

Mathematical Instruction

The Program for Improvement of High School Teachers of Mathematics is an activity of the Institute of the Millennium, with the support of IMPA and RNP (National Research and Education Network). The Program started in 2002 and happens twice a year, in January and July (school vacations period). The first session, held in January 2002, included 6 Brazilian states. Little by little, this number increased so that the last one, held in July 2004, counted with 20 states, some of them with more than one city participating. The attendance included over 1400 teachers. The interest shown by the participants is remarkable, with an increasing number of them taking part at the successive events, totaling about five thousand teachers since the beginning of the project. For the next meeting, planned to be held in January 2005, we expect more states to take part. Each stage of the program lasts one week (5 days) with daily activities during 8 hours. The team of instructors consists of E. L. Lima (coordinator), P. C. P. Carvalho, E. Wagner and A. C. Morgado. We believe that this initiative of the Millennium Institute is of great importance for the improvement of the Mathematics teaching, causing upgrading and homogenization all over the country. It is also to be noted that the publications it generates, as well as its presence at the Internet add an important aspect of permanence to its effect. We are certain of the importance of the project and we hope to be able to count with funds to increase the reach and expansion of this program, attaining a larger and larger number of participants. For this purpose, it is essential to continue to count on the invaluable contribution the Millennium Institute, IMPA and RNP, as well as the enthusiasm and the never failing collaboration of J. Palis, a friend and believer in promoting good level mathematical instruction since the first day.