

W I N T E R 2 0 1 5

# GMATYC News

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## President's Corner

**Margaret Ehrlich, GMATYC President**  
**Georgia Perimeter College, Dunwoody**



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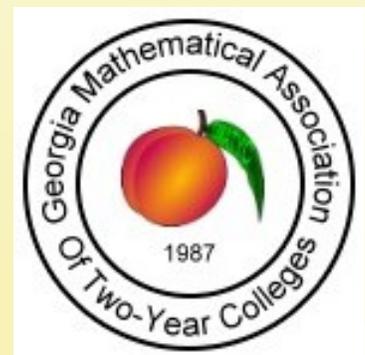
Welcome to 2015! This newsletter comes to you late and I'll take the blame. I moved from being the Dunwoody Campus Dean at Georgia Perimeter College to being the Online Campus Dean located at Clarkston just before Christmas break. Adjusting to those changes caused a delay in writing this article. The New Year will bring numerous changes for GMATYC as well. Thank you Alvina for your patience.

**Mergers!** As many of you have seen in the news, the University System of Georgia announced the merger of Georgia Perimeter College (GPC) and Georgia State University. As new developments are announced, I will try to provide updates in particular as to how this will impact GMATYC members. GPC currently has the largest share of membership in GMATYC, so I'm sure this is of interest to all who wish to maintain the vitality of GMATYC.

Mergers are not new to GMATYC. Math colleagues from Middle Georgia, Macon and Gainesville have already been a part of the University System's Consolidation process and certainly can share their experiences with their GMATYC colleagues at GPC.

I have reached out to our AMATYC Regional Vice-President and AMATYC President to notify them and to ask for their assistance as we move forward. If any of you attended the Nashville Conference, you may remember that the President mentioned that there is an AMATYC Board Committee looking at transitioning from "mathematics at two-year

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# The President's Corner



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colleges” to “mathematics in the first two years of college.” It is certainly a possibility for AMATYC to use this verbiage in the future as we see large system mergers occurring throughout the country. AMATYC will continue to focus on the teaching of mathematics at that level, whether at a two-year college or at a four-year college or university.

**Student Math League Update:** Regarding questions that have already arisen about student participation in the Student Math League, I have been told by the AMATYC President that she has made it her goal to adjust the rules for participation. She will do all that she can to see that students who have not received a degree at the associates level or higher, have not reached junior status, and have not taken math above what is currently considered in the first two years will be able to compete in the Student Math League (SML) in the future.

**Get involved with AMATYC and GMATYC!** January is often a time for reflection, and I hope many of you made a New Year's Resolution to become more involved with GMATYC and AMATYC.

**AMATYC:** GMATYC was well represented at the Annual Conference in Nashville in November. Many of you attended our regional luncheon on Friday in a show of force for Georgia.

A few highlights from the Delegate meeting:

1. The Position Statement on Academic Preparation was approved.
2. The AMATYC Bylaws were reviewed and the revised bylaws were adopted.
3. The Position Statement on the Appropriate Use of Intermediate Algebra was approved.

If you were unable to join us at the last AMATYC Conference, the conference proceedings from Nashville are now available online. For a complete review of the 2014 Nashville Conference Proceedings go

to: <http://www.amatyc.org/?page=2014ConfProceedings>

Mark your calendars and get ready to “Jazz It Up” in New Orleans at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual AMATYC Conference on November 19-22, 2015! For more information, go to:

<https://amatyc.site-ym.com/?2015ConfHome>.

To present or preside at a 2015 session, apply here: <http://confreg.matyc.org/>.

Consider participating in AMATYC's Refer-A-Friend member referral program to help our organization grow, and earn a reward for yourself! If you refer 9 friends, you will receive free membership. For more information, go to: <http://www.amatyc.org/?page=ReferAFriend>

## **GMATYC and the GPC Conference**

Please make plans to attend the GPC Conference and annual GMATYC meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>. The details for the conference are listed in an article in this publication.

