

1035-Z1-1175 **C. L. Greeno*** (greenomathematicsinstitute.org), P.O. Box 54845, Tulsa, OK 74155-0854.
A Conceptual Booster for Mathematically Distressed Students. Preliminary report.

Normally viewed only as a means of preparing mathematics majors/minors for advanced courses, the "bridging course" mechanism also can be used for preparing (MLD) victims of Mathematics-Learning Distress (dismay, depression, anxiety, phobia, etc.) for successful entry into the collegebra-through-calculus program. A demonstration model at Tulsa Community College is being launched, this spring semester, through a cooperative arrangement between the College and the American Institute for the Improvement of Mathematics Learning and Instruction (a.k.a. The MALEI Institute).

Casework research by the MALEI Mathematical Learning Clinic reveals that the primary cause of MLD is students' earlier affective reactions to frustrating encounters with traditionally troublesome topics. The best therapy for MLD is guiding the students to reconstruct those same topics through their own reasoning.

For the Clinic's own instructional services, those findings nurtured progressive development of "primer" options designed especially for MLD victims who are headed for collegebra or higher. One of those options has been adapted as TCC's new "Algebra Booster" class-course. A special supplement to TCC's standard remedial program, the Booster is open both to pre-college and college students. (Received September 19, 2007)