

NEWS

Opening Doors
Through Mathematics



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Sharp Receives Mathematics Excellence Award

At the annual conference in Cincinnati, President Kathy Mowers recognized Professor Karen Sharp of Mott CC, Flint, MI, with the AMATYC Mathematics Excellence Award. This award is given every two years to an educator who has made outstanding contributions to mathematics or mathematics education at the two-year college. Selection criteria include national reputation, leadership and activities in professional organizations, awards, grants, publications, professional activities on a regional, state, and national scale, and other contributions to mathematics education.

Professor Sharp, who has taught at Mott CC for more than 30 years, has been an innovator as an instructor and an early adopter of computer and calculator technology. She developed materials to help her colleagues learn to use these tools.

Karen has been extremely active in AMATYC and served on the AMATYC Board in five different positions—regional vice president, treasurer, president-elect, president, and past president—for a total of 14 years! Her interpersonal skills, inclusive nature, tact, and persistence lead to the creation of the Coordinating Board of AMATYC, MAA, and NCTM. This was the first real effort to bring these three organizations together in a cooperative manner to address critical issues impacting all levels of mathematics education. She was the project director of AMATYC's first Summer Institute at Ricks College. This institute was initially funded through AMATYC's first grant awarded by the Sloan Foundation.

During her term as AMATYC President, efforts to write AMATYC's first *Crossroads* document began. Professor Sharp served as Co-Principal Investigator for the *Crossroads* project, released in 1995, and in that role made major contributions to

the process and the resulting document.

Congratulations to Professor Karen Sharp for her many contributions to two-year college mathematics.



AMATYC Unveils Beyond Crossroads

In the midst of a national focus on quality mathematics and science education in the United States, the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges released



Rob Kimball, Susan S. Wood, Judy Ackerman, Rikki Blair, and Phil Mahler

Beyond Crossroads: Implementing Mathematics Standards in the First Two Years of College, its second standards document, on November 2, 2006, during the Opening Session of the 2006 AMATYC Annual Conference in Cincinnati. With great excitement, President Kathy Mowers led the countdown and Rob Kimball presented the electronic unveiling of the cover, as Project Directors Susan S. Wood and Phil Mahler, Past President Judy Ackerman, and Editor Rikki Blair lifted the cloths that covered the stacks of documents on stage.

Beyond Crossroads presents a call to action for faculty, departments, and institutions to examine, assess, and improve every component of mathematics education in the first two years of college. The five implementation standards are 1) Student Learning and the Learning Environment, 2) Assessment of Student Learning, 3) Curriculum and Program Development, 4) Instruction, and 5) Professionalism. The standards, recommendations, and action items are not intended to be prescriptive, but are designed to meet the broad and varying needs of community colleges, which currently enroll almost half (45 percent) of all U.S. undergraduates, including the most diverse student population and the majority of students needing developmental mathematics in order to enter college-level coursework.

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Kathy Mowers
**Owensboro Community &
 Technical College**
Owensboro, KY

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed restful, relaxing, rejuvenating holidays that prepared you to begin the new year by embracing change while implementing the standards of *Beyond Crossroads*! Watch for your spring issue of *The AMATYC Review*, which will be a special invitational issue focusing on *Beyond Crossroads*.

In this message, I would like to report on the State of the Organization. AMATYC remains strong financially and membership is stable. However, membership and volunteerism need to be encouraged by the current membership. To serve as a strong voice for mathematics education in the two-year college, AMATYC must represent as many two-year college mathematics faculty as possible. The AMATYC Vice Presidents will be establishing a network of campus contacts similar to that of the MAA, to help AMATYC communicate with all two-year college mathematics faculty. Please assist them in this endeavor by volunteering to serve, if asked.

AMATYC has made strides in Washington, D.C. awareness and is being recognized nationally; for example, in August 2006 we were invited to provide input to the National Mathematics Advisory Panel. However, AMATYC is not yet automatically recognized as an organization that should be consulted on mathematics education issues. We as two-year college mathematics faculty need to take pride in our profession and AMATYC, and not refer to ourselves as if we are second-class citizens. We must recognize that we and our students are the future of the United States.

Looking ahead to 2007, with the help of affiliates and our newly appointed *Beyond Crossroads* Implementation Coordinator, Bruce Yoshiwara, AMATYC will begin the dissemination of the message of *Beyond Crossroads*.

Looking further into the future, new faculty are the future of AMATYC. The AMATYC Board voted at the spring board meeting to fund the fourth ACCCESS cohort from AMATYC reserves while we seek outside funding. The model will be different from the current model, but we hope that the success of the program to date will encourage administrators to continue to support new faculty participation in the AMATYC Project ACCCESS.

We are actively seeking willing persons to serve in a variety of positions. Current information is posted at www.amatyc.org under the tab, "Get Involved." AMATYC has many, many talented members. We cannot know the talents of each AMATYC member so we advertise, and I hope you will consider this your personal invitation to become a more active participant in AMATYC. I am confident that you will find it to be as professionally rewarding as I have found it.

Kathy Mowers
 Owensboro Community & Technical
 College
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Richelle (Rikki) Blair
 Lakeland CC
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Judy Ackerman
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For additional information or
 to join AMATYC, visit www.amatyc.org

JOIN AMATYC

BECOME A MEMBER OF AMATYC TODAY

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Project ACCESS

by Karen Gaines

Fifty-four enthusiastic and talented Project ACCESS Fellows attended special conference workshops at the 2006 AMATYC Conference in Cincinnati. The 2005-2006 Fellows completed their formal activities with the project this year by presenting the results from their projects as well as attending special sessions as a group. Their continued involvement with AMATYC is greatly anticipated.

The 2006-2007 Fellows (Cohort 3) began their involvement with Project ACCESS in September via an electronic network that includes a group of Consulting Colleagues. The electronic network facilitates contact throughout their fellowship year. At the ACCESS program in Cincinnati, Fellows established relationships with one another while attending workshops and discussions covering such topics as engaging students, distance learning, and AMATYC and MAA involvement. Some of their sessions (group work and technology) were shared with the 2005-2006 Fellows (Cohort 2), thus creating a link between the two cohorts.

While the 2004-2005 Fellows completed their activities at the San Diego conference, a few of them dropped by and participated in the discussion sessions. Several of the Fellows also presented at the conference.

Special thanks go out to the AMATYC leadership and conference organizers for their support in making this another successful conference for the project. Also many thanks to the workshop leaders: Janet Ray, Vauhn Foster-Grahler, Judy Marwick, Bill Thomas, Anne Dudley, Pete Wildman, Nancy Sattler, Mary Beth Orrange, Elizabeth Lundy, Lynn Trimpe, Joe Fiedler, and Roseanne Hoffman.

The 2006-2007 Fellows will complete their formal involvement at the Minneapolis conference, where a new group of Fellows will begin their journey. Information about the next cohort will be found on the AMATYC website when it is available.

