



GMATYC News

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

President's Corner

Donna Saye, GMATYC President

Georgia Southern University

We are moving toward the home stretch of the semester--counting the days till summer vacation and the promise of long, restful days. As we near the beginning of the summer with its lighter load, we begin to reflect on the year that has passed. It has been a very good year. We had a great time at the GMATYC meeting at the Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference in February! Thanks to everyone who attended, and if you were unable to attend, we did miss you and we do hope to see you next time!

At the meeting, Pat Zrolka from Georgia Perimeter College, Chair of the Membership Committee, announced that her committee is working to establish a contact person at each college campus to help with recruitment of new members for GMATYC. The committee includes Alvina Atkinson from Fort Valley State, Stephanie Holcombe from ABAC, and Heather Walker from Savannah Technical College. Two new members will soon be appointed to replace

Virginia Carson and Anita Hunt who rotated off the committee this year, so if you are interested in serving GMATYC by becoming a member of the Membership Committee, please e-mail me at (dbsaye@georgiasouthern.edu)

If you are willing to serve as a contact person at your college, please contact Pat (pzrolka@gpc.edu). If you were unable to attend the GMATYC meeting this year, I encourage you to look for the membership form on our website and renew your membership.

Two new members to the Nominating Committee were introduced at the meeting. Margie Lewkowicz and Carolyn Spillman, both from Georgia Perimeter, were elected to serve with Beryle Boyd and Ann Hardy on the committee during 2005. Jessica Craig from Georgia Perimeter was introduced as the new President-Elect for GMATYC. She and I will work together this year to find ways to improve communication among the members of GMATYC and to strengthen our organization and its role in AMATYC. Jessica will also serve this year as

Chair of the GMATYC Teaching Excellence Award Committee. Please consider nominating a colleague for this award, and send your nominations to Jessica (jcraig@gpc.edu) by the end of December. Information about the award can be found on the GMATYC website.

I think that one of the most exciting features of the annual GMATYC meeting is that it provides a venue in which mathematics faculty may share methods and techniques for the improvement of teaching math to students during their first two years of college. Our meetings also provide a great opportunity for professional development for all of us and for networking with colleagues from across the state of Georgia. It was great to see and talk to each of you at the February meeting. I look forward to next year.

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Will you be the



next recipient of the GMATYC Teaching Award? Not unless you apply. Find details at :

www.gmatyc.org

The deadline for applications is December 1, 2005.

11th Annual Gainesville College Mathematics Tournament

Thomas Hartfield, Gainesville College

Gainesville, GA., April 8, 2005 – Gainesville College hosted the 11th Annual Gainesville College Mathematics Tournament For Two-Year Colleges on its Oakwood campus on April 2, 2005.

Over fifty students from seven colleges in Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee participated in the tournament. The competition consisted of two phases: a morning round for individual students that featured a challenging multiple-choice Calculus test and an afternoon round that tested students' abilities to creatively use precalculus mathematics to solve unusual problems in a pressure-filled team setting.

Awards totaling \$900 in cash and prizes, along with trophies, plaques, and medals, were awarded to top students and colleges. Additionally, Mercer University of Macon, Georgia offered scholarships to all participating individuals with top awards for individual students of \$9000 (for more information about these scholarship opportunities at Mercer University, contact Jeffrey Fry at FRY_JE@Mercer.edu)

The individual round winners were:

1st Place: **Aragaw Akalu**, Georgia Perimeter College, Decatur Campus, GA

2nd Place: **Jackson Tanis**, Georgia Perimeter College, Dunwoody Campus, GA

3rd Place: **Prathyusha Vadlamudi**, Durham Technical Community College, NC

The team round winners were:

1st Place: **Georgia Perimeter College**, Dunwoody Campus, GA

2nd Place: **Durham Technical Community College**, NC

3rd Place: **Catawba Valley Community College**, NC

Overall winners were:

1st Place: **Georgia Perimeter College**, GA

2nd Place: **Durham Technical Community College**, NC

3rd Place: **Gainesville College**, GA

Participating colleges were:

Catawba Valley Community College – Hickory, NC

Durham Technical Community College – Durham, NC

Gainesville College – Gainesville, GA

Georgia Perimeter College – Clarkston, Decatur, and Dunwoody, GA

Haywood Community College – Clyde, NC

Hiwassee College – Madisonville, TN

Wake Technical Community College – Raleigh, NC

For preliminary information about the 2006 tournament, contact Jerry Graveman at 770.718.3756 or Thomas Hartfield at 770.718.3858.

One Team's Experience- "It was so much fun!"

Alice Pierce, Georgia Perimeter College/Clarkston

The Gainesville College Mathematics Tournament was so much fun. On a freezing, extremely breezy Saturday morning (school vans and cars left the Clarkston, Decatur, and Dunwoody campuses between 7:30 and 8 AM), 19 GPC students and 5 coaches/math club advisors made their way to Gainesville.

