

1158-01-364 **Agnes Tuska*** (agnest@csufresno.edu). *George Polya's influence on mathematics competitions in the USA*. Preliminary report.

Soon after George Polya settled in Palo Alto, he published his most widely read book *How to Solve It: A New Aspect of Mathematical Method*, and started to collaborate on running a high school mathematics competition at Stanford University. Polya also served in constructing the first post-war contest for the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition, and was a member of the Putnam Prize Committee from 1948 until 1950. Polya's international perspective to learning and doing mathematics made a palpable impact on the justifications for conducting mathematics competitions, the types of problems posed, and the ways to effectively prepare for the competitions. I plan to highlight samples of this impact in the USA during my presentation. (Received March 03, 2020)