

Learning & Teaching

MTLT Talking Points

January 2019

Why did NCTM decide to transition to one journal instead of the traditional three?

While NCTM has published three school journals for 25 years, for many years there was only *Mathematics Teacher*, which contained articles for teachers in all grades. Other countries that have mathematics education journals have a single journal for all grades from early childhood through secondary school.

Entering its second century in 2020, NCTM feels that it is time to do something new. The hallmarks of this new journal will be its nature as a digital first publication and the opportunity to publish articles that deal with vertically-aligned content. Making use of the opportunities that digital media afford is essential if we are to meet the needs of 21st century educators. And it is long past time that there is a venue for authors who wish to write about ideas that cross grade bands.

Why am I losing my current journal?

You aren't really losing "your" journal. *MTLT* will include articles just like those you have enjoyed reading in the school journals and much, much more. *MTLT* will appear monthly instead of seven times per year, and the increased frequency of publication will allow the new journal to be current and vibrant. *MTLT* will be a digital first journal, going beyond the printed word with vertically-aligned content. Instead of enjoying "your" journal you will be able to enjoy "our" journal.

When will the school journals cease publication?

The last issue of the school practitioner journals, *Teaching Children Mathematics*, *Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School*, and *Mathematics Teacher* will appear in May 2019.

When will the new journal begin publication?

MTLT's first issue will appear in January 2020.

Who is the Editor-in-Chief?

Angela T. Barlow, Dean of the Graduate School and Director of Sponsored Programs at the University of Central Arkansas and long-time mathematics teacher and mathematics teacher educator has already assumed the role of editor-in-chief of the new journal.

Who are the Associate Editors?

- Thomaseina Adams, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
- Rick Anderson, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois
- Wendy Bray, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida
- Rebecca Damas, Trevor Day School, New York, New York
- Roger Day, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois
- Rebecca Robichaux-Davis, Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi
- Randall Groth, Salisbury University, Salisbury, Maryland
- Alison Langsdorf, Weston Public Schools, Wayland, Massachusetts
- Sandra Madden, University of Massachusetts - Amherst
- Cathy Martin, Denver Public Schools, Denver, Colorado
- Aaron Rumack, White River School District in Buckley, WA

Please tell me about the departments

Editorial: An editorial allows readers to raise a significant issue or advocate a point of view about some aspect of teaching or learning mathematics. It can involve a narrow grade band or address a topic of interest to pre-K–12 educators. Subject matter could include such topics as curriculum, pedagogy, assessment, mathematics teacher education, educational philosophy, research implementation, structure of the educational system, special teacher needs, or special student needs. **Word count:** 1000-1500.

Letters to the Editor: Readers are invited to respond to an article or department that is featured in *MTLT*. **Word count per letter:** 250.

Problems to Ponder: Readers are asked to submit individual problems or groups of problems (and answers only, not solution strategies) that are grade-band specific, much like those that appeared in *TCM's Math by the Month*, *MTMS's Palette of Problems*, and *MT's Calendar*. When submitting, click on specific grade band(s).

Growing Problem Solvers (GPS)

Send in your rich task or tasks that can potentially span four points along the pre-K–12 learning trajectory (elementary, intermediate, junior high, and high school) and can elicit higher-order thinking. It should be a low-floor/high-ceiling task with multiple entry points, allowing for a variety of solution strategies and reaching many different learners. A teacher page will explore the math and potential instructional strategies. If you have used a rich task in your classroom and have had to extend it, contribute to this discussion. No solutions will be provided.

Word count: 500 (Teacher page – 500 words and each task 250 words).

For the Love of Mathematics: The last page of the journal will be visual and fun, engaging, and inspiring. This reader-driven department is intended for the teacher, rather than for direct use with students. Items sent to the editor may include a photograph, combined with a funny or engaging mathematical question; an original cartoon that is humorous or

reflective; a puzzle; Math Circle prompts; a poem or vignette; original artwork; or general celebratory items, such as Pi Day or Metric Week. Submission of student work within these guidelines is also welcome. How do *you* show your love of mathematics? **Word count:** 2000.

Who are the Department Editors and how can I get in touch with them?

Department	Editor	E-mail
Ear to the Ground	Clayton Edwards	claytonmedwards@gmail.com
Asked & Answered	Megan Holstrom (PK-5)	megan.holmstrom@gmail.com
Asked & Answered	Erik Tillema (6-8)	etillema@iupui.edu
Asked & Answered	Wayne Nirode (9-12)	nirodew@miamioh.edu
Centennial	Thomasenia Lott Adams	tla@coe.ufl.edu
Centennial	Rebecca Damas	rldamas@gmail.com
Centennial	Sandra Madden	smadden@educ.umass.edu
Problems to Ponder (PK-5)	Susie Katt	skatt@lap.org
Problems to Ponder	Megan Korponic	megan_korponic@dpsk12.org
GPS (Growing Problem Solvers)	Asli Özgün-Koca (K-5)	aokoca@wayne.edu
GPS (Growing Problem Solvers)	Cheng-Yao Lin (K-5)	cylin@siu.edu
GPS (Growing Problem Solvers)	Matt Enlow (6-12)	mattenlow@gmail.com
GPS (Growing Problem Solvers)	Kelly Hagan McCormack (6-12)	Kelly_Hagan@wayland.k12.ma.us
For the Love of Mathematics	Josh Hertel	jhertel@uwlax.edu

I reviewed manuscripts for *TCM/MTMS/MT* will I also be asked to review submissions for *MTLT*?

