

## CELEBRATE IN NASHVILLE

by Keven Dockter, AMATYC Conference Coordinator

**MATHEMATICS:  
MUSIC TO MY EARS**

**NASHVILLE  
2014**

**AMATYC**

At this fall's conference in Nashville, AMATYC will be celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. There will be many opportunities for friends and colleagues to meet and reminisce about the

good old days and to look forward to the future. Many recall the Friday evening events of past conferences. Please make plans to meet your friends as AMATYC has planned one more Friday night event that will thrill all who attend.

Nashville is synonymous with country music. Join your friends for an introduction to the story of country music with a musical journey through time. As the show begins on a dark stage, a single spotlight focuses on a dancer's legs moving to the opening number, Jason Aldean's smash hit, "Crazy Town." As the music builds, stage lights come up to reveal the eight member cast for the evening. It is with that hearty opening song that our emcee for the show, Kristi Cline, welcomes guests to an evening of great music and incredible musicians in a celebration of the music that Nashville is known for throughout the world .... Country Music.

The show will begin with the early years of country music and the songs that started it all. Traditional county music with the influence of bluegrass completes this introduction. And, to keep it all fun, you will be called upon to participate in a few "group" sing-alongs. Even a Hank Williams Sr. look-a-like joins the cast on stage for a rendition of "Your Cheatin' Heart."

Moving from the humble beginnings to the rich age of country music during the 1960s and '70s, you will enjoy what most people think of when they hear "country music." The "Opry Square Dancers," a championship clogging team in authentic country-western costumes, will then enter to the sounds of rollickin' fiddle music. So, put on your dancing boots 'cause this is what you have been waiting for ... the hot, hip sounds of today's country.

The salute to country music would not be complete without the modern era's biggest star, Garth Brooks. Gather around the stage for an unforgettable finale as the audience participates in singing the young country anthem "I've Got Friends in Low Places." "Garth" himself, or rather a very realistic look-a-like, has everyone singing along and ending on a high note!

So make plans to attend now! The show will be held on Friday evening in the Tennessee Ballroom. There will be no cost to attend; simply show your conference badge, and maybe your boots!



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## AMATYC SEEKS A NEW EDITING DIRECTOR

Are you good at reviewing written documents? Do you enjoy reading and revising draft position statements? Are you interested in working with colleagues to create professionally written documents that will be disseminated nationally? If so, consider applying for the position of Editing Director of AMATYC.

Here are the specific duties of the Editing Director position:

- Coordinate editing of position statements according to the policy for position statements.
- Track position statement review and remind academic committee chairs of position statements that are up for review.
- Coordinate editing of other AMATYC documents as directed by the President.
- Coordinate an editing group designated by the President. This group assists in all editing assigned to this position.

Here are the desired qualifications of the position:

- Maintain current regular or life membership in AMATYC.
- Proficient in emailing and word processing.
- Competent in proofreading, writing, and grammar.
- Strong interpersonal skills and responds promptly to emails.

There is no financial support for this position, but you will receive recognition for your service at the annual conferences.

Term of Office – Duties will begin at the end of the conference (EOC) of the 2014 AMATYC Annual Conference and continue until EOC in 2017.

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# President's Message



## BASIC PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES FOR EXCELLENCE

NANCY SATTLER  
TERRA CC • FREMONT, OH

Change is all around us. More and more universities are offering two-year degrees. Community colleges are offering bachelors completion programs on their campuses. High school students come to the community college or university sometimes being granted their high school diploma and an associate's degree in the same month. The common core standards are being implemented in many states around the country and will have an impact on students coming to the community college. What can we do, as community college teachers, to be prepared for all of these changes? How can we maximize our students' learning potential?

AMATYC is known for its capacity to offer high quality professional development opportunities for its members and to keep its members abreast of best practices in the teaching and learning of mathematics. One of the greatest changes to occur in education is the implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Along with the CCSS are Standards for Mathematical Practice (SMP) which "describe the variety of expertise that mathematics educators at all levels should seek to develop in their students" (Council of Chief State School Officers & National Governors Association, 2010, para. 1). The eight standards are as follows:

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- Model with mathematics.
- Use appropriate tools strategically.
- Attend to precision.
- Look for and make use of structure.
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

Addressing the issues and challenges facing mathematics education in the first two years of college begins by adopting a set of basic principles. Compare the SMPs with the basic principles introduced in *Crossroads in Mathematics* (American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges [AMATYC], 1995) and expanded in *Beyond Crossroads* (AMATYC, 2006):

- **Assessment.** The assessment of student learning in mathematics should be a fundamental tool for the improvement of instruction and student learning.
- **Broadening.** Mathematics courses and programs in the first two years of college should broaden students' options in educational and career choices.
- **Equity and access.** All students should have equitable access to high-quality, challenging, effective mathematics instruction and support services.
- **Innovation.** Mathematics programs should be thoughtfully constructed to approach content and instruction with appropriate use of traditional and innovative methods.
- **Inquiry.** Effective mathematics instruction should require students to be active participants.
- **Quantitative literacy.** Quantitative literacy should be integrated throughout the mathematics program and the college curricula.
- **Relevance.** The mathematics that students study should be meaningful and foster their appreciation of the discipline.
- **Research into practice.** The practice of mathematics teaching should be guided by research on teaching and learning.

- **Technology.** Technology should be integral to the teaching and learning of mathematics.

These standards and basic principles were derived by mathematics educators from around the country to ensure that excellence in teaching occurs in the classroom.

As president of AMATYC, I have had the opportunity to attend conferences and meet with presidents of various national mathematical and sciences organizations. Twice a year the AMATYC president travels to Washington, D.C., to meet with the presidents of national organizations at the Conference Board of Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) meeting. We discuss issues dealing with changes that occur in education and discuss potential partnerships and commonalities in missions and concerns. At the May meeting of CBMS, the president of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) shared their newest document *Principles to Actions: Ensuring Mathematical Success for All*, which I had purchased in New Orleans in April when attending the NCTM national conference. If you are not familiar with this document you might wish to read the executive summary found on the NCTM website.

I asked Diane Briars, president of NCTM, to compare this document to AMATYC's *Beyond Crossroads*. She wrote: "*Principles to Actions: Ensuring Mathematical Success for All* strongly complements *Beyond Crossroads*. In particular, the eight research-based Mathematics Teaching Practices in *Principles to Actions* extend the instruction practices described in *Beyond Crossroads*, providing specific illustrations and descriptions of students and teacher actions in classrooms that are implementing these instructional practices, along with the most recent research citations. Two-year college mathematics teachers should find *Principles to Actions* a valuable resource as they work to implement the *Beyond Crossroads* recommendations in their classrooms."

NCTM's Mathematics Teaching Practices are:

- Establish mathematics goals to focus learning.

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# Conference Notes

## NASHVILLE! COUNTRY MUSIC USA!

by Tim Britt, Nashville Local Events Coordinator,  
and Nancy Pevey

Nashville has long been associated with music and its entertainment industry. In the earlier snapshot of the city, the history of Nashville and the reasons it is called “Music City, USA” were woven together through the glimpse back in time. In this issue, you will find out more about some of the music-oriented opportunities that Nashville has to offer. This preview will concentrate on Nashville and its music, since you may want to consider buying music show tickets soon while good seats are still available. Be sure to include in your plans the Friday night musical revue hosted by AMATYC to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conference. You do not want to miss that! In the next newsletter we will explore the cultural and historical attractions in and around Nashville.

The premier venue of the Nashville music scene is the **Grand Ole Opry** ([www.opry.com](http://www.opry.com)). During the conference, the Opry will be hosting shows at the famous **Ryman Auditorium**, where the Opry had its beginning. Performers will be announced approximately three weeks in advance, but any of the artists showcased there are sure to be the best or most promising in the bluegrass and country-western world. The Ryman is located downtown and the Gaylord Opryland Hotel will have transportation there, so hop on a bus and enjoy one of the shows.