ACCESS Fellows 2005-2006



Row 1 - Karen Rendon, Kristin Ramsey, Kati Leed, Judy Atkinson
 Row 2 - Kumars Ranjbaran, Andrea Bell, Anne Schalda, Barbra Gregory
 Row 3 - Marcial Echenique, Andrea Mathis, Wendy O'Hanlon
 Row 4 - Brigitte Martineau, Lourdes Pajo, Sarah Stanley
 Row 5 - Angela Martinek, Charlotte Schulze-Hewett
 Row 6 - Tom Sundquist, Vera Hu-Hyneman, Ming-Lun Ho
 Row 7 - Paula Thonney, Curtis Mitchell, John Knudson, Amber Rust
 Row 8 - Jean Richard, Jeffrey Downs, Rob Eby, Greg Cripe, Sydeaka Watson, Kirk Bradley

ACCESS Fellows 2006-2007



Row 1 - Lina Williams, Janet Kinney, Amy Adams
 Row 2 - Marion Foster, Lalitha Subramanian, Stephanie Doyen, Ryan Girard
 Row 3 - Rigoberto Florez, James Guimarra, Beth Edmonds
 Row 4 - Stacy Jurgens, Chokri Cherif, Andy Geary
 Row 5 - Kristine Woods, Mark McFadden, Ion Georgiou
 Row 6 - Cindy Kuene, Jason Edington
 Row 7 - Michael Darrell, Leonard Blackburn, Bill Ebener, Dustin Walsh, Mehdi Hashemi, Michele Thoele, Sharon Jackson

AMATYC Seeks Applications for Project ACCESS

by Rob Farinelli

AMATYC seeks applications in spring 2007 for Cohort 4 for AMATYC Project ACCESS (Advancing Community College Careers: Education, Scholarship, and Service). This project is a mentoring and professional development initiative for two-year college faculty. Two cohorts have successfully been completed and Cohort 3 is midway through the experience.

AMATYC Project ACCESS is a program for new faculty interested in advancing the teaching and learning of mathematics in two-year colleges. Its goal is to develop a cadre of new two-year college mathematics faculty who are effective members of their profession. The four objectives of the project are for the Fellows to gain knowledge of the culture and mission of the two-year college and its students, acquire familiarity with the scholarship of teaching, commit to continued growth in mathematics, and participate in professional communities.

*** Continued on page 15

Beyond Crossroads—Instruction

by Nkechi Agwu

At the two-year college, teaching is core to our professional work. Thus, chapter 7 of *Beyond Crossroads* which focuses on instruction is a necessary reading for the two-year college mathematics faculty. This chapter renews and extends those goals, principles, and standards presented in *Crossroads in Mathematics* related to pedagogy. It presents an implementation standard on instruction, viz., “Mathematics faculty will use a variety of teaching strategies that reflect the results of research to enhance student learning.”



Chapter 7 opens with an introductory paragraph which highlights that effective teaching is informed by an understanding of how students learn mathematics, knowledge of a variety of instructional methods that promote active learning, and instructional delivery that is sensitive to the different learning styles of students. It is followed by sections discussing teaching styles, active student learning, teaching with technology and distance learning.

Read the section on teaching styles for a definition of teaching style and its relationship to students’ learning. This section stresses that an instructor needs to be cognizant of their teaching style to make informed decisions about instruction. Even though an instructor’s style may be teacher-centered, student-centered, or anywhere between the two ends of the continuum, the teaching practice of an instructor should involve multiple instructional strategies in order to be sensitive to the diverse learning styles of students. The section provides a table that illustrates distinguishing characteristics of the teacher-centered and the student-centered teaching style.

Read the section on active student learning for a description of collaborative and cooperative learning, discovery-based learning, interactive lecturing, question-posing and inquiry-based learning, and the use of writing to learn mathematics. Learn about some strategies for faculty to use with these teaching modalities in the table provided within this section.

The section on teaching with technology is definitely a must for faculty to read. It emphasizes that the use of technology should be guided by the concepts in mathematics to be learned, alternative approaches to learning about these concepts, the research related to successful practices, and the standards and recommendations of professional organizations in education. It highlights that technology is constantly evolving thereby presenting new opportunities for teaching and learning; and that it changes what mathematics is taught, when it is taught and how it is taught. The advantages of different technological tools for teaching mathematics are discussed.

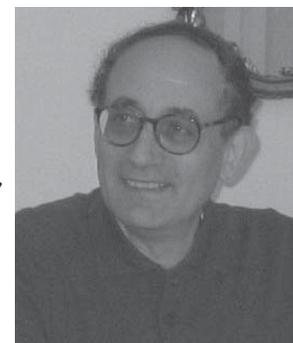
Finally, the section on distance learning captures the essence of providing all students with access to mathematics education and opportunities to excel in mathematics courses. It provides a description of what is meant by distance learning and of alternative delivery formats of distance learning. It highlights challenges and opportunities presented by distance learning instructional environments. It outlines some essential components of a distance learning course and issues that are crucial to the development of successful mathematics distance education programs.

In summary, this chapter is a worthwhile reading for the two-year college mathematics faculty. You don’t want to miss it. In particular, read and reflect on the guidelines given at the end for mathematics faculty and mathematics departments for implementing the standards on instruction.

Professionalism

by Geoffrey Akst

Chapter 8 of *Beyond Crossroads* addresses professionalism of a two-year college mathematics instructor. As Writing Team Chair for this chapter, here are a few personal reflections on the subject.



While the chapter makes clear that the concept of professionalism for a two-year college mathematics faculty member is multifaceted, to me the heart of the matter is to demonstrate a sense of commitment. This means first and foremost a commitment to one’s students. The key professional activity for a TYC mathematics instructor is to be, or at least to try to be, a great teacher. While I have never seen an exhaustive listing of the attributes of a great teacher, it surely must include such activities as explaining to students ideas clearly and logically, motivating their interest, answering their questions on target and with respect, showing concern to those students who fall behind, getting to class well prepared and on time, and keeping office hours scrupulously.

Another important aspect of professionalism for the TYC mathematics instructor is commitment to the field—both mathematics and mathematics education. Such a commitment entails keeping up with developments through formal education, a continuing study of the literature, attending faculty development workshops, and networking with colleagues to share ideas and experiences. It can also mean expanding or disseminating knowledge of the field by presenting papers, publishing articles or books, or developing websites.

Professionalism also implies a commitment to one’s department and institution. Many faculty members are willing to accept time-consuming administrative responsibilities, to play leadership roles in committee work—the lifeblood of the department, and to spend huge chunks of time taking the chance of applying for external funding to support departmental activities and secure additional departmental resources.

Over some four decades, I have had the pleasure of observing the professional activities of numerous colleagues in my own department. While there is simply not enough time for any single individual to demonstrate the same degree of commitment in all these areas, each TYC mathematics instructor can, depending on interests and talents, find an important role to play in our noble profession.

Online Store!

Visit the AMATYC Online Store by following the link on the AMATYC webpage.

Beyond Crossroads Live! Continues To Grow

by David Graser

With the release of *Beyond Crossroads*, the companion website *Beyond Crossroads Live!* (*BC Live!*) is now available at www.bc.amatyc.org. This website is designed to reinforce and extend the message in the print version of *Beyond Crossroads*. It currently consists of three digital products and a searchable electronic version of the document. Two of the digital products contain information and resources on assessment and quantitative literacy. An Outreach Kit is also available to help communicate the message in *Beyond Crossroads* to different audiences.

AMATYC hopes that *BC Live!* will grow and develop as the *Beyond Crossroads* standards are widely adopted. As teachers utilize the standards in their classrooms, they will be able to contribute resources to *BC Live!*

Digital products for AMATYC members new to standards and on Instructional Strategies are being planned. Initially the Instructional Strategies digital product will focus on project-based learning. Later it will expand to include resources on teaching with technology, active learning, and distance learning.

These additional resources will come from people like you, the AMATYC members implementing standards in classrooms. Some of the resources are already in production, but most are only an idea in someone's mind. To be included on the website, the idea needs to be refined into a useful resource with the help of the Digital Product Coordinator. Once the content of the resource is created, the resource is put into an appropriate electronic form and evaluated by a group of volunteers. Then, the resource is posted on the website and data is collected to determine if it is meeting its objectives. If it is not, the Digital Product Coordinator works with the author to improve the resource.

