

# AMATYC NEWS<sup>SM</sup>

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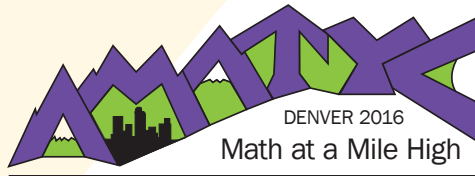
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## DENVER OR BUST!

by Erica Hastert, Denver LEC

It's not too late to elevate your AMATYC Annual Conference experience at the 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver, November 17- 20!



The biggest draw, of course, is the opportunity to talk, learn, do, and see math with colleagues and friends from around the nation. But, there is also a high probability you will enjoy the delights that Denver has to share!

To begin, right out the door of the hotel is the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall, where you can enjoy the unique (and two-dimensional!) experience of walking the mall's one mile stretch while situated one mile above sea level. This historic pedestrian mall features cultural attractions, shopping extravaganzas, and scrumptious restaurants.

Whether you just want to catch a quick movie, or are looking for a nine course gastronomic feast, you will find it on the mall. A few of our favorite places include Marlowe's (enjoy oysters and people watching at this classic saloon and chophouse), the Denver Pavilions (an open-air three-story and very three-dimensional shopping complex), and after dark horse and buggy rides.



16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall (VISIT DENVER)

Just a block away from the hotel lie the Paramount Theater and Café, and one more block takes you to the D & F Tower. The Paramount Theater regularly hosts comedy and musical acts in an intimate setting, and you can enjoy cocktails and snacks before and after the show at its café.

If the mile-high oxygen level leaves you a bit breathless, you can hop on the free Mall shuttle, and easily explore nearby attractions. Be sure

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## UPDATING BEYOND

### CROSSROADS: FOCUS ON THE THIRD STANDARD

by Mary Beth Orrange and Nancy Sattler, Co-chairs of the *Beyond Crossroads* Revision Project

The Steering committee for the *Beyond Crossroads* Revision (BCR) project continues to work on revising and updating AMATYC's signature standards documents, *Crossroads in Mathematics* and *Beyond Crossroads*. This article is the third in a series focusing on the individual standards, Standards for Pedagogy.

The original standards fit into three categories: Intellectual Development, Content, and Pedagogy. The Standards for Pedagogy recommend the use of instructional strategies that can be used in the classroom to engage students and for student constructed knowledge thinking. (American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges [AMATYC], 1995)

*Instructional strategies have a dramatic impact on what students learn. Students should Understand mathematics as opposed to memorized procedures. Knowledge cannot be "given" to students. Students should construct their own knowledge and monitor and guide their own learning and thinking.* (AMATYC, 2006, p. 6)

The Standards for Pedagogy fall into five distinct areas: teaching with technology, interactive and collaborative learning, connecting

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## SISTER ORGANIZATIONS SHARE IN DENVER

Six of the organizations mentioned in the President's Message will have a presence at the AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver. Please consider attending their sessions and give them a warm AMATYC welcome.

- AMTE - President Christine Thomas (along with Laurin R. Jordan) will present "Classroom Environments that Promote Student Engagement in Learning Algebra." (S074)
- MAA - President Francis Su will present "Mathematical Card Tricks." (S159)
- NADE - Past President Jane A. Neuburger and Treasurer Patrick Saxon will present "Who Is NADE? What Is the NADE Accreditation Commission?" (S145)
- NCSM - President John Staley will present "Leadership Tools to Guide Mathematics Educators in the Digital Age." (S107)
- NCTM - Director Cathy Martin will present "Teaching Matters: Explore NCTM Tools to Support Effective Mathematics Teaching." (S171)
- TODOS - President Diane Kinch will present "Building Discourse to Foster Equity and Rigor in Mathematics." (S141)

# President's Message



## ON THE ROAD AGAIN...

*Jane Tanner*

Onondaga CC • Syracuse, NY

I knew as AMATYC president that a lot of new opportunities would be opening up for me. I never realized the amount of traveling that I would be doing representing our organization. Input from AMATYC is being requested as we have the expertise for mathematics taught during the first two years of college, which affects all different types of institutions - community colleges, four-year colleges, and universities. We are all in this together!

AMATYC has a voice in Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS - see Collaboration Corner), as well as meetings held at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching ([www.carnegiefoundation.org/](http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/)), The Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin ([www.utdanacenter.org/](http://www.utdanacenter.org/)), and Transforming Post-Secondary Education in Mathematics (TPSE Math - [www.tpsemath.org/](http://www.tpsemath.org/)). Many meetings with these organizations are in-person, while for some we have used technology to provide an electronic presence.

AMATYC also participates in a number of presidential exchanges, meaning that the presidents are invited to speak at each other's conferences. As part of this exchange, I have had the opportunity to go out on the road, attend meetings, and give presentations for six organizations.

- Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) - A highlight was when Francis (Skip) Fennell gave the Judith Jacobs Lecture and mentioned AMATYC twice, including the possibility of a two-year college presence within AMTE.
- National Association for Developmental Education (NADE) - Many AMATYC members were involved with the National Summit on Developmental Mathematics. There were nearly 300 interested developmental mathematics educators in attendance.
- National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM) - Uri Treisman received the Ross Taylor/Glen Gilbert National Leadership Award. After the presentation, I was able to tell him

that he was receiving AMATYC's Mathematics Excellence Award later in the year. It is not a fluke that Uri is being recognized for his hard work in the field of mathematics education.

- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) - My presentation was entitled "What's Puzzling You?" and I was thrilled to meet Tetsuya Miyamoto, the creator of KenKen.
- TODOS: Mathematics for ALL - This entire conference amazed me. The organization grew out of an NCTM committee and has now held their second conference. The passion in all of the attendees was evident. A highlight was the Equity and Excellence Dinner where each organization shared their efforts on both equity and excellence in mathematics education. As an outcome, a plan was developed for a year dedicated to building collective knowledge and understanding of topics and issues related to equity and social justice in mathematics education.
- Mathematical Association of America (MAA) - AMATYC participates by having a booth at MathFest, a gathering of mathematicians from all over the world and from all levels - including faculty from two- and four-year institutions as well as graduate and undergraduate students. Everyone was there to celebrate mathematics! While staffing our booth, I was able to meet AMATYC members, as well as prospective members. In addition, graduate students were interested in learning about teaching in the first two years of college.

As you can see, AMATYC has had a presence at many different meetings this past year. I have networked with the presidents of other organizations. A camaraderie among all of us has been formed. A summary of the presentations by presidents of these organizations can be found on page one.

I hope to see you in Denver.

### ..... COLLABORATION CORNER .....

AMATYC is a member of the Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS). From their website ([www.cbmsweb.org/](http://www.cbmsweb.org/)), "CBMS is an umbrella organization consisting of seventeen professional societies all of which have as one of their primary objectives the increase or diffusion of knowledge in one or more of the mathematical sciences. Its purpose is to promote understanding and cooperation among these national organizations so that they work together and support each other in their efforts to promote research, improve education, and expand the uses of mathematics."

Executive Director Wanda Garner and President Jane Tanner attend CBMS meetings bi-annually in May and December. In addition to the 17 professional societies at these meetings, representatives from other organizations are invited to address the board with is-

suues of common concern. For example, Transforming Post-Secondary Education in Mathematics (TPSE Math), National Science Foundation (NSF), Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), and Smarter Balance have all made presentations.

A recent collaboration is a statement on active learning that was written by CBMS member society presidents. This was developed over a period of six months with writing teams from the various societies. The statement can be read at [www.cbmsweb.org/Statements/Active\\_Learning\\_Statement.pdf](http://www.cbmsweb.org/Statements/Active_Learning_Statement.pdf). It should be noted that this statement is endorsed only by the society's president and not the society itself.

# A PRIME TIME TO TRY A NEW IDEA: THE CALL FOR PRESENTERS AND PRESIDERS FOR 2017

by Judy Williams, Program Coordinator



Participate in the first AMATYC Table Talk Chat & Chew session at the AMATYC Annual Conference in San Diego, November 9 - 12, 2017. Buy your food from the hotel or bring your own snack to the designated room and join the table of your choice for a lively discussion.

Just a few of the possible table topics could be The "App" of the Hour, Top Tech Idea, Hands-On Math, Effective Use of the First (or Last) Five Minutes of Class, Math for Fun, My Favorite Problem, or You Won't Believe This. You can help determine the topics by submitting a proposal to be a table facilitator, using one of the suggested topics or providing your own; follow the directions for submission on the AMATYC webpage, [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org), beginning November 1, 2016. Those selected as facilitators will be notified in April and will have a brief description of their table topic included in the conference program.

From November 1, 2016, to February 1, 2017, at [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org), in addition to requesting to be a table facilitator, you may also submit a proposal to present either a 50-minute session or a two-hour workshop. Presentations must not focus on, promote, or endorse a commercially available product. Presentation style may range from lecture or panel discussion to active attendee participation.

Presentations may involve up to four presenters. All presenters are expected to register and pay the registration fee that applies to their AMATYC membership status. Having a proposal accepted does not provide an honorarium or discount. Letters of invitation to present at the conference are issued in April.

At the same website, you may also volunteer to be a presider for a session. Presiders check that requested equipment is present, make sure the session begins and ends on time, introduce the speaker(s), and help the speaker(s) as needed. They also provide instructions to attendees to evaluate the session, which gives valuable information for planning future conferences.

**Make sure to observe the deadline and submit your proposal by February 1, 2017.** Late or incomplete proposals will not be accepted.

For more information, contact Judy Williams, Program Coordinator, at [jwilliams@tcc.edu](mailto:jwilliams@tcc.edu) or Darlene Winnington, Presider Chair, at [dwinning@dtcc.edu](mailto:dwinning@dtcc.edu).

## FUTURE AMATYC CONFERENCES

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
2022	Toronto, Canada	November 17-20

For additional information, contact the AMATYC Office at [amatyc@amatyc.org](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org) or 901.333.5643.



## In Memory of

Kate Danforth

*The comfort of having a friend  
may be taken away, but not  
that of having had one.*

—Seneca

The picture below, taken from the Centerway Bridge near the Corning (NY) Museum of Glass, was taken by Kate Bruce at nearly the precise moment that AMATYC member Katrine (Kate) Danforth passed away on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Kate put up a valiant fight with a sudden illness; she spent her last days at home with family and friends.

Kate and her husband Ernie (currently AMATYC's Northeast Vice President) attended every AMATYC conference since 1989. In recent years, she was joined by her son Larry as he became professionally active. In fact, she and Larry sometimes did mother-son presentations at AMATYC and NYSMATYC conferences.

She was an active AMATYC member having served as speaker, presider, delegate, Editing Director, and was serving on the 2017 Teaching Excellence Award Committee, an award that she herself received in 2009. Her teaching excellence was also evident by receiving Corning CC Board's Award for Teaching in 1990 and the State University of New York (SUNY) Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2004. In addition she received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service in 2004.

