1085-00-16 William Yslas Velez* (velez@math.arizona.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721. Mathematics majors in the workforce, a panel discussion. Preliminary report.

Mathematics faculty view the undergraduate mathematics major as leading to two career paths, pre-college mathematics teachers and graduate school in the mathematical sciences. The majority of students who graduate with undergraduate degrees in mathematics do not pursue either of these two options.

Our department is seeing many of our undergraduates adding mathematics as another major and using this extra major to be more competitive to get into graduate programs other than the mathematical sciences. However, the majority of mathematics majors join the workforce.

In this panel, three students who earned undergraduate degrees in mathematics and immediately joined the workforce will discuss their career paths and the role that mathematics has played in their current positions. The three panelists are:

Rene Bernal, Applied Software Engineer, Honeywell Chris Elofson, Senior Software Engineer, Raytheon Carolyn Lanser, Senior Member of the Technical Staff, Rincon Research (Received July 05, 2012)