

Big Attractions in the Big Easy

by Jeff Hughes, New Orleans Local Events Coordinator



The 41st Annual AMATYC Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, is just around the corner. I know you can't wait to travel to New Orleans and immerse yourself in the culture! New Orleans is a vibrant, bursting at the seams melting pot of a city that famously inspires indulgence. You will eat, drink, listen to R&B and jazz, visit amazing museums and art galleries, and explore diverse neighborhoods. New Orleans is a unique destination, and your

visit will be memorable. I hope you are ready for a fantastic conference. The atmosphere in New Orleans is like no other.

So what are the big attractions you don't want to miss while in The Big Easy? Here's a list of the 10 best things to do while in the city for AMATYC.

1. **Frenchmen Street:** Head to lively Frenchmen Street if you want an authentic New Orleans experience. It's a popular spot for locals and is a four-block stretch of live music, bars, restaurants, and art galleries.
2. **French Quarter:** The neighborhood is the heart and the soul of the city and is also a National Historic Landmark. It is also known as Vieux Carré, and the French Quarter's main draw is famous Bourbon Street.
3. **Garden District:** Take a walking tour for a peek at some of the city's most beautiful homes.
4. **The National World War II Museum:** The museum houses an impressive collection of artifacts and educational films documenting all aspects of the war. This museum will move you, and you don't have to be a history buff to thoroughly enjoy it.
5. **Swamp Tours:** The Louisiana bayous hold a special place in the locals' hearts. There would be no New Orleans without the bayous, so take a swamp tour. Revel in the history and culture of the Cajun people and see wildlife found in the swamps and bayous.
6. **Cemetery Tours:** Among New Orleans' must-see attractions are its cemeteries. Many of the tombs are above ground to protect them from rising water levels and are embellished with ornate designs inspired by French and Spanish architecture. The cemeteries are known as "cities of the dead."
7. **St. Louis Cathedral:** The centerpiece of the French Quarter is the St. Louis Cathedral built in the early 1700's. It is one of the city's most recognizable landmarks and is the oldest cathedral in North America.



Brass Band (Jen Amato/New Orleans CVB)

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CBMS 2015 National Survey of Mathematics Departments

Your Help Will be Needed On the CBMS 2015 National Survey

Every five years, the Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) sponsors a national survey that collects data about curriculum, pedagogy, enrollment levels, graduates, and faculty in the nation's undergraduate mathematical sciences. The 2015 survey will be sent to the chairperson at 200 public two-year colleges chosen as a random sample. If you are a department chairperson and receive a questionnaire, please be sure to complete the survey.

Thank you in advance for your help and the help of your department chair in this important initiative. This fall, mathematics colleagues and/or your AMATYC regional vice president will be contacting you or someone in your department to identify or confirm the name of your mathematics department chairperson.

If you would like to see the 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, and 2010 publications of CBMS survey results, go to the CBMS website: www.cbmsweb.org. You will surely find the data very interesting.

If you have any questions, please contact Rikki Blair (Richelle.blair@sbcglobal.net), CBMS2015 Two-Year College Team Leader.

TWO-YEAR COLLEGE QUESTIONNAIRE



CBMS 2015

CONFERENCE BOARD OF THE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES



Oh, the Places I've Gone!

Nancy Sattler

Terra CC • Fremont, OH

This is the last article I will write as your president. As my two years as president of AMATYC come to an end, I've been reflecting on my experiences. I have been a member of AMATYC for 24 years, and every year for the past 24 years I have attended the AMATYC Annual Conference. I have learned new strategies and techniques from my peers and had the opportunity to discuss mathematics and learn about the use of technology. It has been an enlightening experience and a journey that I will never forget.

In 1991, I had spent the previous two years teaching full time when I attended my first AMATYC conference in Seattle. I was so pleased to be in the program. I can still picture the huge ballroom where I presented on the implication of placement testing, the title of my master's thesis. I attended many great sessions that conference, and after that I was hooked on AMATYC! Throughout the last 24 years I have served on AMATYC committees, task forces, and have held various offices leading to my tenure as president of AMATYC, and I have enjoyed them all!

The past two years as president have been an incredible experience. I have had the opportunity to work with presidents of other national mathematics organizations through the Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences. My trips to Washington, D.C., have enabled me to participate in important conversation about national issues in mathematics. I have been part of the Common Vision discussions that brought together leaders from five professional associations in the mathematical sciences - AMATYC, AIMS, ASA, MAA, and SIAM - to collectively consider undergraduate curricula and ways to improve education in the mathematical sciences. I have also been able to participate in the TPSE Math (Transforming Post-Secondary Education in Mathematics) discussions.

The Community College voice is being heard. I have always believed in the importance of collaborating with others and the past two years have only strengthened this belief. In April, I met a graduate student from Nigeria and then spent time with him. We discussed the differences between our two countries, and discovered the teaching and learning process is not much different. We talked a great deal about the use of technology, and we agreed to stay in touch through FaceTime. In August, I spent time talking to a young graduate student at MathFest in Washington, D.C. He told me, upon graduation he plans to go into teaching. I told him I envied him as I cannot imagine what the classroom will be like in 20 years with the changes that may occur due to technology. I expressed my concern that students are no longer learning cursive writing and wondered how they would read hand written documents that have been produced in the past. His quick answer was, "There will be an app for that!" He is probably right. We will not sign our names, instead our retinas will be scanned. We discussed how technology will be readily available for all and that students will not have to type but will rather speak to their electronic device.

