

GMATYC News

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President's Corner

Margaret Ehrlich, GMATYC President
Georgia Perimeter College, Dunwoody



I believe the main reason that I decided to major in mathematics had something to do with not having to write essays, so putting together an article for the President's corner might be the hardest thing I have to do in the list of assigned duties for this office. My writing style follows along the lines of Officer Joe Friday from Dragnet – “All we want are the facts, ma'am.” In the spirit of that statement, here are all the facts I know.

National Conference, November 13-16, 2014: If you haven't already made plans to attend the National AMATYC Conference in Nashville, now is the time to start thinking about a short drive to Tennessee at the end of the leaf changing peak. “Mathematics, Music to My Ears” is the theme this year. Since funds for travel have been tight these last few years, this is a great chance to attend our National Conference close to home. To help reduce your costs, you can always use the AMATYC Roommate service to help pair you with another conference attendee. Send an email to Linda Kodama, AMATYC's Roommate Network Director, at Lkodama@hawaii.edu to ask for assistance.

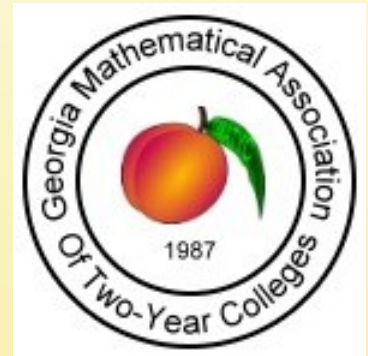
GMATYC Annual Meeting, February 20, 2015: Our Annual Meeting this year will be held at the Newton Campus of Georgia Perimeter College during the **2015 GPC Math Conference, February 20 – 21, 2015**. The proposed theme is “Extreme Math Makeover.” With the recent USG initiatives for transforming remediation, as an educator we are charged

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The President's Corner



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with doing what we have done for so many years in very different ways. The coming year's conference will highlight some of these math makeovers. A call for proposals will go out the week of August 11, 2014 with a deadline of November 10, 2014. Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan now to be a part of the conference. There will be lots of changes in Georgia Mathematics!

Bill Bompert Teaching Excellence Award: I was disappointed to hear that we have had no nominations for the Bill Bompert Teaching Excellence Award. It's hard for me to imagine that GMATYC doesn't have any members with the equivalent of a minimum of 5 years of full-time teaching experience that excel in Instructional Effectiveness, Professional Involvement, and Service. Certainly someone at your university deserves recognition, or perhaps the department has been given a local college award. Why not recognize them statewide? My *To Do List* this summer includes being better prepared for my next column and writing a

statement for the President's Corner of our website. These items below should be on your *To Do List* for summer:

- Look for opportunities to serve GMATYC this year
- Like us on FACEBOOK and share what you are doing with your GMATYC colleagues
- Apply for the BB Teaching Excellence Award or help nominate someone
- Plan your trip to Nashville in November, and GPC-Newton In February
- Recruit a colleague to join GMATYC, and then invite them to join you in Nashville and Newton!

I look forward to working with you this year, and seeing you at our future events! Maggie

GGC Mathematics in Action Scholars Program

Submitted by Alvina J. Atkinson, Georgia Gwinnett College

Georgia Gwinnett College will host its 2nd Annual Mathematics in Action Scholars Program this summer, beginning June 2nd and June 9th. The program plans to accept 48 (24 students each week) academically talented or highly motivated middle-school students in Gwinnett and surrounding counties. The scholars will study the mathematics of finance and use geometry to solve real world problems. The students will also engage in mathematics activities, such as building mouse-trap race cars. This program was funded in part by the Mathematical Association of America's Dolciani Mathematics Enrichment Grant Program (<http://www.maa.org/programs/maa-grants/dolciani-mathematics-enrichment-grants>).





Greetings from Your AMATYC Southeast Vice-President

Submitted by Nancy Rivers, Wake Technical Community College, Raleigh, NC

When someone mentions AMATYC to you, what comes to mind? For most of us our first thought is probably the fantastic conference that the organization puts on every year. And then you probably think about how much it costs to attend that conference when it isn't nearby. While the conference is one of the best you can attend, it was quite pricy to attend the one in Anaheim, CA. But this year the conference will be November 13 – 16 in Nashville, TN (at the Gaylord Opryland Resort, no less!) – within driving distance for many of us in the Southeast. That makes it much more affordable. I hope to see many of you there!

