The Mathematical Association of America’s Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics recommended that students who study mathematical sciences need to enact mathematical modeling (MM) projects that relate to the real-world (SIAM & COMAP, 2015). Yet, what is the kind mathematical modeling that these students need to experience? To gain a deep understanding about how practitioners who enact modeling conceptualize modeling process, I interviewed professors from various departments: mathematics, civil engineering, physics, and geography. These interviews lasted between 20 to 60 minutes. The semi-structured interview protocol focused on the following aspects: How they use modeling in their professional works. How they understand and talk about MM. Which MM framework aligns their understanding of the MM process. What suggestions they offer high school teachers concerning MM. In this presentation, I will share the major findings from these interviews. (Received August 20, 2018)