Introducing the New Members of the AMATYC Board

The results of the 2015 elections are in and there are three new faces serving on AMATYC’s Board.

- Michelle Duda, Associate Professor at Columbus (OH) State CC, has been elected secretary. She is active in her affiliate OhioMATYC, having served recently as secretary and awards coordinator.
- David Tannor, Program Director of Math and Science at Baker College (MI) Online, is the new AMATYC treasurer. He has served AMATYC previously as editor of both the AMATYC News and MathAMATYC Educator.
- Jon Oaks, Professor of Mathematics at Macomb (MI) CC, has been AMATYC’s Professional Development Coordinator. He will now be the Midwest Vice-President.

Your new AMATYC Board is looking forward to a productive two years!

Denver Conference 2016 –
See you there!

by Erica Hastert, Denver Local Events Coordinator

As the temperatures cool down in Colorado, ski season is heating up... with lots of mile high math! Green and black diamond slopes, downhill and temperature gradients, vector fields of snowflakes, and Snowcat creations of concavity await you in Colorado next year!

In the friendly mile-high city of Denver, we’re ready to welcome you to our Rocky Mountain math scene! Maybe skiing isn’t your thing, and that’s okay. Denver offers fantastic museums (check out the DAM!), great hiking and biking (trails and rentals abound), and delicious sustenance to keep you energized. Downtown Denver is the perfect place in which to be immersed in math - via the plentiful architectural styles, through the varying velocities of the multiple modes of transportation, and more than anything else, via conversation and communion with your talented and lively colleagues. Elevate your mathematical knowledge with us at the AMATYC Annual Conference November 17 – 20, 2016!

The 2016-2017 AMATYC Executive Board

Front Row (L to R): Liz Hylton, Northwest VP, Clatsop CC; Nicole Lang, Central VP, North Hennepin CC; Jane Tanner, President, Onondaga CC; Nancy Sattler, Past President, Terra CC; Kathryn Rozak, Southwest VP, Coconino CC; Nancy Rivers, Southeast VP, Wake Technical CC

Back Row (L to R): Jim Ham, President-Elect, Delta College; Dan Fahringer, Mid-Atlantic VP, Harrisburg Area CC; Jonathan Oaks, Midwest VP, Macomb CC; Michelle Duda, Secretary, Columbus State CC; Ernie Danforth, Northeast VP, Corning CC; Mark Harbison, West VP, Sacramento City College

Not able to attend: David Tannor, Treasurer, Baker College

A beautiful view of the Denver skyline (VISIT DENVER)
Teaching is in my blood. I have always wanted to be a teacher and this is thanks to some great teachers that I have had throughout my schooling. In fifth and sixth grade, Miss Gibson (who became Mrs. Vogel) inspired a deep love for mathematics within my soul. She made me appreciate the beauty and logic of math.

Of course, I would become a math teacher even though many other fields would have been much more lucrative. In 1978 I was so proud to enter my first 7th grade math classroom in the school district from which I had graduated. I worked with a team of teachers who had taught me a few years earlier. Yes, I had problems as any first-year teacher would. But, I grew to appreciate the networking that was available through local and state professional organizations that I joined.

My first teaching jobs were one-year positions. I was extremely fortunate to have met people who could advise me and put me into contact with job openings. In 1982, a department chair at Onondaga called and asked me to apply for an open position in the Business Department where I would be teaching data processing. I went in for the interview and was hired. I now was a college professor! Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be teaching at the college level.

This was a dream job but I wasn’t teaching a subject that I truly loved. Within two years, I connected with Onondaga’s Mathematics Department and found that there was need for someone to teach a Statistics II class for the summer. The class was mine! I loved it. This developed into teaching at least one course for the Math Department every semester.

A few years later, I was approached by Joe Browne at Onondaga to serve as The AMATYC Review’s production manager. Joe was starting his first three-year term as editor but needed someone to help with production. Not knowing what I was getting myself into, I agreed to the position, and because of this role, I became a member of AMATYC and attended my first conference in Indianapolis in 1992. I was introduced to the AMATYC Board as being a “Business Faculty person, but really was one of us.” Becoming active in AMATYC definitely helped me convince my college’s administration to switch my position to the Mathematics Department in 1996.

At the same time I became a member of AMATYC, I decided to join NYSMATYC. Again, the networking and friendships made were invaluable to me. In a few years, I found myself on NYSMATYC’s board and became president 1999-2000. This enabled me to continue the networking with other affiliate presidents and serve as a delegate to AMATYC’s Delegate Assembly. As the years progressed, I was looking forward to seeing my new friends at the conference as well as making new ones.

In 2006, I was asked to run for the position of AMATYC’s Northeast Vice President. My mind immediately went back to 1992 and my first appearance before “THE BOARD.” Would I be able to hold such a position of authority? Would I be able to represent the Northeast as well as some of our past vice presidents (in some cases who even went on to become AMATYC President)? Would someone look up to me as I looked up to the board members in 1992? These were just some of the questions that ran through my mind.

Fast forward to present day. It was an honor to represent the Northeast on the board for six years. I learned so much and never regretted the decision that I made all those years ago to become involved in our organization. Becoming AMATYC President-Elect in 2014 was something that I never dreamed possible. Little did I know that 23 years after attending my first AMATYC conference, I would be on the receiving end of the president’s gavel at the closing session of the New Orleans conference. A lot has happened during those 23 years and I am extremely honored to serve as AMATYC president for the next two years.

I now have some questions for you. Who will you tell about AMATYC and invite to become a member? What will you do if someone asks you to become a regional representative on a committee? What will you do if you are asked to run for a spot on AMATYC’s board? Will you encourage someone from your institution to experience an AMATYC conference? What can you do to remain active in AMATYC in addition to attending the conference?