The key to this implementation cycle is AMATYC members. The Digital Product Coordinator needs ideas, authors, and evaluators for resources. Even more important is the participation of teachers to use the resources and provide feedback through the *BC Live!* website. If you can volunteer your time to help *BC Live!* grow, contact the Digital Product Coordinator, David Graser, David_Graser@yc.edu.



*** AMATYC Unveiling (continued from page 1)

The unveiling was followed by several *Crossroads* sessions and workshops to highlight the document and its message. Guest speakers included Joan Ferrini-Mundy, Associate Dean for Science and Mathematics Education in the College of Natural Science at Michigan State Univ and chair of the Writing Group for Principles and Standards for School Mathematics from NCTM; Carl Cowen, MAA President; and Doug Robertson, Assistant Provost for Professional Development Programs at Northern Kentucky University.

Crossroads Corner Focus on Implementation

by Bruce Yoshiwara

To help promote the message of *Beyond Crossroads*, AMATYC's new standards document, Susan S. Wood and Sue Parsons organized a "Spreading the Word" workshop at the November



2006 AMATYC Conference. The participants represented a geographically diverse sample of AMATYC leaders, chosen to be the first cadre of *Beyond Crossroads* ambassadors to encourage two-year college mathematics faculty, administrators, and other stakeholders to embrace the new document as a tool to improve mathematics education.

Doug Robertson (Northern Kentucky Univ) gave a presentation on how to create a climate of change for individuals and groups. Norma Agras (Miami Dade College) showed participants the *Beyond Crossroads* Outreach Kit, which includes electronic materials for presentations or workshops to faculty, administrators, and other stakeholders. The participants also brainstormed ideas about how to use the *Beyond Crossroads* five implementation standards—1) Student Learning and the Learning Environment, 2) Assessment of Student Learning, 3) Curriculum and Program Development, 4) Instruction, and 5) Professionalism—to improve mathematics education under specific scenarios.

All AMATYC members will receive copies of *Beyond Crossroads* by U.S. mail. Others can visit the *Beyond Crossroads Live!* website at www.bc.amatyc.org to view the entire document or Executive Summary, download pdf versions, or to order a free hard copy.

Beyond Crossroads Implementation Coordinator Appointed

In October, the AMATYC Board appointed Bruce Yoshiwara, Los Angeles Pierce College, as the *Beyond Crossroads* Implementation Coordinator. Bruce's professional interests include using technology for teaching mathematics, professional development, and teacher preparation. He is excited about his new role and looks forward to working with AMATYC committees and coordinators to create and develop *Beyond Crossroads*-related offerings at meetings and workshops and coordinate public relations to spread the word about *Beyond Crossroads*. Contact Bruce at bcic@amatyc.org if you have any questions.



Report on the Delegate Assembly 2006

by Irene Doo

The Delegate Assembly met on Saturday, November 4, 2006, at the Millennium Hotel in Cincinnati, OH. During the meeting, the delegates received reports from the president, treasurer, nominating committee, AMATYC Foundation, Project ACCCESS, and *Beyond Crossroads*. President-Elect Rikki Blair provided delegates with an update on strategic planning, and on the conference sites for 2007-2013. The delegates also heard reports on the Mathematics Across the Community College Curriculum (MAC³) grant, the grant for Digital Product Planning for *Beyond Crossroads*, as well as the report from the task force on the restructuring of the AMATYC academic committees, and the committee that has been appointed to work on combining the constitution and bylaws. Delegates voted to approve an amendment to the constitution to set the regular AMATYC membership dues every two years by applying the Consumer Price Index-Urban Consumers (CPI-U). This amendment will be sent to the membership for ratification.

Highlights of the 2006 AMATYC Fall Board Meeting

by Irene Doo

The AMATYC Executive Board met at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cincinnati, OH, on October 29–November 1, 2006. During the meeting, the Board took the following actions:

- Approved the 2007 Outer Banks Summer Institute, Ed Laughbaum, director, the 2007 Teacher Preparation Summer Institute, Jim Chesla, director, and the Math Across the Community College Curriculum (MAC³) 2007 Summer Institute and 2008 Winter Institute, Deann Leoni and Rebecca Hartzler, directors.
- Approved four themed sessions for the 2007 AMATYC Annual conference in Minneapolis.
- Approved a symposium on MAC³ and Quantitative Literacy at the 2007 AMATYC Annual conference in Minneapolis.
- Appointed Jim Matovina, CC of Southern Nevada, as Local Events Coordinator for the 2009 AMATYC Annual Conference in Las Vegas.
- Reaffirmed the position statements on “Guidelines for Internships for Two-Year College Mathematics Faculty,” “Working Conditions of Adjunct Faculty,” and “Support for Professional Development.”
- Appointed Craig Hardesty, Manatee CC, to the Editorial Panel for The AMATYC Review.
- Reappointed Terry Nyman, Univ of Wisconsin-Fox Valley; Linda Tonolli, Bismarck State College; Ellen Schneider, Dona Ana Branch CC; and Pat Kinney, Wisconsin TC, to the Editorial Panel for *The AMATYC Review*.
- Reappointed Marylynne Abbott to the Program Committee.
- Reviewed the position statement on “The Use of Technology in Mathematics Education,” sponsored by the Technology in Mathematics Education committee.
- Approved the structure and budget for the AMATYC Project ACCCESS Cohorts 4 and 5.

2007 Annual AMATYC Conference Relocates to Minneapolis

Mark your calendar for **November 1-4, 2007**, and meet us in Minneapolis! The conference was relocated from New Orleans to Minneapolis when AMATYC learned last fall that its conference hotel in New Orleans planned its reopening for September 2007, but the date was not firm or predictable. Another delay could have prevented AMATYC or you from making alternate conference plans.

At our request, the New Orleans Hyatt has released AMATYC from its contract. Alternate facilities were not available in New Orleans, so the conference will be held in Minneapolis. The 2007 Annual AMATYC Conference will retain the New Orleans logo and theme and will be dedicated to the city of New Orleans and our colleagues from there.

The New Orleans local planning committee with the AMATYC affiliate, LaMsMATYC, is joining forces with colleagues in the Minneapolis area and MinnMATYC to host one of the most powerful AMATYC conferences on record. The conference theme, *Building a Better Tomorrow*, is a theme AMATYC members work toward each day.

Why would you go to Minneapolis (besides meeting great friends and colleagues)?

- Minneapolis was named 1 of 5 up-and-coming destinations in 2006 by *Travel and Leisure* magazine. *Popular Science* magazine rated Minneapolis as the top city for technology in 2005. Minneapolis is one of “7 Cool Cities” according to *Kiplinger’s* magazine, 2005.
- Mall of America—Shop like never before! When it comes to shopping, Minneapolis is *the* destination. With the Mall of America only a train ride from your hotel and the flagship Target Store an easy walk from your hotel, you will want to bring family and friends to enjoy this Shopper’s Dream.
- Minneapolis offers world class dining and nightlife, theatre and music, and some of the best in arts and museums.
- Take in an amusement park or historical tour.
- Hop on the train—or take the bus. The Minneapolis light rail transit is near the conference hotels and runs from both airport terminals to Mall of America, the Warehouse District, and to historic Fort Snelling. With 17 stations, you can enjoy short bursts of entertainment along with attending informative sessions and workshops at the conference. Bus transportation is available right outside each hotel for travel throughout the metro area.
- The Minneapolis skyway system is one floor above the ground and gives ready access to both hotels, restaurants, shopping and entertainment, regardless of the weather or traffic. You can walk and enjoy 7 miles of climate-controlled bliss!

AMATYC Southwest Regional Conference

The 2007 Southwest Regional AMATYC Conference will be held in San Antonio, TX, on June 15-16, 2007. The Call for Proposals and hotel information is available on the conference website at www.swregion.matyc.org.

