

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



Presented by:  
Dr. Paola Sztajn

North Carolina State  
University

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Wednesday,  
March 18, 2015

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.  
252 Erickson Hall  
MSU

*Examining the Field of Research on Mathematics  
Professional Development*

In this presentation I discuss the current state of the field of research on mathematics professional development. I build on two different, recent examinations of the mathematics professional development literature: one that coded and summarized the ways in which we report on professional development in research journals and one in which we organized research on mathematics professional development according to Borko's (2004) three phases of research. I suggest that whereas the notion that we do not know much about or do not have much quality research on professional development is misleading and coming from an over emphasis on randomized trials, the field does need to pay further attention to the research designs in use and the ways in which we can accumulate knowledge.

Paola Sztajn is a professor of mathematics education at North Carolina State University. She is originally from Brazil and moved from Washington DC to Raleigh in 2008 after serving as a program officer at the National Science Foundation. She currently serves as Head for the Departments of Elementary Education and Curriculum Instruction and Counselor Education. Her research program focuses on elementary teachers' professional development in mathematics. The overarching question that has guided her over 20 years of work in mathematics education is: in which ways do practicing elementary teachers acquire and continue to develop the knowledge needed to teach all students high quality mathematics? She works with colleagues from different fields, in collaborative studies that allow for in-depth investigations of this complex question.

*The Program in Mathematics Education sponsors this event.*