

1106-97-349 **Amy Cohen*** (acc@math.rutgers.edu), Math Dept., Hill Center, 118 Frelinghuysen Road,
Piscataway, NJ 08854. *Math Teacher Circles: Sustaining an NSF Math Science Partnership.*

The NJ Partnership for Excellence in Middle School Math (PEMSM) is a Math Science Partnership, NSF0934079, which has supported over 100 teachers in 4 cohorts. Each cohort completes a 7-course 2-year Institute in which teachers deepen their understanding of the math they teach and the pedagogy they use. MSP grants require projects to find ways to sustain their activities. Since most Institute math course were structured around group work on problems that were engaging, slightly challenging, but ultimately both accessible and relevant, the MTC model was an attractive option. A team of NJ PEMS M personnel learned to organize MTCs at a 2013 workshop sponsored by AIM and MAA. A year later, with funding from AIM and from the Rutgers Math Department, PEMS M offered two demonstration MTC sessions. 45 PEMS M teachers attended; most expressed interest in attending more. Current plans call for MTC sessions in two geographically convenient locations and a leadership development workshop for participants who may later start district-based MTC's working with mathematicians from IHE's in central NJ. (Received August 24, 2014)