The world of teaching is changing, and we need to plan for the future. By challenging the students in the classroom to think critically, we encourage learning. The teachers of the future will have different challenges than I have had in the past. In 20 years I will no longer be teaching, but the students of today will be teaching our children, grandchildren, or even great grandchildren.

The AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans will be the 25th conference that I have attended. I invite you to come to New Orleans and build your own memories. I feel incredibly fortunate to have been your president for the past two years. The job has given memories that I will keep for the rest of my life. I have been able to meet so many of you and hear all of the great things you are doing in your classrooms. Never stop learning and when an opportunity comes for you to take a leadership role in AMATYC, go for it! You will be glad you did. You will be able to say, "Oh, the places I've gone and the people I've met!"

Benefits of an AMATYC Institutional Membership

Is your college an **institutional member** of AMATYC? Consider the following list of benefits that are provided to AMATYC institutional members:

- Two complimentary job ads for faculty or administrative positions on the AMATYC website (min. value \$120)
- One complimentary discount regular conference registration to the annual AMATYC Conference (a \$350 value)
- Complimentary membership in the AMATYC Student Mathematics League, (a \$35 value)
- An institutional member will also receive several AMATYC publications:
 - The *MathAMATYC Educator*, published three times per year, plus online access to all earlier published editions of the journal.
- The AMATYC News, published four times per year, plus online access to earlier editions.
- Online access to position statements. The current cost of an AMATYC institutional membership is \$495 but the price will go up to \$508 after June 30, 2016, so if there is money in your budget, it is to your advantage to act now!

Call for Proposals for 2016

by Judy Williams, Program Coordinator



Prepare to experience "Math at a Mile High" in Denver at AMATYC's 42nd Annual Conference November 17-20, 2016. The Denver Sheraton

Downtown hotel is an excellent location for this event with extensive conference space and numerous restaurants and shops within steps of the front door.

A strong, exciting program requires high-quality, innovative proposals covering a full range of topics appropriate for the first two years of undergraduate education in mathematics or the professional development of two-year college faculty. AMATYC members are exceptionally talented as is demonstrated each year by the outstanding presentations given at AMATYC conferences. Share your expertise with your colleagues in Denver. **Proposals will be accepted electronically through the AMATYC website at www.amatyc.org beginning November 1, 2015, through February 1, 2016.** Proposals from two-year college educators are particularly encouraged. All proposals will be reviewed by the program committee. Proposals may not promote or highlight a commercially available product.

Four choices are available for presentation length: (1) 50-minute, (2) 50-minute with laptops brought by attendees, (3) two-hour workshop, and (4) two-hour workshop with laptops brought by attendees. Submitters should specify in their descriptions how the laptops will be used and let attendees know if any pre-loaded software, such as Excel, will be needed. If choosing options (1) or (3), the proposal may also have an added comment that encourages attendees to bring smartphones, tablets, or laptops for maximum benefit from portions of the presentation.

A request for Internet access should be accompanied by an explanation of how it is integral to the presentation. Internet access is for the presenter only and cannot be provided for all attendees.

A workshop includes active attendee participation, an in-depth treatment of a topic, and substantial take-away materials, provided either electronically or as traditional handouts. If proposing a workshop, make sure your description contains detailed information about why the two-hour format is needed; this will assist the Program Committee with its evaluation of your proposal.

Presentations that contain information attendees can apply immediately are the hallmark of AMATYC's conferences. Broad topic areas include, but are not limited to, effective methods of instruction, addressing different learning styles, maximizing the learning environment, assessment of student learning, two-year college mathematics curriculum, reform efforts impacting content or pedagogy, topics that enhance the professional growth of mathematics faculty, and topics that address content of interest to AMATYC's academic committees. Please see the proposal information on AMATYC's website for additional topic details, and check the website for a complete listing of AMATYC's academic committees.

Make sure that you are part of these exciting days in Denver November 17-20, 2016. Submit your proposal without delay.

In addition to submitting a proposal to speak, please consider being a presider. You provide valuable assistance to the speaker and give feedback to the program committee.

Covenant House Service Project at the New Orleans Conference

by Jeff Hughes, New Orleans LEC

Interested in helping homeless kids in New Orleans while attending the conference? AMATYC is teaming up with Covenant House, a charity that provides a safe haven for homeless and at-risk youth of ages 16-21 in the city. The House has been open for 30 years. In the past year, their daily numbers have increased from 45 to over 100 kids a night. The doors of the House are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and the kids are provided hot meals, clothes, a bed, and a caring staff who develop a personalized plan for each youth. As a top priority, the House strives to unite kids with their families. Often this isn't a feasible option, and the compassionate staff work with the kids to help them find jobs, housing, and transition to living on their own. The Covenant House has a 100% success rate for housing, feeding, and clothing homeless kids in short-term crises, plus a 54% success rate for placing them in a safe and sustainable living situation.

