

1014-P1-20

Jay P Abramson*, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, PO Box 871804, Tempe, AZ 85287-1804, and **Matt Isom** (isom@asu.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, PO Box 871804, Tempe, AZ 85287-1804. *A Contemporary Approach to Quantitative Literacy in a College Mathematics Curriculum.*

The talk will discuss methods to facilitate the student's acquisition of quantitative literacy in a freshman level College Mathematics curriculum. The goal is to empower the student to be critical, understand and take charge of our their conclusions when faced with the numbers they are confronted with daily. Some of the activities presented will have evolved from scenarios as seen in CNN.com or Time magazine. Others have been designed to simply capture the student's imagination or motivate them to think mathematically. Vocabulary is stressed, literacy is mandated. Mathematics is like any other language and the student needs to be taught how to be fluent. We live in a world punctuated with numbers, thus the goal of the talk is teach the student how to be numerate, critical in their view of the numbers that confront them and confident in their ability to interpret, react and enjoy the understanding of the meanings behind the numbers. (Received April 26, 2005)