



January 24, 2006

Curriculum Commission, CFIR Division CDE
1430 N St Ste 3207
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Dr. Adams and Commissioners:

This letter is a collaborative effort between the California Mathematics Council (CMC) and the California Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (CAMTE). CAMTE is a new statewide organization for professionals involved in the preservice and inservice education of K-12 teachers. Members hold a variety of mathematics-related degrees; most are professors of mathematics or mathematics education at universities throughout the state.

We urge the Curriculum Commission to **permit a qualified person with a doctorate in mathematics education to be eligible for membership on the Content Review Panel (CRP)** for the upcoming mathematics instructional materials adoption.

Rationale: The purpose of the CRP is to ensure the alignment of adopted instructional materials with the California Academic Content Standards in Mathematics, as well as to ascertain the mathematical integrity of the content. At last month's Curriculum Commission meeting, it was proposed that persons with doctorates in fields related to mathematics (e.g., engineers and physicists) be included on the CRP, but not those with doctorates in mathematics education. Excluding individuals in the latter group precludes many highly talented mathematics educators from making important contributions to the state in the area of their expertise and creates an artificial, nonproductive barrier between mathematicians and mathematics educators, especially in matters related to K-12 mathematics education. Indeed, one of CAMTE's strengths is the productive and collegial working relationship between the organization's mathematicians and mathematics educators.

Many individuals with doctorates in mathematics education have undergraduate and/or master's degrees in mathematics and have experience teaching collegiate as well as K-12 mathematics. Indeed, numerous mathematics educators are employed not in Colleges of Education, but in Departments of Mathematics. Many serve as facilitators of standards-based mathematics workshops for K-12 teachers and as creators of mathematics curriculum and assessment materials. These individuals would therefore be qualified for and highly capable of critically reviewing K-8 curricular materials for mathematics content accuracy, while comparing the content with the state's Standards. Their experience and expertise would make their contributions unique and valuable. Thus, we strongly urge the Curriculum Commission to consider applications from qualified individuals with doctorates in mathematics education for service on the mathematics CRP.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or for additional information.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Harold Asturias'.

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carol Fry Bohlin'.

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