

You are cordially invited to attend the  
*MSU Mathematics Education Colloquium*



Presented by:  
Anita A. Wager

University of  
Wisconsin-Madison

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Wednesday,  
October 2, 2013

3:30 – 5 p.m.  
252 Erickson Hall  
MSU

***Can Equitable Mathematics Pedagogy and the Common Core  
Coexist in Early Childhood Classrooms?***

Dr. Wager will describe her work in professional development and teacher education for early childhood teachers, which is designed to bridge the gap between home and school. Recognizing that cultural histories and contexts vary among families from diverse economic, ethnic, and linguistic backgrounds, her working hypotheses are that (a) instruction that connects home and school experiences and builds on children's emerging mathematical knowledge will increase school success; and (b) high-quality, developmentally and culturally appropriate instruction is particularly important in children's early years when they are preparing for and first entering school. Dr. Wager will explore how teachers can stay true to these ideas under the auspices of the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. In doing so she will discuss how to attend to equity in mathematics instruction by supporting teachers to understand how to negotiate those places where research and the Common Core collide with regard to:

- how children develop mathematically,
- teaching mathematics in ways that are culturally and developmentally appropriate,
- connecting to students' home and community experiences,
- assessing young children's mathematical understanding, and
- providing instruction that supports children's agency and identity.

*Anita Wager is an Assistant Professor in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research focus is on broadening notions of teaching mathematics for understanding to incorporate the cultural and socio-political contexts in which children live and learn. She is particularly interested in professional development that supports early childhood teachers as they draw on the rich mathematical resources from young children's homes and communities to develop equitable mathematics pedagogy. Dr. Wager is currently PI on an NSF-funded research project, Professional Development for Culturally Relevant Teaching and Learning in Pre-K Mathematics.*

*The Program in Mathematics Education sponsors this event.*