEDM/CMESG et pour le conseil d'administration de FLM. 71% de nos membres réguliers ont marqué leur bulletin de vote.

Voici les résultats du scrutin et les mandats de nos membres élus:

Dave Lidstone, membre du comité exécutif du
GCEDM/CMESG, 2012-2014

Elaine Simmt (par acclamation), présidente du
GCEDM/CMESG, 2012-2014

Brent Davis, membre du conseil d'administration
de FLM, 2012-2016

Florence Glanfield, membre du conseil
d'administration de FLM, 2012-2016

Félicitations à nos membres élus. Nous remercions sincèrement tous ceux et celles qui ont bien voulu briguer les suffrages. Nous sommes très heureux de compter autant de membres qui veulent participer au sein de notre organisation.

Les membres du comité de nomination/sélection du GCEDM/CMESG sont Julie Long (julie.long@ualberta.ca) et David Wagner (dwagner@unb.ca).

CMESG Editors / Les Éditeurs du GCEDM

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CMESG EXECUTIVE / L'EXÉCUTIF DU GCEDM

The members of the executive extend an invitation to you to contact us about any item of interest. If you have something you want to suggest, if you have a concern you wish to raise, if you want more information, etc., please let one of us know. In order to be of service to the membership, we need to be aware of what your interests are.

Les membres du Comité exécutif vous invitent à leur faire part de votre point de vue concernant n'importe quel aspect de la vie du GCEDM. Que ce soit pour transmettre suggestions ou commentaires, ou encore pour être mieux informé, n'hésitez pas à entrer en contact avec l'un d'entre nous. En nous faisant connaître vos intérêts, vous nous aidez à mieux vous servir.

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