Meeting: 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP H1, MAA Session on History of Undergraduate Mathematics in America, 1900–2000

1003-H1-358 Agnes M. Kalemaris* (akalemar@optonline.net), Dept. of Mathematics, SUNY Farmingdale, Farmingdale, NY 11735. Real Women Studied Real Mathematics. Preliminary report.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, many people believed that women were not capable of studying mathematics. It was thought that such study would even have a harmful effect on a woman's health. Although there were some mathematicians and educators who assisted and encouraged young women, the primary proof that women could succeed in mathematics came from the growing number of women's colleges. This presentation will focus on the variety and scope of the courses offered at some of these colleges in the early 1900's, as well as looking at the faculty who taught them. (Received September 12, 2004)