At this time we are finding that we need more nominations for GMATYC officers. In particular, we need nominations for the Nomination Committee. Please consider submitting a nomination to Ann Hardy @ [Ann.Hardy@gpc.edu](mailto:Ann.Hardy@gpc.edu).

At AMATYC, we learned that there were few nominations for the Teaching Excellence Award. I spoke up in our Executive meeting about the difficult nomination process. That is true for our Bill Bompert Teaching Excellence Award as well. I will be asking for input on the process at our annual meeting and if needed create a committee for this purpose.

Ask your colleagues to join GMATYC. The membership price is very reasonable for those needing membership in a professional organization. You have a chance to renew your membership at the GPC Conference or by completing the form online.

I look forward to seeing an increase in our membership and member involvement in 2015. I hope to see all of you on February 13<sup>th</sup> at the GPC Newton Campus.

*Maggie*



## The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference

Submitted by Allison Williams, Georgia Perimeter College, Raleigh, NC

Mark your calendars for Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 for the 28th Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference! This year's theme is *New Frontiers*, and we are addressing this theme with a new location, a new, one-day schedule, and a few other exciting changes. This year's conference will be held on the Newton Campus of Georgia Perimeter College in Convington, Georgia. We are excited about the opportunities that this new space will hold for us as we make plans for our 28<sup>th</sup> year of hosting exceptional presentations and collaborating with our colleagues.

The conference will begin at 8:00am with registration and breakfast. You may register online before this date by clicking on the Registration Form link on our website, [www.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc](http://www.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc). The deadline for early registration is January 31, 2015. The sessions will begin at 9:00am and will consist of parallel sessions, themed sessions, and a few workshops. We are inviting proposals related to the teaching of mathematics at the learning support or two-year college level. Go to <http://depts.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc/> to submit your proposal. Proposals can be themed sessions (15 minutes followed by 5 minutes of questions) or parallel sessions (45 minutes).

It is a pleasure for us to announce that the keynote speaker for the 2015 conference is Dr. Julie Phelps. Julie has served as a mathematics faculty member, the developmental mathematics coordinator and the Project Director of Achieving the Dream at Valencia College in Orlando, Florida since 1997. She earned her doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction specializing in Community College in 2005 from the University of Central Florida in Orlando. Her dissertation topic was "Supplemental Instruction in a Community College Developmental Mathematics Curriculum.

Julie teaches Developmental and College-level Math at Valencia, consults for the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the Center for Community College Student Engagement and the Charles A. Dana Center. She continues her research in the area of developmental math and is using this data to understand community college issues such as supplemental instruction/supplemental learning, learning communities, closing the achievement gap, developmental math redesign and self-efficacy. Julie has been the recipient of several teaching and leadership awards including the most recent the 2010 Virginia B. Smith Innovation in Higher Education Leadership Award.

The conference will wrap up with the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual GMATYC Meeting at 5pm, followed by dinner immediately after. We invite you all to stay for dinner to have this time to hang out and visit with your colleagues.

We are really excited about the changes to the conference this year, and we are looking forward to sharing with you all. Please be sure to check our website, [www.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc](http://www.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc), for more information. A tentative schedule should be posted soon. Also, please be sure to LIKE us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/GPC-Mathematics-Conference/1376009189341937> as we will be using this page to post updates and pictures.

For more information, please contact the Conference Chairs, Susan Keith, at [susan.keith@gpc.edu](mailto:susan.keith@gpc.edu) or Andrea Hendricks, at [andrea.hendricks@gpc.edu](mailto:andrea.hendricks@gpc.edu). If you have any questions regarding registration, please send those to Albert Lu at [albert.lu@gpc.edu](mailto:albert.lu@gpc.edu).

We look forward to seeing you all in February!