The conference invited speakers will be Joseph Gallian and Gloria White. Joseph Gallian is a distinguished professor of teaching and mathematics at the Univ of Minnesota Duluth and is the 2006 president-elect for MAA. He has received many honors throughout his career including the 2003 CASE and The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching Minnesota Professor of the Year award. Gloria White is the managing director for the Charles A. Dana Center at the Univ of Texas in Austin. White has also served as deputy assistant commissioner and director of Teacher Quality Grants at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as well as a mathematics faculty member and dean at Oberlin College in Ohio.



AMATYC Goes International!

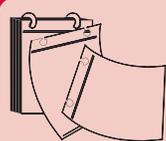
by Steve Krevisky

At the AMATYC Conference in Cincinnati, we sponsored a successful session on International Mathematics Education. Presenters Steve Krevisky, Margie Hobbs, and Marilyn Mays spoke about their various experiences at international mathematics conferences. These included the International Congress on Mathematics Education (ICME), and the International Conference on Teaching Statistics (ICOTS). Slides of the ICME in Japan and the ICOTS in Brazil helped to liven up the proceedings, so that members of the audience could see what it was like to be at these gatherings, and also partake of the culture. Judy King, who attended an international conference in Istanbul, Turkey, shared her experiences at that conference.

The next ICME will be in Monterrey, Mexico, in July 2008, and the International AMATYC Network (ANet) members encourage you to attend and be part of this special event, held every four years in a different part of the world. The ICME website should be up soon, with information about registration, housing, Working Group and Topic Group selection, local tours, and so forth. Travel grants are expected to be available, through NCTM, with funding from NSF. The ANet members encourage you to apply for a grant when the application becomes available. In the past, ANet members have had a session at ICME on Two-Year Colleges and other Tertiary Institutions, and hope to have one in 2008.

International mathematics education is expected to be a priority in the future. All members are invited to participate! Goals of the ANet include a newsletter for communication with interested members, to allow the members to share best practices in international mathematics education, to hold sessions at future AMATYC conferences, to establish a calendar of international mathematics conferences, and to build a core of people who are interested in international mathematics education.

Please contact Steve Krevisky, skrevisky@mxcc.commnet.edu, for more information.



AMATYC Calendar of Events

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

February 9-10, 2007 WYMATYC/Wyoming Articulation Conference, Univ of Wyoming, Laramie, WY. Contact: Lynne Ipinia, ipina@uwyo.edu

February 16-17, 2007 18th Annual GMATYC Meeting/Georgia Perimeter Math Conference, Georgia Perimeter College-Lawrenceville, Lawrenceville, GA. Contact: Kouok Law, klaw@gpc.edu

February 16-17, 2007 Joint FTYCMA/MAA Regional Meeting, Tallahassee CC, Tallahassee, FL. Contact: Byron Dyce, byron.dyce@sfcc.edu

February 23, 2007 ArizMATYC Spring Meeting, Glendale CC, Phoenix, AZ. Contact: Anne Dudley, 623.845.3389, anne.dudley@gmail.com, maricopa.edu

March 2, 2007 ColoMATYC Conference, CC of Denver, Denver, CO. Contact: Gudry Doherty, gudry.doherty@ccd.edu

March 8-9, 2007 Joint SOCAMATYC/NCMATYC Meeting, Central Piedmont CC, Charlotte, NC. Contact: Suzanne Williams, 704.330.6073, suzanne.williams@cpcc.edu, or Jerry Marshall, 864.646.1368, gmarshal@tctc.edu

March 29-31, 2007 MOMATYC Conference, Three Rivers CC, Poplar Bluff, MO. Contact: Jason Pallett, jason.pallett@mcckc.edu

April 13, 2007 NEBMATYC Conference, Central CC, Hastings, NE. Contact: Sharon Ostdiek, sostdiek@ccneb.edu

April 13-14, 2007 2007 VMATYC Conference, Thomas Nelson CC-Hampton, Hampton, VA. Contact: Sarah Martin, smartin@vwccs.edu

April 13-15, 2007 NMMATYC Annual Conference, Univ of New Mexico-Valencia Campus, Los Lunas, NM. Contact: Mary Robinson, 505.925.8622, maryrobn@unm.edu

April 19-21, 2007 21st Annual ORMATYC Conference, Inn at Spanish Head Resort Hotel, Lincoln City, OR. Website: www.ormatyc.org. Contact: Ronda Kingstad, rkingsta@pcc.edu

April 20-22, 2007 2007 NYSMATYC Annual Conference, Holiday Inn Select (soon to be Crowne Plaza), Niagara Falls, NY. Contact: George Hurlburt, 607.962.9324, hurlburt@coming-cc.edu

April 26-28, 2007 2007 Northwest Two-Year College Mathematics Conference and WAMATYC Meeting, Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel, Wenatchee, WA. Contact: Anne Gardner, agardner@wvc.edu

April 27-28, 2007 MinnMATYC/MCTM Conference, Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, Duluth, MN. Contact: Nicole Lang, nicole.lang@nhcc.edu

April 27-28, 2007 OhioMATYC/T³ Regional Conference, Rhodes State College, Lima, OH. Contact: Rodney Null, null.r@rhodesstate.edu

June 15-16, 2007 Southwest Regional Conference, San Antonio, TX. Conference website: www.swregion.matyc.org. Contact: Linda Zientek, lzientek@blinn.edu

November 1-4, 2007 33rd Annual AMATYC Conference, Minneapolis, MN. Contact: AMATYC Office, 901.333.4643, amatyc@amatyc.org

November 20-23, 2008 34th Annual AMATYC Conference, Washington, D.C. Contact: AMATYC Office, 901.333.4643, amatyc@amatyc.org

November 12-15, 2009 35th Annual AMATYC Conference, Las Vegas, NV. Contact: AMATYC Office, 901.333.4643, amatyc@amatyc.org

AMATYC Cincinnati 2006

by Jan Hoeweler, Rick Pal, Jim Roznowski

Cincinnati welcomed AMATYC to “keep.. current with the standards” along the banks of the beautiful Ohio River. The *Beyond Crossroads* document was featured throughout the conference, from the Keynote Address by Wade Ellis to the symposium, workshops and themed session that focused on various *Beyond Crossroads* concepts.



Wade Ellis
Photo by Gordon Morioka

Following Wade’s address at the Opening Session, *Beyond Crossroads* was unveiled and distributed to all those who were present. First timer Joan Lipsmeyer, North Arkansas College, reported that she attended the conference, “Primarily for the unveiling of *Beyond Crossroads*.”

All sessions, including computer sessions, were held on site in the Duke Energy Center making it easy to attend many great sessions. The 14 laptops in the Internet room with its extended hours were kept busy, and those arriving on Wednesday evening after long flights said they appreciated the sandwiches and snacks in the hospitality suite. First timer Merrie Van Loy, South Texas College, said that she attended, “To Learn—anything and everything that can help me as a teacher.”



Garrett Gregor, Christopher Milner (first-time attendee),
William Quinn, Jr.
Photo by Gordon Morioka

Special sessions titled, AMATYC 101, 201, and 299 offered members valuable information on how to make the most of the conference experience to how to grow as a member. Conference expectations ran high with many participants willing to share their reasons for attending the conference. Cathy Hawn, North Arkansas College offered, “For classroom ideas. For motivation. To meet people.” Lauren Rossi, Delaware Tech CC, wrote, “This is my first year teaching and I wanted to learn some educational techniques.” Evaluations indicated that attendees learned a lot from other AMATYC members and had fun doing it. The evaluations also gave the AMATYC leadership some ideas for improvement in the future.