The tournament had two parts. In the morning, students took a 90-minute multiple choice calculus test and competed as individuals. There were 53 individual participants in this part of the tournament.

After lunch, problems are solved by

teams. Large schools are subdivided into smaller teams.

When they determined the overall winner (combo of morning and afternoon scores), GPC won and they took a photo with 19 students and 5 coaches/math club advisors.

The participants from Georgia Perimeter College were:

Clarkston - Komi Amouzou, Kee Jun Byun, Alisha Hester, Moses Koda, Jeffrey Wolf, Coach Alice Pierce, Math Club advisor Jackie Spann

Decatur - Aragaw Akalu, Hersley Harrison, Tonika Highsmith, Tuan Hynh, Ayesha Johnson, Vu Luu, Hardik Modi, Roderick Scott, Math Club advisor Ming Her

Dunwoody - Lydia Sue-Ellen Chitunya, David Ortiz, Neal Parker, Henry Phan, Yuval Rooz, Jackson Tanis, Math Club advisors Iason Rusodimos and Barrett Walls



AMATYC 2005 Annual Conference—San Diego

Rob Kimball, AMATYC Southeast vice-president, Wake Tech Community College

The annual conference is an important member service for AMATYC. A great deal of effort is put into making the event a significant part of your professional development plan. This year's conference promises to be one you do not want to miss. Catch the wave and ride it to San Diego.

Themed Short Sessions – These have caught on with AMATYC Conference goers so more short sessions on one theme are planned this year. On Thursday, the Faculty Development Committee will host “**Issues for Department Chairs**”, the Foundations/Developmental Math Committee will host “**Riding Each Other’s Waves: Strategies to Help At-Risk Students**”, the Distance Learning Committee will host “**Math on the Web**”, and the Statistics subcommittee will host “**Projects and Activities in Statistics**.” Then, on Saturday, the Faculty Development Committee will host “**Support for New Faculty**”, the Programs/Curricular Issues Committee will host “**Teacher Preparation – A Few of Our Favorite Things**” and the Placement and Assessment Committee will host “**Great Ideas in Mathematics Placement and Assessment**.”

These themed short sessions promise to provide participants with lots of ideas from many different sources. In addition, they demonstrate the important role that committees play in the work of AMATYC.

This fall’s annual AMATYC Conference in San Diego will feature three speakers that promise to make this year’s conference unforgettable.

Ron Graham will be the speaker at the Opening Session on Thursday. Dr. Graham, Cal-(IT)² Chief Scientist and Irwin and Joan Jacobs Professor in the Computer Science and Engineering department, UCSD is a past President of the AMS. Dr. Graham is a strong voice in

promoting mathematics in general, and discrete mathematics in particular, to mathematical audiences, and he is personally the reason for the choices that many young mathematicians have made to devote themselves to those areas of mathematics. In addition to his mathematical interests, he is an outstanding athlete, with major talents in juggling, trampoline, table tennis, and the like.

Keith Devlin will be the speaker at a special plenary session on Friday. Dr. Devlin is a Senior Researcher in The Center for the Study of Language and Information and its Executive Director, a Consulting Professor in the Department of Mathematics, and a co-founder of the Stanford Media X Research Network and a member of its Executive Committee. He is a World Economic Forum Fellow and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His current research is focused on the design of information/reasoning systems for intelligence analysis. Other research interests include: theory of information, models of reasoning, applications of mathematical techniques in the study of communication; mathematical cognition; and the use of different media to teach and communicate mathematics to diverse audiences

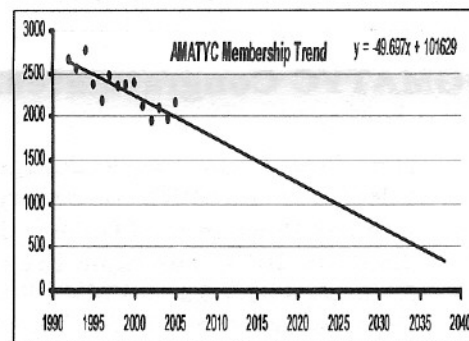
Millie Johnson will be the Saturday morning breakfast speaker. She promises to be entertaining and enlightening.

The Delegate Assembly will be asked to endorse the **Beyond Crossroads** document at the annual meeting. The current version (7.0) is available on the web and is very close to the final version and reflects the vast amount of input that has been received from many different sources. Between November, '05 and November, '06, the document will be edited and printed in preparation for the unveiling in Cincinnati. In addition, work continues on

the “web-enhanced” version of the document as well as some digital products that will support the document.

CBMS Survey Coming to You this Fall – Every five years the conference Board for Mathematical Sciences distributes a survey to college and universities. Only 1/3 of the 1200 two-year colleges will get this survey so it is important that if you are asked to, you complete the survey and return it. Your regional Vice President will get a list of schools that are asked to complete the survey and will be asked to help get the return rate near 100%.

