



Workshop: Making Sense of Word Problems



Brian Greer
Portland State University

We will begin with a discussion of why word problems often inspire dread in students. Then we will examine a number of “problematic” word problems that have been used in experiments worldwide. That will be followed by an analysis of different types of word problem and discussion of what their purposes are. We will end with some speculation on how solving word problems helps to frame how people think about the mathematical modeling of real-world situations.

Talk: Ethnomathematics: From Mathematics for All to Mathematics of All



Swapna Mukhopadhyay
Portland State University

“Ethnomathematics”, introduced as a concept by Ubiratan D’Ambrosio in 1984, refers to the mathematics of cultural groups. It provides a counter to the Eurocentric narrative of the development of academic mathematics. Beyond that, Ethnomathematics identifies human practices other than academic mathematics that can be termed mathematical. Examples from around the world will be presented, including my own studies of the “vernacular engineering” of boat-builders on the Bay of Bengal. Ethnomathematics valorizes the intellectual activity and sense of identity of people who are excluded and alienated by school mathematics.

DATE AND TIME

Friday 25th January, 2019
Time: 2 - 6 pm

VENUE

Green Room, TISS Convention Centre, TISS New Campus, Mumbai