The homeless kids often walk into the Covenant House with nothing more than the clothes on their backs. The House provides clothing for them to change into the minute they get off the streets and they also have a special collection of clothing to wear when the kids have job interviews. There is also the need for personal hygienic items because the kids need the same items daily just as everyone does.

Make a difference in the lives of these youth in New Orleans. Please bring one or more of the following items to donate. Collection bins for items will be set up in the Hospitality Room at AMATYC.

- Toiletries such as soap, toothpaste, deodorant, mouthwash, eye care products, hair care products
- New and gently-used clothing such as adult coats, sneakers, professional clothing for young men and women, jeans, T-shirts, sweaters, pajamas
- New undergarments and socks

Thank you for donating. You will be making a meaningful difference in the lives of these youth. For additional information about the Covenant House you can visit www.covenanthouse.org/homeless-charity/new-orleans.



Covenant House New Orleans

More Conference News

Conference Poster Session

by Honey Kirk, Assistant Conference Coordinator

If you want some ideas for “Jazzing Up Your Classroom,” you will want to visit the Poster Session that will again be held in the Exhibit Hall. This is great news since the location allows more posters to be presented during extended hours. The posters will be available for viewing in the Napoleon Ballroom at 11:00 am on Friday, November 20. Come by from 2:00 - 4:00 pm to speak with the poster presenters and/or browse the aisles anytime after set-up on Friday or Saturday morning.

At this year's session you will hear about flipping, modularizing, engaging, hybridizing, accelerating, bridging, activity-basing, storytelling, redesigning, and more. Colleagues have conducted research on reformed elementary statistics courses, student-directed learning in developmental classes, student preferences in gradebook feedback, study skills, and the Mathways Project. You can also hear about Summer Bridge programs, Women in Math and Science courses, and even how to use magic to enhance learning in developmental math courses.

The Poster Session provides the opportunity for everyone to learn about a new (or improved) idea/project. You won't want to miss it!

New Orleans Conference App!

by Keven Dockter, Conference Coordinator



The Conference Committee is happy to provide access to the conference program and other events through this year's app. Attendees are strongly encouraged to download the mobile guide to enhance their experience at the 41st Annual AMATYC Conference. Guidebook is again being used, so those who already have it on their device can just download the guide.

The Guidebook app continues to improve and is a user-friendly app that will allow the attendee to view the complete conference schedule, create their own personal schedule, check out who is exhibiting and where they are located, view a map of the conference facilities, and much more. You will be able to access

Twitter and tweet about the conference (#amatyc), view information about local restaurants, both a general list and a local committee favorite list, or create a photo album, with all the other attendees, of the conference. You will be able to search for sessions based upon the speaker and take notes on any session directly on your device! Plus you can give each session you attend a rating from one to five stars providing instant feedback to the presenters. Again in 2015 you will have the opportunity to fill out the session evaluations directly on the app. The app scavenger hunt will also be back this year with a prize of two-nights lodging at the location of the 2016 conference, the Denver Sheraton.

The app is compatible with iPhones, iPads, and Android devices. Windows Phone 7 and Blackberry users, and attendees without any of these devices, can access the same information via the mobile site at <https://guidebook.com/guide/30144/>. To download this free app, you will need to go to AMATYC's landing page, <https://guidebook.com/g/qds4mjco/>, and follow the directions. Or one can download Guidebook at the Apple App Store or Google Play or visit <https://guidebook.com/getit> on your device.

Once you have downloaded the Guidebook app you will need to search for AMATYC. While you can download Guidebook at any time, the app for the New Orleans Conference will not be available until around November 1. At that time you will receive an email with these same instructions or simply scan this QR code to download the conference app!



AMATYC Needs YOU!

Conference Committee Position Available

Are you an organized person who has a flare for business? Do you enjoy working with a dynamic group of individuals? If so, then AMATYC has a volunteer position for you! AMATYC will have an opening for the position of **Exhibits Chair** after the 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference and is looking for an individual to fill it! Join the Conference Committee and help plan future conferences for your colleagues.

The deadline for applications is **December 15, 2015**, or until the position is filled. Applicants for the position of **Exhibits Chair** should email a letter of interest, a current résumé, and letter of support from their immediate supervisor to **Wanda Garner**, wagarner@cabrillo.edu. Contact Keven Dockter, Conference Coordinator, keven.dockter@anokaramsey.edu, if you have any other questions regarding this important position. For more information, visit www.amatyc.org.

Earn Continuing Ed Credits in New Orleans

by Frank Goulard

Pearson Education is presenting three commercial presentations at AMATYC this fall, in a new back-to-back format. A normal commercial presentation is 75 minutes; each of Pearson's three commercial presentations will be 150 minutes. These will be designed to incorporate more topic detail as well as grant Continuing Education Units* (CEUs) to participants. (*Pearson Efficacy Implementation is authorized by IACET to offer CEUs for this program. Participants must attend both parts of each presentation to be eligible for credits.)

The three presentation titles are:

- *Learning Catalytics – Real Time Feedback*
- *Integrating Assignment and Gradebook Functions – Success*
- *Adaptive Learning – Making It Personal*

Learn about strategies and best practices to maximize student success. Pearson Education looks forward to your attendance!

