Three Bakersfield College students presented posters at the spring 2011 meeting of the Mathematical Association of America. The meeting was held on April 16 at Point Loma Nazarene University. The Student Poster Session was organized by Cindy Wyels, the Student Chapters Coordinator, from CSU Channel Islands. Thirty seven posters were presented, with 19 from CSU’s, 1 from a UC, 11 from private colleges, 1 from University of Nevada, 1 from Indiana University, 3 from Bakersfield College, and 1 from Saint Bonaventure High School.

Il Terzo Suono (The Third Sound)
David Heywood

When two tones with very close frequencies are sounded, we do not hear both tones, but rather the average frequency of the two tones. However, when the difference between the frequencies reaches a certain point, we do begin to distinguish two separate tones. In this project, we have attempted to answer at what point that occurs. We also explore the combinations of frequencies that make things sound different and the occasional appearance of a third tone when only two tones are sounded.

Faculty advisor: Rebecca Head
One of the most desired vacation destinations in the Southern California area is “the happiest place on Earth,” known as Disneyland. The Indiana Jones Adventure: The Temple of the Forbidden Eye, is a popular attraction at the park and regardless of the length of the wait time, people are willing to stand in line for hours to experience this adventure. This project will show some of the calculations it takes to determine the wait time and also show what science does to make this ride so appealing.

*Faculty advisor: Rebecca Head*
Have you ever wondered how many gumballs are in a gumball machine? Well, you’re in luck. In this project a simple method was derived to guess the number of candies in a container. Packing efficiency is taken into consideration when guessing candies with a particular geometric shape being packed into another. A candy guessing contest will be held. Do you have what it takes to guess more accurately than my program?

*Faculty Advisor: Rebecca Head*
Bakersfield College Students and Faculty

John Petrilli, Tim Hamilton, Rick Brantley, Victoria Ornelaz, Donna Starr, Danielle Fowler,
Tom Greenwood, Rebecca Head, and Liz Smith
Not pictured: David and Britney Heywood