Budapest Semesters in Mathematics Education (BSME) is a semester-long program in Budapest, Hungary, designed for undergraduates (and recent graduates) interested in teaching middle school or high school mathematics. BSME was conceived by the founders of Budapest Semesters in Mathematics (BSM), and the two programs share a common goal—to provide their participants with an opportunity to experience the mathematical and general culture of Hungary. BSME is specifically intended for students who are not only passionate about mathematics, but also the teaching of mathematics.

BSME participants study the Hungarian approach to learning and teaching, in which a strong and explicit emphasis is placed on problem solving, mathematical creativity, and communication. At BSME, participants take on a dual role: as students, they engage with challenging mathematical tasks from the secondary curriculum, learning mathematics by doing mathematics; then as teachers, they reflect the learning experience and explore how to bring the Hungarian approach to their own future classrooms.

In this presentation, I will give an overview of BSME and describe how the program prepares future teachers to address important national needs in mathematics education. (Received January 29, 2016)