



Cornell University

K-12 Education and Outreach, Mathematics Department

MATH 5080

Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers

406 Malott Hall

April 17, 2010

9:00 am – 2:30 pm

8:45-9:00 Welcome (juice and bagels provided)

9:00-9:15 Introductions

9:15-10:00 The Egyptian Value of π

Richard Rand (Cornell University)

The ancient Egyptian value for π is $\frac{256}{81}$, or about 3.16. There is a mystery surrounding how they obtained this value. The mystery will be explained and a solution will be offered!

10:00-11:30 The Common Core State Standards Initiative

Eric Robinson (Ithaca College) & Mary Ann Huntley (Cornell University)

In an unprecedented effort led by U.S. governors and chief state school officers, new K-12 mathematics and ELA standards are being developed, with the intention that each state will adopt them. We will discuss the structure of the mathematics standards in the current draft of the proposed standards, and potential implications for teachers across New York State.

11:30-12:00 Lunch (provided)

12:00-1:00 The Common Core State Standards Initiative (continued)

1:00-2:30 The Mathematics of Juggling

Allen Knutson (Cornell University)

Around 1985 three groups of jugglers came up with the same way of mathematically representing a juggling pattern. Having a pattern makes it easy to record patterns for posterity, note similarities, and find new patterns (even by computer). This talk, part of Cornell's Math Awareness Month celebration, will explain this system, called "siteswaps," and illustrate various examples.

Contact Mary Ann Huntley by Wednesday, April 14th if you plan to attend.

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