



WESTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

Considering Pursuing a Ph.D. in Mathematics Education?



WESTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

Interested in Studying the Productive Use of Student Mathematical Thinking?

The NSF-funded *Building on MOSTs: Investigating Productive Use of High-Leverage Student Mathematical Thinking* project has an opening for an experienced secondary school teacher and/or professional development provider to work as a research assistant while completing their Ph.D. at Western Michigan University.

MOSTs are **M**athematically Significant Pedagogical **O**penings to Build on **S**tudent **T**hinking (also known as *Mathematical Opportunities in Student Thinking*). The purpose of the *Building on MOSTs* project is to better understand the teaching practice of building on MOSTs. Four main activities will constitute the work of the project: (a) creating MOST-eliciting prompts (MEPs), (b) preparing teacher-researchers (T-Rs) to enact MEPs, (c) studying MEP enactments with T-Rs, and (d) analyzing MEP data to refine the building prototype. Together, these activities will contribute to achieving our goal of understanding the teaching practice of building. Find out more at BuildingonMOSTs.org.

The MOST Principal Investigators:

Laura Van Zoest, Western Michigan University

Shari Stockero, Michigan Technological University

Keith Leatham, Brigham Young University

Blake Peterson, Brigham Young University

Research assistants are involved in all aspects of project work, including collecting, organizing and analyzing data, participating in project meetings, and writing and presenting results. The research assistantship includes tuition, fees and a stipend. In addition, research assistants may be able to conduct independent research within the scope of the research project.

The ideal candidates will have the following qualifications:

- experience teaching middle and/or high school mathematics students
- experience providing professional development to middle and/or high school teachers
- personal and/or professional experience in schools where the majority of students are minorities
- curiosity about, and deep interest in, making sense of students' mathematical thinking and teachers' responses to that thinking

For more information, please email Laura Van Zoest, laura.vanzoest@wmich.edu, with the subject line "MOST RA" and a brief description of your experience and interest. Review of applications will begin **February 15, 2018** and continue until all positions are filled.