

**2012 PNW Section NExT Schedule  
University of Portland**

**April 19 & 20, 2012  
Portland, OR**

**Thursday, April 19, 2012**

6:30 p.m. Informal Gathering: Dinner and/or Conversation  
Pizza Mia, 915 N. Anchor Way (walking distance from hotels)  
<http://www.yelp.com/biz/pizza-mia-portland>

**Friday, April 20, 2012**

Board Room (located in Bauccio Commons)  
<http://www.up.edu/about/default.aspx?cid=8307&pid=3177>

- 8:00 a.m. Registration/Coffee
- 8:05 a.m. Greeting and Introduction of New Fellows
- 8:10 a.m. Session 1: Publishing Undergraduate Research (1 hour)
- 9:10 a.m. Coffee Social
- 9:40 a.m. Session 2: Small Group Discussions in Math Class (1 hour)
- 10:40 a.m. Session 3: How to Get Tenure and Survive (1 hour)
- 11:40 a.m. Lunch: Informal Breakout Sessions in small groups (sign up at check-in)
  - *Pause* (American); <http://www.yelp.com/biz/pause-portland>
  - *Proper Eats* (vegan); <http://www.propereats.org/>
  - *Food Carts* (mix and match!); <http://www.foodcartsportland.com/>
  - *McMenamin's St. Johns Pub* (local chain); <http://www.mcmenamins.com/226-st-johns-theater-pub-home>
- 1:35 p.m. Session 4: Directed Reading, New Technologies, and Other Strategies for Increasing Student Engagement (1 hour)
- 2:35 p.m. Session 5: What's NExT
- 2:45 p.m. Project NExT Meeting Adjourns. (MAA Minicourses begin at 3:00 p.m.)
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner – Pyramid Brewery (MacTarnahan's Taproom), 2730 NW 21<sup>st</sup> Ave  
<http://www.pyramidbrew.com/alehouses/portland> Sponsored by the MAA.
- 8:00 p.m. Evening Public Lecture - *Opt Art: an Introduction*, **Bob Bosch**, Oberlin College  
Buckley Center Auditorium

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## **2012 PNW Section NExT Abstracts**

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### **Session 1**

**Panel Discussion: Publishing Undergraduate Research**

**Organizer: Don Hickethier (Flathead Valley Community College)**

**Abstract:** One of your students recently finished a research or capstone project. You feel the resulting paper is worthy of publishing. What now? During this session our panelists will discuss what makes a publishable undergraduate paper, what are some possible journals that welcome undergraduate research as well as the roles the professor plays in guiding the student through the publishing process. The panelists will share their experiences in undergraduate research and how to get the resulting work out to the mathematics community.

**Panelists:** Liljana Babinkostova (Boise State University), Charles Dunn (Linfield College), Josh Laison (Willamette University), Aaron Wootton (University of Portland)

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### **Session 2**

**Panel Discussion: Small Group Discussions in Math**

**Organizers: Michael Rempe (Whitworth University), Cheryl Beaver (Western Oregon University)**

**Abstract:** Among many college and university mathematics departments, there seems to be a general trend of instructors gradually shifting away from the traditional lecture-based teaching style. Frequently a typical class will not consist only of a lecture, but will include at least some type of group discussion during class. While many of us want to include some type of discussion in class, it can pose some challenges. How do you make time for them in an already crowded syllabus? If group discussions are held in small groups, how do you keep each group on track? How do you know if group discussions are effective? We will explore these and other similar questions during this session.

**Panelists:** Laurie Burton (Western Oregon University), Jon Fassett (Central Washington University), Erin McNicholas (Willamette University), Jeanette Palmiter (Portland State University)

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### **Session 3**

**Panel Discussion: How to Get Tenure and Survive**

**Organizer: Xiaoyue Luo (Linfield College).**

**Abstract:** The years between obtaining a job and earning tenure can be stressful. What is the tenure process like in different institutions? How to balance personal and professional life, and getting tenure? In this session our panelists will share their experiences with us on how to apply for tenure and survive. They will provide a broader perspective on the tenure process to lay a foundation for discussion on this topic.

Panelists: Cheryl Beaver (Western Oregon University), Jenny McNulty (The University of Montana), Erin McNicholas (Willamette University), Stephanie Salomone (University of Portland)

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#### Session 4

Panel Discussion: Directed Reading, New Technologies, and Other Strategies for Increasing Student Engagement

Organizer: Nancy Ann Neudauer (Pacific University)

Abstract: "Where is the border between actively engaging students in their learning and not requiring students to take responsibility for their own learning?" This question arose on our PNW NExT listserv recently and generated a great conversation. On this panel we discuss some strategies for getting students to read a section or work problems before a topic is discussed in class. One of the drawbacks of collecting daily reading questions was the paper shuffling or e-mail deluge. Can this be handled differently, or can we otherwise engage students, with new technologies? And when do we draw the line, stop monitoring students, and have them take responsibility for their learning?

Panelists: Stuart Boersma (Central Washington University), Mark Fitch (University of Alaska – Anchorage), Jennifer Quinn (University of Washington – Tacoma)

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#### Session 5

Discussion: *What's NExT?*

Moderator: Jenny McNulty (The University of Montana)

This final session is intended to help us look back over the days' activities and decide on future directions and planning for subsequent meetings. Be prepared to volunteer!

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