

1014-A0-1672 **Frank Wattenberg*** (Frank.Wattenberg@usma.edu), Department of Mathematical Sciences,
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An introduction to Croquet and a very ambitious project to create a common scientific cultural heritage that will unify students' learning from middle school through graduate school in mathematics, science, engineering, economics, and international and national politics. Croquet is a very interactive, fundamentally three dimensional software environment. It is entirely Open Source, which means that it is free and that it can be extended. Croquet is designed to support interactions at a distance through shared three dimensional worlds.

The Croquet on Mars Project is an Open Source, Open Content Project that will develop materials built around the idea of exploring and colonizing Mars. It will be a hybrid project with both virtual and hands-on components. Modeling and simulation will be an object of study as well as supporting virtual laboratories. Because mathematics is central to modeling and simulation, mathematics is at the core of the Croquet on Mars Project.

This talk is an invitation to join Croquet on Mars. (Received September 28, 2005)