Located in the Green Hills commercial district is the famous **Bluebird Café**. It has been home to many up-and-coming artists and songwriters, who perform and discuss their original country creations. It is a small, quiet venue in-the-round and tickets are a must. For a completely opposite experience, there is the three-story **Wildhorse Saloon** offering award-winning live music, dancing, and dining. It is located downtown along with other unique entertainment opportunities on the **Honky Tonk Highway** located between 300 and 500 Broadway.

Along with live music, Nashville offers many music-related museums, with collections of memorabilia that tie some of America’s favorite songs to our heritage. These include the **Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum**, which is home to more country music treasures than anywhere else on the planet. Part of the 350,000 square foot museum includes the **RCA Victor Studio B** where many artists, including Elvis mastered more than 250 records. Also, nearby is the **Johnny Cash Museum**, which is dedicated to telling the life of one of the premier country legends, and the **Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum** with tales of musicians and their guitars.

If you’ve had all the country music and honky tonkin’ you can handle, a change of pace is just a few blocks away. Nashville might be famous the world over for its country music, but the **Schermerhorn Symphony Center** provides a world-class facility for classical music. Its design is influenced by many of Europe’s finest concert halls and includes a custom-built 3,600-pipe concert organ along with high-tech acoustical details that allow for an unparalleled musical atmosphere. It is also home sweet home for the Grammy® Award-winning Nashville Symphony.

So that is Nashville’s music scene in a nutshell. There are more entertainment options and details on the web, so investigate there and you’ll find more. Don’t forget that the next issue will concentrate on culture, history and dining so watch for that issue in October! See y’all soon!

# NASHVILLE 2014 - CONFERENCE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

by Judy Williams, Program Coordinator

From November 13-16 the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual AMATYC Conference will indeed provide “Music to Your Ears” with several sessions combining mathematics and music:

- The Sounds of Mathematics - S019
- F-Sharp is and is not G-Flat? Only Mathematics Provides the Answer - S036
- The Beauty of Mathematics in the Magnificence of Mozart’s Music - S052
- The Mathematics of the Cajón Drum - S056
- Note by Note and Measure by Measure - S132
- Musical Mathematics - S171
- Carnegie’s Pathways: Facilitating Active Learning with Games and Choir - W04

Music will continue to surround you on Friday night at a special concert “Country Music Through the Decades,” in which you may see some of your AMATYC leaders called to the stage to participate in celebrating this milestone anniversary. Following the concert, stay for a slice of anniversary cake.

In addition to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AMATYC, Project ACCESS is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, inviting members of all cohorts to a reception Thursday at 5:00 pm. Learn more about Advancing Community College Careers: Education, Scholarship, and Service by attending “Project ACCESS: How Its Influence Extends Beyond the Cohort,” Friday at 10:20 am.

The “National Summit on Developmental Mathematics: Continuing the Dialogue” will follow up the preconference workshop held in Anaheim in 2013 with panelists such as Hunter Boylan and Amy Getz, Thursday at 9:10 am. Then Saturday at 11:55 am, Julie Phelps, Lisa Sallee, Paul Nolting, and Linda Zientek will share their “Developmental Mathematics Summit Study Skills Plan Implementation.”

For Thursday’s Opening Session, Zalman Usiskin, of the University of Chicago, will discuss the implications of the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics (CCSSM), and the testing that goes with them, for mathematics instruction in two-year colleges. Suggestions are made for improving the standards and the roles of two-year colleges in this activity.

- Several presentations also emphasize the CCSS:
- Building CCSS Bridges: Content to Practices - W01
  - Illustrative Mathematics as a Resource for Teacher Preparation - S096
  - The Common Core Standards for Mathematical Practices Go to College - S122

During Saturday’s Breakfast Program, AMATYC’s founding president, Herb Gross, will reflect on his

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# Conference Notes

## ➤ *Nashville 2014, Continued from page 3*

experiences, his dreams and aspirations through the years, and share his visions of the future in mathematics education. At the breakfast, past presidents are always recognized, and this year expect to see a large group of these special people. Several of them are also on the program:

- Don't Get Left Out in the Cold: How to Navigate - S034
- Navigating the Journey from Teaching to Active Professional Retirement - S138

The Impromptu Room, a place to create breakout sessions with your colleagues, returns for a second year. If you would like to initiate a conversation or continue a discussion that couldn't be completed in a session, sign the charts in the registration area Wednesday or outside the room itself during the conference. In addition, the Conference Committee wants to extend an opportunity for you to sign up now to give a talk in this room. If you have a new and unique idea, it's not too late to request a spot. Refer to the article on page 8 for instructions about suggesting a "last minute" talk.

A major theme in many of this year's proposals involved finding and using Open Educational Resources (OER). Learn more about this topic in the following sessions:

- Singing an Open Source Melody - S026
- No Textbook Needed! The "Nuts-n-Bolts" of an OER Math Course - S094
- Open Educational Resources (OER): Learnings, Results, and Challenges - S119
- Empowering Pre-Algebra Students Through Success with Math (SWiM) - S156

The conference program and other information will be available again this year with the conference app. Download the free app to your smart phone or tablet at the end of October and create your personal schedule. During the conference use the app to share your comments and photos.

First-time attendees should be sure to indicate their status on the registration form and also take advantage of "AMATYC 101" (S003) on Thursday morning at 8:00 am.

Those who arrive early on Wednesday are invited to participate in the McGraw-Hill/ALEKS Corporation event, "Adaptive Learning and Course Redesign - the Magic Combination"; those interested must RSVP to [cherie.harmon@mheducation.com](mailto:cherie.harmon@mheducation.com).

Thursday evening features a discussion of proposed bylaws revisions as well as the final hearings on two position statements:

- The Appropriate Use of Intermediate Algebra as a Prerequisite Course,
- The Academic Preparation of Mathematics Faculty at Two-Year Colleges,

and the initial hearing for a third one:

- Time Limits for Course Prerequisites.

Regional Meetings again occur mid-day Friday, with luncheon served at noon, and the meetings held from 12:15 - 1:30 pm.

Thursday at 12:30 pm go "Behind the Scenes of the Student Math League" (S045). Friday afternoon at 3:10 pm bring your calculator to the Faculty Math League Competition (S121).

Learn about upcoming opportunities available with "AMATYC's FutureGrant Program" (S015) on Thursday at 9:10 am, when Grants Coordinator John Pazdar hosts a panel of experienced grant recipients.

Additional outstanding conference events include:

- ◇ "Math Really Rocks" by invited speaker, Billy Hix, Friday, 10:20 am;
- ◇ "Mobile Device + Apps = [Teaching + Learning] x [Curriculum + Instructional] Tools" by invited speakers, Robbie K. Melton and Mary Martin, Saturday at 10:45 am;
- ◇ "Two- and Four-Year Institutions: Why Do Collaborations Matter?" by Christine D. Thomas, President-Elect of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators, Friday, 9:10 am;
- ◇ "Spreadsheets: An Amazing Tool to Enliven and Animate Mathematics" by Robert (Bob) Devaney, President of the Mathematical Association of America, Friday at 2:00 pm;
- ◇ "Provide ELLs with Access to Cognitively Demanding Mathematics" by Susie W. Hankansson, President of TODOS: Mathematics for ALL, Saturday at 11:55 am;
- ◇ "Identifying Trends in Statistics Education," sponsored by the Statistics Committee, Thursday at 11:30 am;
- ◇ "Research in Mathematics Education at Two-Year Colleges." Saturday, 1:05 - 3:05 pm;
- ◇ Themed Session "Teaching and Learning in Precalculus, Calculus, and Beyond," Thursday 9:10 - 11:10 am;
- ◇ Themed Session "Tips, Tricks, Pedagogy, and Best Practices for Interactive Learning," Friday 9:10 - 11:10 am;
- ◇ Poster session with great ideas for the classroom and beyond, Friday 2:00 - 4:00 pm, with browsing from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm Friday and 9:45 - 11:00 am Saturday;
- ◇ Department/Division Chairs Colloquium, Thursday, 12:40 pm;
- ◇ Affiliate Sharing Session, Saturday at 1:05 pm;
- ◇ Meetings for each of the AMATYC Academic Committees; check the conference program for specific times;
- ◇ Grand Opening of the Exhibits Thursday at 4:30 pm, with dedicated times on Friday and Saturday for visiting with representatives from all your favorite publishing companies eager to share materials designed to help your students succeed;
- ◇ Commercial presentations each day highlighting the latest technological tools, and product demonstrations in the Exhibit Hall on Friday.

