



GMATYC News

A Publication of the Georgia Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges

President's Corner

Jessica Craig, GMATYC President
Georgia Perimeter College, Dunwoody

Congratulations to our very own Donna Saye, Past-President of GMATYC, for winning the position of Southeast Regional Vice-President of AMATYC! We are proud of you Donna, and we know you will do a wonderful job!

I can hardly believe that this will be my last President's Corner article. I am really enjoying the fun and the challenges of being your president. I strongly encourage everyone to take an active role in our organization and in AMATYC, our parent organization. GMATYC has many wonderful and talented members, and in an active role, you can help shape the future of this organization. Not only that, but you can do so working with some wonderful people. This year GMATYC will be electing a Secretary and a Treasurer and two new members of the nominating committee. There is still time to put in your nominations. Read more about these openings in this newsletter. Until you get actively involved, it can be difficult to see how much there is that GMATYC and AMATYC have to offer those of us who teach the first two

years of college mathematics. And there are some wonderful opportunities that are available to us.

One of the opportunities that GMATYC has to offer is our biannual Bill Bompert Teaching Excellence Award. The winner of this award will be announced at our February meeting at the annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference. There is still time to get your nominations in. We want to recognize our amazing teachers, and we have many here in Georgia. You can read more about this in this newsletter in an article by Jack Robinson, our President-Elect, and on the GMATYC webpage www.gmatyc.org

The annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference offers a great opportunity for mathematics teachers to get together to hear innovative and creative teaching techniques. This year's conference will be held February 15th and 16th at the Clarkston campus of Georgia Perimeter College. Andrea Hendricks

is organizing what promises to be a very enjoyable and informative conference. Read more about this conference in the article by Andrea in this newsletter. At the GMATYC meeting during this conference, we will be discussing some proposed modifications to our Bylaws and Mission Statement. Make plans to attend. We need your input. You can read the proposed Mission Statement on our webpage at www.gmatyc.org.

Calandra Davis has done an outstanding job with GMATYC's webpage and the blog. Thanks Calandra! Calandra feels that it is time for her to step down from this position, so I am soliciting candidates for the position of Webmaster. The person who will be appointed to this position must be experienced with webpages. We would also like the candidate to have some experience with blogs. Our blog is a unique opportunity for GMATYC members to communicate with each other. If you are interested in taking over this position, please send me a summary of your qualifications. My email address is jcraig@gpc.edu.

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The next Bill Bompert Teaching Excellence Award will be given in 2008. Now is the time to start considering who would make a good candidate. You could be the next recipient. See the announcement on page 6 and find more details at : www.gmatyc.org

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(continued)

Remember that you get the most from an organization when you get involved.

I enjoyed immensely the annual AMATYC conference, which was held in Minneapolis, November 1 - 4. It was an excellent professional development opportunity for teachers from all over the country to join together to shape the future of two-year college mathematics instruction. There were many ideas to incorporate into our classrooms, and *Calculus, The Musical* was a lot of fun. I hope to see you at the next AMATYC conference in Washington, D.C., November 20-23, 2008.

AMATYC has many opportunities for us. The winner of our Bill Bompert

Teaching Excellence Award will be entered into AMATYC's Teaching Excellence Award. Of course, you can also directly nominate a candidate for AMATYC's Teaching Excellence Award. AMATYC also has opportunities for new mathematics instructors through Project Access. I would like to see a new mathematics teacher from Georgia be accepted for this project. If you know of a deserving new mathematics instructor, consider nominating that instructor for acceptance into the 2008 - 2009 cohort. In addition, one of the most important ways that AMATYC is shaping the future of two-year college mathematics teaching is with the *Beyond Crossroads* document. If you have not read this call for change, please do so. It sets up guidelines for improvement in

mathematics teaching that are well worth considering.

Of course, the most important first step in taking advantage of all the opportunities available to our members and members of AMATYC is to become a member of GMATYC. If you have colleagues that are not members, please encourage them to join! It is easy. Prospective members can join at our annual meeting in February or through our web page, www.gmatyc.org.

Finally, I just want to wish each of you the most enjoyable and productive school year ever, and I want to thank you for the opportunity you have given me to be your president.

News from the Nominating Committee

A big thank you goes to the outgoing Nominating Committee members, Carolyn Spillman and Margie Lewkowicz, for their contributions the last two years. We also thank Alice Pierce for her great job in setting up the on-line voting for the GMATYC election.

Ann Hardy and Margaret Ehrlich welcome Ilene Grant and Robby Williams to the Nominating Committee. The committee will be seeking candidates for next year's officers from faculty all over Georgia. Please consider running for a position. Give serious thought to nominating yourself or encouraging a colleague to run for a position in 2008. The nominations are now being collected, and the election will be held in January 2008. For the 2008 election, nominees will be needed for Secretary, Treasurer, and two positions on the Nominating Committee.

GMATYC Congratulates...