Spotlight on Washington

Congratulations to the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) on their Centennial Anniversary. For 100 years the MAA has been a leader in advancing the mathematical sciences. The MAA has just published its summary of the results of the national study of college calculus: Insights and Recommendations from the MAA National Study of College Calculus. A PDF file of the full publication is available as a free download at www.maa.org/cspcc. It includes the results of surveys of instructors and students as well as case study visits for both two- and four-year institutions.

The work on the Mathematical Association of America's Common Vision project [NSF DUE-1446000] in mathematics continues. At the MathFest meeting in Washington, D.C. in early August, Karen Saxe sought input on possible initiatives that include short courses and workshops, course and curriculum development, materials repository, public relations, diversity, graduate school training, Joint Mathematics Meeting invited lecture, policy initiatives and the creation of a Center for the Advancement of Mathematical Sciences Education. For further information go to www.maa.org/programs/faculty-and-departments/common-vision and/or attend the Common Vision presentation at the AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans.

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8. **The Cabildo:** In the heart of the French Quarter is the Cabildo where the Louisiana Purchase took place. Today, it is home to a three-floor branch of the Louisiana State Museum.
9. **Chalmette Battlefield and Jean Lafitte National Park:** Chalmette Battlefield is the site of the 1815 Battle of New Orleans. It is located six miles east of New Orleans along the Mississippi River. Historical markers will help you trace the history of the battle, and the national cemetery is located on the grounds.
10. **New Orleans Museum of Art:** The New Orleans Museum of Art, known as NOMA, has assembled more than 40,000 pieces of art.

Hopefully now you have some "big" ideas as to what you can do while visiting The Big Easy. Be sure and check out the Calendar of Events on the New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau's website, www.neworleanscvb.com/, for a complete list of exciting events going on in the city during the AMATYC Annual Conference. One noteworthy event is that America's premier comedian, Jerry Seinfeld, will be performing his signature stand-up routine at the Saenger Theatre on Friday, November 20, at 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm.

Let's make this AMATYC conference with its sessions and learning opportunities the best one yet! I'm ready to *Jazz It Up* and let the good times roll! I know you are, too. See you in November.

Free Wi-Fi at the AMATYC Conference?

A question often asked is will there be free Wi-Fi at the conference? In New Orleans, yes, in guest rooms in the AMATYC block; no, in public spaces. The major hotels are beginning to offer free Wi-Fi in guest rooms, but not in meeting rooms.

The first consideration regarding Wi-Fi is the available bandwidth at the conference location. Assume there are 1000 attendees at the conference all with a device to connect to the Internet. If the available bandwidth at the hotel is too low the ability to connect at any time will be greatly diminished, even if AMATYC has paid for 1000 devices to be connected.

The next consideration is the cost of Wi-Fi in the meeting spaces. In New Orleans it would cost AMATYC \$90,000 to have Wi-Fi available for 1000 attendees the first three days of the conference. That type of expense could force an increase of \$100 in the conference fee.

But what is the hidden cost of Wi-Fi? A major goal of the AMATYC conference is to provide a venue for people to connect to each other on a personal level. Without Wi-Fi in public spaces people end up talking with each other rather than using their devices to do work. So, in New Orleans please enjoy free Wi-Fi in guest rooms, but connect with and enjoy colleagues in the public spaces.

AMATYC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

October 23, 2015 MATYCONN Conference, Northwest Connecticut CC, Winstead, CT. Contact: Harry Burt, hburt@nvcc.commnet.edu or Kathryn Lozo, klozo@nvcc.commnet.edu

November 19-22, 2015 41st Annual AMATYC Conference, New Orleans, LA. Website: <https://amatyc.site-ym.com/?ConfHome>

December 11-12, 2015 CMC³ 43rd Annual Fall Conference, Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa, Monterey, CA. Contact: Mark Harbison, harbism@scc.losrios.edu. Website: www.cmc3.org

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

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

February 26-27, 2016 FTYCMA Joint Meeting with the MAA-Florida Section, Saint Leo University, Saint Leo, FL. Contact: Altay Özgener, ozgenea@scf.edu. Website: <http://scf1.scf.edu/ftycma/html/events.htm>

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

March 4-5, 2016 CMC³-South Annual Conference, Kellogg West Conference Center & Hotel (near Cal Poly-Pomona), Pomona, CA. Contact: Maribel Lopez, Lopez.maribel10@gmail.com

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

November 17-20, 2016 42nd Annual AMATYC Conference, Denver, CO. Contact: AMATYC Office, amatyc@amatyc.org

December 9-10, 2016 CMC³ 44th Annual Fall Conference, Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa, Monterey, CA. Contact: Mark Harbison, harbism@scc.losrios.edu. Website: www.cmc3.org

A form is available at www.amatyc.org/?page=AffiliateConferences to update or add affiliate conference information.

Committee Reports

Mathematics for AAS Programs Committee

by Ned W. Schillow, Chair

What is this good for? Why do I have to take a math course to graduate? I'll never use math again after I graduate. Why can't we just do the math I'll need for my job? Does anybody use this stuff?

Students have always tended to make these kinds of statements, and savvy mathematics educators are looking more closely than ever at which topics and skills should be emphasized in their mathematics classes. Procedural algorithms will always have their place in mathematics courses, but the distinct trend now is a focus on critical thinking and problem solving, conceptual understanding, and authentic applications. Certainly the Mathematics for AAS Programs Committee has embraced this as part of their mission, and several committee backed events at the upcoming AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans address this head on.