NYSMATYC also benefitted from Kate's efforts as she served as secretary, Summer Institute chair, and the three-year presidential cycle. In addition she was Corning's campus representative and campus math contest coordinator for NYSMATYC's Math League for over 25 years. In 2004, NYSMATYC presented Kate with its Outstanding Contributions to NYSMATYC award.

Irving Berlin said that "the song is ended, but the melody lingers on...". Kate Danforth may no longer be with us but her contributions to AMATYC and NYSMATYC will linger on. She will be missed by all.



# THE LEILA AND SIMON PESKOFF AWARD

by Nancy Sattler, AMATYC Foundation Chair

The Leila and Simon Peskoff Award, made possible through a contribution to the AMATYC Foundation by Fred Peskoff, in memory of his parents, is given annually to an AMATYC Project ACCESS fellow who has contributed to the education profession in the area of the mathematics taught during the first two years of college. The award consists of a lifetime membership in the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC). The Peskoff Award is given to an individual who has:

- Successfully completed the two-year Project ACCESS program.
- Demonstrated familiarity with the scholarship of teaching.
- Participated actively in professional communities.
- Demonstrated a commit to continued growth in mathematics.
- Maintained membership in AMATYC for at least one of the past three years.

At the 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver, the first Leila and Simon Peskoff Award will be presented to Michael Pemberton of Lansing CC (MI). Pemberton is a member of Cohort 9 for Project ACCESS. He believes that "Project ACCESS has been one of the best decisions that [he has] made in [his] early career and has embraced the supportive network formed with fellow mathematics instructors." He now serves as a Mentor/Consulting Colleague to a future Project ACCESS fellow and provides vital input and encouragement during completion of the fellow's project. He has been a presenter and a presider at AMATYC conferences.

If you are a graduate of the Project ACCESS Program and are interested in applying for the 2017 award, go to [www.amatyc.org/?page=PeskoffAward](http://www.amatyc.org/?page=PeskoffAward) for further information.

## ➤ *Denver, Cont'd from page 1*

to visit Larimer Square for eclectic dining and boutique shopping, and wander through nearby historic Union Square and 19<sup>th</sup> century Brown Palace Hotel. Walking through the Brown Palace Hotel will transport you back to the frontier days (that is, if you were a 19<sup>th</sup> century millionaire!). Enjoy champagne brunch, an afternoon high tea, or a pre-dinner aperitif at the Ship Tavern. Be sure to look up, and marvel at the mathematical splendor that is the eight-story atrium.

Still not sure what to do, or who to do it with? Denver has a reputation for friendly folks, and you'll find those in abundance in our Hospitality Room. Not only will you be provided with mile high treats, but you will also receive help finding hot spots and fun companions, Denver folklore and facts, and suggestions and strategies to optimize your lofty adventure here!

The Local Events Committee can't wait to welcome you to Denver. See you soon!



Denver Skyline (Ron Ruscio/VISIT DENVER)

# INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT?

by Nancy Sattler, Past President

How will you be represented by the AMATYC board? It is time to think about the election of the eight regional vice presidents who will serve on the AMATYC board beginning January 1, 2018, and ending on December 31, 2019. The term limit is three consecutive terms in the same office. The regional vice president must be a member of the region he/she represents. Are you interested in serving? Do you wish to nominate a colleague to serve in this role?

Being a regional vice president can be a rewarding job and allows you to become a more active member of AMATYC, especially at the annual conference where you will plan and preside over your region's annual meeting. Once you are elected, you will meet in Memphis in January 2018, for a two-day strategic planning session and orientation. Twice each year you will attend a four-day executive board meeting. The spring board meeting is held in Memphis, Tennessee, usually in April, and the fall board meeting is held immediately prior to the AMATYC Annual Conference at the same city and hotel where the conference is held. Between regular board meetings, the AMATYC president may schedule a conference call or video conference to discuss pressing issues. All board members serve as liaisons to other members of the AMATYC leadership: academic committees, editors of publications, and project directors/coordinators. In this role, regional vice presidents make sure that issues connected to these roles are brought to the attention of the board. Travel expenses to board meetings and the annual conferences are provided following AMATYC policy. If you are interested in applying for an office, you must have the support of your supervisor acknowledging the need for you to attend meetings and be away for up to a week in both the fall and spring, if elected.

For more details about the responsibilities of AMATYC's regional vice presidents and the nomination process, please follow the "Get Involved" link at [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org). If you have questions, or wish to recommend yourself or someone else for an office, contact a member of the Nominating Committee:

## **Chair:**

Nancy Sattler ([nsattler@amatyc.org](mailto:nsattler@amatyc.org))

## **Members at-large:**

Ann Sitomer ([Ann.Sitomer@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Ann.Sitomer@oregonstate.edu))

Jen Gorman ([jennifer.gorman@csn.edu](mailto:jennifer.gorman@csn.edu))

Mary Beth Orrange ([Orrange@ecc.edu](mailto:Orrange@ecc.edu))

## **Regional representatives:**

Northeast - Ray LaBounty ([labounty@corning-cc.edu](mailto:labounty@corning-cc.edu))

Mid-Atlantic - Evan Evans ([eevans@frederick.edu](mailto:eevans@frederick.edu))

Southeast - Penny Morris ([pmorris@polk.edu](mailto:pmorris@polk.edu))

Midwest - Jason "Andy" Geary ([jgeary@harpercollege.edu](mailto:jgeary@harpercollege.edu))

Central - Patricia Suess ([psuess@stlcc.edu](mailto:psuess@stlcc.edu))

Southwest - Vernita Morgan ([vmorgan@southark.edu](mailto:vmorgan@southark.edu))

Northwest - Pete Wildman ([Peter.Wildman@sfcc.spokane.edu](mailto:Peter.Wildman@sfcc.spokane.edu))