Don't miss a single beat of this conference! Reserve your space now at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center. You can take advantage of the free WiFi in every guest room booked in the AMATYC room block, network with fellow attendees, and hear every note of "Music to Your Ears" provided during this conference. More information about the conference can be found in the miniprogram that AMATYC members are receiving.

# 2015 AMATYC Elections

## WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES

by Jim Roznowski, AMATYC Immediate Past President and Nominating Committee Chair

You see their names in AMATYC publications and their faces as part of PowerPoint presentations during the annual AMATYC conference. But what are the duties of members of the AMATYC Executive Board? This is the second in a series of articles that will explain some of the responsibilities of the positions on the AMATYC Executive Board in the lead-up to the 2015 AMATYC elections.

The executive board members that are most visible to the AMATYC membership are the president and the eight regional vice presidents. Other offices on the executive board carry a lower profile but are still essential to the success of the organization. One such position is that of the AMATYC secretary.

The AMATYC secretary is one of the five national officers of the organization. Which means that, unlike the regional vice presidents, the secretary is elected nationally, as are the treasurer and president-elect. Prior to being elected, persons who have held the office of secretary are usually individuals who have been active at their colleges or in their affiliates or have worked within AMATYC in a volunteer position.

The executive board meets several times throughout its two-year term. The board meets for two days at the beginning of their term of office for strategic planning and orientation, each spring for a four-day meeting, and each fall prior to the opening of the annual AMATYC conference. In between these regular meetings, the AMATYC president may schedule a conference call or video conference to discuss pressing issues. One of the major responsibilities of the AMATYC secretary is to keep an accurate, permanent record of the proceeding of these meetings. The secretary may request that AMATYC hire a clerical person to take minutes during the meetings, but the secretary is still responsible for correcting the minutes. Based on these minutes, the secretary assists the president in the preparation of a "to do" list of post-meeting responsibilities, a list of elected and appointed AMATYC volunteers, and updates of the AMATYC procedures and policy manual. The secretary is also responsible for any email ballots as directed by the president.

The AMATYC secretary also plays a major role in the annual conference. In preparing for the conference, the secretary maintains a list of delegates and assists the president in the preparation and distribution of the agenda and materials for the delegate assembly. It is also the secretary's responsibility to take the minutes during the assembly and monitor the approval of those minutes by the Delegate Assembly Minutes Approval Committee. Also during the annual conference, the secretary assists during meetings of the affiliate presidents and the committee of AMATYC past presidents.

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, the secretary makes sure that issues connected to these roles are brought to the attention of the board.

The term of office for the AMATYC secretary elected in 2015 will be two years, beginning January 1, 2016 and ending

December 31, 2017. The term limit is three consecutive terms in the same office.

For more details about the responsibilities of AMATYC's secretary 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 one of the members of the Nominating Committee listed below.

### **Nominating Committee Chair**

Jim Roznowski ([jimroznowski@amatyc.org](mailto:jimroznowski@amatyc.org))  
AMATYC Immediate Past President

### **Nominating Committee Members**

#### **Members-at-large:**

Chris Oehrlein ([coehrlein@occc.edu](mailto:coehrlein@occc.edu))  
Anthony Ponder ([anthony.ponder@sinclair.edu](mailto:anthony.ponder@sinclair.edu))  
Annette Cook ([acook@sheltonstate.edu](mailto:acook@sheltonstate.edu))

#### **Regional representatives:**

Northeast - George Hurlburt ([hurlburt@coming-cc.edu](mailto:hurlburt@coming-cc.edu))  
Mid-Atlantic - Kristyanna Erickson ([kerickson@cecil.edu](mailto:kerickson@cecil.edu))  
Southeast - John Bakken ([jrbakken@waketech.edu](mailto:jrbakken@waketech.edu))  
Midwest - Aaron Beach ([beach.a@rhodesstate.edu](mailto:beach.a@rhodesstate.edu))  
Central - Colleen Bye ([colleen.bye@uvu.edu](mailto:colleen.bye@uvu.edu))  
Southwest - Ali Ahmad ([aahmad@nmsu.edu](mailto:aahmad@nmsu.edu))  
Northwest - Amy Barnsley ([amy.barnsley@alaska.edu](mailto:amy.barnsley@alaska.edu))  
West - Bruce Yoshiwara ([yoshiwbw@pierceclege.edu](mailto:yoshiwbw@pierceclege.edu))

## **HERB GROSS - BREAKFAST SPEAKER AT 40TH AMATYC CONFERENCE**

by Philip Mahler



I was delighted to see that long-time friend and colleague Herb Gross will be the breakfast speaker at the 40<sup>th</sup> AMATYC Conference in Nashville. Herb is both entertaining and enlightening. How fitting that the still active first president of AMATYC should speak to, after 40 years, what could be considered a second generation of community college mathematics educators since AMATYC's founding.

I never fully understood what it is to be a community college educator until I first heard Herb speak about one of his themes, "Teacher as Coach," many years ago. Herb was the breakfast speaker at the 1993 AMATYC conference in Boston and received what is the only standing ovation I have witnessed in some 25 or so AMATYC conferences I have attended.

Herb's ongoing career is not easy to briefly describe. It includes being founding mathematics department chair at

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# Teaching Excellence TEACHING EXCELLENCE CORNER

by Martha T. Goshaw,  
a 2003 Teaching Excellence Award Recipient

Beginning with the 2011 Conference in Austin, the Teaching Excellence (TE) Award winners have had an informal gathering at each conference. Besides the fellowship and renewing of friendships, the purpose of these gatherings includes welcoming the newest class of awardees, making a donation on behalf of the TE winners to Project ACCCESS, and discussing ways that TE winners as a group can support AMATYC and its mission. Whether you taught the summer session or not, no doubt your thoughts are now turning to the beginning of the fall term. In this issue, the TE winners are pleased to offer the following tips as you prepare for the first day of the new term.

*Teaching Tip #10:* Create a spirit of community the first day of the term. You never get a second chance to make a first impression, so the first day should be used wisely! Of course, as teachers it is our obligation to review the syllabus and course requirements, but make this *part* of the first day interactions, not the whole of the class. (Mary Beth Orrange, Erie CC - ret, TE 2007)

*Teaching Tip #11:* Collect student information cards during the first week. Not only can these be used to take attendance and learn names, the cards can also be shuffled and used later in the term to create random groups for class work. (Candice Dance, Onondaga CC, TE 2011)

*Teaching Tip #12:* Rather than jump into lecture mode the first day, spend a couple of days in activities where students get to know each other. It makes for a better class and leads to connections students make outside of class, including study groups. Many times it is the connections students make with each other that keep them coming to class. These activities should be fun math-related activities that allow students to get to know their fellow travelers on a personal level. (Steve Kinholt, Green River CC, TE 2003)

*Teaching Tip #13:* Start the term with a "Syllabus Quiz" and a "MyMathLab (or whatever software you are using) Scavenger Hunt." The Syllabus Quiz (open syllabus is fine) is intended to get students to actually read and pay attention to what is in the syllabus, as there is a lot of information there that they need to know. The Scavenger Hunt is also intended to get them familiar with the software they will be using and help them discover the resources that are available there. Too often students just click on "Do Homework," in spite of the fact that we may have put other resources and links there for them beyond what comes already installed from the company. (Janet Teeguarden, Ivy Tech, TE 2011)

*Teaching Tip #14:* While this final tip may not be directly related to teaching, it is advice echoed by all of the TE winners. **Stay active professionally!** Build your professional library, starting with books and magazines that have ideas you can easily implement to get students actively involved in their learning. Do everything you can to attend AMATYC and your local affiliate meetings, where you can network with other professionals around the state and country. It is vital that you get out of your own environment and see what others are doing.

