Mathematical Contest in Modeling 2012

For the past nineteen years, the Southern Mathematics Department has sponsored student teams in the annual international Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM). The competition is held over a four-day period in February, during which each team of three undergraduate students is asked to research, clarify, analyze, and propose a solution for one of two open-ended mathematical modeling problems. In last year's competition there were 2775 teams from 17 countries. In the past seven years teams from Southern have earned five Meritorious rankings (approximately the top 20% but not the top 1-2%) and three Honorable Mention rankings (right below Meritorious but usually in the top 50%).

The 2012 competition will be held February 9–13, 2012. The two problems will be posted on the competition website at 8:00 pm on Thursday, February 9. Each team chooses one of the problems and then must submit a completed solution paper by 8:00 pm, Monday, February 13. Teams are allowed to use any non-human resources that they want, e.g., Internet resources, books and computer packages. Participants should expect to spend a significant amount of time on the competition on Friday-Monday, February 9-13.

We are looking for students who are interested in participating in the contest. You do **not** have to be a mathematics major to participate, and you do not need to be full-time. You would compete as part of a team but you do not need to set up the teams. Just let us know that you are interested!

We are holding an information session on Wednesday, January 25, 1:10-2:00 pm in EN D125. There will be pizza. If you are interested in participating in the competition or have questions, please come to the information session or contact **Dr**. **Ross Gingrich**, EN D132, GingrichR1@southernct.edu, or **Dr**. **Terri Bennett**, EN D115, BennettT1@southernct.edu, as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, February 6, so we can put together and register our teams. We may also have additional preparation sessions for interested students.

Additional information about the competition is available at **http://www.comap.com/undergraduate/contests/mcm/** .

Mathematical Contest in Modeling

MCM, the Mathematical Contest in Modeling, challenges teams of students to clarify, analyze, and propose solutions to open-ended problems. The contest attracts diverse students and faculty advisors from institutions around the world. The competition is held over a four day period in February, during which each team of three students is asked to research and propose a solution for one of two open-ended modeling problems. The competition's features include the following:

- The selection of realistic problems chosen with the advice of experts in industry and government.

- Students participate as team members rather than as individuals, creating an environment for sharing knowledge and skills.

- The ability of participants to draw on outside resources including computers, texts, and online sites.

- An extended period of time for teams to prepare solution papers within a clearly defined format.

- An emphasis on clarity of exposition in judging, with the best papers published in professional journals.

Additional information about the competition is available at http://www.comap.com/undergraduate/contests/mcm/. You can view past problems by clicking on the Previous Contests link at the site above or by going directly to http://www.comap.com/undergraduate/contests/mcm/previous-contests.php .

Students interested in participating should contact Dr. Terri Bennett or Dr. Ross Gingrich as soon as possible. You do not need to be a mathematics major to participate.