- ***Kim (Robinson) Gilbert joined the faculty at Georgia Gwinnett College as an Associate Professor of Mathematics.***



The 21st Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference

Andrea Hendricks, Georgia Perimeter College

The 21st Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference will be held at the CLARKSTON CAMPUS of Georgia Perimeter College on Friday and Saturday, February 15th and 16th, 2008. The conference will be held in the New College Center on Clarkston Campus.

The conference will kick-off with technology demonstrations on Friday morning at 10 a.m. and at 11:15 a.m. These demonstrations will be provided by publishers and other vendors. Registration for these sessions is not required.

It is a pleasure for us to announce that the keynote speaker for the 2008 conference is Dr. Joe Gerda.

Dr. Joe Gerda is a professor in the mathematics department at the College of the Canyons in California. Dr. Gerda currently is in charge of the online curriculum. He has served in a variety of leadership positions including Mathematics Department Chair, Division of Mathematics & Sciences Chair, Coordinator for Instruction, Assistant Dean of Instruction & Athletic Director, and as Interim Vice-President/Dean of Instruction for a brief period. Dr. Gerda has taught Biostatistics at UCLA Graduate School of Public Health and also Research Methods to master and doctoral candidates at Ryokan College. Prior to teaching, he was employed as a statistician for UCLA Medical Center, Brentwood VA Department of Neurology, and for private companies. In 1989 he co-founded The Associate Program for Adjunct Instructors, a Hesburgh Award winning staff development activity.

This program served as a model for the National Science Foundation CREATE program for which Joseph now serves as Facilitator Training Coordinator. His current interest includes teacher training for adjunct instructors, improving online mathematics education and writing a statistics text integrating relevant problems, computer applications, and critical thinking.

The title of his opening address and the theme for the conference is "Getting Results in the Mathematics Classroom." Through the roles that Dr. Gerda has served and his participation in the NSF CREATE program, he has gained invaluable insight and resources on this topic that he will share.

We have several interesting workshops:

Dr. Bruce Wahl, Northern Virginia Community College, will show participants how to incorporate alternative activities in lectures for all levels of mathematics. He will also share a projects that focuses on student communication of mathematical ideas in Math for the Liberal Arts classes.

Dr. Leonid Khazanov and Dr. Fred Peskoff, Borough of Manhattan Community College, will inform faculty of common misconceptions of probability and effective strategies for resolving some of these misconceptions.

Dr. Frank Wilson, Chandler Gilbert Community College, will share real-life applications that address the common student question, "When am I ever going to use this?"

Queen Harris, Georgia Perimeter College, will share about statistics projects that help students actively learn about the subject.

Sunnie Jackson, Georgia Perimeter College, will show participants how to integrate technology into the classroom.

Also, the Nineteenth Annual GMATYC Meeting will be held at the conference.

We are seeking parallel session presenters. If you are interested in presenting a parallel session related to mathematics teaching or about the teaching of mathematics in learning support or two-year college level, please send your proposal to Martha Nega at mnega@gpc.edu. Your proposal must include the following information: names of presenter(s), college or organization, email addresses, daytime telephone number, mailing address, the presentation's proposed title, an abstract of 50 words or less, and a detailed list of needed equipment including any internet access requirements. The deadline for the submission of the proposals is November 20, 2007.

For more information, please contact the Conference Chair, Andrea Hendricks, at ahendric@gpc.edu. If you would like to have your name placed on our mailing list, please contact Albert Lu, the conference registrar, at alu@gpc.edu.

For more information and the most recent updates, check the conference website at www.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc.

Announcements

Bill Bompert Teaching Excellence Award:

*Do you know of an excellent teacher? Are you an excellent teacher?
Nominations for the GMATYC Bill Bompert Teaching Excellence Award
are being accepted.*

The winner will become the GMATYC nominee for the AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award for the following year. A one-year membership to GMATYC, a one-year membership to AMATYC and a plaque will also be given to the award winner. Nominations must be sent to

*Dr. John Robertson
Department of Mathematics
Georgia Military College*

For more information and the nomination forms, go to the GMATYC website: www.gmatyc.org.

Call for Nominations:

*We are now receiving nominations for GMATYC Secretary and GMATYC Treasurer. Send nominations to one of the nominating committee's co-chairs
Ilene Grant (igrant@gpc.edu) or Ann Hardy (ahardy@gpc.edu)*

Mark your calendars.

*The next Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference will be
February 15 and 16, 2008
at the Clarkston Campus of Georgia Perimeter College.
The next GMATYC meeting will be held during that conference.*

Gainesville State College is hosting its Thirteenth Annual Mathematics Tournament for Two-Year Colleges on Saturday, April 12, 2008. All two year colleges, (and four year schools with only a two year math program) throughout the Southeast are invited to participate. This is an excellent opportunity for your best math students to compete against other two-year college students for significant prizes. The competition features both individual and team events involving problems from algebra, geometry, trigonometry, statistics, and calculus. Complete tournament information and [registration forms](#) are available on our website at:

<http://www.gsc.edu/math/>



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