Factors Considered by Elementary Teachers When Developing or Adapting Mathematical Tasks to Support and Extend Children's Mathematical Thinking

Friday, November 21, 2014
12:30-1:30 pm
6475 Alvarado Road, Room 128

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Abstract: Mathematics educators and researchers have aligned themselves with John Dewey's argument to concentrate on characterizing and organizing the knowledge and activities that enable teachers to bridge the gulf between theory and practice. In this vein, I ask the questions, what factors do exemplary elementary teachers consider when designing a mathematical task for a lesson, or when adapting a task for students during the enactment of a lesson? In this presentation, I situate my dissertation study within the areas of Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) and the teaching practice of designing mathematical tasks. I describe the motivation for my dissertation study, my methodology, and some of my preliminary results. I conclude with a discussion of the “next steps” in my analysis.