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Life as an Academic: Running a Different Race

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Abstract / résumé

As participants attending the CUMC conference, many of you are undoubtedly thinking about attending graduate school, and possibly establishing a career as a mathematics professor. If you choose to enter academia, you will be expected to maintain a proper balance between the three major responsibilities of a professor: research, teaching, and administration / service. When young academics discover that the name of the game is “publish or perish,” many choose to focus all of their attention on research at the expense of everything else. In this presentation, we will discuss some specific ways of running a different race, and taking the road less travelled. I will share with you practical techniques on improving your research and teaching skills, and suggest outreach initiatives that you can start at your own institutions. The goals of this talk will be to encourage you not to conform to the “publish or perish” game, and to empower you with specific ideas on how to run a different race; a race that is meaningful and inspiring, both to yourself, and also to your future colleagues and students.

Biography / biographie

Richard Hoshino is currently finishing his PhD in mathematics at Dalhousie University. He holds a BMath (Waterloo), BEd (Queen’s), and MSc (Dalhousie). Richard was recently selected as one of the inaugural Action Canada Fellows, a new initiative to identify and develop future leaders of Canada.