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Communicating Mathematically Through Podcasts.

With funding provided through the UW System Growth Agenda Grant during the 2010-2011 school year, our team collaborated with 19 high school math teachers from 14 different schools on a project to increase the percentage of college freshman from Northwestern and West-central Wisconsin High Schools ready to enter credit-granting courses in mathematics in the UW-System.

The group began by examining the state math placement exam that is given to incoming students at UW campuses to identify the appropriate math course they should enroll in. We then moved on to identify mathematical threshold concepts which impeded student progress on moving through higher levels of mathematics when taking their high school mathematics courses.

In order to assist students with overcoming these thresholds, the group developed a database of mathematical podcasts that would be available for their students to view – separated over six different categories. The participants were trained to create the podcasts and critiqued them throughout the process. The complete collection is available at: <http://www.uwlax.edu/iiurl/pages/highschoolThresholdConceptsBasic.html>. Students have the option to leave feedback on the usefulness of each of the videos they view. (Received September 10, 2012)