Mrs. Vogel lit the fire for mathematics within me back in the 1960s. Many people have been at my side since I started teaching in the late 1970s. They have seen to it that the fire continued to burn inside of me. Will you inspire the love for mathematics within one of your students? Will you carry the torch forward to the next generation of teachers and have them become active in the only organization that promotes and increases awareness of mathematics in the first two years of college? My wish is that our fire will stay lit for an awfully long time!
At the 41st Annual AMATYC Conference, four exemplary teachers received the Teaching Excellence Award. This award is given in odd-numbered years to AMATYC members who are outstanding two-year college mathematics instructors. Teaching excellence is the main focus of the award.

The level of professionalism exhibited by each nominee made the work of the Teaching Excellence Committee very challenging. It is an honor to be nominated for this prestigious award and EVERY nominee is an outstanding two-year college mathematics instructor. Each of the four awardees is very active professionally and has made important contributions to mathematics or mathematics education at a two-year college. Ongoing professional development and leadership characterize all of the awardees.

The four Teaching Excellence Award winners for 2015 are Oiyin Pauline Chow, Diane Koenig, ViAnn Olson, and Laura Watkins. Each awardee received a medal from AMATYC, and a check for $500 from Pearson.

**Oiyin Pauline Chow** started as an instructor at Harrisburg Area CC in 1984. Fast forward 31 years and she has achieved the rank of Senior Professor, having positively affected the lives of her students and colleagues. Her teaching excellence has been recognized with many accolades, such as the “Hall of Fame” and the “Outstanding Contribution to Mathematics Education” awards from the Pennsylvania Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award, as well as being recognized for “Exemplary Teaching in Developmental Education” by the Pennsylvania Association of Developmental Educators.

Pauline has been an active member of AMATYC for many years. She is a flamboyant and frequent presenter at our annual conferences, as well as having served as AMATYC Secretary in 2009-2011. She is a consulting colleague for Project ACCCESS and now is the program’s coordinator. Her involvement in AMATYC extends beyond the classroom. She is active in AMATYC, serving in the presidential cycle as well as newsletter editor. ViAnn serves as a consultant through AMATYC’s Student Mentoring program for future teachers. She is a frequent presenter at AMATYC, and has attended other professional conferences such as those for AMATYC, MNADE, and NCTM.

**Laura Watkins** has been a mathematics educator at Glendale CC since 2002, teaching developmental as well as the upper level mathematics courses. She is adept at developing and using many different ways of presenting material to her students, including instructional technologies, chat rooms, and group participation.

Anne Dudley, her nominator notes that “Watkins is an excellent teacher, leader and citizen of the mathematics community. I believe that her teaching accomplishments, her contributions to AMATYC through activities that aim to promote excellence in teaching and Project ACCCESS, and her contribution to the development of local teachers make her an excellent candidate for and very deserving of the 2015 AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award.”

Laura is the Immediate Past President of ArizMATYC and a frequent workshop presenter at their conferences. Her first taste of AMATYC was when its Annual Conference was held in Phoenix in 2002. She was in Cohort 1 of Project ACCCESS and is now the program’s coordinator. Her involvement in AMATYC continues with membership in a number of committees.

**Diane Koenig** started her career at Rock Valley College in Rockford, IL as the Math Supervisor for the Personalized Learning Center in 1981. Just three years later after completing her master’s degree in Applied Mathematics, she became the first female mathematics faculty member there. Her nominator, Paul McCombs, wrote “I have incredible admiration and respect for her and her teaching. As a mathematics educator myself, I have so much confidence in her teaching and effectiveness that I had my own daughter enroll into her classes.”

Outside the classroom, Diane has been very active in Illinois’s affiliate IMACC and AMATYC, currently serving as editor for both newsletters, the IMACC ConneXion and the AMATYC News. She is a presenter at both IMACC and AMATYC conferences and serves as an affiliate delegate to AMATYC’s delegate assembly.

In addition to the 2015 AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award, Diane has previously been awarded the NISOD as well as IMACC’s Teaching Excellence awards in 2005 and 2006 respectively.

Like many others, **ViAnn Olson** started her career by teaching mathematics at the high school level and then came to Rochester Community and Technical College in 1988. According to her summary of student evaluations, if you ask her what math she teaches, she will reply that she teaches students who dislike math. Her schedule routinely has liberal arts math classes and courses for the elementary education majors, as well as a variety of other courses.

ViAnn’s nominator, Brenda Frame says “So often, I hear a student say that they had Olson as a teacher and she was tough and insistent that they meet the goals of the class, and then they would say she was the teacher that taught them the most: how to study, how to learn to get the most out of the class, how to remember what they learned, how to apply to practical life-time examples, how to expand their knowledge and go on with more mathematics than they had ever planned to do.”

She was recognized in 2009 as the Outstanding Educator from the Rochester Area Math Science Partnership and in 2014 as the recipient of the MinnMATYC Distinguished Teaching Award. ViAnn’s involvement extends beyond the classroom. She is active in MinnMATYC, serving in the presidential cycle as well as newsletter editor. ViAnn serves as a mentor through MinnMATYC’s Student Mentoring program for future teachers. She is a frequent presenter at MinnMATYC, and has attended other professional conferences such as those for AMATYC, MNADE, and NCTM.
2015 Herb Gross Presidential Awards Announced

Congratulations to Philip H. Mahler and Charles (Pat) McKeague, recipients of 2015 Herb Gross Presidential Awards. Renamed in 2014 for AMATYC’s founding president, Herb Gross, this award recognizes exceptional achievement and service to the profession and to AMATYC. Both Phil and Pat exemplify the nature and intent of the Herb Gross Presidential Award, devoting their careers to improving mathematics education and volunteering many years of exceptional service to AMATYC. President Sattler honored Phil and Pat each with this prestigious award during the 2015 Annual Conference in New Orleans.

