Cal Poly Pomona

Colloquium Series
Department of
Mathematics & Statistics

Prof. Kari Kokka

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Las Vegas

"What's going on?" The role of mathematics in the current moment

Abstract: In this talk we will consider the question, "What's going on?" drawing on Marvin Gaye's iconic 1971 song. Given the current state of the United States and countries around the world, we will explore questions such as, "What is the role and responsibility of mathematics, mathematicians, mathematics educators, and mathematics students in the current moment?" I will speak about my work with middle and high school teachers' use of cognitively demanding and groupworthy mathematics tasks relevant to students' lives. I will also discuss my research with mathematics educators taking action to improve the lives of their students and those in their communities. The talk intends to be interactive with brief small group discussions with peers and colleagues.

Wednesday, April 30, 1:05 – 1:50 pm in 4-1-314