

SEAMS-USM-RECSAM Conference on  
Mathematical Education and New Areas in Mathematics  
8th - 13th July, 1974

FRIDAY - Short talks

11.00 - 12.15 a.m.

(1) Prof. Daniel Handali: Recent Changes in the Education Systems  
at the Bandung Institute of Technology.

In the context of Indonesia being in its second five-year plan, and the corresponding need for engineers, Prof. Handali outlined the new four year curriculum at the Bandung Institute of Technology. The curriculum is preceded by a 6 month matriculation or pre-university period, and followed by a 2 year post graduate faculty program which will be set up in 1976. The distribution of the 1000 students into department year by year shows a very low preference for mathematics, physics, chemistry, astronomy, and biology. The various engineering emphases have a considerably higher enrolment.

(2) Dr. Carl A. Argila: Computer Oriented Mathematics at  
De La Salle College.

With a preliminary sketch of the societal environment in which mathematics education finds itself in the Philippines, Dr. Argila addressed the question: What kind of mathematics is relevant in a developing country? The response at De La Salle College was outlined - - a "computer oriented" mathematics curriculum which is designed

- (i) to give students a working knowledge of a computer language, computer fundamentals, and numerical techniques,
- (ii) to give orient students towards the types of careers in mathematics which will contribute to National Development, and
- (iii) to connect the curriculum to social awareness and involvement.

(3) Dr. Ranesh Chandra Dutt: The Unifying Influence of Mathematics in the Study of Diverse Scientific and Technological Phenomena.

Dr. Ranesh presently several examples of mathematics powerful unifying influence in science and technology.

With his examples, he showed that mathematics is a ground for unity for (i) deterministic phenomena, (ii) non-deterministic phenomena, (iii) phenomena which require numerical solutions (numerical analysis), and (iv) the space time continuum in the Special Theory of Relativity. Mathematics plays a central role in man's unending quest for unity amidst diversity.

(4) Dr. John Abramowich: The Off-Campus Program at the Universiti Sains Malaysia.

Dr. Abramowich outlined the structure, scope and operation of the USM off-campus program, which, under the direction of Mr. Paul Chang, was inspired by the Open University in the U.K. The first year's operation (1973) of the program in mathematics (calculus) was summarized. It was a successful first year.

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