
This workshop will focus on practical tools and strategies that individuals can implement in finding the right mentors for the twists and turns that will inevitably occur over a career’s trajectory. Now, more than ever, it is imperative that mathematicians take an active role in selecting appropriate mentors for ourselves and in developing our mentoring networks. Effective mentoring can enable any individual who has a passion for mathematics to find her or his own ‘best fit’ for a career that melds life and career values. Because few individuals will have a perfect pathway to a career in mathematics or a seamless meshing of career into the other aspects of life, it is necessary to develop our own toolkits to navigate through these complexities. Pragmatic points will be presented that will help participants clarify what aspects they wish to address with mentors. How to identify the most appropriate mentors will also be a key part of the workshop. Different life experiences, workplace settings, family frameworks, and individual aspirations make it imperative to seek out a range of mentors. Participants will engage in interactive discussion on those aspects which have resonance in their own lives and careers. (Received August 24, 2012)