# TEACHING EXCELLENCE NOMINATIONS

by Jane Tanner, AMATYC President-Elect

Time is ticking, but it is not too late! Are you looking for a way to honor a colleague who has made a difference?

Consider nominating a colleague for the Teaching Excellence Award. This award is intended for educators who have made outstanding contributions to mathematics or mathematics education while teaching at a two-year college. The next Teaching Excellence Awards will be presented at the 2015 AMATYC Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA, which will be held November 19 through November 22. The application deadline is December 6, 2014.

Nominees must be AMATYC members whose primary assigned duty is delivering instruction in an associate degree-granting program. Nominees must have the equivalent of a minimum of five years of full-time teaching experience. Individuals can be selected for the award only once. Information about the nomination process can be found at [www.amatyc.org/?page=TeachExAward](http://www.amatyc.org/?page=TeachExAward). An electronic packet of a single pdf file should be submitted by December 6, 2014, to Jane D. Tanner at [tannerj@sunyocc.edu](mailto:tannerj@sunyocc.edu).

The nomination packets are reviewed by the Teaching Excellence Award Committee. The committee is chaired by the AMATYC President-Elect Jane Tanner and has members representing each of AMATYC's eight regions.

Recognize a colleague by submitting a nomination packet for him or her for the 2015 AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award by **December 6, 2014**.



Greg Tobin of Pearson Education and President Jim Roznowski with the 2013 Teaching Excellence Award Recipients: Rodney Null, Mark Omodt, Paula Wilhite, and Ed Gallo

# Committee Reports

## PLACEMENT AND ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE: USE OF GAMES IN CALCULUS CLASSES

by Margie Lewkowicz and Behnaz Rouhani, AMATYC Placement and Assessment Committee Chair

The Placement and Assessment Committee (PAC) is searching for new and creative ways to assess students' understanding of mathematical concepts and is sharing these innovative strategies or techniques in each issue of the *AMATYC News*. In this issue Margie Lewkowicz from Georgia Perimeter College describes her use of games to assess students' understanding of key core concepts.

Students in Margie's Calculus I class play a game called "Limit Races" before the first unit test. The students are divided into teams (four or five players per team). Each team selects one person as the "recorder" and another as "bell-ringer." Each team receives a list of ten limit problems. The students work as a team to solve each problem. The team members discuss the problems, and once they agree on the solutions, the recorder writes down the results as well as the names of all team members. The bell ringer would then signal the team's completion by pressing the call bell.

At this time, the recorder hands the instructor the paper and she checks the solutions. Students on the team receive a half point for every correct answer. In addition, if they are first to ring the bell and have all ten answers correct, they earn a bonus of five additional points. The other teams are instructed to keep working even after the bell sounds, for if the first team does not get all the problems correct, the second team to ring the bell has a chance to earn the five extra bonus points.

Observing how the teams work and interact is very encouraging. Since this was the day before the test, all students were actively engaged in the activity, as they were aware that the concept of limits would be on the test. Some of the stronger students did take on a leadership role, and it was nice seeing them try to help the weaker students. Even more exciting was observing the students debate the proper methods and procedures to use. Students demonstrated perseverance, even though some of the problems were a bit challenging. The students asked if this activity could be done again, so the "Derivative Races" were held at the end of the second unit.

Although the game was played in a similar fashion as the Limit Races, an additional component was added to the derivative variety. At the conclusion of this activity, a few discussion questions designed to promote a deeper understanding of the concept and

encourage students to verbalize their thought processes were included. For example, when finding the derivative of  $f(x) = \frac{3x}{(2x+1)}$ , some students used the quotient rule, while some rewrote the function as  $f(x) = 3x(2x+1)^{-1}$  and used the product rule. Or, when

finding the derivative of  $f(x) = \frac{(7x+1)^3 e^{5x}}{(5x-3)^2}$ , some students used a combination of the quotient, product, and chain rules,

while others used logarithmic differentiation. Each group shared their responses to open-ended questions relating to methods they utilized when finding derivatives of certain functions. Examples of discussion questions included:

- What did you do to find the derivative of the function?
- Can you explain another method of obtaining the same result?
- Why does this work?
- Which method do you think is easier and why?
- How will that affect the outcome?

By using these and other similar questions, students are encouraged to think about why they chose a particular procedure, share alternative methods of problem solving, and discover the underlying mathematical concepts involved.

Participation in any academic committee is open to all AMATYC members. To learn more about the Placement and Assessment Committee or to be involved throughout the year, email Behnaz Rouhani at [behnaz.rouhani@gpc.edu](mailto:behnaz.rouhani@gpc.edu). The committee has established a Google site at <https://sites.google.com/site/amatycpac> as another way to share information about teaching and learning issues. To find out more about AMATYC's Committees, visit the website [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org).

## STATISTICS COMMITTEE NEWS

by Mary DeHart, AMATYC Statistics Committee Chair

The AMATYC Statistics Committee is pleased to be sponsoring a panel discussion, *Changing Trends in Undergraduate Elementary Statistics Education*, to be held at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual AMATYC Conference in Nashville, TN. Panelists Roxy Peck, Michael Sullivan, and Marty Triola will discuss changing trends in introductory statistics education including prerequisites, use of technology, ideal class activities, assessment, online instruction, inclusion of probability, state articulation agreements, the place of statistics in the college curriculum and emerging careers in the field. The session is scheduled for 11:30 am - 12:20 pm on Thursday, November 13.

The AMATYC Statistics Committee meeting will be held on Friday afternoon, November 14, at the Nashville Conference. All interested AMATYC members are welcome to attend. If you would like to join the Statistics Committee, please contact Mary DeHart at [mdehart@sussex.edu](mailto:mdehart@sussex.edu)



# Committee Reports

## DIVISION/DEPARTMENT

### ISSUES COMMITTEE

by Sean Simpson, AMATYC Division/Department Issues Committee Chair

The Division/Department Issues Committee (DDIC) responds to issues regarding department chairs, adjunct faculty, qualifications, mentoring of faculty, diversity and international mathematics education.

The adjunct subcommittee has starting working on a revision of the Working Conditions of Adjunct Faculty position statement. If you would like to participate, please contact Sean Simpson, chair of DDIC. The work is continuing via email ahead of the annual conference.

Recently, the committee hosted a webinar: "Obtaining a Community College Job," which is available at the AMATYC website. The committee hopes to do another webinar in the future. If you have any ideas, please contact Sean.

DDIC hopes to see many of you in Nashville. As in previous years, the annual face-to-face committee meeting and the annual Department/Division Chairs Colloquium will take place. This year, the colloquium will be hosted by Christine Mirbaha and Scott Saunders. It has been a great success in the past, and it is anticipated it will be again this year.

For those that are unable to attend the annual conference, you can still be a part of the committee! DDIC does some of the work on position statements via email (not just the position statement mentioned earlier), and you are invited to participate. For more information on this, or about the committee in general, please contact the committee chair, Sean Simpson, at [sean.simpson@sunywcc.edu](mailto:sean.simpson@sunywcc.edu).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

by Jon Oaks, AMATYC Professional Development Coordinator

The 2014 AMATYC Webinar Series continued in April with Martin Flashman presenting on "Using Mapping Diagrams to Understand Trigonometric Functions" and Luke Walsh presenting on "Explore Math with Desmos." In May, Ted Coe presented on "The Common Core and the Community College." Past recordings of all webinars can be found at <http://bit.ly/amatyc-webinars>.