West - Tricia Sanford ([tricias@cos.edu](mailto:tricias@cos.edu))

**Nomination materials must be submitted as a PDF document to Nancy Sattler, no later than February 1, 2017.**

# IMPROVED APPLIED CALCULUS PASS RATES

by Lorie DeMarco, York College of Pennsylvania,  
Joseph Miller, Harrisburg Area CC, and  
Behnaz Rouhani, Chair, AMATYC Placement and  
Assessment Committee

What can be done with students who enter a course unprepared? Should the pace of the course be slowed down to let them catch up? Should the course content be modified to accommodate their weaker background? Or should the issue be ignored, leading to a low pass rate? In this issue, Lorie DeMarco and Joseph Miller, instructors at colleges in Pennsylvania, explain the strategies used at York College to improve the passing rate of students in the Applied Calculus course.

A math mentor program was initiated in spring of 2008. The program pairs a peer tutor, normally a secondary education mathematics major, with each Applied Calculus section. The peer tutors or mentors are in direct contact with the specific instructor and students in the course to plan and implement customized weekly review sessions, homework help sessions, and exam reviews. Some instructors require students holding a class average below a 70% to participate in weekly review sessions or one-on-one tutoring.

After a failed attempt to improve pass rates by allowing students to drop back to College Algebra after the first Applied Calculus exam (about 30 to 40 days into the semester), the Applied Calculus instructors agreed to administer a common 10-question algebra review on the first or second day of class. Students who earned a score of seven or less were strongly encouraged to drop back to College Algebra that week. This allowed students dropping back to more easily assimilate into a College Algebra class early in the semester and Applied Calculus classes were able to concentrate on calculus concepts rather than reviewing basic algebra.

College Algebra, the prerequisite to Applied Calculus, was redesigned to directly align with Applied Calculus content. Content is introduced in College Algebra then revisited and expanded upon in Applied Calculus. In addition, a one-credit math study skills/recitation is required to provide support for struggling students.

After redesigning College Algebra, the Applied Calculus instructors agreed upon standard content in each Applied Calculus section. In addition, instructors implemented new active learning strategies such as cooperative learning and student demonstrations.

Open communication and collaboration for all strategies implemented, among faculty, math coordinators, the department chair, and upper level administrators provided the much needed support to improve Applied Calculus pass rates. Pass rates improved from 65.4% in 2007/8 to 87.3% in 2014/15.

The AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver is just around the corner. The PAC will host three events, and invites you to attend these meetings even if you have never participated in the past:

- Themed session will include short talks that focus on placement and assessment issues, ideas and challenges. Included are ideas on the use of multiple measures for placement, impact of common core on placement exams and learning that occurs through the assessment process. Thursday, November 17, 9:10 - 10:45 am.
- Round Table to share placement and assessment ideas, experiences, successes, and challenges in an informal dialogue. Friday, November 18, 12:35 - 1:25 pm.
- Committee meeting to plan for the upcoming year, Friday, November 18, 4:00 - 5:30 pm.

Those who are unable to attend the annual conference, can still be part of the committee! Contact Behnaz Rouhani at [brouhani@gsu.edu](mailto:brouhani@gsu.edu) for more information.

# AMATYC HISTORIAN POSITION AVAILABLE

AMATYC Historian Russell Simmons will soon be completing his five-year term so AMATYC is searching for his successor. Russell created the most recent AMATYC history document, and conducted and made available online interviews with past AMATYC presidents. AMATYC acknowledges and thanks Russell for his excellent work.

The historian maintains an accurate, complete history of the organization, updates the AMATYC history regularly, and provides reports for each executive board meeting. The historian may, at the direction of the president, develop special supplements to the history to document milestones in the life of the organization. The current history is available on the AMATYC website at [www.amatyc.org/?page=AMATYCHistory](http://www.amatyc.org/?page=AMATYCHistory).

The next historian should be a leader with an interest in documenting the history of AMATYC. Applications will be reviewed beginning November 1, 2016; the position will be open until filled. The initial term is January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2021. To apply, send a letter of interest and a résumé that highlights the candidate's experience, if any, as an historian, and previous leadership role(s) with AMATYC or an AMATYC affiliate, to Mark Harbison, Search Committee Chair, at [Mark.Harbison@Losrios.edu](mailto:Mark.Harbison@Losrios.edu). Questions about the position may be addressed to Mark or the AMATYC Office at [amatyc@amatyc.org](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org). Thank you for considering this important leadership role in AMATYC.

# NEW CBMS DIRECTOR

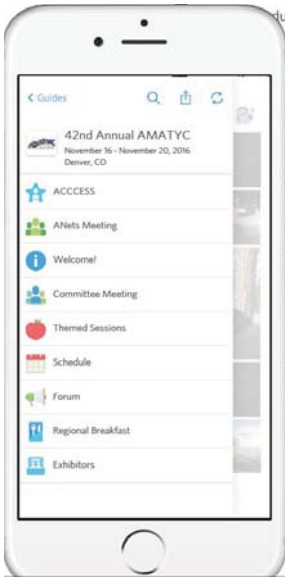
by Wanda Garner, Executive Director

AMATYC congratulates David Bressoud who will step into the role of director of the Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) in December 2016. Professor Bressoud's degrees, all in Mathematics, include a BA from Swarthmore College, and a MA and PhD from Temple University. He has held leadership positions in several professional organizations, serving in 2009-11 as president of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). His extensive list of awards includes the MAA Leitzel Lecturer, the Macalester College Trustees' Award, and the MAA Pólya Lecturer. Bressoud currently is the DeWitt Wallace Professor of Mathematics at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN.

