

Blue Ribbon Meeting 10-22-14

Four members of the Fairmont State University Math Department attended The Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) fifth National Forum October 5-7.

The focus and theme was on building student success in the first two years of college math. It continued and expanded the work begun at previous national forums. These previous four forums focused upon K-12 mathematics education and the lifelong education of K-12 teachers.

The slides of almost all of the presentations at the CBMS Forum are now available online on the forum website:

<http://www.cbmsweb.org/Forum5/index.htm>

To view the presentations of any of the speakers, click on their name which is hyperlinked to their slides.

Martin Gardner Celebration

This year marks the centennial of Martin Gardner's birth on Oct. 21. The October 2014 issue of the *Mathematics Teacher* contains an article on page 194 entitled, "The Best Friend Mathematics Ever Had, A tip of the hat to the popular mathematics writer Martin Gardner." By Colm Mulcahy and Albert Goetz.

Gardner published more than 100 books and was a regular columnist of *Mathematical Games* in *Scientific American* until 1998. In his final column, he stated that he always tried to "convince educators that recreational math should be incorporated into the curriculum.)" (Gardner 1998, "A Quarter Century of Recreational Mathematics." *Scientific American* 279(2): p 68)

Events are being documented at www.celebrationofmind.org The article encourages teachers to visit MAM site (www.mathaward.org.mam/2014) for materials to use in the classroom.

Smarter Balanced Website

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/>

Smarter Balanced Achievement Level Setting Process

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/2014/10/smarter-balanced-begins-achievement-level-setting-process/>

Practice Tests – Use Student Interface Practice and Training Tests

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/practice-test/> which links to
<http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/>

There is also a link to scoring guides, etc on the practice test site.

<http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/resources/#scoring>