

REPORT ON VMT WORKSHOP, JUNE 9-11, 2004

JUNE 8 (TUESDAY)

6:00-9:00 Social event: reception: Most people arrived for the reception and had an enjoyable time meeting each other. People formed into their six workgroups and tried to determine what was unique to their group by interviewing people in their group and in other groups.

JUNE 9 (WEDNESDAY)

9:00-10:00 Introductions: Gerry welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the workshop agenda

10:00-11:00 Online collaborative math problem experience — Everyone went to a computer lab on campus for a hands-on interactive experience engaging in collaborative math problem solving using the problem of taxicab geometry. People worked online using the Blackboard chat and drawing environment in six small groups.

11:00-12:00 Intro to VMT Project — Steve provided a tour of the Math Forum website, indicating some of the history and aims of the Math Forum. Wes discussed the history and approach of his and Ann's research at the Math Forum. Gerry presented a theoretical motivation involving several hypotheses about the role of small groups in mediating larger communities; this was presented as a basis for the approach of the VMT Project.

12:00-1:00 During lunch, there was an informal discussion of the visiting researchers component of the VMT project.

1:00-2:00 Presentations on VMT collaborative problems & pedagogy — Annie, Lisa, Ramon described the Pow-wow service, learning math online, problem design, collaboration support

2:00-3:00 Participant presentations on collaborative problems & pedagogy — Bob, Chip, Eugene, Geri, Jim, Ricki, Fatos & Santi each gave a few minute introduction to their own research.

3:00-5:00 Group/ plenary discussions of collaborative problems & pedagogy

5:00-8:00 Social event: art museum and dinner in groups

JUNE 10 (THURSDAY)

9:00-11:00 Data session on video of collaborative math — Tim and Alan started the day off with a data session

11:00-12:00 Presentations on VMT software scaffolding & community — Kristina, Ian, Murat: group formation, automated facilitation, recruitment

12:00-1:00 Catered lunch — CSCL journal discussion

1:00-2:00 Participant presentations on software scaffolding & community — Gerardo, Hugo, Jörg, Martin, Stefan, Thomas, Wolfgang

2:00-4:00 Group/ plenary discussions of software scaffolding & community

4:00-8:00 Social event: trolley tour of Philadelphia, walk in historic area, dinner in groups

JUNE 11 (FRIDAY)

9:00-9:30 Continental breakfast: we met in a meeting room of the hotel

9:00-11:00	Data session on powwow chat logs — sample powwow logs
11:00-12:00	Presentations on VMT research methods — J-W, Nan, Wes
12:00-2:00	Catered lunch —discussion of a possible research center around the Math Forum
2:00-3:00	Participant presentations on research methods — Alan, Ana, Chris, Cindy, Geri, Johann, Sten, Tim, Victor
3:00-5:00	Closing session: The VMT agenda for the next year
5:00-6:00	Formation of online work teams
6:00-8:00	Social event: Chinatown banquet

JUNE 12 (SATURDAY)

11:00-5:00	Informal activity for those staying over: Most of the visitors from Europe and Latin America as well as the Drexel grad students came to Gerry's house for a relaxing day in the backyard, discussing various topics, including their plans to work with the VMT project in the future. It was a wonderful end to a successful workshop.
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DOCUMENTATION

The workshop is extensively documented at the VMT wiki: <http://mathforum.org/wiki/VMT/> This includes:

- The workshop agenda
- Powerpoint slides from almost every participant, showing the presentation they at the workshop gave of their research.
- Pictures from the workshop
- Notes from the small group break-out sessions
- Notes from the final closing session
- A copy of the original invitation to the workshop
- A list of the original invitees for the workshop
- A list of the people who attended the workshop