

1056-C1-1320 **Benjamin Wells*** (wells@usfca.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of San Francisco, 2130 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. *Mathematics, art, and the Fusion Project*. Preliminary report.

The Fusion Project (FP) is a research effort of the University of San Francisco, envisioned by Philip Wagner, directed by Benjamin Wells, and established as a distinct program of the College of Arts and Sciences with the collaboration of the School of Education. Supported by the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (FAMSF), FP will take their art to the middle school math classroom and math students to their de Young Museum. Workshop-trained teachers will bring FP techniques and materials to their 7th grade classrooms, utilizing FAMSF resources by showing high-resolution imagery in class and visiting the museum on field trips. We seek to enhance existing curricula in order to improve basic and advanced skills, standards-oriented test scores, and students' interest in math. Anticipated collateral outcomes are improved appreciation of art combined with an awareness of how mathematics enriches both the execution and understanding of art.

There are two current and future research aspects: (1) Alignment methodology has identified target standards and convinced FAMSF that their collections are appropriate channels for math education. (2) Once FP is operating in classrooms, we have the opportunity to study the effectiveness of FP for the stated purposes. (Received September 21, 2009)