Dana Calland, Sharon Griggs, Martha Muenks, Lillie Crowley
Photo by Darrell H. Abney

When historians look back at AMATYC conferences and ask when we established the standards that are cornerstone of our current curriculum, they will have to look no further than the 2006 conference in Cincinnati. Under a clear cold Ohio night at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, AMATYC celebrated the unveiling of *Beyond Crossroads*.



Bill Steenken
Photo by Jonathan Mowers

President Mowers awarded a Presidential Award to Bill Steenken for his service to *Beyond Crossroads* and for his leadership, persuasiveness, persistence, and imagination that allowed AMATYC to celebrate in the fabulous setting at the Freedom Center. Along with his able team, Bill worked with caterers, bus companies, local industry, college deans and presidents. This was in addition to his invaluable help on the writing and promotion of *Beyond Crossroads*. OhioMATYC and the local committee were delighted to give this special evening to conference



attendees and hope all were inspired by the visit to the unique museum.

Greg Tobin, Publisher at Pearson Addison-Wesley, was also awarded a Presidential Award for his ongoing support of AMATYC, two-year college mathematics, and the *Beyond Crossroads* project. Pearson Addison-Wesley generously supported the design, publication, printing, and mailing of the document and Executive Summary.



Greg Tobin
Photo by Jonathan Mowers

Other important contributions include Greg's support for the Student Mathematics League scholarship and for the sponsorship of the Two-Year College reception at the Joint Mathematics Meetings.

Colin Adams, or rather his cousin Sir Randolph Bacon III, gave one of the most entertaining Saturday breakfast speeches that AMATYC has ever had on "...What Knot to Do When Sailing."



Colin Adams
Photo by Gordon Morioka



Nancy Sattler, Chair of *Beyond Crossroads* Rollout Committee and Bill Steenken, orange-shirted volunteers
Photo by Jonathan Mowers

It won't be long until attendees forget that Cincinnati's color was purple and remember it only as the conference of the orange shirts! Attendees commented there seemed to be orange shirts everywhere answering questions, giving directions and welcoming folks to Cincinnati. That was the intention of the local events committee- to be the most organized, friendly, and fun conference ever!



Rikki Blair and Sam White at the Exhibits
Photo by Darrell H. Abney

The local committee, OhioMATYC, and the Midwest Region thank everyone for joining them at the 2006 conference in Cincinnati. They hope you as much fun participating in the conference as they had bringing it to you.

Alaska

Jane Weber and Debbie Moses received a grant to explore new ideas for teaching developmental mathematics and using technology for mathematics labs. For more information, contact Jane at ffjw@uaf.edu.

Arizona

New leadership at ArizMATYC includes president, **Shay Cardell**; president-elect, **Ken Hurley**; and past president, **Dan Russow**.

At the fall 2006 ArizMATYC Conference, "The Crossroads and Beyond," **Alan Jacobs**, AMATYC Teaching Excellence award winner, gave an inspiring keynote address, recounting his experiences as a teacher during a series of mathematics reforms, and challenging mathematics instructors to examine their own teaching practices in light of the *Beyond Crossroads* recommendations.

Guest Speaker **Jonathan David Farley** shared anecdotes and film clips from his role as a mathematics consultant for Hollywood productions including *Medium* and *NUMB3RS*. **David Graser**, *Beyond Crossroads* Digital Products Coordinator, outlined the structure of the *Beyond Crossroads Live!* digital products website and invited everyone to submit digital products and links.

Colorado

Shawna Mahan, Pikes Peak CC, was awarded the Developmental Faculty of the Year Award through CoADE. Shawna has also started a mathematics club at Pikes Peak CC called "infinity plus one."

ColoMATYC has two new officers. **Gudryn Doherty**, CC of Denver, has been elected conference coordinator, and **Norman Lemay** is the new web master.

Georgia

Calandra Davis and **Jessica Craig** have the new GMATYC blog up and running. Check it out. It is linked from the GMATYC homepage, www.gmatyc.org.

Indiana

Janet Teeguarden, Ivy Tech CC of Indiana and past IRMC president, presented a session called "Beyond the Textbook: Getting Developmental Students Involved in Mathematics" at the Third International Conference on the Teaching of Mathematics (ICTM-3) in Istanbul, Turkey in July 2006.

Kansas

Mike Martin, Johnson County CC, has received an NSF DUE CCLI grant entitled "Mathematical Methods for Biology and Medicine." Mike also received the League of Innovation in the Community College's Innovator of the Year Award for developing calculus concepts videos. At the fall meeting at KAMATYC, **Steve Wilson** of Johnson County CC was elected president of KAMATYC for 2007.

Michigan

At its fall meeting, MichMATYC awarded student scholarships to Amir Sabet Sarvestani, Oakland CC and Dan Lambert, Schoolcraft College. Both are now attending the Univ of Michigan.

Minnesota

Marilyn Treder, Rochester CC, received the MinnMATYC Distinguished Teaching Award for 2006 at the spring conference in Duluth MN. This award is given to a mathematics teacher from one of the community or technical colleges who exhibits distinguished teaching and teaching learning relationships that lead to student success.

Normandale CC's tutor training program received accreditation from CRLA, the College Reading and Learning Association. The Education Training Academy, EdTrAc, at Normandale was awarded the Best Practices in Teacher Preparation Programs Trophy from the NACCTEP. **Stacy Jurgens**, ACCESS Fellow from Mesabi Range Comm and Tech College, is the recipient of a 2006 Regional Applied Mathematics Project Grant.

Missouri

East Central CC has received a Title III grant to pilot courses that incorporate different software packages into the curriculum. **Ann Boehmer**, **Shaun Robenson**, and **Becky Schantz**, all of East Central CC, are incorporating assessment software, ModuMath and Scientific Notebook, into their classes as a result of the grant. **Kathy Ballard** and **Russell Murray** have started a student mathematics club at St. Louis CC-Meramec. This club sponsors a series of talks to expand the interest of students in a variety of math related topics.

Nebraska

The new officers for NEBMATYC are president, **John Miller**, Northeast CC; president-elect, **Dale Johanson**, Northeast CC; treasurer, **Debi Martin**, Metropolitan CC; secretary, **Michael Flesch**, Metropolitan CC; newsletter editor, **Connie Buller**, Metropolitan CC; and conference chair, **Sharon Ostdiek**, Central CC.

New Mexico

This year the NMMATYC conference is going to be held jointly with the Southwest Section of MAA. The keynote speaker will be **Nancy Hagelsgans**.

North Dakota

NDMATYC held their 11th annual fall workshop in Carrington, ND, on Oct. 6-7. **Pete Wildman** and **Kendall Jacobs** of Casper College were the featured speakers.

Pennsylvania

"Achieving Student Success in the College Mathematics Classroom" was the theme of the Mathematics Conference held on Friday, October 6, 2006.

The program included two exciting keynote sessions, featuring "Breaking the Failure Syndrome: A Model for Success," by **Anita Kitchens** of Appalachian State Univ and "Improving Retention in Developmental Math by Incorporating Math Study Skills," by **Paul Nolting** of Manatee CC.

The conference allowed colleagues to acquire new skills, share effective instructional methods, create awareness about mathematics issues, and promote more interaction and mutual understanding in the mathematics classroom.

Utah

On Sept. 23, 2006, UMATYC held its annual fall conference at Central Utah Univ in Price, UT. **Laural Howard**, Utah

Future AMATYC Conferences

2007	New Orleans in Minneapolis	November 1-4
2008	Washington, D.C.	November 20-23
2009	Las Vegas	November 12-15
2010	Boston	November 11-14
2011	Austin	November 10-13

Valley State College has received a presidential awards grant to investigate factors which lead to learning difficulties in developmental mathematics students.