Webinars are currently being planned for summer and fall, so please look for announcements via email and on the AMATYC website. On that note, an update to the Professional Development page on [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org) is also being planned. Any comments or suggestions can be sent via the brand new contact form at <http://bit.ly/amatycpd> or by contacting Jon Oaks directly at [oaksj@macomb.edu](mailto:oaksj@macomb.edu). The intent is to expand the professional development offerings to better serve the needs of the AMATYC membership.

## AMATYC FUTUREGRANT PROGRAM - PROJECT EVALUATORS

by John Pazdar, Grants Coordinator

If an AMATYC member has an evaluation background, AMATYC is looking for a few good members who would consider becoming grant project evaluators. All grants submitted to NSF and other funding agencies require proposal evaluation, and there is a need for principal investigators and/or project directors to find qualified members to participate in the grant project process. Compensation for a project evaluator is only received as part of the grant proposal budget when a proposal project is awarded by a funding agency.

If this is something that is appealing, submit your name to John Pazdar, Grants Coordinator, at [jspazdar@snet.net](mailto:jspazdar@snet.net) (subject line - Evaluator) and your name will be placed on AMATYC Office list of potential "FutureGrant Program - Project Evaluators".

The AMATYC Office will keep these names on file for the AMATYC Executive Board to consider when the occasion arises. The AMATYC Executive Board, via the Grants Coordinator, will contact members from this list and discuss the project idea to see if they are interested.

## IMPROMPTU ROOM

by Honey Kirk, AMATYC Assistant Conference Coordinator

The 2014 AMATYC conference will again have a breakout room for conversations among colleagues. In Nashville, you can sign up outside the room for a time and a topic about which you would like to initiate a conversation or to continue a discussion that couldn't be completed in a session. You can even choose a time and post your topic by looking for the easels in the registration area on Wednesday.

In addition, the Conference Committee wants to extend an opportunity for you to sign up now to give a talk in this room. If you have a new and unique idea, it's not too late to request a spot.

Send a title (70 character limit including spaces) and summary (50 words or less) of your "last minute" talk, along with a day and time preference to Honey Kirk ([hkirk@alamo.edu](mailto:hkirk@alamo.edu)). Following review by a member of the Program Committee, acceptance will be offered on a rolling basis until designated spaces are filled. Deadline date for submission is September 15, 2014.

Once you have a time reserved for the room, promote your topic on the AMATYC Facebook page to generate interest and discussion!



# Committee Reports

## STUDENT MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

by Susan R. Strickland, AMATYC Student Mathematics League Coordinator

Both rounds of the Student Mathematics League competition have been completed and the final results are in.

### Final Team Results:

1. Los Angeles City College, CA, 266 points
2. East Los Angeles College, CA, 250.5 points
3. Bellevue College, WA, 247 points
4. Pasadena City College, CA, 242 points
5. Brookdale CC, NJ, 240.5 points
6. De Anza College, CA, 236 points
7. West Valley College, CA, 229.5 points
8. Georgia Perimeter College, GA, 221.5 points
9. Normandale CC, MN, 215.5 points
10. El Camino College, CA, 214.5 points

### Final Individual Results:

1. Erwin Sutiono, De Anza College, CA, 69.5 points
2. Minh Vu, Los Angeles City College, CA, 67 points
3. Geoffrey Zheng, Indian River State College, FL, 64.5 points
4. (tie) Patrick Dong, Mission College, CA, 61 points  
Jonghee Chae, Irvine Valley College, CA
6. Li Lin, Los Angeles City College, CA, 59 points
7. Jong Seok Chae, Irvine Valley College, CA, 57 points
8. Li Cao, Ohlone College, CA, 55.5 points
9. (tie) Jake Kramer, Los Angeles City College, CA, 55 points  
Yi Cheng Zhang, Fullerton College, CA

### Top Schools and Students by Region:

**Northeast:** Queensborough CC, NY  
Bo Rong (Queensborough CC, NY)

**Mid-Atlantic:** Brookdale CC, NJ  
Arun Kalyanaraman (Brookdale CC, NJ)

**Southeast:** Georgia Perimeter College, GA  
Geoffrey Zheng (Indian River State College, FL)

**Midwest:** College of DuPage, IL  
(tie) James Davis (Bay de Noc CC, MI)  
Anthony Duda (Schoolcraft College, MI)

**Central:** Normandale CC, MN  
Jun Liu (Normandale CC, MN)

**Southwest:** Austin CC, TX  
Vu Phan (Collin College, TX)

**Northwest:** Bellevue College, WA  
Gordon Walsh (Bellevue College, WA)

**West:** Los Angeles City College, CA  
Erwin Sutiono (De Anza College, CA)

A very grateful thanks to all of the moderators who give the exams, grade them, record them, and send them in.

If your school does not currently participate in the SML, please consider registering for next year's competition. You can read about the SML on the webpage at [www.amatyc.org/SML](http://www.amatyc.org/SML) or email [susanst@csmd.edu](mailto:susanst@csmd.edu) with any questions. The dates for next year's competition are Friday, October 17 through Saturday, November 8 for Round 1 and Friday, February 13 through Saturday, March 7, 2015, for Round 2. Don't forget to register your school for next year's competition in August through the AMATYC SML website.

Many traditional two-year institutions have begun to offer four-year programs and degrees. Depending on those programs, a school may or may not be eligible to participate in the SML competitions. If an institution offering four-year programs would like to participate, a committee has been formed which will review the programs offered at the school and make a determination as to their eligibility for participation in the SML. Any such college may request a review by sending an email to the SML Coordinator, Susan Strickland, at [susanst@csmd.edu](mailto:susanst@csmd.edu).

See you in Nashville! Don't forget to look for the time and place for the ultra-competitive Faculty Mathematics League Contest. Steve Blasberg and Sue Strickland will also be hosting an informative session about the SML - check the schedule for that as well!

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2014 AMATYC SPRING BOARD MEETING

by Mary Beth Orrange, AMATYC Board Secretary

The AMATYC Executive Board met at Southwest Tennessee CC in Memphis on April 25 - 28, 2014. Highlights of the meeting included:

- The process for establishing a new academic committee for International Mathematics was initiated with Steve Krevisky approved as interim chair.
- AMATYC will establish a presence on the social networking site, Instagram, at [www.instagram.com](http://www.instagram.com).
- The position statement on The Academic Preparation of Mathematics Faculty at Two-Year Colleges was endorsed, an input hearing will be scheduled, and the statement be

brought before the Delegate Assembly for a vote at the 2014 AMATYC conference in Nashville.

- The concept of the position statement on Time Limits for Course Prerequisites was approved.
- A special research session will be offered on Thursday evening of the 41<sup>st</sup>, 42<sup>nd</sup>, and 43<sup>rd</sup> AMATYC Annual Conferences (2015 - 2017) for the express purpose of discussing preliminary or in-progress research.
- The Membership Committee members will meet in Nashville on Saturday, November 8, 2014, to create a comprehensive membership and marketing plan for AMATYC.

➤ *Continued on page 13*

# Focus on Affiliates: MichMATYC

by Jack Rotman, MichMATYC President

The Michigan Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (MichMATYC) was formed in 1981 when Karen Sharp (later to be President of AMATYC) called a meeting for this purpose during a state MAA meeting. The first MichMATYC conference occurred in 1985, and has continued to hold a fall conference since that time.

