

School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences

Colloquium Series

Communication, Culture, and Work in Mathematics Teaching in Departments of Mathematical Sciences

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Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
WestEd, CA

Abstract

The human capacity to reason includes a reliance on comparison, on noticing difference: this is, or is not, like that. Grouping makes for comparison of these and those, for us and them, discerning similarity and difference. With practice, more fine-grained noticing happens. In mathematics, the noticing happens about elements (propositions) that are fairly stable. A theorem, once proved in a particular axiomatic system, pretty much stays proved. In education, the noticing happens about elements (people) that are dynamic. Any lesson learned from work in mathematics education/teaching is subject to revision, debate, reframing, and change. The presentation is about nuance in the observation of this and that. Attendees will review two vignettes as small examples of building communication about work in collegiate mathematics teaching. The ideas and vignettes provide touchstones for noticing and understanding when people interact across professional cultures within departments of mathematics

Date: Friday, March 23, 2018

Time: 3:00pm–4:00pm

Place: EMAGC 1.410

The talk will be delivered live at the Edinburg campus and will be streamed to the Brownsville campus at BLHSB 2.312. Refreshments will be served at 2:50pm.

For further information or for special accommodations, please contact Dr. BaoFeng Feng at 665-2269 or via email at baofeng.feng@utrgv.edu.

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