

Report of the SuperCourse Workshop „Mathematics and Society, Values and Feelings“ on Monday 23rd September 2002 in Sicily (conducted by Günter Graumann)

The session began with presenting the aims of SouperCourse put down in the e-mail from Alan Rogerson. In respect to our theme there were given first some hint to MISP. Because of a question about materials in Germany it was mentioned that the MUED-group produced a lot of materials in German. Another group, called ISTRON, produces and collects material about reality orientated mathematics education and publishes it in books (especially produced for libraries at schools). A paper about “Geometry in Everyday Life” (in English) you can find in the reference of the article “General Education in Mathematics Lessons” from Günter Graumann in the proceedings of the Sicily-Conference.

After an additional report about “Mathematics and Society” in Germany in the last 25 years it was discussed the problem of not being an expert in the other subjects which melt into units about “Mathematics and Society in Mathematics Education”. But this should not be an obstacle. On one hand the teacher together with the students can inform oneself about the subject like a normal person has to do it in real life and on the other hand two teachers which have studied different subjects can work together. At least a teacher can combine the two subjects she/he has studied.

Then it was discussed to built a group for SuperCourse in USA and Canada, especially looking at the realisation of the NCTM-standards. Because of the big distances there should be installed regional groups.

Finally it was mentioned that multi-cultural classes built a chance of mathematics education with relation to different aspects of ethnomathematics.