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Stephen C Milne* (milne@math.ohio-state.edu), Department of Mathematics, The Ohio State University, 231 West 18-th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210-1174, and **Sheldon L Degenhardt**. *A nonterminating q -Dougall summation theorem for hypergeometric series in $U(n)$, with applications*. Preliminary report.

In this talk we extend important classical one-variable summations and transformations of Bailey to multiple basic hypergeometric series very-well-poised on unitary groups $U(n+1)$. In particular, we derive multivariable generalizations of Bailey's 3-term transformation formula for ${}_8\phi_7$ series, and Bailey's nonterminating q -Dougall summation formula. As pointed out by Michael Schlosser, our nonterminating $U(n+1)$ q -Dougall summation formula yields a natural multivariable extension of Jacobi's classical identity for eighth powers of theta functions. All of this work is a consequence of the nonterminating $U(n+1)$ q -Whipple transformation formula of Milne and Newcomb. (Received August 28, 2009)