AMATYC would also like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank Ron Rosier for his many years of excellent leadership as CBMS director, and for his consistent support of mathematics education and of AMATYC. Ron is a veteran of numerous AMATYC conferences, and served as an advisor in several key projects, including the organization's first comprehensive strategic plan. See the Collaboration Corner on page 2 for more information on CBMS.

# DENVER CONFERENCE APP!

by Keven Dockter, Conference Coordinator



The Conference Committee is again happy to provide access to the conference program and other events through this year's app. Attendees are encouraged to download the mobile guide to enhance their experience at 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual AMATYC Conference. Guidebook will be used again 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 maps 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, 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! We encourage you to fill out the session evaluations directly on the app. When

you arrive at the conference be sure to check in through the app under the Attendees button. This will allow you to see who else has checked in and connect with other attendees. Be sure to check out the new FAQs section!

The app is compatible with iPhones, iPads, and Android devices. Windows Phone 7 and Blackberry users, and people without any of these devices, can access the same information once the app is published at <https://guidebook.com/guide/58087>. To download this free app, navigate to AMATYC's landing page, <https://guidebook.com/g/amatyc2016>, 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.

After downloading the Guidebook app, search for AMATYC in Guidebook. Remember that the app is not accessible until it is published. While attendees can download Guidebook at any time, the app for the Denver Conference will not be available until around November 1. At that time, an email will be sent to registrants with these same instructions or attendees can simply scan this QR code with the guidebook scanner to download the conference app!



Additionally, be on the lookout for information about the AMATYC Snapchat code! Let's tell some conference stories this year.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

by Julie Gunkelman, Coordinator

The 2016 Webinar Series, supported by WebAssign, has kicked off the fall season with a three-part webinar series entitled "If I Knew Then What I Know Now." AMATYC's founding president, Herb Gross, reflects on what might have happened if the Internet had been in existence in 1974 when AMATYC was founded.

It is not too late to participate in this inaugural webinar series. Please see the AMATYC website for a recording of the first webinar as well as registration links for the second and third webinars.

The titles of the webinars in the series are:

- "Have You Seen a Number?," originally broadcast on October 13, 2016
- "The Game of Algebra," November 3, 2016
- "Implementing the Vision," December 1, 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AMATYC BOARD SUMMER

### CONFERENCE CALLS

by Michelle Duda, AMATYC Secretary

The AMATYC Executive Board held two conference calls. Highlights of the meetings include:

- Members who have either maintained membership in AMATYC for at least 20 years or are lifetime members will be recognized during the regional meetings.
  - ♦ Members with 20-29 years of membership will receive a silver pin
  - ♦ Members with 30 or more years of membership or lifetime membership will receive a gold pin.
- Christy Hediger ([chediger@lccc.edu](mailto:chediger@lccc.edu)) was appointed as the AMATYC Project ACCESS Coordinator beginning January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2019.

Full minutes of the meetings may be found on the AMATYC website at [www.amatyc.org/?page=BoardMinutesMotions](http://www.amatyc.org/?page=BoardMinutesMotions).

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 25, February 25, June 1, and August 15 for the respective issues.

Address changes should be sent to:

**AMATYC Office**  
Southwest Tennessee CC  
5983 Macon Cove  
Memphis, TN 38134  
Phone 901.333.5643  
Fax 901.333.5651  
[amatyc@amatyc.org](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org)

All other correspondence should be directed to:

Diane Koenig  
**AMATYC News** Editor  
Rock Valley College  
3301 N. Mulford Road  
Rockford, IL 61114  
Phone 815.921.3516  
Fax 815.921.3059  
[AMATYCNews@amatyc.org](mailto:AMATYCNews@amatyc.org)

## ➤ *Beyond Crossroads, Cont'd from page 1*

with other experiences, multiple approaches, and experiencing mathematics.

In 2015, the Common Vision project called together five professional organizations: AMATYC, the American Mathematical Society (AMS), the American Statistical Association (ASA), the Mathematical Association of America (MAA), and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) to “collectively reconsider undergraduate curricula and ways to improve education in mathematical sciences” (Saxe & Braddy, 2015, p. 1). Technology is constantly changing. All organizations agreed that technology should be used to develop conceptual understanding in the classroom, analyze data, and solve problems.

Interactive and Collaborative Learning has become easier because of the use of technology. More and more teachers are using Google Docs as a meeting grounds for students to collaborate. According to Johnson, Johnson, & Smith (2013), “the heart of cooperative efforts is positive interdependence, the perception that you are linked with others in a way so that you cannot succeed unless they do (and vice versa) and that groupmates’ work benefits you and your work benefits them.” (p. 5)

AMATYC (1995) suggests that mathematics faculty provide rich experiences for their students. The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM, 2007) suggest that teachers of mathematics should design learning experiences that stimulate students to make connections and develop a coherent framework for mathematical ideas. The Common Vision Project found that all five organizations agreed that multiple approaches should be used in the teaching of mathematics. They suggest that even when teachers use the traditional lecture, they should “seek to more actively engage students than [has been done] in the past.” (Saxe & Braddy, 2015, p. 19)

Experiencing mathematics is the final standard for pedagogy. Faculty of Mathematics should provide learning activities such as projects and apprenticeships or internships that will “promote independent thinking and required sustained effort.” (AMATYC, 1995, p. 17) Critical thinking skills can be developed through these activities which is a 21<sup>st</sup> century skill desired by employers. To learn more about guidelines for pedagogy, visit the AMATYC website [www.amatyc.org/resource/resmgr/crossroads/chapter2.pdf](http://www.amatyc.org/resource/resmgr/crossroads/chapter2.pdf).