An unfortunate reality for many mathematics professors, including those who teach students in applied AAS programs or future engineers in calculus classes, is a lack of understanding what mathematics their pupils actually will be using once they are working in their fields. To that end, Bill Steenken's presentation, *The Mathematics Engineers Use Every Day in Industry*, should be an eye-opener. This session will be held in New Orleans at 8:00 am on Thursday.

Session S105 on Friday morning at 10:20 am will find Stefan Baratto and Lee Wayand presenting *Piecewise Functions: Underappreciated but Oh So Important*.

A year ago when the Math for AAS Programs Committee met in Nashville, discussion turned to presenting a traditional algebra topic which can be enlivened with an interesting applied twist. Piecewise functions quickly rose to the top, and this session should prove to be enlightening.

The Math for AAS Programs Committee will meet Friday afternoon at 4:15 pm and newcomers are welcome to attend. Among the topics to be explored are updates regarding the possibility of a planning grant focused on authentic applications and creating a technical resource manual, a position statement under development on expectations for applied mathematics classes specifically designed for non-transfer degree programs, and long-range planning for the next conference. Additional topics certainly will be encouraged from those in attendance.

Mathematics Intensive Committee

by Sandra Poinsett, Chair

The Mathematics Intensive Committee is currently composed of two subcommittees: Precalculus and Calculus. At the AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans, the Mathematics Intensive Committee will meet and discuss a variety of issues pertaining to college algebra, student readiness for calculus, common core standards, and STEM issues as related to other disciplines along with planning future events for the 2016 conference.

During the conference, the committee will host a themed session entitled *Teaching and Learning in Precalculus, Calculus, and Beyond* on Thursday morning which will include six fifteen minute sessions giving presenters a chance to share special projects and teaching techniques with attendees. On Friday afternoon the committee meeting will be held, and on Saturday the Mathematics Intensive Committee will host a "Sharing Session" to discuss such topics as including more modeling and applications into an already full syllabus, using learner-centered approaches and other ways of varying teaching strategies to reach a variety of learning styles.

Be sure to check out the webinars posted on the AMATYC website. The Math Intensive Committee has sponsored several, including *Measuring the World in Small Groups - Applying Trigonometry* and *An Alternative Approach to Presenting Gaussian Reduction of a Matrix*. Other webinars will be presented this fall. Watch for emails providing details.

Committee participation is open to all AMATYC members. To learn more about the AMATYC Mathematics Intensive Committee or to be involved throughout the year, email the chair of the committee, Sandy Poinsett at sandrap@csmd.edu. To find out more about AMATYC committees, visit the website www.amatyc.org.

Placement and Assessment Committee

by Behnaz Rouhani, Chair

The AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans is just around the corner. The PAC will host two events, and invites you to attend these meetings:

- Round Table to share placement and assessment ideas, experiences, successes, and challenges in an informal dialogue. Thursday, November 19, 10:20 - 11:10 am.
- Committee meeting to plan for the upcoming year, Friday, November 20, 4:15 - 5:45 pm.

So far this year there have been two PAC-sponsored webinars that are available on the AMATYC website. Patricia Gregg presented on *Taking the Guesswork Out of Writing Better Multiple Choice Questions*. Leah Chuchran-Davis presented on *eCATS: Electronic Classroom Assessment Techniques: Taking the Temperature of Learning in the Classroom*. Our final webinar of the year on October 7 featured Gavin Waters presenting *Improving Retention Through Placement Tests*.

For those who are unable to attend the annual conference, you can still be part of the committee! Contact Behnaz Rouhani at behnaz.rouhani@gpc.edu for more information.



AMATYC has a Facebook Page

If you are on Facebook search for American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges, and you will find AMATYC. Join over 3,000 of your colleagues, and "LIKE" AMATYC to have AMATYC's announcements on your newsfeed.

Committee Reports

Statistics Committee

by Mary DeHart, Chair

The 41st Annual AMATYC Conference to be held in New Orleans will offer a wealth of professional development opportunities for statistics instructors including eighteen individual presentations, three poster sessions, and a statistics themed session. The statistics themed session, *Introductory Statistics: Building Statistical Literacy*, will be held from 9:10 to 11:10 am on Friday, November 20.

The themed session is designed to appeal to both new and experienced instructors and will feature the following presentations:

- *Mathematics Prerequisites for Statistics*
- *Blackjack: A Teaching Tool for Probability*
- *Randomization Techniques to Introduce Two-Sample Hypothesis Tests*
- *The Effects of Using Big Data Sets in Introductory Statistics Class*
- *Tweaking Introductory Statistics in the Age of $n = All$*
- *Globalizing an Introductory Statistics Course*

The AMATYC Statistics Committee meeting will be held from 4:15 to 5:45 pm on Friday, November 20 at the AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans. All interested AMATYC members are welcome to attend.

Members of the AMATYC/ASA Joint Committee have been working cooperatively to sponsor a series of statistics webinars. New webinars are announced on the main page of the AMATYC website; archived webinars are also available on the AMATYC website via the Professional Development link, as well as on the *Statistics Resource Page* that is featured under *Quick Links to Popular AMATYC Pages*.

