

Meeting: 1002, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, SS 3A, Special Session on The History of Mathematics

1002-01-63 **Walter Meyer*** (meyer@adelphi.edu), Dept. of Mathematics, Adelphi University, Garden City, NY 11530. *What Can We Learn From the History of Enrollments.*

In recent years, bachelor's degrees in core mathematics have been trending downward. Leaving aside a significant increase starting in the 1950's and lasting about 15 years, decline has been the story of enrollments in most of the half-century from 1950 to 2000. For practical and intellectual reasons it would be good to know what drives enrollment trends. This talk will examine possible causes of enrollment change and suggest tentative conclusions. Unsolved historical problems abound in this area. (Received August 20, 2004)