**The writing team for the BCR project is examining the pedagogy standards of 1995 and will update them to include pedagogy that is taught during the first two years of college. They will be seeking input from AMATYC members at a special forum to be held Thursday evening at the AMATYC annual conference in Denver in November. You are invited to attend.**

If you would like to be involved in the revision project, please contact Mary Beth Orrange ([orrange@ecc.edu](mailto:orrange@ecc.edu)) or Nancy Sattler ([nsattler@terra.edu](mailto:nsattler@terra.edu)).

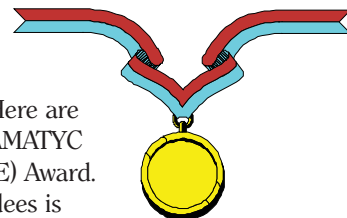
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# AMATYC TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

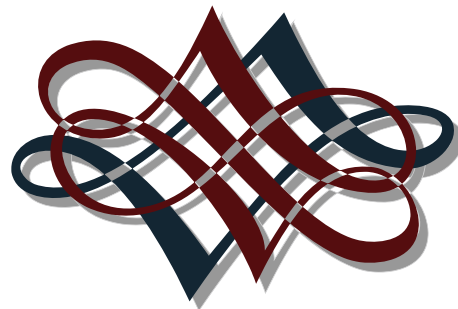
## FAQs

There is still time to submit a nomination for the 2017 Teaching Excellence Award. Here are some FAQs about the AMATYC Teaching Excellence (TE) Award.



- The number of awardees is based on the number of nominees; up to eight AMATYC members can receive the award in a given year.
- Full time, part time, or adjunct faculty can be nominated for the TE Award. To be eligible the nominee must have taught the equivalent of 150 semester hours; these hours could have been taught at different colleges.
- Self-nominations are encouraged.
- A nomination consists of the nomination form; a cover letter from the nominator; a resume or vita of the nominee; one-page letters of recommendation from each of a student, a colleague, and a supervisor; and a two-page summary of the candidate's most recent student evaluations.
- The TE Award Committee is composed of elected representatives from each of AMATYC's eight regions and one appointed adjunct member.
- The committee members rank the recipients using a predetermined point system: Instructional Effectiveness and Support of Students (25 points); Professional Involvement and Professional Development/Renewal Activities (10 points); Interaction with Colleagues (10 points); and Service to Departments/Division/College (5 points). These rankings alone determine the year's recipients.
- Recipients will receive a monetary award and medal, and will be invited to present at the 2018 AMATYC Conference in Orlando.

If you have questions about the award or the nomination process, please visit the TE webpage at [www.amatyc.org/?page=TeachExAward](http://www.amatyc.org/?page=TeachExAward) or contact the TE Award Committee chair, Jim Ham ([jaham@delta.edu](mailto:jaham@delta.edu)). **The deadline for nominations is December 9, 2016.**



# Committee/ANet News

## MATH INTENSIVE COMMITTEE

by Scott L. Peterson, Chair

The Math Intensive Committee (MIC) is a solid and energetic group that continues to increase in number and in math intensive (MI) presentations at the annual conference. The 42<sup>nd</sup> AMATYC Annual Conference, Math at a Mile High, November 17 - 20, in Denver, CO, contains 38 presentations and 10 posters that have been labeled MI. During the conference the committee will host a MI themed session (T2) entitled *Teaching and Learning in Precalculus, Calculus, and Beyond* which will take place Thursday morning. This session will include six fifteen-minute sessions giving the presenters an opportunity to share special projects and teaching techniques.

The MI Committee Meeting is Friday afternoon, and the MIC will host a "Sharing Session" (S153) Saturday to discuss several topics of interest to the committee. Suggestions for discussion topics for the Sharing Session can be sent to the chair so they can be added to the agenda.

In other news, several documents have been uploaded to the MIC website that are very informative. Several are proceedings from the annual Critical Issues in Mathematics Education (CIME) workshops held at the Math Science Research Institute (MSRI) in Berkeley, CA. This is the committee's space for sharing interesting and informative information so please feel free to post articles/websites/documents that are of importance to the MIC.

The MIC will be sponsoring a webinar this fall. Watch for an email providing details. Be sure to check out the MIC webinars that are already posted on the AMATYC website. The MIC will be sponsoring 3-4 webinars each year and will be asking for volunteers at the conference.

Committee participation is open to all AMATYC members. To learn more about the AMATYC Math Intensive Committee or to be involved throughout the year, email Scott L. Peterson at [speter@math.oregonstate.edu](mailto:speter@math.oregonstate.edu). To find out more about AMATYC committees or to join a committee, visit the AMATYC website at [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org).

## STATISTICS COMMITTEE

by Julie Hanson, Chair

The 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference will include several professional development opportunities for teachers of statistics. In collaboration with the ASA/AMATYC Joint Committee (AMATYC's Joint Committee with the American Statistical Association), the AMATYC Statistics Committee is sponsoring back-to-back sessions on the updated Guidelines for Assessment and Instruction in Statistics Education (GAISE) on Friday, November 18. The first session will be a presentation by Allan Rossman, a member of the committee that updated the GAISE College Report. The second session will be a workshop on introductory statistics activities centered around the updated GAISE recommendations. The workshop will include three presenters. Each will present one of three new themes included in the updated GAISE. Roxy Peck will present the multivariable thinking theme. Rob Gould will present the data science theme. Michael Posner will present the statistical investigative process theme.

The AMATYC Statistics Committee meeting will be held in the late afternoon on Friday, November 18. All interested AMATYC members are welcome to attend.

