

1125-VO-1687      **Jennifer Nordstrom\*** (jfirkins@linfield.edu). *Mentoring Mathematical Science Fair Projects.*

The Math PLUS program is a partnership between Linfield College and a local middle school, which seeks encourage more mathematics in local and regional science fairs. Linfield College students are paired with middle school students to mentor science fair projects that are required to have a mathematical focus. One goal of the program is to provide access to greater mathematical resources to underserved middle school students who show an interest and aptitude in mathematics. Students are encouraged to research their own questions. Projects have included college level mathematics from number theory to statistics. We will describe the program and discuss the impact on the middle school students, the college student mentors, and the local science fair. The program is funded by a Dolciani Mathematics Enrichment Grant. (Received September 18, 2016)