

Mathematical Contest in Modeling 2018

For over twenty-five 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 late January or early February, during which each team of three undergraduate students is asked to research, clarify, and analyze one of three open-ended mathematical modeling problems and then propose and construct a solution for that problem. In last year's competition there were 7421 teams from 13 countries. Since 2005, teams from Southern have earned five Meritorious rankings (approximately the top 15-20% but not the top 1-2%) and five Honorable Mention rankings (right below Meritorious and usually in the top 45-50%).

The 2018 competition will be held February 8 – February 12, 2018. (Note that this is the fourth weekend of the Spring Semester.) Three problems will be posted on the competition website at 8:00 pm on Thursday, February 8. Each team chooses one of the problems and then must submit a completed solution paper by 8:00 pm, Monday, February 12. 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 8 – February 12.

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. There is an entry fee, but it is paid by the Mathematics Department. Just let us know that you are interested!

There will be an information session on Wednesday, January 24, in EN D122, 1:00-2:00 pm. There will be pizza. Additional information about the competition is available at <http://www.comap.com/undergraduate/contests/>.

If you are interested in participating in the competition, have questions, or are just curious, please come to the information session or contact **Dr. Ross Gingrich**, EN D132, GingrichR1@southernct.edu, or **Dr. Terri Bennett**, EN D137, BennettT1@southernct.edu.

Mathematical Contest in Modeling

Are you interested in applying mathematics to real world problems? Then we have a competition for you!

The Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM) challenges teams of undergraduate students to research, clarify, and analyze an open-ended mathematical modeling problem and then propose and construct a solution for that problem. The contest attracts diverse students and faculty advisors from institutions around the world. This year's competition will be held over a four day period in February, during which each team of three undergraduate students will be asked to research, propose, and construct a solution for one of three 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/>. You can view past problems by clicking on the "Problems and Results" 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 must be a currently-registered undergraduate, but you do not need to be a mathematics major to participate nor do you need to be full-time.