Virginia

VMATYC sponsored one-day regional meetings in each of its four regions this fall, coordinated and planned by the respective regional vice-president. Some of them had several sessions of presentations, others had one main speaker. There was time at each meeting for attendees to gather for roundtable discussions concerning specific mathematics areas of developmental, statistics, precalculus, liberal arts, and calculus.

VMATYC reimbursed AMATYC conference registration, following a competitive application process, for two of its members as an encouragement to increase the interest in AMATYC. Each applicant selected some topic or area of mathematics, in which they were interested, to focus on at the various sessions at the conference. **Cathy Hoffmaster**, Thomas Nelson CC, and **Sarah Martin**, Virginia Western CC, will each present a session at the spring VMATYC conference, sharing with other members what they learned and their experiences at the conference.

Washington

Green River CC will host the first annual Western Washington Community College Student Mathematics Conference on February 24, 2007. For more information, contact **Mike Kenyon** at mkenyon@greenriver.edu.

Chris Milner from Clark College in Vancouver, WA, was awarded the Faculty Excellence Award last spring. He was one of three faculty given this award out of approximately 120 faculty.

Beverly Parnell from Yakima Valley CC received a \$1,000 Exceptional Faculty Award to attend the 2006 AMATYC Conference in Cincinnati.

South Seattle CC has developed a new modular mathematics lab class. Modules 1-20 cover all developmental classes. Students are placed in only topics/modules in which they do not show competence through a diagnostic placement in the first week. For more information, contact **Marjie Vittum-Jones** at mvjones@sccd.ctc.edu.

Wisconsin

The Math Club of Madison Area Technical College is hosting a Sudoku Festival on April 29, 2007, as a part of Mathematics Awareness Month. Festival activities will include "Who Wants to be a Sudoku Master," a mathematics competition for high school students (top prize \$1000) and a presentation on Sudoku. For more information about this and other club activities, visit <http://matcmadison.edu/studentlife/clubs/mathclub>.

Wyoming

Valerie Harris, **Carol Rardin**, and **Suki Smaglik**, Central Wyoming CC, participated in the MAC³ summer institute in 2006 on developing connections between geology and mathematics. They have also received an NSF grant "Geo-Spatial Development" to allow them to further develop these connections.

At the annual WYMATYC meeting/Wyoming Articulation Conference in February 2007, there will be a special half day session designed to facilitate conversations on assessment and placement between P-20 educators in Wyoming. The meeting will also feature a talk from **Eli Manor** on Mercator Projections.

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

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AMATYC's Academic Committees

by Jim Roznowski

Interested in working with your colleagues from around the U.S. and Canada on issues that concern you? Want to be more involved in your AMATYC? Have we got an opportunity for you!

At the close of the 2007 AMATYC conference, AMATYC's new academic committee structure will take effect. The seven academic committees will be: Innovative Pedagogy Strategies, Division/Department Issues, Placement/Assessment, Teacher Preparation, Mathematics for AAS Programs, Developmental Mathematics, and Mathematics Intensive/College Mathematics. Some are continuations of existing committees, some are combinations of existing committees, and some are totally new. All are designed to help you provide your students with the best learning experience possible.

If you would like to play a role in helping these committees begin their work, please consider volunteering to chair a committee or to serve as your region's representative on a committee's executive board. To apply to be a committee chair, complete the application form at amatyc.org by March 1, 2007. President-Elect Rikki Blair will recommend committee chair appointments for approval by AMATYC's Executive Board. To serve as a regional representative, contact your regional vice-president who will appoint a member to each committee's board. At-large committee membership continues to be available to all AMATYC members.

Watch for more information about committee activities and ways for you to become more involved in future issues of the **AMATYC News**.

The **AMATYC News** includes brief obituaries of interest to AMATYC members after notice by family or friends and with the permission of the family. Brief obituaries (50-60 words) will also be published on the AMATYC website and can be accessed through www.amatyc.org/MemberResources/memorial.htm or by starting at www.amatyc.org and linking through Member Resources. Please send notices to Beverly Vance at amatyc@amatyc.org.

Outer Banks Summer Institute
"Developmental/Remedial Algebra
Using a Function Approach"
 Duck, North Carolina, June 17-22, 2007
 by Ed Laughbaum

Why you should attend:

The 9th annual AMATYC Outer Banks Summer Institute will provide an interesting investigation and analysis of the pedagogy used in teaching developmental algebra from a function approach. Learn why teaching algebra through a declarative statement of a mathematical concept or process followed by eight examples is inappropriate and counter to learning, understanding, and long-term memory. Learn why every mathematical concept and process must be developed within a contextual situation. Learn why we should revisit every mathematical concept taught, and why practice (homework) isn't really that helpful to long-term memory. Learn why we should not begin the teaching of a concept with symbols, but rather, with visual information. Learn why we must use a variety of methods when teaching developmental algebra. Learn how we can "speed-up" the learning process. Learn how to guide the student to an understanding of a mathematical concept or process. And finally, learn to have fun through all this.

Comments from last year:

- I want to thank you again for encouraging me to attend because it was one of the most useful and thought provoking workshops that I have attended. The workshop was elegantly crafted. It has provided me with clarity and direction. (Doug Guy, Dedham, MA)
- The Developmental Algebra I attended in June 2006 blew my mind! Finally, 30 years after my first course in algebra, I was able to see (at least part of) the "big picture" of why we learn and continue teaching algebra. As presented, the function approach opened my eyes to actual uses of algebra as a tool to real world problem solving. (Sue Andreadis, Washington, DC)
- This class has been an eye opener to the opportunities available for students to better grasp the function approach using all the tools a calculator offers. The entire resource notebook is designed to prompt students to make their own observations and as a group make an educated conclusion through specific question techniques that cause students to think outside the box. (Avery Soloman, Virginia Beach, VA)
- This course has helped me learn how to transition the graphing calculator from a learning crutch to a viable learning tool. (Jesse Encapera, Winchester, VA)

A function approach:

Teaching from a function approach means **using functions and function behaviors** to teach mathematics such as factoring, equation solving, arithmetic operations on polynomials, systems of equations, inequalities, properties of inequalities, definitions, concept of asymptotic behavior, absolute value, slope, laws of exponents, etc. Using unique materials, we will reorder the algebra content and use function concepts to develop understanding of, interest in, and long-term memory of traditional algebraic ideas. We will capitalize on cognitive processes of associations, pattern building, attention, visualizations, meaning, the enriched teaching environment, distributed learning, and priming. We will model how to teach developmental/remedial algebra through a function approach with graphing calculators, and demonstrate why they are crucial to teaching and learning.

Registration info:

Please go to www.amatyc.org/Events/summer-institutes.htm for registration information.

Join us for the MAC³
Summer Institute in
Washington State!

Leavenworth, Washington, August 7-10, 2007
 by Deann Leoni

Applications are now being accepted for the 2007 "Mathematics Across the Community College Curriculum" (MAC³) Summer Institute. The institute will be held August 7-10, 2007, at the Sleeping Lady Mountain Retreat Center in Leavenworth, WA. Funding for the institute is provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation (DUE Award No. 0442439).

Who can attend this institute? Faculty from all disciplines who wish to create curriculum integrating mathematics or quantitative reasoning (QR) are invited to attend this institute. Participants are strongly encouraged to attend in interdisciplinary teams. Teams should be comprised of a mathematics instructor who serves as a mathematics mentor for at least one non-mathematics instructor seeking to enrich curriculum or courses with mathematical or QR components. The institute will feature workshops on interdisciplinary teaching and bringing mathematics/QR into other courses, a computer lab with Internet access, experienced consultants, and time to work.