Phil Mahler served on the AMATYC Executive Board from 1997 through 2005 as Northeast Region Vice President, then as President (2001-2003). After majoring in modern languages at Assumption College, then serving in the Navy in Key West, FL, Phil discovered his interest in mathematics. He earned a Masters of Arts in the Teaching of Mathematics from the University of Florida. Phil taught at Henry Ford CC in Michigan before returning to New England. He has been teaching at Middlesex CC in Bedford, MA, since 1982, and continues to volunteer his time behind the scenes to numerous AMATYC projects.

After teaching high school in the early 1970s, Pat McKeague taught for 32 years at Cuesta College in San Luis Obispo, CA. He is an accomplished author of numerous textbooks and founded MathTV in 2007. Because of his online work, Pat has educated students from around the country. He has been a frequent conference speaker, including serving as a keynote speaker for AMATYC as well as for affiliate meetings. More recently, Pat has been active in the AMATYC Foundation.

AMATYC Calendar of Events

Check the AMATYC website, www.amatyc.org, for information on conferences and meetings from other organizations.

February 19, 2016 GMATYC Joint Meeting with Georgia Perimeter College Math Conference, Georgia Perimeter College-Decatur Campus, Decatur, GA. Contact: Margaret Ehrlich, margaret.ehrlich@gpc.edu.

February 19-20, 2016 VMATYC/VCCS Peer Group Meeting and Conference, Central Virginia CC, Lynchburg, VA. Website: www.vmatyc.org

February 25-27, 2016 TexMATYC Annual Conference, Houston, TX. Website: www.texmatyc.org

March 4, 2016 AlaMATYC Conference, Shelton State CC, Tuscaloosa, AL. Website: http://alamaty.wix.com/alamaty

March 4-5, 2016 CMC-South Annual Conference, Kellogg West Conference Center & Hotel (near Cal Poly-Pomona), Pomona, CA. Contact: Maribel Lopez, Lopez.maribel10@gmail.com

March 10-11, 2016 NCMATYC Conference, Southwestern CC, Sylva, NC. Website: http://ncmatyc.matyc.org/conferences/2016ncmatyc-conference-southwest-cc/

March 11, 2016 SOCAMATYC 2016 Annual Conference, Spartanburg CC, Spartanburg, SC. Website: www.socamatyc.org/

April 1, 2016 INMATYC Spring Conference, Indiana University/Purdue University at Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN. Contact: Becky Pohl, bchanleyl@ivytech.edu. Website: http://irmc.matyc.org/

April 1-2, 2016 TMATYC Annual Conference, Southwest Tennessee CC, Memphis, TN. Website: www.tn.matyc.org

April 1-2, 2016 OhioMATYC Spring Meeting and Conference, Hueston Woods State Park, College Corner, OH. Website: www.ohiomaty.org

April 8-9, 2016 ArizMATYC/MAA Joint Meeting, Northern Arizona University (hosted by Coconino CC), Flagstaff, AZ. Website: www.arizmatyc.org/wp/

Continued on page 7
ANets

As a result of the 2015 Spring Board Meeting, the Division/Department Issues Committee (DDIC) was disbanded and four ANets (AMATYC Networks) were formed, each with a focus that fits into the mission of AMATYC. The new ANets will be Division/Department Leadership, Adjunct Faculty Issues, International Mathematics, and Mathematics for Liberal Arts.

Four AMATYC members were appointed ANet leaders at the Fall Board Meeting before the conference in New Orleans.

The Division/Department Leadership ANet will be led by Christine Mirbaha, a Professor of Mathematics at The CC of Baltimore County (CCBC), where she has taught for over 25 years. She has held several positions at CCBC including Dundalk Mathematics Coordinator, Dundalk Mathematics Department Chair, and Dundalk Developmental Mathematics Coordinator. Prior to CCBC, she taught mathematics at what is now Towson University and in the Baltimore City Public School system. She has been active in AMATYC's Division/Department Issues Committee for the past several years. Christine is active in her affiliate, MMATYC, currently serving as Secretary and Affiliate Delegate.

Judy King is the new leader of the Adjunct Faculty Issues ANet. In her nearly 20 years as an adjunct teaching developmental math students at NHTI-Concord (NH's CC), Judy's search for ways to help her students better understand fundamentals has taken her from a bachelor's (Keene State College, NH) to a master's (Boston University) and beyond. She has been involved in NEMATYC as a presenter and conference chair, in AMATYC as delegate, presider, round table co-host, adjunct subcommittee co-chair, as well as international events in Istanbul and Oundle, England.

The International Mathematics ANet will be led by Steve Krevisky, Professor of Mathematics at Middlesex CC, in Middletown, CT, since 1985. He is a frequent presenter at international mathematics and statistics conferences, such as ICME and ICOTS. He was the recipient of two travel grants to attend the ICME conferences in 2000 and 2004, and also of an AMATYC mini-grant to attend the ICME in South Korea in 2012. Steve has also been an active participant in past ICME Discussion Groups on Two-year colleges and other Tertiary institutions. He has been the co-chair of the international math education subcommittee of the Division/Department Issues Committee of AMATYC, as well as of the previously existing ANet on international mathematics education. He has also been a frequent presenter, presider, and delegate to AMATYC conferences. He is a past president of both the MATYCONN and NEMATYC affiliates, and is one of the system coordinators of the Connecticut annual student math contest. In addition, in Spring 2013, Steve received the Middlesex CC Educational Excellence and Distinguished Service Award. This enabled him to go to a conference in Mozambique and give workshops for teachers in Nigeria in summer 2014.

Fary Sami is the new leader of the Mathematics for Liberal Arts ANet and is a Professor of Mathematics within the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Division at Harford CC in Bel Air, MD. Fary is a recipient of NISOD (National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development) and is a Past President of AMATYC.

The Continuing Search for Teaching Excellence

In AMATYC, as soon as one group of colleagues is recognized for their excellence in teaching, we start looking for the next set of awardees. Four TE awardees were announced at the recent New Orleans conference, and each region selected a representative for the 2017 AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award Committee.