Throughout the past year, members of the AMATYC Statistics Committee have been invited to provide input on important issues such as the revision of the *Guidelines for Assessment and Instruction in Statistics Education (GAISE)*.

If you would like to join the Statistics Committee, please contact Mary DeHart at mdehart@sussex.edu.

Teacher Preparation Committee

by Andy D. Jones, Chair

The AMATYC Teacher Preparation Committee examines issues relating to the preparation of teachers who will teach mathematics at all levels. These issues include implications of the Common Core State Standards on the teacher preparation curriculum and courses at two-year institutions, sharing of successful practices and lessons, and professional development for two-year college faculty responsible for teaching these courses.

The Teacher Preparation Committee has a wide range of activities to further its goals during the upcoming 41st Annual AMATYC Conference in New Orleans in November:

- The themed session *Engaging Future Teachers in the Standards for Mathematical Practice* will illustrate varieties of expertise in geometry, arithmetic, probability, logic, problem solving, and modeling that all mathematics educators should seek to develop in prospective educators. A team of six Teacher Preparation Committee members will each share activities in this themed session on Thursday morning, November 19, 9:10 - 11:05 am. Mark your program in advance so you won't overlook this session the first morning of the conference!
- The Teacher Preparation Committee will meet 4:15 - 5:15 pm on Friday afternoon, November 20, to discuss a variety of issues pertaining to the emphasis of this committee and to plan for future events. Committee members are encouraged to send discussion and agenda ideas to the committee chair in advance of the conference.
- The conference program includes over 20 sessions and workshops related to issues in teacher preparation. Topics include ways to encourage meaningful student discourse, assessing using alternative methods, developing a deep understanding of division with fractions, achieving conceptual understanding using hands-on activities, and preparing future teachers to teach with Common Core. Look for these sessions – and many more – keyed with “TP” in the conference program.

For more information about the Teacher Preparation Committee and its activities, visit the committee website www.sites.google.com/site/amatycprep. AMATYC members are encouraged to join the committee by self-enrolling in the Teacher Preparation group at www.amatyc.org or by contacting Andy Jones at jonesad@pgcc.edu.

The AMATYC Office has moved to Southwest Tennessee CC's Union campus. The office's mailing address and staff email addresses remain the same. However, the phone and fax numbers have changed:

Phone - 901.333.5643

Fax - 901.333.5651



Future AMATYC Conferences

2015	New Orleans, LA	November 19-22
2016	Denver, CO	November 17-20
2017	San Diego, CA	November 9-12
2018	Orlando, FL	November 15-18
2019	Milwaukee, WI	November 14-17
2020	Spokane, WA	November 12-15
2021	Phoenix, AZ	November 4-7

For additional information, contact the AMATYC Office at amatyc@amatyc.org or 901.333.5643.

The Student Mathematics League Welcomes New Coordinator



Steve Hundert

After receiving his MS degree from the University of New Hampshire, Steve began his teaching career at Southern Connecticut State College, where his girlfriend and soon to be wife, was finishing her MLS. He also taught for a few years at Virginia Military Institute (VMI) and Mohawk Valley CC before coming to the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) where

he has been teaching for the past 30 years. When Steve started at CSM he was the sole full-time member of the math, physics, engineering, biology, chemistry, and electronics department on the St. Mary's County Campus, located in an elementary school built in the 1930's. The school has grown since then, and he is now one of the three full time members of the math, physics, and engineering division at the Leonardtown Campus. In his free time, Steve likes to play tennis, travel, garden, kayak, and ski. After being the Student Mathematics League (SML) local moderator for the last eight years, Steve is nervously taking on the role of AMATYC's new SML Coordinator.

AMATYC welcomes Steve into his new role and thanks the former SML Coordinator, Susan Strickland, for her excellent leadership.

Student Mathematics League

by Steve Hundert

Welcome to a new year for the Student Mathematics League. If your school currently participates, then you already know what fun it is. If your school doesn't participate, why not? This is your chance to be the head coach of an intercollegiate sports team. And you may find yourself pleasantly surprised when a student shows you a clever solution to a problem you've been struggling to solve.

Round 1 will take place from Friday, October 16, through Saturday, November 7, 2015. Round 2 will take place from Friday, February 12, through Saturday, March 5, 2016. Additional information including the rules and prior years' competition questions can be found under the Student Math League tab on the AMATYC website. You can also contact the SML Coordinator, Steve Hundert, at stevenh@csm.edu.

Awards for the top regional teams will be given during the regional meetings at the Annual AMATYC Conference. Last year's Charles Miller Memorial Scholarship recipient and the team receiving the Glenn Smith Team Award will be announced and recognized at the Saturday breakfast at the AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans.

While you are planning which sessions to attend at the annual conference in New Orleans, make sure to put the Faculty Mathematics League competition on your schedule. It will be held on Friday, November 20 from 3:10 - 4:00 pm. The much coveted plexiglas trophy is once again up for grabs and goes to the top performing region.

