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**Holt, Freudenthal Institute and Wisconsin Center for Education Research Partner in MiC Revision**

**Austin, Texas – April 10, 2003**– Holt, Rinehart and Winston — a leading publisher of textbooks and educational materials for grades six through 12 — announced today that the newly-opened Freudenthal Institute – USA (FiUS) will revise Holt’s Mathematics in Context® (MiC) curriculum in cooperation with the Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER). Holt president, Judy Fowler, also congratulated the FiUS for the launch of its US-based office that opened at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on March 31, 2003.

The revision of MiC is the result of an ongoing partnership between the WCER, the Freudenthal Institute and Holt. MiC is a middle school mathematics curriculum that uses realistic context and interesting problems to stimulate mathematical thinking and encourage student discovery on the path to sound and significant mathematical reasoning. The National Science Foundation (NSF) partially funded the initial development of MiC citing its compliance with National Council of Teachers of Mathematics standards for mathematics achievement and pedagogical design. The revision to be completed in 2005 will also be partially funded by the NSF.

Ongoing US partnership projects, such as the revision of MiC, generated the need for the Freudenthal Institute to open a United States-based Freudenthal Institute (FiUS) headed by Dr. Jan de Lange, Freudenthal Institute chair and FiUS director, and Dr. David Webb, executive director. The Freudenthal Institute is part of the Utrecht University in the Netherlands, founded in 1971 by German/Dutch writer, pedagogue and mathematician, Professor Hans Freudenthal.

“The Freudenthal Institute is recognized throughout the world for their leading mathematics research and curriculum development,” said Judy Fowler, president of Holt. “Holt is excited to partner with Dr. de Lange, Dr. Webb and the Freudenthal research team in bringing innovative mathematics curricula to US schools.”

“FiUS will be a fitting legacy to the visionary collaboration initiated by Dr. Tom Romberg and Dr. Jan de Lange over a decade ago,” said Dr. Webb, executive director of FiUS. “This partnership between the Wisconsin Center for Education Research and the Freudenthal Institute will bring international advances and unique opportunities in mathematics education to students, teachers, and the

research community. Given the challenges our schools face in preparing the next generation of mathematically literate citizens, this could not have come at a better time.”

“We are delighted that our collaboration with Professor Romberg has been so successful that it has created a need for a FiUS,” said Dr. de Lange. “Especially in light of the international developments with respect to mathematical literacy and national attention to ‘No Child Left Behind,’ our expertise on literacy and assessment can be of great value.”

Dr. de Lange and Dr. Webb will be featured speakers at a special invitation-only event on April 10 during the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. de Lange and Dr. Webb will also speak in “Ask the Expert” sessions in the Holt exhibit booth on April 10 and April 11 during the NCTM trade show.

#### **About Holt, Rinehart and Winston**

Holt, Rinehart and Winston is a leading publisher of textbooks and educational materials for grades six through 12 and is part of Harcourt Education, a global education provider serving students and teachers in PreK through grade 12, adult learners, and readers of all ages. The Harcourt companies are Harcourt School Publishers; Holt, Rinehart and Winston; Harcourt Supplemental Publishers (including the Rigby and Steck-Vaughn imprints); Harcourt Educational Measurement; The Psychological Corporation; Classroom Connect; Harcourt Canada; Harcourt Religion Publishers; and Harcourt Trade Publishers. For further information, please call (800) 992-1627 or visit [www.hrw.com](http://www.hrw.com) or [www.harcourt.com](http://www.harcourt.com).

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### **About The Freudenthal Institute**

The Freudenthal Institute is part of Utrecht University in the Netherlands and was founded in 1971 by German/Dutch writer, pedagogue and mathematician, Professor Hans Freudenthal (1905-1990). Since 1971, the Freudenthal Institute has developed a theoretical approach toward the learning and teaching of mathematics known as “Realistic Mathematics Education” which incorporates views on what mathematics is, how students learn mathematics, and how mathematics should be taught. The FiUS aims to understand and improve the teaching of arithmetic and mathematics at all levels but particularly in kindergarten, primary, secondary, and vocational education. For additional information, visit [www.fi.uu.nl](http://www.fi.uu.nl).

### **About the Wisconsin Center for Education Research**

For over 30 years, the Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER) has worked to advance knowledge and information about education in mathematics, science, and English. Dissemination of research findings and knowledge about the improvement of *practice* characterize WCER methodology. Researchers at WCER have explored how young people think and learn which leads to development of useful curricula and training materials to help students improve their practice skills and subsequently, learning success. WCER shares its research knowledge with schools throughout the country that seek methods for effective practice and learning skills. For additional information visit [www.wcer.wisc.edu](http://www.wcer.wisc.edu).

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