1023-II-173 Stephen B. Maurer* (smaurer1@swarthmore.edu), Math/Stat Dept, Swarthmore College, 500 College Ave, Swarthmore, PA 19081. Getting Math Students to Take Writing Seriously. Preliminary report.

The author will discuss what he has learned through years of emphasis on writing in his discrete math course and, to some extent, in his linear algebra course. The key thing: Students will work hard on their writing, with good success, if they know you take it seriously because you spend substantial time on it in class. Moreover, their writing will improve if they see and discuss bad writing as well as good. To these ends, the author spends considerable time in class on critiques of short writing samples, the current students' and his own. The author will also discuss his other techniques for promoting good writing, and his online and print writing materials. (Received August 17, 2006)