The members of the committee are:
- AMATYC President-Elect - Jim Ham
- Northeast - Nancy Fleming
- Mid-Atlantic - Diane L. Benner
- Southeast - Frank Monterisi
- Midwest - Paul McCombs
- Central - Dale Johanson
- Southwest - Sandra K. Williams
- Northwest - Judy Atkinson
- West - Mary Beard
- Adjunct Member-at-large - Kate Danforth

Over the next year, committee members will be encouraging nominations for the TE Award from the entire AMATYC membership.

The Teaching Excellence Award is intended for AMATYC members whose primary assigned duties are the delivery of instruction and who have made outstanding contributions to mathematics, statistics, or mathematics education at a two-year college or in an associate degree granting institution of higher education that is not a two-year college. Nominees must have taught at least one relevant course since the presentation of the Teaching Excellence Award in New Orleans. Nominees must have a minimum of five (5) years of full-time equivalent teaching experience at their institution. Individuals can receive the award only once. Teaching excellence is the main focus of the award and in reviewing the nominees, the Committee will focus on:

- Instructional Effectiveness and Support of Students (innovative teaching strategies, alternative assessment methods, curriculum development, etc.)
- Professional Involvement and Professional Development/Renewal Activities (active participation in professional organizations, speeches, articles, conferences, etc.)
- Interaction with Colleagues (sharing and discussing ideas with other colleagues)
- Service to Departments/Division/College (active contributor to College community)

Information on what to include in a nomination packet is available on the AMATYC website. The deadline for applications is December 9, 2016. If you have questions about the award or the nomination process, please contact the TE Award Committee chair, Jim Ham (jaham@delta.edu), your AMATYC Regional Vice President, or your region’s committee representative.
AMATYC Appointments

Stefan Baratto  
Mathematics and its Applications for Careers, Chair  

Stefan Baratto has been teaching at Clackamas CC, in Oregon, since 2000. Stefan is veteran teacher with more than 25 years of experiences ranging from middle schools through universities in Oregon, Maine, Missouri, and New York. He is currently the President of ORMATYC, the Oregon affiliate, recently served three terms as AMATYC’s North-west Vice President, and has presented at numerous conferences. Stefan is also the lead author of the Hutchison Series in Mathematics, a series of developmental math textbooks (McGraw-Hill Education).

Julie Hanson  
Statistics Committee, Chair  

Julie Hanson earned an M.S. in Statistics from Iowa State University, a M.Ed. in Education from Iowa State University, and a B.A. in Mathematics with a Statistics Concentration from Saint Olaf College. She is currently a Professor of Mathematics at Clinton CC in Plattsburgh, NY, a college of the State University of New York (SUNY) system. Julie is currently a member of the AMATYC/ASA Joint Committee (AMATYC’s Joint Committee with the American Statistical Association). Julie looks forward to working with fellow AMATYC members who teach statistics.

Scott Peterson  
Mathematics Intensive/College Mathematics, Chair  

Scott L. Peterson is a Senior Instructor in Mathematics at Oregon State University. His primary teaching responsibilities are Calculus and College Algebra. Scott first attended AMATYC in 2009 and became the NW Regional Representative for the Mathematics Intensive/College Mathematics Committee. He has given several presentations on the Calculus Concept Inventory in past conferences. Scott has also been active with ORMATYC, the Oregon affiliate where he has been attending and giving presentations since 2003. For the past three years Scott has been involved in redesigning and implementing the College Algebra course at OSU. His educational interests lie in using visualization and multiple representations to promote students’ conceptual understanding and to develop connections between mathematical concepts that students often compartmentalize.

Dan Petrak  
Innovative Teaching and Learning Committee, Chair  

Dan is an Associate Professor of Mathematics and Faculty Liaison to Distance Education at Des Moines Area CC in Ankeny, Iowa. He has been passionately researching and implementing new technologies and methods into his math courses for the past twenty years. Dan is active in professional development by presenting at conferences, designing and implementing faculty training, and redesigning online and face-to-face math courses. Formerly, Dan was a high school math and computer science teacher and a co-author of the Iowa Model Core Curriculum, which emphasizes a deep conceptual and deep procedural approach to learning mathematics. Dan earned his B.S. degree in Mathematics and Secondary Education from Buena Vista University, and Masters in School Mathematics from Iowa State University.

Dan has been attending and presenting at AMATYC conferences since 2005. As an active member of the Teaching and Learning Committee, he attributes much of his professional growth to his interactions and learning from the colleagues on this committee. Dan wants to encourage continuous innovation in the teaching of learning of mathematics. If you have any ideas or questions for Dan, don’t hesitate to contact him at dgpetrak@dmacc.edu.

John T. Smith  
Research in Mathematics at Two-Year Colleges Committee, Chair  

John T. Smith is an Associate Professor at Pellissippi State CC in Knoxville, TN, and a late-stage doctoral student in mathematics education at the University of Tennessee. Teaching assignments include developmental mathematics, mathematics for pre-service elementary teachers, survey of mathematics, and statistics. Prior to joining Pellissippi State, he worked in both urban and rural settings at the secondary level as a mathematics teacher and soccer coach, working with at-risk student populations.

Prior to his 2003 reentry into the academic world at the age of 48, John had three unsuccessful attempts at college in the 1970’s, and nearly three decades of experiences in the school of life that included stints as a soccer player, soccer coach, construction worker, cook, waiter, bartender, bouncer, bar manager, bar owner, real estate agent, real estate appraiser, mortgage loan officer, single parent...and a few more things he can’t remember. He holds a B.A in Spanish, a B.S. in Mathematics, and a MAT in mathematics education from Piedmont College in Demorest, GA. As a reformed math-hater, he now sees himself as a math therapist for the non-math major.

