

TODOS NCTM MET Grant

The TODOS LIVE! proposal has been funded by The Mathematics Education Trust (MET) of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM). Janet Pittock will chair this TODOS project which will establish a national on-line learning community that provides on-going learning and communication by engaging our members in experiences, discussions and reflections on topics related to our mission and goals (consult www.todos-math.org) and the five NCTM foundational priorities: Equity; Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Professional Development; Research; and Advocacy. These sessions will present classroom activities that implement research-based instructional strategies that are effective with Hispanic/Latino/a students and other students who are from groups that have traditionally not been successful in mathematics.

Since its inception in 2003, TODOS has been actively involved in NCTM and with other affiliates. Each year TODOS organizes strands of speakers for at least seven different conferences including the NCTM Annual Meeting, some NCTM Regional Conferences and various state-level conferences. The demand for these strands continues. Teachers want to know more about what works for teaching mathematics to Hispanic/Latino/a students, children of poverty, special needs students and/or others who are traditionally underrepresented in mathematics education. Addressing this need for teachers is one of the objectives of this project.

While TODOS has addressed its goals with conference presentations and workshops, monographs, a journal, and our Listserv, it has not had the financial means to propose more focused professional development offerings to our membership. In addition, the current economic crisis in our nation has affected and will continue to affect the amount of traveling for professional development that school boards are approving. Contributing to this is the need for a national organization like TODOS to learn to effectively use the technologies that are now available to reach its members.

While many webinars are currently being used for professional development, TODOS will utilize a format that is more interactive than the usual webinar. TODOS LIVE! will be designed to offer 12 one-hour on-line sessions to TODOS members using GoToTraining. Eight sessions will focus on activities for the classroom and four sessions will focus on special topics of interest and concern to TODOS. We will use this format to address equitable practices that will encourage teachers to value each student and believe that all students can make important contributions.

TODOS will collect data on the effectiveness of this professional development delivery and focus. It will use the experiences of this project to seek funding for a permanent and expanded on-line learning community for TODOS in collaboration with other organizations as appropriate.