If you teach statistics, please consider joining the AMATYC Statistics Committee. To join or to learn more about the committee, please contact Julie Hanson at [julie.hanson@clinton.edu](mailto:julie.hanson@clinton.edu).

## TEACHER PREPARATION COMMITTEE

by Andy D. Jones, Chair

The AMATYC Teacher Preparation Committee examines issues relating to the preparation of prospective teachers. Issues include implications of new standards on the teacher preparation curriculum, sharing of effective classroom practices, and professional development for faculty who teach these courses at two-year colleges.

The Teacher Preparation Committee has a wide range of activities to further these goals during the 42<sup>nd</sup> AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver this November:

- The program includes over 15 sessions related to issues in teacher preparation. Topics include encouraging meaningful classroom discourse, developing conceptual understanding with virtual manipulatives and Singaporean models, engaging future teachers in a project-based curriculum and in other classroom activities, and connecting teacher preparation programs and the community through service learning. Look for these sessions – and many more – designated with "TP" in the conference program.
- The Teacher Preparation Committee will meet 4:00-5:00 pm on Friday afternoon, November 18, to discuss general issues pertaining to teacher preparation and to plan future activities. Committee members are encouraged to send discussion and agenda ideas to the committee chair in advance of the conference.
- Freshen up your teacher preparation classes as Teacher Preparation Committee members share practical ideas, innovative lessons, and engaging activities in a fast-paced session 10:45-11:35 am on Saturday, November 19. Walk away with access to resources and bring your own ideas to share too!

Join the committee by self-enrolling in the Teacher Preparation group at [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org). To learn more about the Teacher Preparation Committee and its activities, visit the committee website [www.sites.google.com/site/amatyctprep](http://www.sites.google.com/site/amatyctprep). You may also contact Chair Andy Jones at [jonesad@pgcc.edu](mailto:jonesad@pgcc.edu) or one of the newly-appointed committee regional representatives for 2016-2017 shown below.

Northeast Region	Michelle Doucette
Mid-Atlantic Region	Amber Rust
Southeast Region	Meg Moss
Midwest Region	Abigail Baily
Central Region	Nan Kuzmak
Southwest Region	Patrick Kimani
Northwest Region	Mark Kuhlman
West Region	Mary Beard
At-Large	Kendall Jacobs



# Committee News

## INNOVATIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

by Dan Petrak, Chair

The 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver is a great opportunity for professors to connect and share best practices and grow professionally. Many members of the Innovative Teaching and Learning Committee (ITLC) are presenting at the conference and sharing what they are learning as they implement innovative teaching and learning practices.

One of the highlights of the conference is the Friday night Ignite event. Our committee is looking forward to hosting this fun and fast-paced experience where the speaker's slides are automatically advanced every 15 seconds and speakers have exactly five minutes to share their passion! Please join us at the conference to learn and have fun!

Whether you are attending the conference or not this fall, you are invited to engage in relevant conversations about teaching and learning right now by joining the ITLC Google Group. Once you request to join the group by going directly to <https://groups.google.com/d/forum/amatyc-itlc>, you can interact with other ITLC members about a variety of topics including online teaching, open educational resources, student engagement or any other topic you want to pose to the group.

The ITLC has been charged with revising the position statement on *The Use of Technology in the Teaching and Learning of Mathematics*. It has also been charged with determining if the position statement on *Distance Education College Mathematics Courses in the First Two Years* needs no revisions. These documents are posted on the ITLC Google Group page and you are invited to view and comment on them there.

Feel free to reach out to me personally at [dgpetrak@dmacc.edu](mailto:dgpetrak@dmacc.edu) if you have any questions or ideas for our committee.

## ANET FOR ADJUNCT FACULTY ISSUES

by Judy King, ANet Leader

The new ANet for Adjunct Faculty Issues looks forward to its first meeting in Denver, at which the topics of greatest concern will be determined and how best to address them, remembering that contract issues are beyond the ANet's and AMATYC's scope. Topics of concern in the past have included work environment, employment conditions, obligations and expectations, support, and performance evaluations. Currently there is a draft of an AMATYC position paper on The Working Conditions of Adjunct Faculty that needs additional work before it is submitted for approval.

The Adjunct Faculty Issues ANet will meet in Denver on Friday from 4:00-5:00 pm, and again for a work session Saturday, from 1:05-1:55 pm (S166).

## STUDENT MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

by Steve Hundert, Coordinator

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 14 through Saturday, November 5, 2016. Round 2 will take place from Friday, February 10 through Saturday, March 4, 2017. 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@csmd.edu](mailto:stevenh@csmd.edu).

Awards for the top regional teams will be given at the regional breakfasts. 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 AMATYC's Annual Conference in Denver.

While you are planning which sessions to attend make sure to put the Faculty Mathematics League competition on your schedule. The much coveted Plexiglas trophy is once again up for grabs and goes to the top performing region.

## AMATYC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check the AMATYC website, [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org), for information on conferences and meetings from other organizations.

