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Application Form for the CMS 2018 Endowment Grants Competition   Deadline September 30

Title of Proposal

"Math Kafé" – Connecting mathematics educators across Canada

Contact information

The one person and place to communicate with the applicant(s).

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Institution or department to administer grant funds

Name	Dept of Math and Stats			
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Summary

Less than 100 words

Total amount requested in this competition $ 2,500

We propose to create a series of events, named "Math Kafé," at which university faculty would work on the First Year Mathematics Repository. The Repository (http://firstyearmath.ca/) contains data about mathematics and statistics courses and provides information about how universities across Canada plan and teach their courses, what they teach, and how they assess students; more broadly, it shows how they approach mathematical education. For the Repository to remain a valuable educational resource, to keep it up to date, to support its growth and increase awareness of its content, we will hold a series of "Math Kafé" events across Canada.

Applicants

Put any specific information on the relevant experience or expertise of an applicant in "Other".

Name(s)	Veselin Jungic	Laura Gutierrez Funderburk	Miroslav Lovric
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Position	Professor	Research Assistant	Professor
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CMS Member #	014594		5302
Current grants			

What you propose to do

at most 40 lines

We propose to create a series of events named "Math Kafés", in which a group of university faculty from the same Canadian region would work on the First Year Mathematics Repository. The Repository (http://firstyearmath.ca/) is an online resource supporting an ongoing national dialogue about teaching first year mathematics at Canadian universities. This shareable and dynamic database contains extensive data about 363 mathematics and statistics courses offered at 29 Canadian universities. The main purpose of the Repository is to provide instructors, lecturers, teachers and educational developers with a way to learn about how universities across the country plan and teach their courses, what they teach, and how they assess students; more broadly, it shows how they approach mathematical education. Unlike most mathematics education conferences, Math Kafés would focus on teaching practice.

One of the key aspects that the Repository content has revealed is that oftentimes mathematics instructors, not being aware of what is done at other places, tackle their problems in isolation, resulting in the loss of time and duplication of effort. Math Kafés will address this issue at two levels. First, Math Kafé participants will have the opportunity to search data already contained in the Repository and to analyze and discuss their findings with their colleagues in a friendly and supportive environment. Secondly, each participant will be expected to contribute to the Repository by entering the relevant data from their own institution, or modifying what is already there.

As educators, it is our responsibility to ensure that we are providing learning environments to our students that are modern, relevant, and engaging. The Repository allows instructors across the country to learn from one another and encourages collaborations, with the goal of making sure that the younger generations of mathematics instructors are ready to face the challenges placed in front of them. We envision holding Math Kafés at various locations across Canada, chosen so that our colleagues can attend at least one of these events without having to travel extensively (we are fully aware that Canada is huge). The grant money would help organizers pay for expenses, such as rooms for meetings, coffee and refreshments. Each "Math Kafé" organizer will plan to secure further support from their institution.

Budget

Use Tab key to navigate

Description	Revenue			
Contributions of individual departments				
In-kind (space for meetings)				
CMS Endowment Grant requested	2,500			
Total Revenue $	2,500			

	Expenses			
5 Kafé events at $500 each	2,500			
Total Expenses $	2,500			

Other   *Funding, partners, revenue potential, information on applicants such as publications or awards, at most 20 lines.*

Funding: As mentioned, local Math Kafé organizers will try to secure financial support form their respective departments, both in-kind (for instance by providing a meeting room for free, or at a discounted cost), and in cash (to support social activities, and possibly travel cost for one invited speaker, if it fits into the Kafé's agenda)

Laura Gutierrez Funderburk is a math student at SFU with an interest in Bioinformatics and facilitating learning experiences. Under the supervision of Drs. Jungic and Lovric, she supported the growth of the Repository by doing basic data collection and reaching out to faculty from Canadian universities to update their information on first year mathematics courses.

Veselin Jungic is a 3M National Teaching Fellow and a recipient of several teaching awards, including the CMS Teaching Award and the PIMS Educational Award. Most of his research is in Ramsey theory and the field of mathematics education and outreach. Veselin has authored and co-authored papers with numerous educational teams, mostly based on his own teaching practices.

Miroslav Lovric's research interests include applied mathematics and mathematics education. He works on integrating computational thinking into mathematics curriculum, and Supported by a SSHRC grant, creates online learning modules for improving health numeracy. Miroslav was awarded the 3M National Teaching award in 2001, and the Adrien Pouliot Award in 2010.

Project start date 1 January 2019   Finish date 31 December 2019