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**CMP Project Team:**

Laurel Schollen,  
CMP Director

Graham Orpwood,  
CMP Manager

Hassan Assiri  
Data Manager

Pina Marinelli-  
Henriques  
CMP Coordinator

Contact us at:  
[cmp@senecac.on.ca](mailto:cmp@senecac.on.ca)

**NEXT ISSUE**

In the next issue of CMP News, we shall report some of the highlights of the CMP Annual Report to be released next month.

*Special Introductory Issue*

## Welcome to CMP News

CMP News is the newsletter of the College Mathematics Project. Now that the project operates province-wide and includes all 24 colleges and all 72 District School Boards, we thought it would be useful to share information this way. CMP News will include information about CMP reports and events, it will include highlights of our research, your promising practices, and forum recommendations and it will provide an ongoing point of contact for more people to learn about the project and its work. We plan to produce a newsletter every three months and distribute it electronically to our e-mailing list. If you wish your name to be added to this list or deleted from it, please contact us at [cmp@senecac.on.ca](mailto:cmp@senecac.on.ca).

## What is CMP?

A Seneca College led project, the CMP is based at the York/Seneca Institute for Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (YSIMSTE). The project was conceived in 2006 to investigate why too many first-year college students either failed mathematics or barely passed. CMP, now in its fifth year, is funded by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities. It studies enrolment and achievement in college programs where mathematics is a foundation subject and links these to students' mathematics backgrounds in secondary schools. It also supports forums – in cooperation with the School/College/Work Initiative (SCWI) – where this research is presented, promising practices are shared, student perspectives are considered and deliberations over ways forward take place. The results of each year's work are published in report format. You can access our CMP2007 and CMP2008 reports through our website, <http://collegemathproject.senecac.on.ca> Our CMP2009 report, which examined the achievement of the fall 2008 first semester cohort, will be released in early March 2010.

## CMP Forums – Fall 2009

During the fall, CMP organised 9 forums around Ontario in cooperation with Regional Planning Teams of the School/College/Work Initiative (SCWI). More than 500 people from colleges, school boards and associations attended these forums and, from the evaluation forms they completed at the end, felt they were very worthwhile. Certainly the CMP team gathered a wealth of information as a result of the discussion and deliberation that has been of great value as we prepare the CMP2009 Final report (see below). The summaries of the discussion can be found on the CMP website; follow the “CMP Forums” link. One of the Forums (at Collège Boréal) was held entirely in French and one (at Algonquin College) was bilingual – another first for CMP. At the forums participants received preliminary reports on the CMP research; shared “promising practices” aimed at increasing student success, particularly in mathematics, and participated in deliberative sessions. A highlight of each forum was the student panel, which provided an opportunity for participants to hear student’s personal stories of coping with the transition to college mathematics. These panels have become an integral part of CMP forums during the past two years and have been shown to have a significant impact on both the deliberations and the CMP annual report.




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*Images created by  
Gilberto Prioste of  
Professional  
Photography and  
Designs taken at the  
GTA CMP 2009 Forum*

## CMP Annual Report

The CMP 2009 Report will be released in early March 2010. Copies will be available **free** of charge on the CMP website and we encourage you to download a copy, read it and share it with colleagues. CMP project staff is available to speak about the project, its research findings and recommendations at professional conferences and other special events. So if we can help you follow up on the report in your college, school board or organisation, please let us know.

## CMP Database

One of the most valuable by-products of the CMP research program is that the research data is accessible for local investigation on a web-based database. Access to this database is open to approved users from school boards and colleges. To obtain access, check the CMP website (link to research database). School board users should apply through their superintendent and college users through their Vice-President, Academic. They should also read the CMP policy on the “acceptable use” of the database. To assist new users of the database, CMP has also prepared a set of guiding questions to stimulate ideas about ways to use the CMP data to support local improvements. Next year, we would encourage database users to report on their investigations at forums.

