POSTGRADUATE TRAINING SEMINAR
Public Engagement & Outreach in Research and Teaching

It's time to break the "crazy Mathematician" stereotype that Hollywood has been clinging onto for so many years!?!!

Interacting with non-Mathematicians, Part I: Outreach

- What is Outreach? Why do it? How do I get started?
- Examples of Outreach (from laziest to most proactive)
  - "Academic outreach" (e.g., Maths Society, talks to university societies, clubs, social groups)
  - Work with underrepresented groups
  - Activities in schools (Tower Hamlets, London, surrounding area)
  - Activities with school teachers (Tower Hamlets, London, surrounding area)
- A nontraditional suggestion: Not all your efforts need to be *local* (e.g., Navajo Math Circles)
- A second nontraditional suggestion: Directed Reading Programme (see Rutgers page)

Interacting with non-Mathematicians, Part II: Public Engagement

- What is Public Engagement? Why do it? How is this different from Outreach? How do I get started?
- Examples of Public Engagement (from most to least introverted)
  - Guest-writing for blogs (or making your own), articles in magazines/newspapers
  - Doing interviews or being interviewed for a (QMUL) podcast
  - Events involving Pubs: Pint of Science, Story Collider
  - Public lectures to non-scientific, non-education audiences (e.g., The Royal Institution, HGS Astronomical Society, etc...)
- A nontraditional suggestion: Big Brother/Big Sister program
- A second nontraditional suggestion: Math + Art in East London = interesting opportunities

If you need help getting started or just want some ideas, there are a network of people and resources immediately available to you:

1. Tom Stead, SMS Student Recruitment and Outreach Manager
2. Sarah Barnes, CPE - Center for Public Engagement, QMUL
3. Professor David Arrowsmith (has done a great deal of work with Tower Hamlets school system)
4. Deborah Waller and Martin Davies at The Royal Institution
5. CAPD - Center for Academic & Professional Development, QMUL (media training, public engagement training, etc. and working such items into grant proposals)
6. The brand new Mathematics Hall at the Science Museum

There is a project available for every disposition, however... here is my final piece of advice for you:

Go out of your comfort zone! Some of the most interesting mathematical opportunities start from unusual beginnings.