Liaison to Mu Alpha Theta

Paige Feibelman Perry

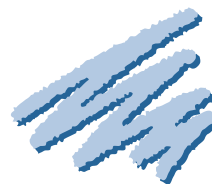


Paige Feibelman Perry

Paige currently teaches mathematics full time at Southern Union State CC in Alabama. In her 23 years of teaching, she has been an active Mu Alpha Theta Chapter Sponsor since 1992, accompanied students to seven Mu Alpha Theta National Conventions, and chartered a Mu Alpha Theta Chapter at Southern Union State CC. In addition to her activities with Mu Alpha Theta, she is also an active member of both AMATYC and

AlaMATYC, having attended at least five AMATYC Conferences where she has presented, presided, and served as a delegate. Paige is currently the Webmaster for AlaMATYC, but has also held the positions of Treasurer, President-Elect, President, and Past President.

Welcome Paige, and thanks to former AMATYC president, Kathy Mowers for serving as Mu Alpha Theta liaison for many years.



Highlights of the 2015 AMATYC Summer Conference Call

by Mary Beth Orrange, Board Secretary

The AMATYC Executive Board held its annual Summer Conference Call on June 11, 2015. Highlights of the meeting included:

- The following individuals were appointed to the AMATYC Investments Board:
 - William Steenken (steenken@att.net), AMATYC Foundation, appointed through December 31, 2019
 - Jim Ham (jaham1729@gmail.com), AMATYC Executive Board, appointed through December 31, 2015
 - Phil Mahler (mahlerp@middlesex.mass.edu) and Wilson Gräb (wgrab@forsythtech.edu), members-at-large, appointed through December 31, 2018.
- Sarah E. Miller (smiller10@ccbcm.edu) was appointed as Roommate Network Director for the term beginning January 1, 2016, and ending December 31, 2018.
- Negotiations for the site of the 2021 AMATYC Annual Conferences are ranked as follows: Phoenix, Atlanta, and Dallas.
- During a second conference call in August, Nathalie Vega-Rhodes was appointed Advertising Chair beginning January 1, 2016.

Full minutes of the meeting may be found on the AMATYC website: www.amatyc.org/?page=BoardMinutesMotions.

AMATYC Selects New Project ACCESS Cohort

Project ACCESS is pleased to announce the selection of 24 Fellows as members of the 12th Cohort of Project ACCESS to attend conferences in New Orleans, LA, and Denver, CO. The selected Fellows are:

Damien Adams, Cabrillo College, Aptos, CA
Karina Aliaga, Brookdale CC, Lincroft, NJ
Aisha Arroyo, Massasoit CC, Brockton, MA
Zachary Beamer, Piedmont Virginia CC, Charlottesville, VA
Jordan Bertke, Central Piedmont CC, Charlotte, NC
Daniel J. Bielskie, Prince George's CC, Largo, MD
Lisa Blaylock, Harper College, Palatine, IL
Lawrence Choraszewski, Schoolcraft College, Livonia, MI
KaraLynne Cook, Bluegrass CTC, Lexington, KY
Bethany Corley, Wake Technical CC, Raleigh, NC
Michael Davis, Glendale CC, Glendale, CA
Austina Fong, Portland CC, Portland, OR
Jessica Hoppe, Spokane Falls CC, Spokane, WA
Kyle Knee, Harper College, Palatine, IL
Suzanne Lavertu, Glendale CC, Glendale, CA
Xiaoying Lin, Gateway Technical College, Racine, WI
Lingli Ni, Volunteer State CC, Gallatin, TN
Kim Schroeder, Mountwest CTC, Huntington, WV
Anders (AJ) Stachelek, Hostos CC, Bronx, NY
Turi Suski, Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton, WI
Vicki Todd, Southwestern CC, Sylva, NC
Meghan VanderMale, Grand Rapids CC, Grand Rapids, MI
Sherri Warren, Eastern Wyoming College - Douglas Campus, Douglas, WY
Kathleen Yan, Northern Virginia CC - Alexandria Campus, Alexandria, VA

The selection of these Fellows was challenging for the selection committee due to both the number and the quality of applications. Congratulations to the selected Fellows.

Professional Development Update

by Jon Oaks


The 2015 AMATYC Webinar Series, supported by WebAssign, finished off its summer season in August with Rob Gould presenting on *Modern Intro Stats* and the fall season kicked off in October with Gavin Waters presenting on *Improving Retention Through Placement Tests*. A list of upcoming webinars and past recordings of all webinars can always be found at <http://bit.ly/amatyc-webinars>.

AMATYC is always working on new professional development initiatives and some ideas that are currently being discussed are designing a mentoring program to help AMATYC members develop workshops for their local campus, creating a connections and mentoring program that involves both full-time and part-time math professors, developing an AMATYC Professional Development blog to share ideas about classroom innovations, and scheduling webinars highlighting ideas for immediate classroom use.

In addition to webinars, there are always many other ways to get involved in AMATYC. Just click on 'Professional Development' on the left-hand side on www.amatyc.org, to find links to information about AMATYC's Position Statements, Conferences, Webinars, Traveling Workshops, Publications, 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.

Did You Know....

In public two-year colleges, the percentage of mathematics and statistics sections taught by full-time faculty declined from 56% in 2005 to 54% in 2010. (Source: CBMS Surveys 2005 & 2010) What will the 2015 survey results show?



