

Some of Professional Development

Ronald L. Mower

- Completed a 16-hour course at PBCC Central Campus (May '98) on using the TI-83 to teach algebra and trigonometry.
- Completed a 7.5-hour course at PBCC Central Campus (June '98) on creating Web pages and installing them on a server.
- Completed a credit course in database management.
- Became proficient in the use and programming of the TI-83, TI-86 and TI-92 graphing calculators and their classroom use.
- Implemented a system of TI assembly language emulation programs for the TI-86 that provides all the statistics and financial capabilities of the TI-83 *on* the TI-86. Through the use of these programs, students requiring the capabilities of *both* calculators for the more advanced math courses *and* for statistics need purchase only one calculator (the TI-86). (Note: Update - Texas Instruments has since written software for this purpose – which I give to my students.)
- Designed, wrote and implemented a custom "Math ToolBox" of 55 TI-86 graphing calculator programs (tailored to PBCC courses) which includes commonly used math tools for algebra, statistics and calculus.
- As teaching aids, I use the calculator view screen with the overhead projector along with transparencies made using most of the Microsoft Office 2000 Professional and TI graphics capabilities. The calculator view screen is not only used to teach calculator use, but to demonstrate math and statistics concepts through the use of demo programs and techniques that I develop.
- Plan to convert the above transparencies to PowerPoint slides and investigating other uses of technology in the classroom as the resources become available.
- Took "Short Course Program for the Graphing Calculator" from May 12th to May 14th, 1999 (3 days) with graduate credit available if desired.
- Set up a web site so that my students will have access to syllabi, assignments, lesson plans, handouts, other web links, etc.