Continued on page 7
AMATYC Appointments

➢ AMATYC Appointments, Continued from page 6

John has been a member of RMETYC since 2011. Research interests include affective and equity issues in community college mathematics education. A primary goal he has for the committee is to encourage and provide support for active community college faculty working on research projects, especially those attempting to complete dissertation studies while carrying full time teaching loads.

Paula Wilhite
Developmental Mathematics Committee, Chair

Paula is Professor of Mathematics and Division Chair of Mathematics, Physics, and Engineering at Northeast Texas Community College where she has been a charter faculty member for 30 years. She has served as President of TexMATYC, Chair of the Resolutions Committee for the Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA), Chair of the Nominating Committee for TCCTA, and Chair of the Election Committee for TCCTA. In addition, she served as a member of the 2011 AMATYC Conference Committee, the Texas Partners in P-16 Mathematics at the University of Texas Charles A. Dana Center, and the Course Design Team for the New Mathways Project. She has been an active member of AMATYC for 25 years and was a member of the Organizational Assessment Committee and the Standards Revision Advisory Committee. Wilhite was awarded the 2004 TexMATYC Teaching Excellence Award and the 2013 AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award.

➢ ANets, Continued from page 5

National Development) Excellence Award in 2014. She served as a co-chair of the International Education Subcommittee of the Division/Department Issues Committee of AMATYC through November 2015. Fary has contributed several articles to the MathAMATYC Educator. She also served as a member of the editorial team for the problem section of MathAMATYC Educator from its inception through May 2014.

Be sure to consider joining one of the four ANets as well as the eight academic committees: Developmental Mathematics, Innovative Teaching and Learning, Mathematics and its Applications for Careers, Mathematics Intensive/College Mathematics, Placement and Assessment, Research in Mathematics Education at Two-Year Colleges, Statistics, and Teacher Preparation.

➢ Calendar of Events, Continued from page 4

April 8-10, 2016 NYSSMATYC Annual Conference, Kingston, NY. Website: www.nysmatyc.org

May 20-21, 2016 NMMATYC Conference, UNM-Valencia, Los Lunas, NM. Website: www.nm.matyc.org

September 24, 2016 LaMsMATYC Conference, Delgado CC, New Orleans, LA. Website: http://lamsmatyc.wix.com/

Student Mathematics League
by Steve Hundert

Round 1 competition has ended however grading and reporting of the results is ongoing. The testing window for Round 2 runs from Friday February 12 through Saturday March 6.

The 2014/2015 winner of the Charles Miller Memorial Scholarship, Minwoo Yoo, was announced by Michael Hirsh of Pearson Education at the Saturday morning breakfast in New Orleans.

The Faculty Math League has been renamed the Steve Blasberg Faculty Math League in recognition of Steve's long contribution to the student and faculty math leagues, and his creation of the Faculty Math League. The competition took place on Friday afternoon at the AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans. The much coveted plexiglass trophy passed from the Central Region to this year's champion, the Midwest Region.

In many states changes are occurring at community colleges. Some states are eliminating community colleges and in other states community colleges are offering bachelors degrees in some fields. In response to these changes some of the student math league eligibility rules have been updated. The new rules read as follows:

♦ Eligibility to compete: Colleges may enter either a team of five or more students or individual students if fewer than five students wish to compete. A student is eligible to compete if the student has not earned a two-year degree (or higher) or if the student has not achieved junior standing (or higher) at a four-year institution. Part-time students are eligible. A committee, including the SML Coordinator, shall be appointed to approve eligibility.

♦ Eligibility for the Grand Prize: In addition to meeting the general eligibility requirements the student must have successfully completed a minimum of 12 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) of college course work by the end of the second exam, including courses in progress at the time of the second exam which are completed successfully. Students enrolled in a four-year institution or in high school at the time of the competition are NOT eligible for the grand prize, nor are previous recipients of the grand prize. Official transcripts and a letter signed by the student and local moderator certifying eligibility will be required in order to award the prize.
Let the good times roll. That’s the best way to describe the 41st Annual AMATYC Conference in New Orleans, LA. The conference theme was “Jazz It Up” and that’s exactly what attendees did. From outstanding conference sessions and learning opportunities to visiting museums, eating at amazing restaurants, and enjoying the French Quarter nightlife, everyone had a blast while in the Big Easy! There’s no place in the world quite like New Orleans and this AMATYC conference stood out as one of our best! Over 1,500 members and guests attended the conference and the atmosphere was a joyful one!

The conference was held at the Sheraton Hotel on historic Canal Street, only steps away from the French Quarter. Keven Dockter, along with other conference committee members, did a fantastic job planning the conference. Judy Williams, program coordinator organized an excellent program with topics appealing to everyone.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Local Events Committee met and had a wonderful time preparing the conference bags for attendees. Following an afternoon of diligent work, the committee had dinner at Mandina’s, a longtime New Orleans favorite local restaurant which had been flooded during Katrina.

Throughout the day, the hallways were filled as participants looked for sessions covering their favorite topics. Everyone enjoyed connecting and visiting with friends. The Local Events Committee wore Mardi Gras vests and offered help to attendees throughout the day.

On Thursday morning, the Grand Ballroom was filled with members for the opening ceremony. Nancy Sattler welcomed everyone and thanked all who worked to make the conference a success. Pat McKeague received the Herb Gross Lifetime Achievement Award and our keynote speaker for the event was was Shirley Malcom. Shirley is head of Education and Human Resources Programs at the American Association for the Advancement of Science and works to increase access to education and careers in the STEM fields. Her topic “Making Up for Lost Time—Mathematics and Two-year Colleges” was inspiring.

Immediately following the opening session, the exhibit hall was officially opened and attendees visited a variety of exhibits from vendors and publishers. It was exciting to get a glimpse of new textbooks available for learning mathematics and also to experience new technology first-hand. Our Local Committee hosted an evening out in the Faubourg Marigny District. The group ate at the Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro, a contemporary jazz club and restaurant. McGraw-Hill also hosted an event at Pat O’Brien’s on the River. Traditional New Orleans cuisine and cocktails were enjoyed by many at this superb location. AMATYC forums and Research Sessions were also held that night.

