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The Iris M. Carl Travel Grant facilitated the opportunity for me to attend the 45th National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics Annual Conference - where I learned from, interacted with, and was moved to action by the All-Stars of mathematics teaching and learning. I gleaned best practices from session presenters and attendees alike, and was able to sharpen my facilitation skills as a session presenter while sharing my passion for math education. Service is my passion, and that fulfillment was attained as I volunteered during the conference and was able to meet a myriad and range of people - from Markus Bowman to Miriam Leiva, Julie McNamara to William McCallum, Linda S. Smith to Francis "Skip" Fennell.

While at the conference, the door to materials and resources - whether free or for purchase - swung wide open through mutual sharing with exhibitors, fellow attendees, and presenters. Specific literature available for on-site purchase was timely and relevant to my practice as a math specialist; as soon as I returned to my district I ordered copies of the "hot off the press" publications *NCSM Great Tasks for Mathematics* (K-5, and 6-12) to distribute to my district's Title I math coaches.

Strategizing with a colleague on how we could attend different sessions then share what we learned with one another, I nearly doubled my potential for learning! The plethora of informational flyers and pamphlets from the sessions as well as of upcoming math professional learning sessions whispered to me in a gentle yet impactful voice, "Develop a plan based on what you're learning." By the time I returned home I developed a detailed blueprint for a multi-day math academy for K-HS teachers in our Title I schools, presented it via a PowerPoint presentation to my supervisor, and received approval!

To say the very least, I was awesomely inspired to action as a result of attending my very first NCSM annual conference. My sights are set to make the NCSM a consistent source of professional learning. Thank you for selecting me as a travel grant recipient.

In honor of Iris M. Carl I pledge to continue to grow and flourish as a math educator and coach, to achieve her goal of "more and better mathematics for all children." Paying this experience forward, my goal is to expose others to the invaluable professional resource of NCSM for years to come.