What size of project is suitable? MAC³ projects can be as small as single assignments or they can be very big (creation of entirely new courses or campus-wide initiatives). Projects from previous participants have incorporated mathematics or QR into disciplines such as anthropology, art history, biology, business, chemistry, economics, English, environmental science, ESL, health, labor studies, and physics. See the MAC³ website at www.mac3.amatyc.org for a complete list of past projects.

How much does it cost? The cost to attend the institute is only \$100 per person, and this fee includes room and meals for the 4-day, 3-night institute (the remainder of the costs are paid by the NSF grant). You or your college must provide all travel costs.

How do I apply? You can find the application form and information online at www.mac3.amatyc.org/institutes.htm. Applications, including a narrative describing your proposed project, are due by April 13, 2007. Enrollment is limited to 40 participants.

Who do I contact with questions? For additional information about the institute, go to the MAC³ website at www.mac3.amatyc.org or email Deann Leoni at mac3@amatyc.org. For additional information about the conference facilities, see www.sleepinglady.com.

Don't miss this opportunity to work with your colleagues to create curriculum that will extend mathematics beyond the mathematics classroom, all while enjoying a retreat setting in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains in Washington State!

Teacher Preparation Summer Institute

Grand Rapids, Michigan,
June 26-30, 2007
by Jim Chesla

Grand Rapids CC will host the AMATYC Teacher Preparation Summer Institute on “Mathematical Preparation For Future Elementary Teachers.” The main purpose will be to provide teachers of future teachers with the concepts, activities, and techniques useful to K-8 teachers. Participants will use manipulatives and learning centers to creatively investigate ideas in problem solving, number theory, discrete mathematics, and measurement. Course materials used in elementary schools will be analyzed as potential resources for content delivery in our courses. This institute will be of particular interest to instructors who are new to teaching a course specifically for future teachers or veterans looking for extended knowledge. All registrants will receive useful activities for their own classrooms.

The institute will be held at Grand Rapids Community College’s Applied Technology Center. Accommodations can be arranged at a number of downtown hotels that are within walking distance of GRCC. The registration fee for the event will be \$290 for AMATYC members and \$365 for non-members. Participants will enjoy a welcome dinner on June 26, as well as continental breakfast and lunch provided daily. Grand Rapids and the west coast of Michigan offer a variety of sightseeing and outdoor activities. Please contact Jim Chesla at jchesla@grcc.edu for more information.

Distance Learning

by Mary Beth Orrange

The Distance Learning Committee met at the 2006 AMATYC Conference in Cincinnati and held a valuable discussion on “What’s New?” in Distance Learning in Mathematics Courses. One of the major themes of the discussion was the blending of commercially-produced content and individually-produced enhancements in online courses. Commercial products offer professionally-developed, technologically rich materials that are often beyond the skill-set of an individual teacher to create. The addition of teacher-produced enhancements provides a personal dimension to the course that is not possible in the standardized commercial product. Committee members suggested using commercial packages such as Thinkwell.com, MathXL, and MyMathLab for actual math content presentation. For the personal touch, Serious Magic was recommended as a tool for the creation of mini-movies for online use to create a three-minute introductory video of yourself welcoming students to your online class. Camtasia and SnagIt, screen capture and editing software produced by TechSmith, were also recommended for adding a personal touch to your math course site. Free 30-day trial versions of these two products are available at www.techsmith.com/. ScreenWatch, a lecture recording software that captures the screen and automatically compresses the material, was another recommended product. A free trial version of ScreenWatch Producer 6.0 is available at www.screenwatch.com/screenwatch.html

The Committee discussion included other helpful suggestions to enhance student learning at a distance. Several individuals recommended the use of virtual calculators in online classes. One committee member described the use of Podcasting (utilizing audio MP3 files) to teach math at a distance and another detailed the use of live online-conferencing in classes.

Discussions on relevant topics such as this are held by the Distance Learning Committee throughout the year using the MathViaDistance email list. To join, send Mary Beth Orrange an email at orange@ecc.edu.

Technology in Mathematics Education

by Frank Wilson

The TiME Committee hosted an open forum on the proposed position statement, “The Use of Technology in Mathematics Education” at the 2006 AMATYC Annual Conference. More than forty people attended the forum. The committee further refined the position statement in response to feedback from forum participants. In November 2007, a final forum will be held and the position statement will be presented to the Delegate Assembly for approval.

Placement and Assessment

by Ed Gallo

The committee had a great line-up of presentations on placement and assessment at the AMATYC Conference in Cincinnati. In addition to regular 50-minute sessions, six 15-minute presentations comprised the themed session titled “Placement and Assessment: Doing It the *Beyond Crossroads* Way.” Information about these presentations can be found on the PAC website, <http://placement.amatyc.org/>.

A highlight of the Placement and Assessment Committee (PAC) meetings in Cincinnati was discussion on how we could assist in developing the *Beyond Crossroads* digital products. Jim Ham, PAC secretary and newsletter editor/website coordinator, discussed the assessment digital products found on the PAC website. If you are interested in assessment projects that follow chapter 5 of *Beyond Crossroads*, you can go to the PAC website and review some assessment digital products. If you have an example of an excellent assessment project and want to share it with others in AMATYC, get in touch with Jim (jaham@alpha.delta.edu).

The latest PAC Newsletter and information about the PAC and its three subcommittees (Classroom Assessment, Course and Program Assessment, and Placement) are available on the PAC website. Also, if you want to become a member of the PAC, send an email to Jim Ham.

As a final note, the committee is reviewing the AMATYC “Placement” position statement. A copy of it is on the PAC website. You can help by contacting Ed Gallo at ed.gallo@sinclair.edu with your thoughts about whether or not the “Placement” position statement needs any revisions.

AMATYC Seeks Two Volunteers

AMATYC is seeking members to fill the positions of Traveling Workshop Coordinator and Website Coordinator.

Personal Qualities

- Well organized and can work on a regular schedule
- Ability to communicate and work well with colleagues and to provide leadership
- Ability to take direction from and work with others cooperatively
- AMATYC member with a Regular or Life membership.

Compensation

- *Tangible:* Some support for attendance at the AMATYC Annual Conference
- *Intangible:* Intellectual stimulation, satisfaction, professional development and the satisfaction of serving your profession.

To be considered for either position, send the following materials electronically to Kathy Mowers at Kathy.Mowers@kctcs.edu:

- Cover letter expressing interest in the position and citing relevant experience for this position
- Vita
- Reference from a host of a workshop or presentation that you have given
- Letter of support from your supervisor

Traveling Workshop Coordinator

The AMATYC Traveling Workshops Coordinator serves a major role in the promotion of the Traveling Workshop program and works closely with the board liaison and the AMATYC Office. Traveling Workshops support the professional development of two-year college mathematics faculty in mathematical content, pedagogy, curriculum development, and other areas approved by the AMATYC Executive Board. The coordinator's duties include but are not limited to:

- Working with those requesting a Traveling Workshop to clarify the topic(s) for the workshop and selecting an appropriate facilitator for the workshop
- Promoting the AMATYC Traveling Workshops through activities such as, but not limited to, collaborating with AMATYC committees, directors, and coordinators, revising the Traveling Workshop Brochure, communicating with AMATYC affiliates and institutional members, and writing five different articles per year on Traveling Workshops for the AMATYC News.
- Coordinating the recruitment of new Traveling Workshop facilitators and their orientation and training at the annual conference
- Maintaining regular contact with all Traveling Workshop facilitators.
- Designing and reviewing evaluations of Traveling Workshops and recommending changes in topics, procedures, or fees.
- Working with individuals on proposals for new traveling workshop strands.
- Carrying out other duties necessary to promote successful Traveling Workshops.

