STUDENT BELONGING AS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN TACKLING THE MATHEMATICS PROBLEM

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"The Mathematics Problem", a term coined in a UK report at the turn of the century (Hawkes & Savage, 2000), refers to an unfortunate collection of related phenomena: declining interest and enrolment in mathematics subjects at school and university; a lack of preparedness for tertiary mathematics, including poor study skills and increasing inhomogeneity in mathematical attainments and knowledge, among students entering science and engineering degree programmes. Of course, we certainly recognise the Mathematics Problem in Australia (Groen et al., 2015).   In this activity, we will workshop ideas for boosting students' sense of belonging in the mathematics classroom, especially for underprepared students. The activity may include some selected talks, but is mostly intended to be open discussion among participants.

REFERENCES

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