Trend in AMATYC Membership Disturbing – Many of us teach more modeling now, using trend lines to model data. We all make the point that a model must be examined for goodness of fit and practicality and that extrapolating is dangerous. Below (Excel graph) you will find a model that may be used to predict the membership of AMATYC. The trend line found for this data shows that by 2045 membership in AMATYC will be zero. This is disturbing! Your Board needs your ideas and help to change the slope of the trend line. AMATYC affiliates play many important roles and promoting membership is a big one!



18th Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference

Kim Bennekin/ Albert Lu, Georgia Perimeter College

The 18th Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference returned to the Lawrenceville Campus of Georgia Perimeter College on February 18-19, 2005. Over 120 people attended the conference workshops and parallel sessions to hear 40 different speakers.

We were honored to have Dr. Robert M. Panoff as the keynote speaker for the conference. Dr. Panoff is the founder, president & executive director, and senior computational scientist of the Shodor Education Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit research and education corporation. With nearly \$1 million in annual federal, state, and private funding, the Shodor Education Foundation undertakes interdisciplinary research in the appropriate uses of technology in education. It is the leading undergraduate education component of the National Computational Science Alliance. Dr. Panoff is the founder and director of the National Computational Science Institute (NCSI), a comprehensive, interdisciplinary training program for undergraduate faculty. NCSI combines in-person workshops, network-accessible

curriculum materials, web-based courses, and continuous support for undergraduate mathematics and science faculty to learn how to do and how to teach computational science, with special emphasis on integrating schools of education faculty (see the web sites www.shodor.org/scsi and www.computationalscience.net)

The conference attendees were from the following schools:

Brewton-Parker College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Clayton College and State University
Columbus State University
Dalton State College
Darton College
Devry Institute of Technology
Floyd College
Gainesville College
Georgia Military College
Georgia Perimeter College
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
Gordon College

Greenville Technical College
Griffin Technical College
Macon State College
Okefenokee Technical College
Shodor Education Foundation, Inc.
South GA Technical Institute
The Lovett School
The Westminster School
University of South Carolina/Beaufort
Valdosta Technical College
Wake Technical Community College

If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, please contact Albert Lu (alu@gpc.edu).

For information and updates, please refer to the conference website :

www.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc

We look forward to seeing you at the 2006 conference!

GMATYC Congratulates...

- Gina Reed of Gainesville College on receiving an Innovative Teaching Grant . In addition, she was selected as a SMART Exemplary Educator.
- Heather Howington of Gainesville College, who was selected to be in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers 2004*, has again been nominated for this honor.
- Andrea Hendricks and Mary Ellen Davis, both of Georgia Perimeter College, for receiving the National Organization of Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Teaching Excellence Awards.
- Jessica Craig of Georgia Perimeter College on being elected the new President Elect (2005-2006) of GMATYC.

If you have had an accomplishment or received an award that you would like to share with GMATYC, please send the information to Susan White at swhite1@gpc.edu so it can be included in the next edition of the GMATYC News!

MATH GAME NIGHT

Pat Zrolka and Ming Her Georgia Perimeter College, Decatur

In February, Georgia Perimeter College (Decatur) math students and Math 2030 (Math for Elementary School Teachers) students from the Clarkston Campus joined the Marbut Elementary Theme School (DeKalb County) faculty to host "Math Game Night". Ms. Renie Johnson, Math Specialist at Marbut, organized the event which featured more than thirty mathematics games on Pre-K to 5th grade level.

This annual event was in desperate need of volunteers and GPC students and faculty answered the call. With the help of GPC faculty, staff and students, the Marbut students and parents had a wonderful and educational math game night. This event gives elementary students the opportunity to play and learn at the same time.

Participating in the event was

also a learning experience for the college students. The Math 2030 students had the opportunity to have a hands-on teaching experience with the elementary school students. This event provided a great time for these students as they prepare to be teachers. This year 30 GPC students and faculty participated in the game night event which was attended by more than 130 Marbut Elementary students and parents.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR COLLEGE?

Susan White, Georgia Perimeter College/Lawrenceville

Did you know...

Floyd College is getting a new name and teaches classes in Marietta now?

Gainesville College has more than one campus?

Georgia Perimeter College is opening a new campus in Covington in January 2007?

These are just a few of the many changes, expansions, and innovative programs going on with GMATYC member schools. Don't keep your college news and developments a secret!

I will be contacting a representative from each member school this summer to help contribute to an article in next fall's **GMATYC News**. The article will hopefully allow all of us to get to know each other better and to share interesting and important information

about the different "flavors" of colleges that make up our organization. Look for an e-mail from me this summer. If you are lucky, you may be the chosen member representing your college!!

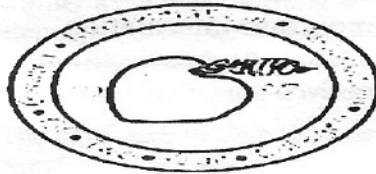
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