



Report for NSDL – MathDL

August 2007

At the beginning of the summer we made the decision to merge the MathDL and Math Gateway Projects into a single project that will become the Mathematical Association of America's NSDL Pathway project, but will retain the MathDL name. The immediate reasons for this change are that the software constructed for us by our developer to support the Math Gateway is not functioning in a satisfactory manner, and delays in completing the software development have put us seriously behind schedule. We are planning to work with another firm to revise the software to merge the projects and implement some changes at the same time. These changes will put us in a better position to argue for the long-term support of our digital library efforts by the Mathematical Association of America (MAA).

In the new MathDL, we will merge the existing Journal of Online Mathematics and its Applications (JOMA), Digital Classroom Resources (DCR), and Convergence into a single online publication to be entitled Journal of Online Mathematics (JOM). Math Gateway partners will continue as MathDL partners. We will keep the ability currently present in Math Gateway to search over the partners as well as over the components of the existing MathDL. We will introduce a browse capability that will enable browsing over the math subject taxonomy, format, over type and audience.

In addition, the new MathDL will continue to post and prominently display the *Math in the News* articles that we have been posting on Math Gateway five times a week since the middle of March. We will keep the *This Day in Mathematics* feature displayed on the new home page. We will also keep the current Math Gateway My Library capabilities for collecting personal links to selected materials and for small group discussions. In addition, we will add the capability of RSS feeds of *Math in the News* and other push technology.

Finally, the new MathDL will maintain and extend the metadata being maintained on both the current project sites and will continue to make this metadata available to the NSDL Repository.

The merging of the projects will make it easier to publicize the digital library within the MAA membership as well as to the more general mathematics community. The MathDL name and logo is much more widely recognized than Math Gateway. This recognition is important since we will need to convince the MAA membership of the desirability of supporting the project after NSF funding runs out.

Once the new MathDL site is ready, we will resume our workshop program. Last October we had an NSDL-sponsored workshop at the MAA Conference Center in Washington, DC. That workshop resulted in eight additional local presentations and workshops by the national workshop participants. In addition, major presentations were made at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in January in New Orleans and at the International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics in Boston in February.