

Expanding Online Offerings – summary of discussion held at the CBMS Council Meeting on December 4, 2020

This overlaps with the previous topic, but the emphasis would be more on sharing the variety of new online offerings including online instructional resources, blogs, podcasts, webinars, and online platforms for member discussions. It could also embrace the technical issues that societies are dealing with, either in working with online service providers or building in-house capacity.

What are we doing now?

NCTM -- cancellation of annual meeting, content for 700 sessions, arrange / repurpose online presentations -- 100 Days of Professional Learning (April - Oct, almost every weeknight 7pm). Decided to make it free. Attendance was very high, exceeded expectations. Community-building. Many people came to a great many sessions. Chat box really active, v substantive exchanges. Lessons learned: how to capitalize on it rather than giving it away. Free for 30 days; after 30 days, you could get access but only if you're an NCTM member. Participation was about 50-50 member/non. Hoping to pick up new members; didn't really occur; however, highly successful in engagement.

NCTM -- next move has been a couple of days per week. Dropoff from 100's to 60-80 per event. How can we bridge the gap if involvement is so much lower for members-only? Balance it how?

NCTM -- first virtual conference. Overall technically ran really smoothly. Higher attendance than in-person benchmark (regional conference).

SIAM -- annual meeting went online. What do w/ many regional conferences? How to come out even with expenses on platforms, etc.

SIAM -- subcommittee of Education Committee, joint committee with NCTM. Math Modeling Hub. Had a great year. Webinar series, very well attended. Competitions. Kids can be creative and have ownership online. Things for teens to do!

SIAM -- blogs, webinars were already in place -- attendance a little lower due to burnout

SIAM -- had a roundtable session at virtual NCTM, and it went well

AMTE -- online conference coming up in February, registration is up. Capturing a few more graduate students & populations that can't usually attend the conference. How to stay engaged with those audiences in the future? In the past, talked about having some virtual sessions but hadn't tried it yet till now.

AMTE -- just launching podcast series around Spring 2020, it's going well, well timed. Got started by a group of members interested in doing it. Lots of enthusiasm.

AMTE -- already doing webinars, have added some re: online teaching & student panels -- these were about 2x attendance as pre-pandemic -- had to increase platform capacity -- doubling from

around 100 to 200 -- how to maintain this level of interest? -- burnout is pretty widespread in society right now

AMTE -- developed / curated a collection of instructional materials for educators -- didn't have a process in place beforehand to vet them -- coming in fast -- learning on the fly how to evaluate these -- will integrate a process in the future. One 10-hour staff member + all volunteers means staff capacity is a challenge.

Big 10 -- students may register in any of the institutions. This could change the university model. Collectively, offer every course in our catalog every semester. Issues of scaling. People are going to want to organize materials. (If three professors all use and appreciate a set of materials, it becomes elevated on the list.)

SIAM -- Cubes (?) is the host of a repository of materials for math modeling. Get some solid modeling lessons crafted and get them up there.

AMTE -- Equity and social justice resources. Classroom resources. All need to be vetted. Publications Committee is taking the lead. Advocacy Committee is thinking about the same thing. Early in the pandemic, lots of enthusiasm. Workload is now following. Range of quality.

NCTM -- annual meeting success, participants really appreciated they could attend so many more sessions b/c they were spread out over so much more time! That raises the question, is anybody considering this model in lieu of, say, regional conferences? Yes, NCTM is considering. The next annual meeting (600 sessions) is coming up. Three days vs. one week vs. two weeks? Pricing a la carte? Access to all sessions beyond 30 days?

AMTE -- transforming a Th/F/Sat conference into a double-weekend Th/F/Sat experience. Will there be burnout? Two Saturdays away from my family is hard, etc. We'll see how it goes.

SIAM -- had annual meeting over two weeks. International time zones are a challenge. All the graduate student presidents get to sit down with the leadership. Tried to replicate in breakout rooms. It went very well...or did it? Depends on perception. The networking of in-person events, bumping into people in hallways is missing. Different platforms can help with that somewhat.

AMTE -- social times, breakout rooms for common interests. Maybe early career faculty, equity issues, etc. Try it out and see how it goes. Thinking about doing it anyway.

SIAM -- student chapters, industry members willing to come to student chapters at universities. Usually travel is untapped. Now it's an opportunity. Use the opportunity of the pandemic to solve a long-standing challenge.

Platforms: National Math Festival will be using both Zoom and [Hopin](#). New platforms are coming online all the time, but Zoom is the coin of the realm and has the advantage that it is broadly familiar. It is easier for moderators to agree if they already know the platform.

Possible ways to stay connected about best practices & lessons learned:

- A roundtable event
- A Slack channel
- A prompt to send in a paragraph