

January 25, 2005

Dear Colleague:

The thirty-eighth annual St. Cloud State University Mathematics Contest, sponsored by the three departments of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, 2005. Students compete in six divisions, one for each grade from 7 through 12. Plaques are awarded to the top three schools in each division, as determined by the total of the three highest individual scores from those schools. In the event of a tie, the four highest scores will be totaled, etc. Plaques are given to the individuals with the top three scores within each division, and recognition certificates are given to those having scores within the top ten percent of the score distribution. Also, scholarships are awarded to seniors who plan to attend St. Cloud State University and who have high scores in the 12th Grade Division. Students are allowed to use hand held calculators during the test period, except that **calculators with symbolic algebra systems (such as the TI-89, TI-92, and HP-48) are not allowed.** A calculator is not required, but if students do choose to use one, they must use their own. Sharing of calculators is not allowed. Cell phones are not allowed in the testing rooms.

Coffee and doughnuts are available for the advisers and the program for advisers is from 9:45 to 10:45 while the students are writing their exams. Between testing and the end of the awards ceremony we ask that advisers be visible around campus while students are attending various activities. Your help in the past has been very effective and much appreciated.

As in the past, we will have an optional luncheon with pizza and pop in Halenbeck Hall. In addition, students and advisers may instead purchase a lunch ticket for the cafeteria in Garvey Commons, where you may choose from hot entrees, a salad bar, hamburgers, and sandwiches. Of course, each school is free to bring its own lunches or purchase lunch at the Atwood Memorial Center, where choices include Burger King, Pizza Hut, Tortilla Fresca, Taste of Asia, sandwiches and a salad bar.

To enable us to make the necessary arrangements for participation in the contest and for luncheon reservations, we ask that the enclosed registration form with fee and luncheon payment be postmarked by Wednesday, March 2, 2005. Refunds will be made only if the contest is canceled or maximum occupancy is reached. Last year space constraints forced us to refuse potential participants. We will have approximately the same amount of space available this year, so be sure to send in your registration materials as soon as possible. Registration is official only when **all** registration materials have been received. Please note that *we give a discount of 25 cents per student to registrations postmarked by our stated deadline.*

Tentative and partial schedule of events includes:

ARRIVAL	9:00 – 9:30	TOURS AND ACTIVITIES	10:45 –1:15
TESTING PERIOD	9:45 –10:45	LUNCH	11:00 –1:00
PROGRAM FOR ADVISERS	9:45 –10:45	AWARDS CEREMONY	1:30 –1:50

On receipt of your registration form, fee and luncheon payment, we will immediately send confirmation to you. (Please include an e-mail address if possible.) Contest admission tickets, luncheon tickets, campus map, and other materials necessary for your participation in the contest will follow. More information, including sample exams, is available at <http://condor.stcloudstate.edu/~math/mathcontest.html>. We await your reply and look forward to seeing you at the contest.

Sincerely,

Ralph Carr
Registration Coordinator