

ARKANSAS UNDERGRADUATE MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Thursday, January 26, 2012

Greetings!

Your students are invited to participate in the **Ninth Annual Arkansas Undergraduate Mathematics Competition**, to be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012 on the campus of Hendrix College in Conway, AR. In this competition, students will work in teams of two, three, or four on a three-hour exam, competing with teams from their own and other schools for cash prizes and bragging rights!

Dr. Gerald Heuer of Concordia College in Minnesota has written the exam specifically for this contest, and he will be grading the teams' solutions. The exam will consist of 10 problems of a wide range of difficulty, from a problem or two that almost every team will be able to solve, to a problem or two at Putnam level, designed to separate out the most exceptional students. Most questions, however, will require only mathematics below the differential equations/linear algebra level.

Each member of the first place team will receive \$50, each member of the second place will receive \$30, and each member of the third place team will receive \$20.

The competition will begin with registration and a light breakfast at 9:30 AM, followed by the exam at 10:00. At the conclusion of the exam (around 1:00), we will provide a pizza lunch for all participants and their advisors. Most teams are ready to leave by about 1:30. Participating institutions that have fielded teams in previous years will be asked to contribute a nominal sum to cover the prize money and compensation for Dr. Heuer's services. Participating institutions that are new to the competition may contribute on a volunteer basis.

This is an excellent opportunity for your students to use their mathematical skills cooperatively in a fun atmosphere, as well as to meet other mathematics students from around the state. Last year's competition was a great success, with record participation, and we look to a fantastic turnout this year!

Attached to this message, you will find a flier that you can edit and post in order to provide information about the competition for your students. Driving directions and the on-campus location for the contest will be sent the week of the competition.

If you have students interested in participating, or if you have any questions, please reply to Jeff Sykes at sykesj@obu.edu by February 20. Please indicate the number of teams from your institution that would like to participate.

We look forward to seeing you next month!

Jeffery D. Sykes
Organizer, Arkansas Undergraduate Mathematics Competition