

## 5<sup>th</sup> International Realistic Mathematics Education Conference

### *Using Realistic Contexts and Emergent Models to Develop Mathematical Reasoning*

University of Colorado Boulder

September 18 – 20, 2015

~ Final Announcement ~

We cordially invite you to join us September 18 – 20, 2015, for the Fifth International Realistic Mathematics Education Conference (RME5), a biennial conference held at the University of Colorado Boulder in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. This three-day conference is sponsored by the Freudenthal Institute for Science and Mathematics Education (FI), the CU-Boulder School of Education and Freudenthal Institute US (FIUS).

This conference showcases research and practical workshops focused on Realistic Mathematics Education (RME), a Dutch approach to the design of curriculum, assessment and instruction that is widely respected throughout the world as an exemplary approach to mathematics education. RME has evolved over the last 45 years out of the work of Hans Freudenthal, research faculty at the Freudenthal Institute, and designers and mathematics educators throughout the world.

#### **Who Should Attend?**

The program is organized to address the interests and needs of university faculty; district, state or national school administrators; and professional developers and teachers who are engaged in design and research in mathematics education and/or teach pre-service courses. The content addressed in this 3-day conference addresses elementary through university level mathematics.

**Conference Program: for full program and abstracts see [www.fius.org](http://www.fius.org)**

Understanding the ways in which teachers and students mathematize problem contexts, make connections, and develop mathematical arguments is of critical importance in mathematics education. Student engagement in and understanding of mathematics is essential to informed citizenship, economic opportunity, and solving problems across many disciplines. Presenters at the 2015 RME conference will share their application of fundamental design principles and the various ways in which realistic contexts, emergent models, and representations support mathematical reasoning. Plenary and interactive breakout sessions will explore curriculum and assessment design, teacher learning and practice, and studies of student learning.

This year we are thrilled to offer an enriching program that includes keynote speakers and an expanded program of 90 minute breakout sessions offered by research faculty, educators and curriculum designers, and teachers from the United States, the Cayman Islands, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and South Africa who have engaged in research, design and use of instructional sequences to support students' and teachers' understanding of mathematics in primary, secondary and undergraduate level education.

- The conference will begin with the opening plenary Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am.
- On Saturday the conference program begins at 9:00am with late afternoon and evening excursion options available after 4pm.
- The conference will conclude Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.

### *Plenary sessions*

Raymond Johnson, Fred Peck and colleagues will kick off the conference with An Orientation to Realistic Mathematics Education to provide an open discussion and deliberation of key design features of RME. Marja van den Heuvel-Panhuizen, Martin Kindt and Henk van der Kooij from the Freudenthal Institute and Eric Stadel from the University of Colorado Boulder will highlight different perspectives on the use of context, representations, and other RME-related design principles, respectively, in elementary through university level mathematics. Presentations will describe how materials and instructional activities have been designed to promote student learning and understanding of mathematics, and related connections to teacher practice and use of mathematical activities.

### *Interactive, breakout sessions*

The conference program will also include seven 90-minute breakout sessions organized by grade bands addressing primary, secondary and post-secondary levels. Most of these sessions will be conducted in an interactive style to promote engagement, audience interaction, analysis of student responses, reflection on classroom video excerpts, and exploration of various technologies. Many of the resources shared in these sessions can be used for further development of classroom activities and professional development. The ways in which research on student learning, productive instructional sequences, and assessment practices are aligned with RME will be used to inform future research and design.

In addition to plenary and breakout sessions, ample time for discussion between sessions for informal meetings and professional networking has been planned into the schedule.

### **Onsite Registration**

Onsite registration will open in the Kittredge Central Lobby on the first morning of the conference: September 18 (Friday) from 8:00-10:30am

Kittredge Central: <http://www.colorado.edu/campusmap/map.html?bldg=KCEN>

Onsite registration will also be available the second morning of the conference in the ATLAS Building lobby: September 19 (Saturday) from 8:00-9:30am

ATLAS Building: <http://www.colorado.edu/campusmap/map.html?bldg=ATLS>

If you plan to register onsite, please inform David Webb ([fius@colorado.edu](mailto:fius@colorado.edu)) and CU Conference Services ([conferences@colorado.edu](mailto:conferences@colorado.edu)) via email so that we can expedite the process when you arrive.

The standard registration fee is \$375, although discounts at various levels are available when registering as a group.

Group rates are:

Group of 3-4: \$325 per person

Group of 5-7: \$300 per person

Group of 8+: \$275 per person or less

Conference registration covers materials, breakfast, lunch, coffee and morning and afternoon snacks. The registration fee does not cover transportation, lodging and dinner. Participants are responsible for their own travel expenses.

### **Lodging**

Participants must arrange for their own travel and lodging. Because of its proximity to the campus and conference, a block of rooms has been reserved for conference participants at the Best Western Plus Boulder Inn, 770 28th Street, Boulder, Colorado, 80303.

Group Rates: \$129 for a room with one king bed

\$139 for rooms with two queen beds for up to two adults,  
with an extra \$5 per day for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> adults

Method of reservation: call 800-233-8469 and reference "RME5" or the "Realistic Mathematics Education Conference." International registrants should email Ari Rubin ([ari@boulderinn.com](mailto:ari@boulderinn.com)) to arrange reservations. **These room rates are a deep discount from what is currently offered online. Please make your reservations ASAP as unconfirmed rooms in this block will be released August 17<sup>th</sup>.**

Options for sharing rooms will be posted to the RME5 conference page at [www.fius.org](http://www.fius.org)

Please contact Ari Rubin ([ari@boulderinn.com](mailto:ari@boulderinn.com)) for other reservation related questions.

The group rate includes free bike rental, free in-room high speed internet access, 40 inch LCD TVs with 60 HD channels, and 24-hour business center. Other guest facilities include hot tub, sauna, fitness facility, and conference center. Their multilingual staff is well known for exceptional personalized service to both business and leisure guests. Pictures of the hotel can be seen at [www.BoulderInn.com](http://www.BoulderInn.com)

### **Other Hotel Options in Boulder**

Another hotel option that is within a short walking distance to campus is the Millennium Harvest House, 1345 28th Street, Boulder, CO, 80303

<http://www.millenniumhotels.com/millenniumboulder/>

Other recommended hotels that require a longer trek to the venue (but are close to bus or shuttle options) include the [Courtyard Marriott Boulder](#), the newly built [Hyatt Place Boulder](#), and the historical [Hotel Boulderado](#). If you plan to rent a car during your stay in Colorado, other less expensive hotels can be found in outlying areas of Boulder, Louisville and Broomfield. For a complete list of accommodations in Boulder, please review the website:

[www.bouldercoloradousa.com](http://www.bouldercoloradousa.com)

You will find a map and list of hotels in the Visitors link in the menu bar.

### **Conference Website**

Conference updates will be posted to the FIUS website: [www.fius.org](http://www.fius.org)

### **Questions**

Please direct any conference related inquiries to David Webb at [fius@colorado.edu](mailto:fius@colorado.edu)