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sarah-marie belcastro* (smbelcas@math.uni.edu), sarah-marie belcastro, Department of Mathematics, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0506. *In-Class Collaborative Learning for a 60-student "College Algebra" Class for Business Students.*

First-year business students who are not sufficiently prepared to take a required general-education statistics course need a college-algebra-level course to increase their mathematical maturity. A traditional college algebra curriculum will not be as useful to such students as a course with significant business applications. Linear functions, exponential functions, and rates of change are the primary concepts used in modelling commonplace financial transactions; conveniently, Crauder/Evans/Noell's *Functions and Change: A Modeling Approach to College Algebra* contains all these topics (and more, which one need not cover for this audience), and many of the examples and exercises are business applications. Furthermore, this text is nontraditional in that it is both example-based and explicitly supportive of collaborative learning. This presents a challenge: how can an instructor effectively use small groups in a classroom containing 60 students? One possibility for resolving this dilemma is to have an assistant. In the course under discussion, a senior undergraduate mathematics major assists in monitoring small-group activities. (Received September 13, 2000)