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Susan Addington TSSA Winter 2010

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Report on TSSA for Winter 2010

Susan Addington

I used my award to attend the annual national conference of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators, in Irvine, CA, Jan. 28-30, 2010.

I attended sessions mostly focusing on teacher preparation, primarily elementary teachers. I attended a few sessions on preparation of secondary math teachers.

For the past 10 years, I have been writing a textbook for the Math for Elementary Teachers sequence. My aim at this conference was to learn what others are doing that is not already in published textbooks, and to see what research there is to support various new practices. Also, a particular interest of mine is using technology to teach mathematics. I designed a course for preservice secondary math teachers, but it is proving harder to incorporate technology into the elementary teacher courses, due to the amount of other critical material that needs to be in these courses.

I attended the preconference technology workshop “Developing Teachers’ Mathematics Technology, Pedagogy, and Content Knowledge: Showcasing Exemplary Technology Tools and Their Uses in Mathematics Education”. This session was not specific to preservice elementary teachers. I saw some methods of incorporating problem solving using geometry.

Among the other sessions I attended, “Teachers' Conversations about Video: Implications for Professional Development” was thought-provoking. I had not previously thought much about having students discuss video clips of children doing mathematics.

Along the way, I had many useful discussions with colleagues from around the state and country.