

FACULTY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
LENT TERM 2007

## CAMBRIDGE COLLOQUIA IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

Monday 29th January 2007 at 5.30 p.m., Room 205, Mary Allan Building, Hills Road

Dr Jenny Houssart, Institute of Education, University of London

### UNOFFICIAL TALK IN MATHEMATICS CLASSROOMS

This session will draw on data from an ethnographic study carried out with primary school children considered to be low attainers in mathematics. I will give examples of unsolicited talk, sometimes in the form of whispered comments, sometimes referred to as 'shouting out'. I will focus in particular on the mathematical content of these unofficial comments. I hope we can discuss possible reasons why these children made such comments and possible ways forward for other children who behave in a similar way.

Monday 5th March 2007 at 5.30 p.m., Room 205, Mary Allan Building, Hills Road

Wai Yi Feng, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge

### DEVELOPMENT OF A FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING MATHEMATICS ENRICHMENT

Despite the increasing amount of activity taking place under its label, 'mathematics enrichment' is under-theorised. Synthesising material from the literature, four main conceptions of mathematics enrichment may be discerned. These focus on enrichment as: development of exceptional mathematical talent; popular contextualisation of mathematics; enhancement of mathematics learning processes; and outreach to the mathematically underprivileged. I will examine the use of these conceptions for mapping enrichment practices, and draw on enrichment perceptions and experiences to discuss the adequacy of the resulting framework.

Tea and coffee will be available before each meeting. All are very welcome.

For directions to the Mary Allan Building and any other information,  
contact Tim Rowland at [tr202@cam.ac.uk](mailto:tr202@cam.ac.uk)