

1014-M1-126 **Murray H. Siegel*** (siegel@gssm.k12.sc.us), 401 Railroad Avenue, Hartsville, SC 29550.
NCAA Membership and a Piecewise-Defined Model.

The number of colleges belonging to the NCAA in the latter part of the 20th century can be modeled by a piecewise-defined linear function. In 1988, there was a drastic change in the slope (growth rate). Students are asked to conjecture about the cause of the change in slope. The discussion leads to an improved understanding of slope and a greater appreciation for the usefulness of a piecewise-defined function. (Received July 30, 2005)