November 17-20, 2016 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual AMATYC Conference, Denver, CO. Contact: AMATYC Office, [amatyc@amatyc.org](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org)

December 9-10, 2016 CMC<sup>3</sup> 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Conference, Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa, Monterey, CA. Contact: Mark Harbison, [harbism@scc.losrios.edu](mailto:harbism@scc.losrios.edu). Website: [www.cmc3.org](http://www.cmc3.org)

February 17-18, 2017 FTYCMA Joint Conference with MAA, State College of Florida-Bradenton, Bradenton, FL. Website: <http://sections.maa.org/florida/newsletter/callsafb.htm>

February 23-25, 2017 TexMATYC 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Renaissance Austin Hotel, Austin, TX. Website: [www.texmatyc.org](http://www.texmatyc.org)

March 11, 2017 SOCAMATYC Conference, Spartanburg CC, Spartanburg, SC. Website: <http://soca.matyc.org>

April 7, 2017 NebMATYC Conference, Central CC, Hastings, NE. Contact: Suwimon Hall, [shall@cccneb.edu](mailto:shall@cccneb.edu). Website: <http://nebmatic.weebly.com/>

April 7-9, 2017 50<sup>th</sup> Annual NYSMATYC Conference, Syracuse, NY. Website: [www.nysmatyc.org](http://www.nysmatyc.org)

November 9-12, 2017 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual AMATYC Conference, San Diego, CA. Contact: AMATYC Office, [amatyc@amatyc.org](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org)

December 8-9, 2017 CMC<sup>3</sup> 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Conference, Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa, Monterey, CA. Contact: Mark Harbison, [harbism@scc.losrios.edu](mailto:harbism@scc.losrios.edu). Website: [www.cmc3.org](http://www.cmc3.org)

A form is available at [www.amatyc.org/?page=AffiliateConferences](http://www.amatyc.org/?page=AffiliateConferences) to update or add affiliate conference information.

# AMATYC Foundation 2015 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, Traveling Workshops, and to create new opportunities for AMATYC members through AMATYC Grants. Grants support classroom research that enhances student learning.

The following is a list of donors and affiliates who during 2015 made these generous gifts. Thank you! AMATYC strives to ensure accuracy within this Honor Roll listing of all the donors for the 2015 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](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org) so the appropriate corrections can be made to the Foundation database.



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Prudence York-Hammons  
Bruce Yoshiwara  
Michelle Younker  
Ronald (Ralf) Youtz  
Chris Yuen  
Corinna Zapata  
Steve Zollinger  
Janet Zupkus

## REMEMBER THE PAST – INVEST IN THE FUTURE

by Nancy Sattler, AMATYC Foundation Chair

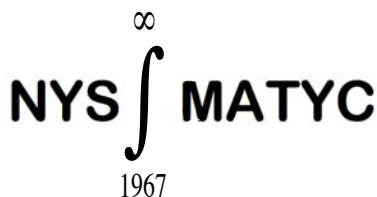
The AMATYC Foundation will be ready to greet you when you attend the 2016 AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver. Look for the Foundation table in the registration area. We hope that you will “Remember the Past - Invest in the Future” by donating to the AMATYC Foundation while you are at the conference. Conference attendees are encouraged to make donations in memory of Margie Hobbs, Kate Danforth, and Sister Clarice Sparkman. I hope you will join me in honoring Margie, Kate, and Sister Clarice, by contributing to the AMATYC Foundation and investing in the future of AMATYC.

The dot campaign and the regional competition will be continued in Denver. Attendees are invited to donate a dollar for each AMATYC conference attended. As in 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 breakfasts. The winner from the region with the highest percentage of donation participation will receive a one-year AMATYC membership. The winner from the region with the higher dollar amount in donations will receive a two-year AMATYC membership. A complimentary discount member registration to the 2017 AMATYC Conference in San Diego or a three-year AMATYC membership will be awarded to an attendee drawn from all donors to the Foundation. If you are not able to attend the conference in Denver, please consider making a donation using the form available at the Foundation link at [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org). All donations made prior to the Denver conference will be included as part of regional totals.

Diane Koenig, Editor  
AMATYC News  
Southwest Tennessee CC  
5983 Macon Cove  
Memphis, TN 38134

## FOCUS ON AFFILIATES: NYSMATYC

by Josh Hammond, NYSMATYC President



I write to the AMATYC membership with a very heavy heart. Kate Danforth passed away at her home on Sunday August 7. Kate won the AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award in 2009. She was NYSMATYC Past-President, NYSMATYC Historian for 15 years and somehow found time to present at every NYSMATYC Annual Conference since 1979. Kate was a remarkable and outstanding contributor to our organization. Her presence at conferences, executive guidance, compassion and spirit will be forever missed. NYSMATYC will not be the same without Kate. Our thoughts go out to Ernie (husband), Larry (AMATYC member and son), Jimmy (son), Teresa (daughter), and the rest of

Kate's family. What the NYSMATYC members wouldn't do for at least ONE more of Kate's 'puzzles' sessions at the next conference.

Speaking of the next conference, NYSMATYC is celebrating 50 years in 2017. That's right 50 years! In May 1967, at a meeting in Syracuse, NYSMATYC, was born. On the weekend of April 7 - 9, 2017 we head back to Syracuse at the Crowne Plaza Hotel for our 50<sup>th</sup> annual conference and, of course, celebration of NYSMATYC! All things "MATYC" actually began in New York, yes that's one more thing us 'Yankees' can brag about. In fact, our first president was the one and only Herb Gross (I suppose that makes two more 'brags'). There are many things I could share with you all about NYSMATYC as we celebrate our history but, I found this excerpt from the introduction of "NYSMATYC - 40 Years of History" written by Kate Danforth: "The history of NYSMATYC is a testimony to the efforts and energy of its members to 'get the job done'. Many of our members have not only played an important and vital role at the state level, but have also been recognized for their contribution and involvement at the national level, especially in the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC). NYSMATYC's history clearly demonstrates that the association is an innovative and viable group dedicated to making mathematics education in New York State a satisfying and rewarding experience for students and faculty."

Thanks for the kind words, Kate. Now, 'start spreading the news' everyone, NYSMATYC is turning 50!

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