



## Learning and Teaching Seminar Series

Session 2, 2015



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**A/Prof. Leon Poladian**  
**School of Mathematics and Statistics**  
**The University of Sydney**

**Time:** 4pm Friday, 18th September, 2015.

**Location:** Red Centre Building, RC-3085.

**Using journal articles to build and assess communication skills in  
undergraduate mathematics.**

ABSTRACT:

*Communication is one of the threshold learning outcomes for undergraduate mathematics; in particular, the ‘appropriate interpretation of information communicated in mathematical and statistical form’ and the ‘appropriate presentation of information, reasoning and conclusions in a variety of modes, to diverse audiences (expert and non-expert).’ However, apart from honours or talented student projects or specific units on the logical structure of proofs, most undergraduate mathematics students do not get to think about or practice their communication skills. Before students attempt their own communication they review some mathematics written by more experienced peers. Journal articles written by other undergraduates were chosen as an authentic source to design an activity that requires students to analyse an article and connect it both to their own existing conceptual framework and the content of the unit they are currently studying.*

Please join us after the seminar for wine and cheese  
in the staff common room, Red Centre Building, RC-3082.

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