Wednesday afternoon found many attendees lined up waiting to register and receive their materials for the conference. The Hospitality Room was open and there was an air of excitement in the room. Thanks to Pearson Education, we were able to offering delicious cups of gumbo and muffalettas, the best sandwich in the city. This gave members a taste of the mouth-watering Cajun specialities awaiting them in the city. That night, we also discovered that making Mardi Gras “bead” dog necklaces would be a big hit.

Thursday morning found everyone up and ready to attend sessions.

Friday found everyone again attending sessions, soaking up information to take back to their institutions and to use in their classrooms. On Friday at lunch time, attendees grabbed boxed lunches and gathered for Regional Meetings. Each region enjoyed sharing affiliate news and accomplishments. Friday evening found participants attending the Ignite Session sponsored by the Innovative Teaching and
New Orleans 2015

Learning Committee. This was AMATYC’s 3rd Ignite and speakers were given five minutes each to share their passion! Friday evening also found many attendees at the House of Blues for an evening of fun hosted by Pearson Education.

Our two featured speakers for the conference were Elayne Martin-Gay and Jeffrey Weaver. Elayne’s topic was “Attaining Student Success – or – Tales from a Summer Break” then Jeffrey spoke on “Creating an Opportunity Naturally Critical, Effective Teaching Strategy.” Both were excellent speakers.

Saturday afternoon the conference atmosphere was winding down. Many now found their way to experience “big” attractions in the Big Easy. The French Quarter, National World War II Museum, St. Louis Cathedral, the Garden District, and Frenchmen Street were top on everyone’s list. Attendees enjoyed visiting amazing museums and art galleries, exploring the diverse neighborhoods in New Orleans, eating beignets at Café du Monde, or feasting on a shrimp po’boy.

On Sunday morning, the last of the sessions were held. At the closing ceremony, President Sattler wrapped up the conference. Everyone agreed that meeting people and sharing ideas were truly the highlights of the conference.

Our Local Events Committee would like to thank Pearson Education for their generous donation to the Hospitality Room and also the affiliates who donated money for refreshments for the room. Our service project at the conference was a huge success. Two bins overflowing with toiletries and clothing items were collected along with $150 to help homeless kids in New Orleans. Thanks AMATYC members for having a heart which cares for others. These items will make a meaningful difference.

Saturday morning found the Local Events Committee up bright and early preparing the tables for breakfast. The committee placed Jazz CDs at each chair so that everyone could remember the theme of the conference, “Jazz It Up.” The Saturday Awards Breakfast Session was outstanding. Philip H. Mahler received the Herb Gross Lifetime Achievement Award. Tim Chartier, Associate Professor at Davidson College, spoke on “When Life is Linear: From Computer Graphics to Data Mining.” Tim demonstrated fascinating applications of linear algebra suitable for math and science students. His presentation was captivating!

I personally would like to thank all of you for attending. I had a blast visiting and being with you. It was fun to “Jazz It Up” in New Orleans together. Please make plans to attend the 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver. While there, we will experience “Math at a Mile High.”

Yes, thank you all who presided at sessions and workshops at the conference in New Orleans! The information which tracks and provides feedback from attendees is crucial to continue to improve the quality of future conferences.

Does presenting at the Annual AMATYC Conference make a difference? Consider the following information to answer that question. After the New Orleans Opening Session, Patricia Parker, from Germanna CC in Fredericksburg, VA, was asked about her first day at her first AMATYC conference. “My brain is about to explode,” was the response from the leader of the Virginia Community College System’s Math Pathways Projects promoting student success in all courses from arithmetic to calculus. Her brain continued to be stuffed with valuable ideas from the outstanding presentations during the next three days.

Even at the airport, attendees were saying “Thanks for a great conference.” In the past weeks, emails have arrived with praise for presentations and the chance to network with colleagues. Those who requested further information were directed to the conference proceedings link for posted materials.

These thank you messages belong to you. Continue by helping your colleagues climb to new mathematical heights in Denver. The deadline for submitting proposals for the 42nd AMATYC Conference is February 1, 2016. If a proposal was submitted, make sure your email receipt arrived. If a message is not received within a few days after submission, contact the AMATYC Office immediately to verify that the proposal was submitted correctly to be considered for the program. Letters of Invitation to present will be emailed in April.

Also, thank you to all who presided at sessions and workshops at the conference. The information which tracks and provides feedback from attendees is crucial to continue to improve the quality of future conferences.

Please consider presiding at the 42nd Annual Conference in Denver, CO, November 17 - 20, 2016, by submitting an application today at www.amatyc.org.
Join in the Discussion
by Jim Roznowski, AMATYC Past President

Every four years, the international mathematics community comes together to discuss issues shared by all mathematics educators. This year, the 13th International Congress on Mathematical Education (ICME13) will convene July 24-31, 2016, in Hamburg, Germany.

The congress program is full of interesting topics and activities. A complete list is available at the Congress website, www.icme13.org. The Discussion Group (DG) described below will be of special interest to all working with students in the first two years of college.

Current Problems and Challenges in Non-university Tertiary Mathematics Education (NTME)
Co-chairs: Jim Roznowski (USA) (jimroznowski@gmail.com)
Low-Ee Huei Wuan (Singapore) (hueiwuan@duke-nus.edu.sg)

Key questions and issues for the DG to consider

1. What challenges related to teaching, learning, assessment, and curriculum do faculty and students face that are unique in the NTME environment? What opportunities are available to NTME’s that are not present in traditional institutions? How are these challenges and opportunities being addressed within institutions or across groups of institutions?

2. What are examples of research-based promising practices that enrich mathematics programs in the environment specific to NTME? How are these programs evaluated (for example, in terms of conceptual understanding, procedural skills, cognitive and thinking skills, and in more global measures such as students’ completion of degrees)?