One of the unique features of MichMATYC is our membership fee: \$5 per year. Although MichMATYC provides newsletters three times per year, and hosts a conference, the group has not seen a need to increase this fee since the organization began. The MichMATYC annual conferences are hosted by a community college, which provides two benefits. First, the membership gets to see and experience the facilities and climate at another institution every year. Second, the host institution provides meeting facilities with low or no cost to the organization.

The MichMATYC annual conference has almost always been a “one day plus” event, with attendance generally from 125 to 160 (last fall at Oakland CC). The primary conference occurs on a Saturday in early October, with a social event (dinner plus something) on Friday evening. The plus refers to our Friday afternoon, which usually provides some professional development options. Some years, this professional development focuses on technology. This fall, the Friday afternoon event will be our Michigan Summit on Developmental Mathematics, for the conference at Lake Michigan College. For more information on the conference, see our web site <http://michmatyc.org/>.

MichMATYC works to make their annual conference helpful to mathematics faculty in the state, and we have welcomed faculty from neighboring states as well. Part of this effort includes getting a keynote speaker with a strong message. Sometimes, this message is a combination of mathematics and entertainment such as when Pete Wildman brought Professor Euler to the conference. MichMATYC networks with our university colleagues, who contribute some of the sessions. Our organizations (MichMATYC and MichMAA) still have a joint meeting in the spring, which honors the origins of MichMATYC.

In recent years, MichMATYC has been working on providing other services to our members and mathematics faculty in the state. The newsletter, *MichMATYC Sum-Times*, edited by Khadija Ahmed (Monroe County CC) is published by email three times per year, and posted on our website, [www.michmatyc.org/newsletter.html](http://www.michmatyc.org/newsletter.html). Current work includes moving our email list to a new server, and linking subscription to membership in MichMATYC. MichMATYC is exploring how to use mini-grants to support math faculty. MichMATYC has a system of Campus Representatives, which is used to communicate information and official business; this system works very well.

Although MichMATYC has a business meeting as part of the annual conference, elections are conducted in a separate process. Nominations are sought early in even-numbered years for president-elect and secretary/treasurer, with elections conducted in April. This year's elections were done online - Doug Mace (Kirtland CC) will be MichMATYC President-Elect starting this June, and Jeff Morford (Henry Ford College) will be the Secretary/Treasurer. The MichMATYC by-laws preclude a president serving consecutive terms. This system provides three elected officers and an appointed officer (affiliate delegate), and encourages involvement from more members.

MichMATYC offers two awards: A Teaching Excellence Award, and the Karen Sharp Student Scholarship. You can see the process and requirements on the website ([www.michmatyc.org/awards.html](http://www.michmatyc.org/awards.html)). Organizational funds are used to provide these awards, supplemented by donations from members for the Student Scholarship. These awards are presented during the business meeting at the fall conference. MichMATYC also honors our Fellows in Project ACCESS by contributing money to the AMATYC Foundation based on the number of Michigan Fellows. MichMATYC routinely contributes to the AMATYC Hospitality Room, and the group is also proud of our participation in the Student Math League.

MichMATYC is a strong organization working for the mathematics faculty of Michigan.

## NEWS FROM NEMATYC

by David Henry, NEMATYC President

NEMATYC had its 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Lowell, MA, April 4 - 5, 2014. The conference theme was “On the Road with Math” (Jack Kerouac reference for non-English majors; he was born in Lowell). To go along with the theme, UMass Lowell Professor Steve Pennell gave a presentation on Hungarian Mathematician Paul Erdős, who traveled from place-to-place during his entire life while publishing over 1,500 papers. We even had a few members with Erdős numbers (like Kevin Bacon numbers).



Host Middlesex CC earned the Lois A. Martin Award for its team score on AMATYC's Student Math League exam among NEMATYC schools. Middlesex last received this honor in 2007.

The NEMATYC Fall Dinner Meeting will be held September 12, 2014. Catherine Roberts, Professor of Mathematics at Holy Cross, will be the guest speaker.

In the picture to the left, AMATYC past president, Phil Mahler, and NEMATYC Conference co-chair, Dora Ottariano, coordinators of Middlesex CC's Student Math League, receive the Lois A. Martin Award for highest scoring team among NEMATYC schools.

# REENVISIONING THE PATHWAY TO CALCULUS, THE NEW MATHWAYS PROJECT

by Jim Roznowski, AMATYC Immediate Past President and Amy Getz, The Dana Center's Manager of CC Services

Last year, AMATYC was approached to become involved in the next phase of the Dana Center's New Mathways Project (NMP), the *STEM Prep Pathway*. The NMP offers a unique opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the course sequence that has traditionally led from developmental mathematics to calculus. As with the Carnegie Foundation's Quantway and Statway projects, and with AMATYC's own New Life project, AMATYC is very happy to offer its support and the expertise of its membership in the development of this new pathway.

## Why a new pathway?

*A new opportunity . . .*

The NMP seeks to give students access to mathematics that is appropriate to their academic and career goals. Many non-STEM students who have historically been enrolled in college algebra or precalculus will now move into statistics or quantitative reasoning courses. This allows us to reenvision the "algebra-intensive" sequence in terms of what will best serve students going on to calculus or needing strong algebraic skills required in technical fields.

*A professional obligation . . .*

As mathematics educators, we have an obligation to periodically examine our own practice. Recent research about the conceptual understanding and skills necessary for calculus and how students learn can help us design a more effective and efficient pathway.

## Drawing upon faculty knowledge and leadership . . .

The Dana Center's design and development process for the STEM Prep Pathway draws on contributions from a diverse group of researchers and faculty from two- and four-year colleges and universities, including representatives of professional associations. The American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) strongly supports the project and has provided sessions during the upcoming 2014 AMATYC National Conference in Nashville and will share the findings from the project's implementation at future AMATYC conferences. Michael Pearson, Executive Director of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) sees this work connecting to the MAA's efforts to improve mathematics programs through the Curriculum Renewal Across the First Two Years (CRAFTY) subcommittee and the Characteristics of Successful Programs in College Calculus study.

The Dana Center has organized the work into two phases, both structured to engage faculty directly in the work and to provide opportunities for general input. The Design Phase began at the beginning of this year and was completed in July 2014. During that time, information was gathered and analyzed from research and practice and learning outcomes and the structure for the NMP courses were defined. In addition, input from faculty is being gathered and course materials are being developed. Implementation is planned by spring 2016 after which data will be gathered and findings will be summarized for dissemination, learning, and discussion in the field.

If you are planning to attend the 2014 AMATYC Annual Conference in Nashville, you will have two opportunities to learn more about the New Mathways Project in general and the STEM Prep Pathway in particular. On Thursday, "The Right Math at the Right Time: Implementing Mathematics Pathways" (S032) will be presented by the Dana Center's Manager of Community College Services, Amy Getz. On Saturday, "An Introduction to the New Mathway Projects STEM Prep Pathway" (W05) will be presented by Frank Savina, a Dana Center Program Coordinator. There will also be an opportunity to learn more about the New Mathways Project during a session to be scheduled in the Impromptu Room in Nashville.

Find more information on the NMP at [www.utdanacenter.org/higher-education/new-mathways-project](http://www.utdanacenter.org/higher-education/new-mathways-project). To receive updates on events and releases of materials through the monthly Dana Center *Higher Education Issue Brief*, email [mathways@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:mathways@austin.utexas.edu).

## ➤ Herb Gross, Continued from page 5

Corning CC, years as a lecturer at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and founding department chair at Bunker Hill CC, making hundreds of video lectures still available at MIT, and developing the "Gateways to Mathematics" program at Harnett Correctional Institution in NC.

Before AMATYC Herb was the first president of NYSMATYC (June, 1967) and instrumental in founding (late sixties) NEMATYC. A real Johnny Appleseed for "matycs!" Described as a "livewire," he provided impetus for him and his colleagues when no organizations existed for us. From the "History of NYSMATYC": "The style of humor, friendliness, camaraderie, and enthusiasm first stamped on the association by Herb Gross and the charter members has been a constant feature of NYSMATYC to the present time."