But AMATYC ≠ Fantastic Conferences. AMATYC > Fantastic Conferences. There is so much to our organization! AMATYC offers webinars throughout the year at no cost and members get the first opportunity to register. We also have high quality publications – AMATYC *News* and the *MathAMATYC Educator*. The organization puts forth position statements on issues facing mathematics education today that can be used in efforts to influence decisions being made more locally. There are nine academic committees that focus on aspects of our profession that are near and dear to our hearts. Anyone can join any of these committees and participate in discussions. You can find out more about all of these opportunities and others on our newly designed website <http://www.amatyc.org/>.

Marilyn Monroe once said “This life is what you make of it.” I would paraphrase this to say that “AMATYC is what you make of it.” The more involved the membership, the stronger

and more effective AMATYC will be. Here are some of the ways you can be involved: join AMATYC and encourage your colleagues to do so as well, serve as a campus representative, join an academic committee, write an article for one or more of our publications, involve your students in the Student Math League Competition, participate in a webinar, give a webinar, attend a traveling workshop, attend the annual conference, serve as a delegate to the Delegate Assembly, be a presider during the conference or even a presenter. Oh, and then there is the ACCESS program – a mentoring and professional development opportunity for mathematics faculty in their first three years of full time employment at a two year college. Information is available on the website. If you don't qualify, you probably know someone who does.

I would like to give you a “heads up”. The cost of membership is going up as of July 1, 2014. Up until that time a 1 year membership in AMATYC is \$80. After that time the dues will increase to \$85. I know most people renew their membership when they register for the conference. I would suggest you not wait until then and instead renew before the increase.

Perhaps the best way you can be involved is to communicate with the Executive Board. This can be done through the network of campus representatives that we are endeavoring to establish or you can contact me directly (njrivers@waketech.edu). We value your ideas, concerns, suggestions, input and feedback. Won't you join us?



Student Math Leagues

Submitted by Allison Wolf, Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston

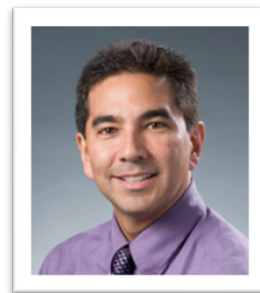
One of the benefits of being an AMATYC affiliate school is the opportunity to give your students the chance to participate in the AMATYC Student Math League. This national competition is designed for two-year college students. While none of the problems require calculus, the problems range from quite do-able to rather challenging. These tests provide students with an opportunity to encounter problems unlike those they see in class, stretching their repertoire of problem-solving techniques and combining concepts they may not have combined before. It also gives them a chance to measure themselves against other students from similar institutions on a regional and national stage without having to leave their home institutions. Many of our students at Georgia Perimeter College have found this competition to be a fun and interesting experience.

Registration is FREE if your school is an institutional member and a nominal fee (for the 2013-14 school year it was \$15 for the whole school regardless of the number of students) if the school is not an institutional member. Students take the tests at their schools, eliminating the need for procuring travel money, worrying about student transport, and the like. Being a test moderator means that you would arrange for testing sessions on your campus (one in the fall and one in the spring), administer the test, and report scores to AMATYC, sending them answer sheets for verification purposes. If you're interested, you can learn more by looking at <http://www.amatyc.org/?page=StudentMathLeague>.

Please consider seeing that your school participates in this competition. I have enjoyed attending the University of North Georgia Math Tournament with many of you, and getting involved in the AMATYC Student Math League requires much less time and money. Georgia Perimeter College was the only school from Georgia participating in the 2013-14 Student Math League, and we would love to have some competition in the state!

GMATYC Congratulates...

Barry Biddlecomb from Georgia Gwinnett College. He has been promoted to Full Professor of Mathematics.



GMATYC Congratulates...

Alvina J. Atkinson from Georgia Gwinnett College. She has been promoted to Full Professor of Mathematics.



Thanks for your membership in GMATYC!!

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GMATYC Member

Georgia