Qualifications

- Good written and verbal communication skills
- Experience as a workshop presenter
- Experience in program evaluation
- Ability to respond to requests for Traveling Workshops promptly

Term: Three years (renewable)

Review of materials will begin on **February 15, 2007**, and the position will remain open until filled.

Website Coordinator

AMATYC is seeking an AMATYC member to serve as Website Coordinator for a two-year (renewable) term beginning on November 4, 2007. The website coordinator maintains AMATYC's website. The website must be maintained with a consistent, professional, attractive design scheme, and up-to-date content that supports AMATYC's mission. Additional information is available at www.amatyc.org.

Qualifications

- Experience with website publishing including page creation and editing, linking, basic graphics, HTML, and forms.
- Ability to communicate, including with non-technical persons, and work well with colleagues and provide leadership.
- An ability and willingness to learn more about website publishing as new site requirements emerge.
- Knowledge of Javascript, Java applets, PERL and/or CGI scripts are desirable.
- Ability to respond to requests for quick website updating

Questions regarding the position should be addressed to Mary Robinson at maryrobn@unm.edu

Review of materials will begin on **March 1, 2007**, and the position will remain open until filled.

Mathematics Excellence Award

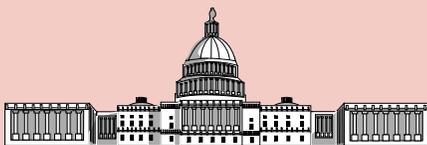
Nominations are open for the AMATYC Mathematics Excellence Award. Nominations are due by **Friday, November 2, 2007**. Complete information may be found on the AMATYC website at <http://www.amatyc.org/awards/MathExcellence/index.htm>.

Window on Washington

by Rob Farinelli

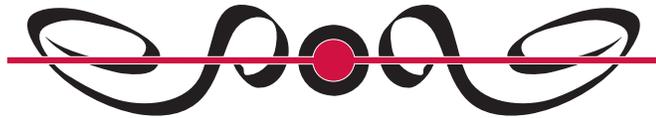
The Higher Education Act (HEA) is immensely important to community colleges. The HEA contains all the major federal student financial aid programs such as Pell Grants, Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL), Direct Loans (DL) and Federal Work-Study. The HEA expired in 2004 and has not been successfully reauthorized. It has been extended repeatedly on a short-term basis (currently through June 30, 2007). House Democrats have stated their intent to reduce student loan interest rates by half. If this is achieved early in the next Congress, it could reduce the impetus to pass a full-fledged reauthorization bill. As a policy matter, community colleges will want to consider whether this reduction in interest rates is the best way to use federal subsidies to give institutions additional student grant funds if they switch to the Direct Loan program rather than the bank-based FFEL program. This structure is based on the rationale that the DL program costs the federal government less than the private sector FFEL and that students attending school participating in the DL program should benefit. For-profit colleges have had unusual sway in the HEA reauthorization debate and that is not expected to change.

It remains unclear whether the new Congress will attempt to translate into law the various recommendations of the Spellings Commission on the Future of Higher Education. These recommendations are extraordinarily broad, touching on such areas as completion rates, learning outcomes, accreditation, college costs, transfer-of-credit, etc.



Co-Local Events Coordinator Appointed for 2007

Keven Dockter will join Pat Roux, Louisiana, as co-local events coordinator for the 33rd Annual AMATYC conference to be held in Minneapolis, MN, November 1-4, 2007. Keven is a faculty member at Inver Hills CC located in the St. Paul, MN, suburb of Inver Grove Heights. Keven has taught computer science, engineering, and mathematics courses, and coached football and baseball. He has served as president and past-president of MinnMATYC, being one of the principal organizers of the past four statewide conferences. He is currently a member of the Minnesota K-12 Mathematics Standards Revision committee. Keven said, "I am excited that MinnMATYC will co-host the 2007 AMATYC conference and will work extremely hard to make the conference enjoyable to all who attend."



*** Project ACCCESS (continued from page 3)

The program will partially support groups of twenty-four Fellows each year. Participants must be two-year college mathematics faculty in the first to third years of a full-time, renewable position at the time of participation. Fellows will be selected on the basis of breadth of interests, motivation for participation, plans for implementing project goals, and degree of institutional support. Fellows will attend two consecutive AMATYC conferences (Minneapolis and Washington, D.C.) where they will participate in pre-conference workshops as well as regular conference activities. In the intervening year, Fellows are encouraged to attend an AMATYC affiliate meeting near their home institution. For the duration of the project, an electronic network will link AMATYC Project ACCCESS Fellows with each other and with a group of distinguished mathematics educators. The development, implementation, and evaluation of an individual project will play a key role in each Fellow's professional development experience. In addition to learning and networking opportunities, Fellows will receive one-year memberships in AMATYC for each year of their Fellowship, and will receive a selection of resource and reference materials for their professional library.

Application materials will be available in spring 2007. More information about AMATYC Project ACCCESS may be found at www.access.amatyc.org/

The AMATYC Review

The AMATYC Review invites manuscripts and reviewers. Author Guidelines and Reviewer Surveys may be obtained from the editor, Barbara Rives, Abilene Christian Univ, 204 Hardin Admin Bldg, ACU Box 29140, Abilene, TX 79699-9140. Author Guidelines may also be found at www.amatyc.org/publications/AMATYC-Review/AuthorGuidelines.htm.

New AMATYC Foundation Fund

by Judy E. Ackerman, Foundation Chair

The AMATYC Foundation is conducting a special fundraising effort to make it possible for members of the New Orleans Local Arrangements Committee to attend the 33rd Annual AMATYC Conference in Minneapolis



so they can continue to support local efforts at the conference. Although life continues, they and their colleges are still focused on rebuilding buildings and lives so funds to support their participation in a distant conference are nonexistent.

At our annual conference in Cincinnati, many attendees opened their wallets and contributed to the Foundation to support this special fund as well as other Foundation initiatives. The Cincinnati Local Planning Committee literally sold the shirts off their backs for to support the New Orleans Local Planning Committee. It was said that one of the shirts went for \$100. The local committee was proud to wear those flaming orange shirts during the conference so they could readily answer questions and assist conference attendees, but they were even prouder to have them used to provide assistance for their colleagues. Many conference attendees made a donation of \$50 or more at the conference and were eligible to have their name put into a special drawing for a Mickey Mouse watch. Sherry Crawford-Eyen was the lucky winner of the watch.

As of December 11, 2006, more than \$6,800 has been donated. Our goal is to raise \$15,000 to support the New Orleans Local Planning Committee's travel to Minneapolis so they can jointly host the 2007 Annual AMATYC Conference.

Donations may be made online through the AMATYC website at <https://www.alphacommerce.com/amatyc/foundation.aspx> or you can go to <http://www.amatyc.org/foundation/MakeContribution.pdf> and print out a form and mail it to the AMATYC Office. If you wish to help us bring the New Orleans local arrangements committee to Minneapolis, please indicate this on your contribution form.

Dates To Remember!

Call for Nominations for
AMATYC Office:
February 1, 2007

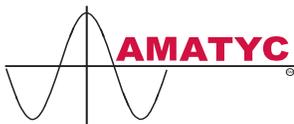
Call for Presenters and Presiders
for the 2007 AMATYC
Annual Conference:
February 1, 2007

AMATYC Positions-
Review of Materials:
Traveling Workshop Coordinator
February 15, 2007
Website Coordinator
March 1, 2007

Committee Chair Applications:
March 1, 2007

Summer Institutes-
Registration Deadlines:
MAC³ April 13, 2007
Outer Banks May 1, 2007
Teacher Prep May 15, 2007

For more information visit
www.amatyc.org



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