# University of North Georgia's Invitational Sophomore Math Tournament

**Submitted by Gina Reed, University of North Georgia, Gainesville Campus**



The University of North Georgia at the Gainesville Campus will host the 21<sup>th</sup> annual Math Tournament on Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Any and all schools that grant 2 year degrees in math, physics, or engineering are invited to send a team to compete in the Tournament. Students are eligible to compete if they have not completed, nor are presently enrolled in any 3000 level Math Courses. Exceptions: Students who have taken or currently are taking Differential Equations and/or Linear Algebra, may participate in the tournament even if these courses are numbered as 3000 level courses at their respective schools.

The Tournament has two main events. The morning test is an individual Calculus test consisting of 40 multiple choice questions geared to be accessible to current Calc II students who are at the standard level of the Calc II curriculum up to, but not including the study of infinite series. Calculators are not allowed in the morning event, so it is an old timey paper and pencil and head-bone test.

The afternoon portion of the Tournament is a team competition, (non-calculus problems) with timed questions considered by teams of up to 4 students. Correct answers within the first minute are credited with ten points, within the second minute, nine points, etc. on down to one point for an answer during the last minute. Graphing calculators may be used on the afternoon portion of the competition.

Between the morning and afternoon portions, we break for lunch, which will include a short presentation by an invited speaker. This year Dr. Danny Lau of UNG (Gainesville) will be giving the noon time presentation.

After all the scores are tallied, the winning individuals (1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> place) in the morning test and the winning teams (1<sup>st</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup>) are announced at an awards ceremony. Winning individuals receive cash prizes, and winning teams get gift cards. Winning schools in the overall competition get trophies, and bragging rights!

More detail is available at <http://ung.edu/mathematics/tournament/index.php> where you will find pictures of past competitions as well as copies of past test questions.

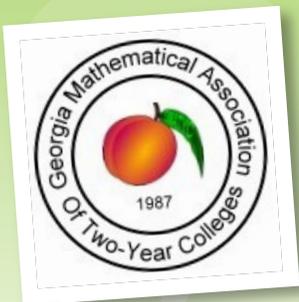
Last year's (2014) Tournament was attended by 160 students and 38 proctors from 17 different campuses from 5 states across the Southeast.

If you have participated in the UNG math Tournament before, please consider coming again this year. If you haven't made it before, please consider this open invitation. If you have any further questions, please email Minsu Kim ([Minsu.Kim@ung.edu](mailto:Minsu.Kim@ung.edu)) or Irfan Bagci ([Irfan.Bagci@ung.edu](mailto:Irfan.Bagci@ung.edu)), the coordinators of this year's event.

## News from the Nominating Committee

A big thank you goes to the outgoing Nominating Committee members for their contributions. We also thank Alice Pierce for her great job in setting up the on-line voting for the GMATYC election.

Charla Baker and Ann Hardy welcome Allison Wolf and Richard Puscas to the Nominating Committee. The committee sought candidates for next year's officers from faculty all over Georgia. In the future, please consider running for a position. Give serious thought to nominating yourself or encouraging a colleague to run for a position. The nominations for 2015 were collected until December 5, 2014, and the election will be in January 2015. For the 2015 election, nominees were needed for President-Elect and two positions on the Nominating Committee.



*The GMATYC Affiliate Poster was the self-declared best poster at the AMATYC Conference! Walking through the exhibit area, I overheard several attendees telling their friends to be sure to see our display. Many thanks to Wendy Davidson, Andrea Hendricks, Sanda Manole, Blair Cohen and Sharon Weltlich for their creative efforts.*

*-Maggie*

## GMATYC Executive Committee

President, Maggie Ehrlich  
Georgia Perimeter College, Dunwoody

Past President, Don Brown  
Middle Georgia State College, Macon

Secretary, Blanche Presley  
Middle Georgia State College, Macon

Treasurer, David Vogel  
Middle Georgia State College, Macon

Publications Chair, Alvina J. Atkinson  
Georgia Gwinnett College

Webmaster, Mary Wolfe  
Middle Georgia State College, Macon



## GMATYC Member

Georgia