Overview of the MIT BLOSSOMS “Back to School” Lesson Contest

English-speaking teachers are invited to submit their lesson designs for a new MIT BLOSSOMS lesson in Mathematics, Science or Engineering. We are looking for a lesson that you have taught successfully and that you think would work well with the MIT BLOSSOMS “Teaching Duet” pedagogy. We are also looking for lessons that cover essential high school curriculum topics, but approach those topics in a fresh, dynamic way. Also, a winning math lesson will be supportive of the new Common Core standards. Here are some important things to remember about a BLOSSOMS lesson:

- A BLOSSOMS lesson is not a lecture.
- A BLOSSOMS lesson presents a topic from an unusual, interesting angle.
- The video segments should be 3 minutes or less, and never more than 4.
- The first segment needs to be no longer than 2 minutes and must excite the interest of both teachers and students.
- With video technology, segments can be filmed in interesting locations. Stay away from the classroom as much as possible!
- A lesson must provide challenging, thought-provoking classroom activities for the video breaks.

Important Contest Deadlines:

- Monday, December 3, 2012 – Teachers must submit the completed MIT BLOSSOMS Concept Template for their lessons, available here.
- Monday, January 7, 2013 - Finalists will be announced and asked to complete the MIT BLOSSOMS Architecture Template for their lessons, available here.
- Monday, January 28, 2013 – Finalists must submit the completed Architecture Template for their lessons.
- Monday, February 4, 2013 – Winners will be announced

The winning teachers will be invited to travel to MIT—all expenses paid—to film their lessons during either their Winter or Spring vacation weeks.

For further information, contact blossoms@mit.edu