Since his retirement in 2003 Herb has worked on professional development for elementary school teachers, and developing even more curriculum materials. A link to some of this is at [www.mathasasecondlanguage.com/](http://www.mathasasecondlanguage.com/).

Herb has been a recent featured speaker at NYSMATYC, MATYCONN, and NEMATYC. I am so looking forward to the breakfast in Nashville.





# NEWS FROM NYSMATYC

by Russ Penner, NYSMATYC President

The New York State affiliate is enjoying 2014. NYSMATYC held its annual conference in Owego, NY in April. From our four regions across the state came 130 or so participants, bringing great presentations and thoughts to share.

Election results were announced at the conference, and Larry Danforth of Jefferson CC was announced as the new President-Elect. He'll be organizing next year's conference in Rochester. We were also privileged to be able to award scholarships to some of New York's finest students to help them continue their education.



Gregory Rodriquez,  
Borough of Manhattan CC,  
Scholarship Winner

## ➤ *President's Message, Continued from page 2*

- Implement tasks that promote reasoning and problem solving.
- Use and connect mathematical representations.
- Facilitate meaningful mathematical discourse.
- Pose purposeful questions.
- Build procedural fluency from conceptual understanding.
- Support productive struggle in learning mathematics.
- Elicit and use evidence of student thinking.

I take the SMP's and AMATYC's basic principles into account when I teach mathematics. I will consider NCTM's teaching practices as well as I strive to be the best teacher I can be. It is time to update AMATYC's stance on teaching as we have entered a new time in education. Members of AMATYC are in the process of examining the *Beyond Crossroads* document and thinking about how AMATYC might create an up-to-date resource for our members dealing with best practices in the classroom. Stay tuned for further developments.

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## ➤ *Editing Director, Continued from page 1*

To be considered for the Editing Director position, the following materials should be sent electronically to Kathryn Kozak ([kathryn.kozak@coconino.edu](mailto:kathryn.kozak@coconino.edu)) by September 30, 2014:

- A cover letter expressing interest in the position and citing relevant experience for this position
- A curriculum vitae
- A letter or email of support from your supervisor.

## AMATYC Calendar of Events

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

**September 27, 2014 WisMATYC Fall Conference**, Univ of Wisconsin-Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac, WI. Website: [www.wis.matyc.org](http://www.wis.matyc.org)

**October 3-4, 2014 MichMATYC Fall Conference**, Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI. Website: [www.michmatyc.org](http://www.michmatyc.org)

**October 10-11, 2014 ArizMATYC/Arizona Developmental Education Summit Meeting**, Pima CC-Northwest Campus, Tucson, AZ. Website: <http://arizmatyc.org/wp/>

**October 24, 2014 MATYCONN Fall Meeting**, Quinebaug Valley CC, Danielson, CT. Contact: Rachael Schettenhelm, [rschettenhelm@gatewayct.edu](mailto:rschettenhelm@gatewayct.edu)

**November 13-16, 2014 40<sup>th</sup> Annual AMATYC Conference**, Nashville, TN. Contact: AMATYC Office, [amatyc@amatyc.org](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org)

**December 5-6, 2014 CMC<sup>3</sup> 42<sup>nd</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 19-21, 2015 TexMATYC/TCCTA Meeting**, Sheraton Dallas Hotel, Dallas, TX. Website: [www.texmatyc.org](http://www.texmatyc.org)

**April 10, 2015 NEBMATYC 2015**, Metropolitan CC, Omaha, NE. Contact: Steven Reller, [sreller@mcneb.edu](mailto:sreller@mcneb.edu). Website: [www.northeast.edu/Organizations/NEBMATYC](http://www.northeast.edu/Organizations/NEBMATYC)

**April 17-19, 2015 48<sup>th</sup> NYSMATYC Annual Conference**, Rochester, NY. Contact: Larry Danforth, [Ldanforth@sunyjefferson.edu](mailto:Ldanforth@sunyjefferson.edu). Website: [www.nysmatyc.org](http://www.nysmatyc.org)

**April 18-19, 2015 NMMATYC/MAA Joint Meeting**, El Paso CC, El Paso, TX. Website: [www.nm.matyc.org](http://www.nm.matyc.org)

**November 19-22, 2015 41<sup>st</sup> Annual AMATYC Conference**, New Orleans, LA. Contact: AMATYC Office, [amatyc@amatyc.org](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org)

**December 11-12, 2015 CMC<sup>3</sup> 43<sup>rd</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.

# CONSIDERING THE IMPACT OF AMATYC

by Marilyn Mays, AMATYC Past-President

In 2000, for the Chicago conference, AMATYC published the *Reflections* of several of us who had been active in AMATYC for more than a few years. I wrote just a few lines, the crux of which follows:

The first AMATYC conference I attended changed my life. I found a group of supportive people with common goals who cared about teaching as well as mathematics. I went home with a belief in myself and a renewed interest in teaching. I found a “family” and have never left.

Nothing about that has changed. Many of us measure the timing of important moments in our lives by our history with AMATYC. I know that NMMATYC was founded in September 1990 because I was at that organizational meeting in Albuquerque wondering which would come first: the birth of NMMATYC or of my first grandchild back in Dallas. I was in Maryland in February of 2004 for an initial meeting for *Beyond Crossroads* when I learned that I had lost my father. My professional and personal histories for the last 35 years are intertwined with that of AMATYC.

My dear friend, Sadie Bragg, also a former AMATYC president, spoke to me recently on the impact AMATYC has had on the recognition of the community college in education. While our organization has created many guidelines for teaching and learning and provides excellent opportunities for professional development, possibly the greatest impact we have had is putting community colleges into the mathematics education picture--as a major force, not a footnote. The number of students and faculty we serve is small compared to K-12 education and universities. But the students we serve are unique; higher percentages of minorities and women, many students who have been failed by the public schools, and some students just looking for an education that is closer to home and costs less. With community colleges they probably have the best chance for a good education. Funding agencies like the National Science Foundation and the ExxonMobil Foundation demonstrated that they shared that belief by supporting our projects like the development of the *Crossroads* documents and Project ACCCESS.

Our principal efforts for our years in AMATYC have been making mathematics more accessible to our constituency and increasing the diversity of our faculty and of the students pursuing math-related careers. There are significant, well-publicized efforts with much promise in both those areas. However, there are students in parts of our country, in many, many of our cities and in states where public education receives token funding who may never reap the benefits of those efforts. Unless accessibility is institutionalized it won't survive. A narrowly focused project, funded by a grant will not last. We believe the future of AMATYC lies in institutionalizing the access of more students to mathematics. Access is not making it available; access is opening the door and then helping students overcome years of frustration and ingrained beliefs that they cannot be successful. It is providing continual guidance to the next step in the problem or the next course in a career path. It must include a way for them to overcome financial and cultural barriers. It must be stimulating.

AMATYC is more than an organization. It is a community of caring professionals who know that many of the students we teach need more than instruction in mathematics; they need supportive people who can help them believe in themselves. Teaching at a community college is more than a career for most of us; it is a “calling.” That commitment is why AMATYC, an organization of a few thousand, has a place at the table with organizations several times our size with considerably more financial backing. The promise to the community college student must be kept. We do it for them, and we do it for us.

