

# A Word from the President-Elect

In 1996, I attended my first AMATYC conference. The conference was in Long Beach, CA, and I remember it for many reasons. It was my first conference, and I met so many people from all over the country. I sat in on as many sessions as I could, learned about a grant of which I would later become part, and about the recently released publication, *Crossroads in Mathematics: Standards for Introductory College Mathematics Before Calculus* (1995), was presented to all attendees. I was a fairly new teacher and found that *Crossroads* provided me with valuable information for teaching mathematics. *The Crossroads* document was something I could take back to my department and college, so my colleagues and administrators could become familiar with the standards that AMATYC recommended for teaching mathematics. In 2006, *Beyond Crossroads: Implementing Mathematics Standards in the First Two Years of College* was released. *Crossroads* defined the standards, and then *Beyond Crossroads* described how to implement the standards. Together these documents provided valuable tools for improving mathematics education.

Since the publications of *Crossroads* and *Beyond Crossroads*, there have been many changes in mathematics education. Thus, the AMATYC leadership determined there was a need to address these changes. A team was formed to create a new document that can be a vehicle for change in mathematics departments around the nation. *IMPACT: Improving Mathematical Prowess And College Teaching* (2018) is the document to address these changes; the acronym crystallizes the intent. *IMPACT* is achieved through PROWESS, which defines the four pillars of *IMPACT*: Proficiency, Ownership, Engagement, and Student Success. All of the pillars provide valuable tools for mathematics educators.

I am proud to be one of the authors of *IMPACT* and encourage all mathematics educators to utilize this document to improve mathematics education for all students. This special edition of the *MathAMATYC Educator* focuses on the pillars in *IMPACT* and is a ripple in the pond of mathematical teaching knowledge. The articles in this edition will inspire you to be the ripple improving mathematics teaching at your institution. Thank you for being a mathematics educator and doing what you can to increase student success in mathematics.

## Kathryn Kozak

President-Elect of AMATYC

Coconino Community College

## References

American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC). (2018) *IMPACT: Improving mathematical prowess and college teaching*. Memphis, TN: Author.

Blair, R. (Ed.). (2006). *Beyond crossroads: Implementing mathematics standards in the first two years of college* [updated 2010]. Memphis, TN: American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges.

Cohen, D. (Ed.). (1995). *Crossroads in mathematics: Standards for introductory college mathematics before calculus*. Memphis, TN: American Mathematical Association for Two-Year Colleges.