

1125-A5-1881      **Judy A. Holdener** and **Brian D. Jones\*** (jonesbd@kenyon.edu). *Mathematics Assignments — a Storied Approach.*

Over millennia, short stories have been used to preserve and pass down human knowledge, ancestry, history, and conventions of morality and behavior. The power of the short story is its ability to concisely and efficiently present information in a framework that is easily retained. In a similar way, perhaps mathematical knowledge is best passed down to future generations of students when mathematics teachers take on the role of storytellers. In this talk, we examine five key elements that are typically found in a successful short story: character, setting, plot, conflict, and theme. Might these elements translate into meaningful elements of a good mathematics homework assignment? Are we effective mathematical storytellers? We consider these questions in relation to assignments that vary in both size and level of difficulty. Additionally, we'll examine the challenges of online homework systems and the internet on effective mathematical storytelling. (Received September 19, 2016)