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Announcement: Association for Women in Mathematics Mentor Network

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What can we do? We need to make these situations known to the public. We no longer can be silent and wait for things to happen; otherwise things will just bypass us. We need to speak to hiring bodies about the necessity to diversify the ranks of mathematics teachers. We, as a world, are getting closer each time, and each day that passes brings this reality more and more real. Many actions still are needed to achieve equity and to have an effective teaching work force. More recruitment is needed, and the profession has to be made more lucrative and more inviting. We need to write to our lawmakers to demand that this predicament be looked at and to lobby for the improvement of teaching conditions. Actions need to be taken, and they have to be taken now! Time, as we all know it, is fast running out. It will be sad for us to realize that because of negligence, this problem will be beyond rectifying.

What I have presented here are current realities in our classrooms. If we are to uphold GOALS 2000 in making sure that there *will be a talented, dedicated, and well-prepared teacher in every classroom*, we have to consider and make this a priority! Let us be reminded that in the next ten years we will need at least two million new teachers. If things remain status quo, the ques-

tion is no longer, "What kind of future will we have?" but simply, "What future?"

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Be A Part of the Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) Mentor Network!

URL: <http://www.awm-math.org/mentornetwork.html>

The goal of the new AWM Mentor Network is to match mentors with girls and women who are interested in mathematics and/or are pursuing careers in mathematics. The network is intended to link mentors (both men and women) with a variety of groups: recent Ph.D.'s, grad students, undergrads, high school and grade school students and teachers. Matching is based on common interests in careers in academics or industry, math education, balance of career and family or general mathematical interests. Contact is usually through email, phone, or regular mail. Relevant topics are also a part of the new Mentor Forum on the AWM Forum Web Site.

Request a Mentor. Do you need some advice as you pursue your mathematical studies or career? Do you have questions for someone who has experience and expertise as a mathematician? Would you like to know what different mathematicians do? Then request to be matched from the AWM Mentor Network!

Be a Mentor. Volunteer to mentor someone in their pursuit of their mathematical interests. As a mentor you don't have to have all of the answers, but you can help to make the connection to someone or someplace that does!

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