

3-1-1988

Letter from the Editor, Issue 2, 1988

Alvin White
Harvey Mudd College

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarship.claremont.edu/hmnj>



Part of the [Arts and Humanities Commons](#), and the [Mathematics Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

White, Alvin (1988) "Letter from the Editor, Issue 2, 1988," *Humanistic Mathematics Network Journal*: Iss. 2, Article 2.
Available at: <http://scholarship.claremont.edu/hmnj/vol1/iss2/2>

This Editorial is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Claremont at Scholarship @ Claremont. It has been accepted for inclusion in Humanistic Mathematics Network Journal by an authorized administrator of Scholarship @ Claremont. For more information, please contact scholarship@cuc.claremont.edu.



Newsletter #2

HARVEY
MUDD
COLLEGE
CLAREMONT,
CALIFORNIA
91711

March 1988

DEPARTMENT
OF
MATHEMATICS

714-621-8023

Dear Colleague;

Much has happened since the first issue. Even though the concepts of Mathematics as a Humanistic Discipline and Humanistic Mathematics Network are not well-defined, many have felt that the ideas have great potential, and have sought to be part of the Network by asking for and by contributing to the Newsletter. The number and diversity of responses and especially the enthusiasm have been very encouraging. Mathematicians seem to have an intuitive sense of the naturalness of the Network and begin to create for themselves and their colleagues a sharper definition or a set of examples and illustrations of humanistic aspects of mathematics.

A proposal to the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) and the NSF to strengthen and sustain the network and its activities is being reviewed. Many mathematicians have contributed good ideas to the proposal. Among the central ideas of the proposal is the support of those who want to teach in non traditional ways and those who want to do non traditional research. Network support is needed to prevent professional isolation of such faculty.

The Southern California section meeting of the MAA November 12, 1988 will include a special session of contributed papers on Humanistic Mathematics. The national meeting of the MAA in January 1989 will probably have a similar session of contributed papers.

Jack Gray is organizing a special session in section A5.4 of ICME-6 on "revitalizing undergraduate mathematics." Three topics are (i) revitalizing the undergraduate curriculum/materials, particularly in calculus; (ii) alternative teaching/lecturing methods; (iii) rejuvenating faculty involved in undergraduate teaching. He encourages all interested colleagues to contact him and to come to ICME-6. His address is

Jack Gray
School of Mathematics
The University of New South Wales
P.O. Box Box 1
Kensington, New South Wales
Australia 2033

If the FIPSE-NSF project is funded, your suggestions about conferences, workshops mini-courses, etc. are welcome. National and regional committees will be set up to coordinate network activities, including electronic bulletin boards.

Contributions to Newsletter #3 are invited.

Sincerely,

Alvin White