Past reviewers are not automatically reviewers for *MTLT*. To review for *MTLT* you must first create an account on the manuscript submission and review site

<https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/mtltpk12>

Where can I learn more about reviewing manuscripts for *MTLT*?

Detailed review instructions can be accessed at <https://www.nctm.org/Review-Instructions-for-MTLT/>

Wait a minute. What happens during the period of time between May 2019 and January 2020? What will I be getting for my membership dollars?

The Editorial Panels of the three school journals are preparing thematic mini-editions that will be available to members in digital format during the transition period between May 2019 and January 2020. These mini-editions will use chapters of the NCTM book *Principles to Action* as organizing threads for past journal articles. Each mini-edition will contain articles from all three journals that are relevant to a theme from *PtoA*. In this way, members will be exposed to articles that hopefully will inform their practice but that they missed because these articles appeared in journals to which they did not subscribe.

I've heard a lot about "digital first" but I don't know what it means. Can you explain?

A digital first journal takes advantage of 21st century technology to go beyond the printed word. For example, instead of a static vignette included in a print article, the new journal would include an embedded video that puts the reader right inside the classroom, where student-student and student-teacher interactions can be observed. Links to podcasts, apps, or interactive white board files are just a few of the many opportunities that the new journal holds for authors and readers. While the journal will be "digital first," it will also be available in print to members who request that format.

I have written print articles for the school journals. Will I be able to submit as before?

Yes, *MTLT* welcomes traditional print articles along the same lines as manuscripts authors would submit to the three practitioner journals in the past. However, we also encourage authors to focus on the priorities of digital first or pan-grade band articles.

Submissions may be uploaded at <https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/mtlt>

When will *MTLT* begin accepting submissions?

We are now receiving submissions at <https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/mtlt>

Are there any active calls for manuscripts?

Yes! All active calls for manuscripts are located at <https://www.nctm.org/Write-for-MTLT/> along with general information about the various types of manuscripts the *MTLT* Editorial Board seeks to publish.

I have encountered issues or have questions about using the *MTLT* site. Whom do I contact for assistance?

For technical support, contact ScholarOne Customer Care Monday – Friday between 12:00 am ET and 8:30 pm ET at 1-888-503-1050 or send an email to ts.mcsupport@clarivate.com

For non-technical questions, contact NCTM Journal staff (800) 235-7566 (Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET or send an email to MTLT@nctm.org

How do I create an account on the *MTLT* submission site?

Go to <https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/mtltpk12> and look for the “Create An Account” link located at both the top left portion of the page and within the Log In section of the page.

When I attempt to create an account on the *MTLT* site I receive an error message indicating that my e-mail address already exists in the system, what do I do?

For your convenience, we imported names and e-mail addresses of recent *TCM*, *MTMS* and *MT* manuscript referees. Click the “Reset Password” link to set up your profile.

When setting up my account I was asked for the grades I teach and my “audience.” I do not see my role listed. How do I complete this section of my profile?

Please indicate the grades and audiences that best reflect your areas of expertise or interest. You will be invited to review only manuscripts that closely match your profile.

When setting up my account I was asked for “Math Topic” and “Other Topic.” How do I complete this section of my profile?

Please indicate the math topics and other topics that best reflect your areas of expertise or interest. You will be invited to review only manuscripts that closely match your profile.

How do I check the status of my manuscript submission?

Log in to your ScholarOne Manuscripts account, click on **Author**. Under the **Author Dashboard Section**, click on **Submitted Manuscripts**. The **Status** is located in the far left column.

When submitting my manuscript, I was asked for a “Running Head.” Please explain what is needed in this section.

The Running Head is a brief, one sentence summary of the manuscript. (maximum 75 characters)

I am having trouble uploading my manuscript to Scholar One.

To avoid pitfalls when submitting your first manuscript to Scholar One follow these steps:

1. Register as a new user if you have not done so already. Make sure you answer all required questions on the registration screens.
2. Wait for an email confirmation that registration is complete.
3. Re-access the Scholar One site and upload your manuscript, again making certain that all required information is provided.

When I try to edit the key words in my profile I am unable to locate them. What should I do?

After you are logged in to the system, look in the top right portion of the screen for the down arrow to your name. Select the third item in the dropdown menu, “User ID & Password.” The list of keywords is also on this page.