

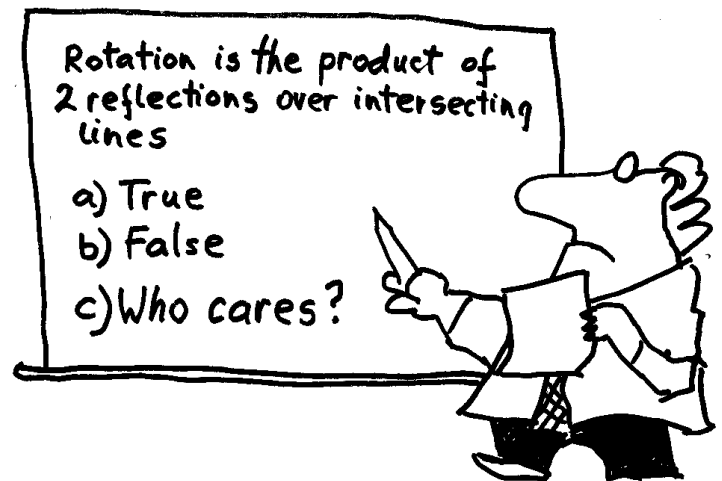
The Oliver Club

www.math.cornell.edu/~oliver/

David Henderson, Cornell University

Mathematical Issues of Meaning in Education

In all my years in school, I did not see in the mathematics classroom any of the experiential geometry that I love. School mathematics was presented as a collection of definitions and rules to be memorized without meaning. School textbooks and state standards still routinely provide definitions that block students' access to meanings. For example, a popular high school geometry text defines "rotation" as "the product of two reflections over intersecting lines." In my talk, I will provide other examples and discuss how the experiences of mathematicians are needed to help school mathematics change its definitions and rules to bring out meanings, especially meanings that translate well to higher mathematics and various applications.



Thursday, March 15, 2012
at 4:00 PM in 532 Malott Hall

Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in the Mathematics Department lounge (532 Malott Hall).