In response to attendee requests, AMATYC has arranged for free Wi-Fi in guest rooms booked in the AMATYC hotel room block in New Orleans.

The **AMATYC News** is the official newsletter of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges and is published four times per year in January, April, August, and October. Your articles, announcements, comments, and letters to the Editor are welcome. Submit all materials by November 27, March 1, June 1, and August 15 for the respective issues.

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AMATYC Foundation 2014 Honor Roll

AMATYC is fortunate to have members and friends who support the organization through private gifts. This support enables AMATYC to enhance current programs, such as AMATYC Project ACCESS, and to create new opportunities for AMATYC members through AMATYC Mini-Grants. Mini-Grants support classroom research that enhances student learning.

The following is a list of donors and affiliates who during 2014 made these generous gifts. Thank you! AMATYC strives to ensure accuracy within this Honor Roll listing of all the donors for the 2014 calendar year. If you find your information to be incorrect or if you prefer your name to be listed differently in the future, email Beverly Vance at amatyc@amatyc.org so the appropriate corrections can be made to the Foundation database.



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The Foundation: Your Gifts at Work

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

Your gifts over the past year have allowed the AMATYC Foundation to continue its support for AMATYC Project ACCESS, fund a mini-grant on Conceptualizing the Concepts of Algebra, send members to represent AMATYC's developmental mathematics initiatives at MathFest and NADE, and support AMATYC's participation in the developmental mathematics summit to be held as part of NADE's 2016 conference in Anaheim.

Most gifts to the Foundation are made during the AMATYC Annual Conference. At last year's conference in Nashville, the AMATYC Foundation received over \$32,000. Although the amount raised was substantial, it came from only 37% of conference attendees. As the AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans approaches, please consider making a gift so the Foundation can continue its support of AMATYC initiatives.

As has been done for the past few years, there will be a competition among AMATYC regions. Two lucky donors from

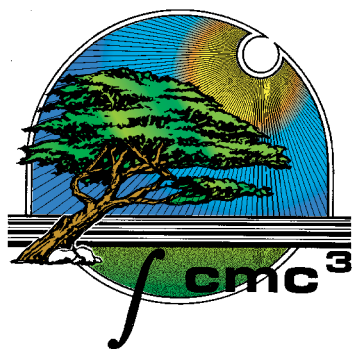
each region will be selected at the Friday regional meetings. Each will be in the running for a one-year complimentary AMATYC membership. One prize will go to the person whose region has the largest total donations. Last year's winning region was the Midwest with total gifts of \$8,800. A second prize will be given to the person whose region had the largest percent of attendees making donations. In Nashville, 67% of attendees from the Northwest region made donations. We will also be awarding a complimentary discount member registration to the 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver to a member drawn from all donors to the Foundation.

Not able to attend the AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans? Please consider making a donation using the form available at the Foundation link at www.amatyc.org. All donations made prior to the conference in New Orleans will be included as part of the regional totals.

Diane Koenig, Editor
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Focus on Affiliates: CMC³

by Mark Harbison, CMC³ President and AMATYC West Region V.P.



The California Mathematics Council, Community Colleges (CMC³) was formed in 1972 (two years before AMATYC was established). At the time, the intent was to represent all of CA, and base the organization in Monterey. In 1985, another affiliate, CMC³-South, was created to cover Southern CA.

This was a practical move. It was unreasonable for one affiliate to be spread out so far. Today, there are 55 community colleges in CMC³-South and 57 in CMC³.

On Dec. 11-12, 2015, CMC³ will host its 43rd Annual General Conference at the Hyatt Regency Monterey, adjacent to the oldest golf course west of the Mississippi. This year, there will be an "Ignite" event on Friday with rapid-fire 5-minute talks. The Saturday luncheon keynote speaker will be Erica Flapan of Pomona College, winner of the MAA Haimo Award.

On Apr. 22-23, 2016, the organization's 20th Annual Recreational Math Conference, Score!, will be held. The spring conference is always in Stateline, NV (South Lake Tahoe) and is focused on fun math – not pedagogy. This year's will be at the

Montbleu Hotel and Casino. It's always entertaining to watch math professors in a casino, isn't it?

In addition to two conferences each year, CMC³ is famous for its five past presidents of AMATYC:

- ♦ Sister Clarice Sparkman (1976)
- ♦ Brandon Wheeler (1980-1981)
- ♦ Amber Steinmetz (1984-1985)
- ♦ Karl Smith (1988-1989)
- ♦ Wanda Garner (1996-1997)

There are two AMATYC *Mathematics Excellence* winners from the CMC³ region:

- ♦ Don Albers (1985)
- ♦ Wade Ellis, Jr. (1996)

And the four AMATYC *Teaching Excellence* winners from CMC³ colleges are:

- ♦ Janet Tarjan (2001)
- ♦ Joe Conrad (2007)
- ♦ Randy Taylor (2009)
- ♦ Barbara Illowsky (2011)

Finally, of the 22 Project ACCESS fellows from 2004 to 2015 in the West Region, there were 18 from CMC³.

Please visit www.cmc3.org for more details, recent Newsletters, poll results and a video interview of Sister Clarice (among others) on CMC³'s "Resources" page.

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