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GMATYC News

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President's Corner

Alvina J. Atkinson, GMATYC President
Georgia Gwinnett College



Hello Colleagues! I hope this message finds you well this fall semester. We are less than a week away from the Thanksgiving holiday. We may be in the middle of administering or grading those last exams or quizzes before the break. I hope that you are able to make time to relax and recharge during this holiday.

I am writing this message from the AMATYC Conference in Denver. If you have ever been to an AMATYC Conference, you know that it is amazing. It is a large conference, and the presentations are always engaging and informative. I want to encourage each of you to become involved in AMATYC. The 2017 Conference will be in San Diego, and it would be terrific to have more GMATYC members there. AMATYC is now accepting proposals to present at next year's conference. Please consider submitting a proposal and sharing all the wonderful teaching and learning that happens here in Georgia.

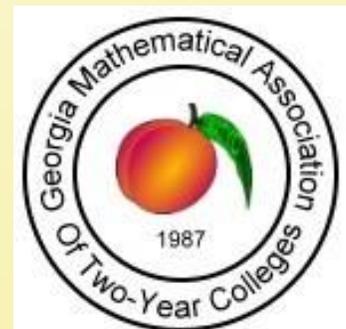
As I reflect during this time of the year, I want to say thank you to those who are currently serving in leadership in GMATYC. I appreciate your hard work and commitment to this organization. I also want to thank those of you who are members. I am proud to represent you as an affiliate president. As you know, we will be having elections soon. We are also looking for a new publications chair. Please consider volunteering to serve in leadership in GMATYC. See the article from the nominating committee and contact me if you are interested in coordinating the newsletter. There is no better time to serve!

-Alvina



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News from the Nominating Committee

Submitted by **Stephanie Garofalo, Perimeter College at Georgia State University**

GMATYC elections will be here before we know it. This year the position of President-Elect and two positions on the Nominating Committee must be filled. The President-Elect serves for one year and automatically succeeds the President at the end of the President's two-year term. The Past-President include coordinating publicity and public relations activities and chairing the Bill Bompert Teaching Excellence Award Committee. The duties of the President include:

- Preside at all meetings of the Association, serve as Chairman of the Executive Board, and prepare the agenda for all regular and Board meetings.
- Organize and coordinate the program of the annual meeting.
- Serve as a delegate to the national convention of AMATYC.
- Appoint GMATYC delegates to the national convention of AMATYC.

Members of the Nominating Committee select a slate of nominees for the offices to be filled and tabulate the election results.

Full descriptions for these positions can be found in the GMATYC Bylaws found at <http://www.gmatyc.org/>.

If you are interested in nominating an individual for any position (or self-nominating), please contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Stephanie Garofalo (Sgarofalo@gsu.edu), Stacy Jones (sjones64@ggc.edu), Don Brown (don.brown@mga.edu), or Lauren Frazier (lfrazier8@gsu.edu). Please submit your nominations by Friday, January 6, 2017.

Perimeter College Math Conference

Submitted by **Ashraful Chowdhury, Perimeter College at Georgia State University**

The 30th Annual Mathematics Conference at Perimeter College - Georgia State University will be held on Friday and Saturday, February 17-18, 2017, on the Clarkston campus. This year's theme is "Making Connections". This theme is timely as math educators from K12 to college courses are increasingly making sincere efforts to connect classroom curriculums with real-world applications.

The conference committee will soon accept proposals for presentations focusing on the integration of real-world contexts in the

classrooms using interdisciplinary concepts or any other topic related to learning support or undergraduate mathematics.

For the first time this year, first two-year college students will be invited to make 20-minute presentations.



STEM Camps for Middle and High School Students at Georgia Gwinnett College

Submitted by Lee Ann Roberts, Georgia Gwinnett College

The idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — science, technology, engineering and mathematics, commonly known as STEM—utilizing integrated, interdisciplinary, and applied methods, was brought to life with real world applications for middle school and high school students during June 2016 right on the campus of Georgia Gwinnett College (GGC). The programs are managed and staffed by faculty from various disciplines within the School of Science and Technology. The Summer STEM Academy camp experiences were paramount enrichment experiences for the young participants.

GGC has a Summer STEM Academy which offers two programs: GGC Tech Camp and GCC Mathematics in Action Scholars Program. Each program offers weekly sessions that recruit a specific age group. Each camp session is four

days (Monday-Thursday). Tech Camp has three sessions over a 3-week period during the first three weeks in June 2016. Tech Camp has one 4-day session for high school students (grades 9-11) as well as two 4-day sessions for middle school students (grades 6-8). One middle school session is only for boys, and the other middle school session is only for girls. The Mathematics in Action (MiA) Scholars Program has two 4-day sessions for rising middle school and current middle school students in grades 5-8. The MiA Scholars Program has two sessions over a 2-week period during the first two weeks in June. This summer, Tech Camp served 25 high school students, 31 middle school boys, and 28 middle school girls, for a total of 84 students. The MiA Scholars Program served 42 scholars.

See the participants and staff from both programs (Session 1) pictured below with GGC President, Dr. Stas Preczewski..



What Do You Know About the AMATYC Placement & Assessment Committee?

Submitted by Behnaz Rouhani, Perimeter College at Georgia State University



The **purpose** of the Placement and Assessment Committee is to serve as a resource for the AMATYC membership on issues related to placement and assessment of student outcomes and mathematical programs.

The **Goals** of this committee are:

1. Promote opportunities for educators to gain a deep understanding of best practices in placement and assessment implemented as per the standards recommended by the AMATYC.
2. Encourage mathematics educators in conducting webinars focused on building familiarity and understanding of the core standards of placement and assessment practices by examining strategies, models and contexts that support their implementation.
3. Maintain and update position statements on issues related to assessment and placement.

Please consider joining our committee, we would love to have you on board in order to use your expertise and insights! So, you might ask what the benefits of joining this committee are. As a member you will have access to:

- The Placement tools used around the country and a quick comparison between all.
- Articles on classroom assessment techniques.
- The approved position statements.
- Repository of sample assessment tools used along with their corresponding rubrics for different courses located in Google Drive.

Do you want to be part of this committee but do not know how to join? Send an email to the committee chair, Behnaz Rouhani at brouhani@gsu.edu to receive the know-how information.

Keeping Up with the 43rd Annual AMATYC Conference in Denver

Many of you are familiar with the Guidebook app used the past few years at the AMATYC conference. AMATYC will continue using the same app but have again added a few new features. One new feature of the app this year is called Interact. As the name suggests it will allow individuals who check in on the app to communicate with others in a method very similar to Facebook. You can post comments about sessions and other events and reach out to others who are using the app. Each session will have a discussion tab in its listing to allow you to see any comments about that session. I hope you use it often and enjoy connecting with others at the conference. Everyone should download the app, even if you are not attending! First download the Guidebook app and then search for the 42nd Annual AMATYC Conference Guide. It's that simple. What better way to stay in touch with everyone in Denver even if you are not there!

AMATYC is now accepting speaker proposals for the 2017 Conference in San Diego. Applications will be [accepted here](#).



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