3. What are new developments in the assessment of student learning that are more appropriately, if not uniquely, suited to NTME’s? What are some current developments toward the constructive alignment of student learning?

4. What are examples of developments or innovations with use of technology in NTME that have leveraged the teaching and learning of mathematics? How is the impact of these innovations assessed at the institutional level?

The submission of papers that address any of the four key questions above are welcome. Deadline for submission is April 15, 2016. DG participants and presenters will not be expected to read these papers in preparation for the meetings. Presenters will distribute copies of their papers to members of the Congress attending the DG, highlight the salient features of the papers, and open the floor for discussion.

Please join your international colleagues for the discussion. See you in Hamburg.

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Your credit card information is safely stored and is charged when it is time for your membership to renew. An email notification is sent to your email box when your card is charged and your AMATYC membership will be extended an additional year. If your card expires or is lost or stolen, the office receives an error notification; you will be notified by email to contact the office to provide a new credit card number.

So the next time you renew, consider selecting the auto-renewal option. If you have questions, contact the AMATYC Office at 901.333.5643 or amatyc@amatyc.org.
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Job Board on AMATYC Website

Please remember that AMATYC will post job opportunities on its website free for institutional members and for a fee for those that are not institutional members. If your college has job vacancies, please encourage the use of the AMATYC website. This allows our members to see these open positions. Thank you to those colleges who used this option.
This year at the AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, forty-eight AMATYC Project ACCCESS Fellows participated in a series of sessions and workshops filled with great ideas and inspiration. Special thanks go to the presenters: Michael Darrell*, Jessica Lickeri*, Rob Eby*, Jessica Bernards*, Mark DeSmet*, Christy Hediger*, Tammy Louie*, Amber Rust*, Leslie Banta*, Ted Coe, Scott Adamson, and April Ström (*ACCCESS Fellows). Additionally, thanks go to the many other ACCCESS Fellows who assisted with Project ACCCESS in a variety of ways, including presiding over Project ACCCESS sessions and behind the scenes.

Cohort 11 Fellows kicked off the conference by presenting the results of the projects they worked on over the past year. Many of the ACCCESS Fellows also presented the results of their projects at the conference poster session on Friday. Cohort 12 Fellows will continue the ACCCESS tradition as they commence work on their projects to be presented at the 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver, CO.

If you, or a colleague, will be in the first three years of full-time teaching at a community college during the 2016-2017 academic year, please consider applying for Cohort 13 of the AMATYC Project ACCCESS that will meet for the first time at the 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver, CO. Details about Project ACCCESS can be found on the AMATYC website by clicking on the Project ACCCESS logo or going to the Project ACCCESS website at https://amatyc.site-ym.com/?ACCCESS.

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**Cohort 11**

Row 3: Fenecia Foster, LeeAnna Misterek, Kristine Buddemeyer, Aliza Miller, Sylvia Gutowska, Catherine Thurman, Nathalie Vega-Rhodes
Row 2: Adam Petit, Wendy Carden, Jason Boehm, Tristan Williams, Erin Kelly, Tricia Sanford, Sue Steele, America Masaros, Crystal Wiggins, Rachael Millings, Katie Mullins
Row 1: Susan Mosteller, Caroline Sampson, Paige Cudworth, Mallary DeSantis, Vernita Morgan

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**Cohort 12**

Row 3: Lawrence Choraszewski, Suzanne Lavertu, Kim Schroeder, Jessica Hoppe, Austina Fong, AJ Stachelek, Aisha Arroyo, Jordan Bertke
Row 2: Damien Adams, Xiaoying Lin, Meghan VanderMale, Karina Aliaga, Bethany Corley, Vicki Todd, Zachary Beamer, Kyle Knee, Karalyne Cook, Turi Suski, Sherri Warren
Row 1: Kathleen Yan, Michael Davis, Daniel Bielskie, Lisa Blaylock, Lingli Ni
Committee Reports

Developmental Mathematics Committee
by Linda Zientek, Chair 2011-2015, and Paula Wilhite, Chair

There were numerous excellent presentations on developmental mathematics at the conference. Thank you for your focus on the important issues of developmental mathematics.

The annual meeting of the Developmental Mathematics Committee (DMC) was held Friday, November 20 at the AMATYC 2015 Conference in New Orleans. One task the committee was charged with was to make recommendations on an existing position statement entitled “Student Learning Problems.” Committee members agreed on the following: 1) draft a modification of the position statement “Student Learning Problems” and 2) create a first draft for a position statement regarding the “Science of Learning.” Both of these drafts will be reviewed by attendees during the DMC meeting at the AMATYC 2016 conference. If you wish to assist in the revision or development of these position statements, please contact Paula Wilhite. In addition, at the committee meeting, brief overviews of current initiatives in developmental mathematics were presented by each of the following: Jack Rotman, Julie Phelps, and Brian Mercer. Linda Zientek announced that Paula Wilhite will assume responsibilities of the chair for the DMC in January 2016.

The National Developmental Mathematics Summit will be in Anaheim on March 15-16 as a preconference to the NADE Conference. Panel discussion will be led by representatives of AMATYC, NADE, the National Center for Developmental Education and other organizations.

Placement and Assessment Committee
by Behnaz Rouhani, Chair

The AMATYC conference in New Orleans offered an outstanding variety of sessions - some of which focused on placement and assessment. The Placement and Assessment Committee would like to thank those individuals who shared their ideas, thoughts and activities about placement and assessment at two-year colleges.

The Placement and Assessment Committee met during the conference to discuss placement concerns in different regions, need for brief overview of available placement tools and sample assessment rubrics, future activities and initiatives. Current plans include sponsoring a round-table as well as a themed session during the 42nd Annual AMATYC Conference in Denver.

