

Hosting a Math Teachers' Circle

Why should my math department host a Circle?

- Hosting a Math Teachers' Circle demonstrates that your department is involved with and committed to the local education community.
- You will maintain ongoing ties with local teachers who are department alumni or who have completed other programs through your department. Not only will you enjoy continuing to work with them mathematically, but they also may be able to help you with pre-service teacher placement or with guiding talented undergraduate students to your department.
- Faculty can share their enjoyment of mathematics with other professionals, while at the same time demonstrating a concrete commitment to the broader impacts of their mathematical work.
- Graduate students can develop their teaching and outreach credentials, positioning them well in a highly competitive job market.
- Pre-service teachers can observe a professional learning community in action and make connections with local practicing teachers, enriching their educational experience and potentially increasing their local employment opportunities.

An article describing the benefits of Math Teachers' Circles for mathematicians appeared in the December 2014 issue of the Notices of the American Mathematical Society. Read it online at <http://www.ams.org/notices/201411/rnoti-p1335.pdf>.

What commitment is involved?

At a minimum, your department would commit to providing:

- Space for the MTC's meetings, which typically take place 6 to 8 times during each school year
- Faculty member facilitators to lead mathematical sessions for the MTC

Here are some other ways a host institution can support the work of a MTC:

- Host the MTC's website
- Donate copies and other supplies
- Provide dinner/refreshments
- Provide staff support or a student worker to handle administrative duties for the MTC