Morteza Shafii-Mousavi (mshafii@iusb.edu), Department of Mathematical Sciences, Indiana University South Bend, P.O. Box 7111, South Bend, IN 46634, and Paul Kochanowski* (pkochano@iusb.edu), School of Business and Economics, Indiana University South Bend, P.O. Box 7111, South Bend, IN 46634. The Use of Client Driven Projects for Discussing and Writing in Linked Mathematics and Computer Technology Courses.

This paper emphasizes how the use of actual projects helps students to gain greater understanding of math, as well as to improve their understanding of math language, ability to communicate solutions, and write recommendations to none math clients. Student teams complete actual real-world projects from local organizations. The group projects emphasize learning, writing, and discussing math and computer technology applications. Each team consists of students from several disciplines. Given a particular project, student teams start by meeting client organizations, discussing, formulating and writing research issues, problems, and questions. They then focus on data needs and on acquiring the mathematical, statistical, and computer skills necessary to solve these problems. They also write journals and communicate their ideas with each other and instructors. In the classrooms, students learn core mathematical techniques, computing tools, and concepts. Outside of the classroom, team members discuss and solve the problems. Finally, each team writes a comprehensive report and makes a presentation in class and at its resource organization. Evaluation of the students’ learning consists of traditional exams, solving projects, writing reports, oral presentations, and developing portfolios. (Received July 23, 2005)