The committee-sponsored round table in New Orleans discussed placement tools used around the nation. Attendance was excellent with over thirty participants. In addition, during the Delegate Assembly the committee’s position statement on “Time Limits for Course Prerequisites” was approved.

Would you like to share tips about assessment techniques from your classroom or placement methods used at your institution? If so, contact Behnaz Rouhani at Behnaz.rouhani@gpc.edu for more information.

AMATYC members are encouraged to join the committee by self-enrolling in the Placement and Assessment group at www.amatyc.org.

Professional Development Update
by Jon Oaks


During the “Jazz Up Your Professional Development” presentation at the 2015 AMATYC Conference in New Orleans, some AMATYC members expressed interest in an AMATYC Professional Development podcast and also more professional development opportunities for adjunct faculty. AMATYC is always working on new Professional Development Initiatives and any suggestions such as these are always welcome!

There are always many other ways for you to get involved in AMATYC. Just click on ‘Professional Development’ on the left-hand side on amatyc.org and you will see links to information about AMATYC’s Position Statement on Professional Development, Conferences, Webinars, Traveling Workshops, Publications, Project ACCCESS, Memberships, and Conferences Sponsored by Other Mathematical Organizations. Most importantly, though, is the link to ‘Request More Information.’ Any comments or suggestions sent via that form will be sent directly to the Professional Development Coordinator. The intent is to expand the professional development offerings to better serve the needs of the AMATYC membership.

➢ For information about any of AMATYC’s academic committees, visit www.amatyc.org/?page=AMATYCCommittees.
The AMATYC Delegate Assembly met during the annual conference in New Orleans, LA, November 15 - 21, 2015, and approved a new position statement on Time Limits for Course Prerequisites.

Full minutes of the meeting may be found on the AMATYC website: https://amatyc.site-ym.com/?DelegateAssembly.
Thanks For Your Support

by Jim Roznowski, AMATYC Past President and Past Chair of the AMATYC Foundation

With shouts of “dots are cool” being heard through the corridors, New Orleans was an exciting time to be part of the AMATYC Foundation. The support of members and conference attendees this year was amazing. Donations received from January 1, 2015, through the end of the conference totaled $24,004.

As we have done for the past few years, a competition was held among AMATYC regions. Patricia Johnson, Ohio Northern University, received a one-year complimentary AMATYC membership as a representative of the Midwest region which had total donations of $6,199. Kelly Vetter, Wake Technical CC, also received a one-year membership as the representative of Southeast region which had 53% of conference attendees making donations. The Foundation also awarded a complimentary discount member registration to the 2016 AMATYC Conference in Denver to Annie Sultana, Southwest Tennessee CC, as a result of a drawing from all donors.

Once again, on behalf of the AMATYC Foundation and all of AMATYC, thank you for your support this past year and especially during the New Orleans conference. We hope you will continue to value the work of the Foundation during 2016.

Your Donations at Work

The AMATYC Foundation continues to offer support to the projects and initiatives of AMATYC and mathematics taught during the first two years of college. During 2015, the Foundation approved funding for the following:

• AMATYC Project ACCCESS - $15,000
• Revision of the AMATYC Standards document - $6,100
• AMATYC TE Awardee Reunion - $1,500
• AMATYC Presidential Student Scholarship - $1,000
• Support for Joint Developmental Mathematics Summit - $2,000
• Mini Grant for Girija Nair-Hart - $750

This level of support is only possible through the contributions of AMATYC members. We hope you will continue to support the AMATYC Foundation in 2016.

AMATYC Foundation Grant Opportunities

The AMATYC Foundation has revised its grant process. Individuals or organizations may now submit proposals for funding beyond the previous $750 limit of a grant. Proposals will be accepted throughout the year as long as funds are available. Preference will be given to applicants who are or have been members of AMATYC for at least one of the past five years.

Information about the format for proposals and the submission process is available on the AMATYC website, www.amatyc.org. Please contact the Chair of the AMATYC Foundation (amatycfoundation@amatyc.org) for additional information.

The Leila and Simon Peskoff Award

The AMATYC Foundation is happy to announce the Leila and Simon Peskoff Award, made possible through a contribution to the AMATYC Foundation by Fred Peskoff, in memory of his parents. The award, a lifetime membership in AMATYC, will be given annually to an AMATYC Project ACCCESS fellow who has contributed to the education profession in the area of the mathematics taught during the first two years of college.

Information about the award is available on the Foundation page of the AMATYC website.

Nominations for the award are due by May 1. The first award will be presented at the 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver.
Focus on Affiliates: MinnMATYC
by Will Baumann, Affiliate President

MinnMATYC was formed in 1990 and the group originally met annually in the central lakes region of Minnesota. For the past 16 years MinnMATYC members have enjoyed a joint conference with the Minnesota Council of Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM). The 2016 MinnMATYC and MCTM Spring Conference will be held at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, a beautiful facility overlooking the harbor and Lake Superior. Approximately 1000 mathematics educators from all across the state of Minnesota will gather on Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30, to attend sessions, engage in conversations over shared meals, and listen to keynote speakers from NCTM and from Singapore! The current leadership of MinnMATYC includes President Will Baumann (Ridgewater College, Willmar); Past President Anne Nelson Fisher (Central Lakes College, Brainerd); Secretary Mark Omodt (Anoka-Ramsey CC, Coon Rapids); Treasurer Mary Daunis (Normandale CC, Bloomington); and Members-at-Large Becky Groseth (Anoka-Ramsey CC, Coon Rapids), Janine Goenner (Anoka-Ramsey CC, Cambridge), and Stephanie Houdek (St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud). MinnMATYC boasts three recipients of the AMATYC Teaching Excellence award: ViAnn Olson (2015), Mark Omodt (2013), and Julie Guelich (1997). MinnMATYC is the home affiliate for AMATYC Conference Coordinator, Keven Dockter and AMATYC Central Region Vice President, Nicole Lang. More information about MinnMATYC can be found at www.minnmatyc.org.