## ➤ Highlights, Continued from page 9

- The local arrangements committee for the 2015 conference in New Orleans, the members of the test development team, and the academic committee regional representatives were approved as submitted.
- The following appointments were approved: Frank Goulard, to his third term as Exhibit Chair; Louise Olshan, to her third term as Advertising Chair; Steve Blasberg, to his sixth term as Test Developer; Laura Watkins to her second term as Project ACCCESS Coordinator, Mark Harbison as chair of the Personnel Committee; Amber Rust and Jane-Marie Wright to the Editorial Panel of the *MathAMATYC Educator* for the next three years.
- A one thousand dollar Presidential Student Scholarship was created and to be given annually to a student majoring in mathematics or mathematics education at a college or university where there is at least one AMATYC member. Each affiliate will be asked to nominate one such student in their state. A random drawing will be held to determine the winner of the scholarship. The scholarship winner's name will be announced at the AMATYC Annual Conference beginning with the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in Nashville.
- An ad hoc committee was formed to consider issues related to “going green.”

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

## SPOTLIGHT ON WASHINGTON

by Nancy Sattler, AMATYC President

The one-hundred eleventh meeting of the Conference Board of Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) was held on Friday, May 2 in Washington, D.C. At this meeting, presidents and executive directors of the dozen member societies were made more aware of the work the private sector is doing in support of mathematics and were able to connect our mathematics professional societies with the efforts of the wider philanthropic and business communities. The Hunt Institute, the Helmsley Charitable Trust, the Sloan Foundation, and the Brookhill Institute of Mathematics were all represented. The past work of each of these entities was described. Daniel Goroff mentioned that the Sloan Foundation is the original funder of Wikipedia. If you are interested in obtaining outside funding for a research project you may wish to visit the websites of these organizations for further information.

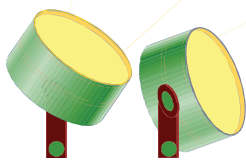
Also at the meeting, an update on the CBMS Forum on Undergraduate Education to be offered on October 5-7 in Reston, VA was given. AMATYC Midwest Vice President Jim Ham has been working on the planning of the forum. There will be three themes: pathways from secondary mathematics through the first two-years of college, from high school to STEM career paths, and from high school to careers in the social and behavioral sciences. A fourth theme to be woven into all of these is the implications for secondary mathematics and for teacher education.

In mid-August, a broad invitation will be issued to college and university mathematics departments. The forum is intended for mathematics department chairs, directors of undergraduate studies in mathematics departments, and any persons with interest in and responsibility for improving the teaching and learning of mathematics in the first two years of college. The forum will provide information and models for the participants who want to learn more about the needs of today's students and to take a fresh look at their own curricula. Two-year colleges, four-year colleges, and universities are encouraged to send teams of two or three participants. With a view toward building future leadership, the organizers encourage teams to include an early career faculty member who has leadership potential. They expect a certain number of "observer" participants and especially welcome observers affiliated with organizations that have the capacity to act as agents for large-scale change. As with previous CBMS forums, registration will be done online and all communication will be done electronically to minimize costs.

AMATYC continues to collaborate with other organizations. The MAA's forthcoming 2015 Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics (CUPM) Curriculum Guide to Majors in the Mathematical Sciences has been reviewed by the following

AMATYC members: John Bakken, Keven Hansen, George Hurlburt, Kate Kozak, Phil Mahler, Joanne Peeples, and Bruce Yoshiwara (chair).

Thank you for your time and for representing AMATYC!



## In Memory of CAROLYN FRUIT NEPTUNE

AMATYC lost a valued member, friend, and colleague on March 18, 2014, when Carolyn Neptune passed away.



In her extensive service to AMATYC she served as the Central Region Vice President from 1995 - 1999, she was the first AMATYC Consulting Professor, and she led the development

of the AMATYC document *Opportunities for Excellence*.

Carolyn combined her passion for mathematics with a passion for teaching. She taught at Johnson County CC (JCCC) from 1977 until her retirement in 2005. She received numerous teaching awards from local, state, and national agencies and was the recipient of the AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award in 2005. In addition, she co-authored several textbooks.

Carolyn remained a Professor Emerita at Johnson County CC and is featured on their Wall of Honor. She and several others started the JCCC retiree association and she served as its first president from 2010-2013. Teaching was a profession where her commitment to excellence, her generosity, and her joy were beautifully expressed.

Carolyn's interests in her church, music, college basketball, and travel endeared her to a wide circle of friends and family who loved and appreciated her.

The Carolyn Neptune Endowment has been established at Johnson County CC and memorials may be sent to:

Johnson County Community College  
12345 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, KS 66210.





# WAYS TO GIVE

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

Most of us probably did not decide to teach for the money but because of a desire to give something to future generations. We continue to devote our time and energy to make the experiences of our students as rewarding and worthwhile as possible. AMATYC was founded with the same basic idea and the AMATYC Foundation was created to assist in moving toward that goal.



## AMATYC Foundation Board Vacancy

Your contributions to the AMATYC Foundation can be monetary but can also be a contribution of your time and expertise. There will be a position available on the AMATYC Foundation Board beginning January 1, 2015. Individuals considered for such a position come from the AMATYC membership-at-large and are selected for the diversity of their experience and knowledge. Examples of the skills being sought include: knowledge of investment planning and strategies, fundraising experience, and nonprofit organizational skills. If you would like to be considered for this four-year appointment, please send a letter expressing your interest and a summary of your related experience to Jim Roznowski at [jimroznowski@amatyc.org](mailto:jimroznowski@amatyc.org).

## Monetary Ways to Give

There are a number of different ways to make a monetary contribution to the AMATYC Foundation. Gifts may be small or large, occur as a one-time donation or set-up to occur monthly, and be included as a bequest.

### *One Time Donations*

Every donation is welcomed and will be used to support the work of AMATYC. Making a one-time donation is the simplest and most frequently used method of providing support. Outright gifts can be claimed on your federal tax return, as well as some state returns to the extent allowed by law.

### *Recurring Monthly Donations*

Many AMATYC members plan to make their donations annually during the AMATYC conference. You may also set-up a donation to recur monthly or to have a single donation split into individual monthly charges. Such recurring donations will provide a continuous level of support throughout the year.

### *Donations in Honor or in Memory*

Making a donation to honor a mentor or colleague is a way to acknowledge the impact others have had on our personal and professional lives. Each individual honored by a donation will be informed of the donation.

### *Bequests*

You may also choose to continue to support the work of AMATYC by including a gift to the AMATYC Foundation in your will or living trust. Such a bequest is:

- **simple:** just a few sentences in your will or trust are all that is needed.
- **flexible:** if your circumstances change you can change your gift at any time
- **versatile:** the bequest may be set-up to leave a specific item or amount of money, make the gift contingent on certain events, or donate a percentage of your estate.

Bequests to the AMATYC Foundation will help secure the work of AMATYC into the future. All such gifts are appreciated but should be made after the financial needs of your family are addressed. It is also advisable to consult a professional as you prepare your bequest or will.

There are a number of ways to specify the amount of your bequest.

- **A general bequest** donates a specific sum of money.
- **A residuary bequest** gives the “rest, residue and remainder” of your estate, or, more commonly, a percentage of the residue after all other bequests, debts and taxes have been paid.
- **A contingent bequest** requires a certain event to occur before the gift can happen. For example, you could bequeath funds to a family member provided that person survives you; if not, the funds would then go to the AMATYC Foundation.

With the support of its members, AMATYC has had a significant impact on the success of our students. The AMATYC Foundation wishes to thank you for your past support of AMATYC and the AMATYC Foundation. Your continued support of the Foundation will help provide the resources needed for AMATYC to continue its mission into the future.

Daniela Loghin Long, Editor  
AMATYC News  
Southwest Tennessee CC  
5983 Macon Cove  
Memphis, TN 38134

## Future AMATYC Conferences

2014	Nashville, TN	November 13-16
2015	New Orleans, LA	November 19-22
2016	Denver, CO	November 17-20
2017	San Diego, CA	November 9-12
2018	Orlando, FL	November 15-18
2019	Milwaukee, WI	November 14-17

For additional information, contact the AMATYC Office at  
[amatyc@amatyc.org](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org) or 901.333.6243.

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