THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS PRESENTS

A COLLOQUIUM

MONDAY, NOV. 21, 4:00–4:50PM
BOND HALL 428

SPEAKER: Kansas Conrady (U. Oklahoma)
TITLE: Getting Connected, Learning From Others, and Building Community During A Time of Transition

ABSTRACT: The Conference for Future Oklahoma Mathematics Educators was funded by a small state level grant and brought together pre-service secondary mathematics teachers (PSSTs), first-year mathematics teachers (ECMTs), and selected veteran teachers from across the state. This one-day conference provided a foundation for developing a larger statewide student organization along with greater awareness of and access to existing resources for classroom teachers. Data was collected to provide insight into the participants perceived needs as they move from student to teacher. Findings from the preliminary qualitative analysis of this pilot study suggests that while pre-service and first-year teachers may identify the same needs, what they need to know about the topic may actually differ greatly. The data also suggests both PSSTs as well as ECMTs seem to have shallow and fragile pedagogical understandings that lead to a lack of ability to transfer domain general examples into math specific contexts. Future research should include both a deeper look into ones perceptions of their needs, how these needs change throughout their transition, and what are the best professional development experiences to support this transition.

Refreshments provided by the department.