

GMATYC News

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

President's Corner

Donna Saye, GMATYC President

Georgia Southern University

Welcome back to the classroom! It is Fall Semester, 2004, and I have never in my life been so excited to hear those words as I am this semester! I have been out of the classroom for two semesters serving as the Acting Associate Dean for Student and Academic Programs in the College of Science and Technology here at Georgia Southern University, and I know one thing without a doubt. I *do not* enjoy administration! It was an adventure, and I had no problem fulfilling the requirements of the job, but I did not enjoy the job. I have realized that in the teaching profession, I *belong in the classroom*. I hope that each of you have had a restful summer and are as glad to be back in the classroom as I am!

Gloria Hitchcock worked hard (and did an excellent job) during her time as President of GMATYC building up our membership, and I hope to carry on her "membership drive." We currently have 123

members representing 18 public colleges and universities, 7 technical colleges, 2 private colleges, and 2 public school systems in the state of Georgia. As you can see, there are many more colleges and universities in our state that are not represented. I would like to urge each of you to promote our organization to your colleagues on your campuses and encourage them to join. I would also like to ask each of you to promote GMATYC to your colleagues employed in colleges or universities other than your own. Our membership committee will begin in January to seek new members, but I am asking each of you to begin now to invite your colleagues to join.

GMATYC is a unique organization that offers each of its members an opportunity for addressing the improvement of the teaching of mathematics to students during their first two critical years of college. The success of GMATYC depends on a strong and active membership. I am very

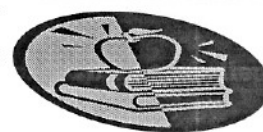
thankful that all of you are members, and I encourage you to become *active* members. We currently have several service *opportunities* for GMATYC members, and I will begin contacting many of you in the next few weeks seeking your help in the area of service to the organization. I urge you to be thinking about what you can do for GMATYC, and be ready to answer "yes" when I call!

Finally, I would like to encourage each of you to become active members of AMATYC as well as GMATYC. The AMATYC conference is November 18- 21 in Orlando, Florida this year. Be sure to read Rob Kimball's article on page 3 for more information on the conference or check the AMATYC website at www.amatyc.org. I look forward to serving the members of GMATYC as President this year. Please contact me if you have any questions or want to serve GMATYC with me!

Inside this issue:

GCTM Report on 45th Conference	2
Floyd College Seminar	2
What Else You Should Know About Orlando?	3
GMATYC Congratulates...	3
18th Annual GPC Mathematics Conference	4
Grant Award to Georgia Perimeter College	5
AMATYC Award for Teaching Excellence	5

Will
you
be
the



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

www.gmatyc.org

The deadline for applications is December 1, 2004.

GCTM Report on 45th Annual Conference

Don Brown, Macon State College

Over 1850 teachers of mathematics from across the state attended the 45th Annual Georgia Mathematics Conference which was held at Rock Eagle October 14—16, 2004. The theme for this year's conference was "Georgia Performance Standards: The Math Matrix Reloaded." The theme reflects changes in the mathematics curriculum that will affect math teachers and students in grades K – 12 and ultimately students' preparedness for college mathematics. A copy of the proposed new curriculum changes can be found at:

www.georgiastandards.org.

The proposed curriculum is designed to replace the current Quality Core Curriculum (QCC).

A few time slots were built into the conference schedule to give educators time to discuss the new

standards and to become more familiar with them.

Nearly 160 speakers gave presentations on a variety of mathematical topics from arithmetic to calculus and statistics at the conference. Several sessions focused on the use of a variety of new technologies in the classroom.

This year's major speakers included Keith Devlin, consulting professor of mathematics at Stanford University, David Rock, professor at the University of Massachusetts/Dartmouth, Ellice Martin, assistant professor of mathematics education at Valdosta State University, Ivars Peterson, editor of Science News, Doug Brumbaugh, professor emeritus at the University of Central Florida,

Phil Daro, National Center on Education and the Economy, Mary Buck, past member of NCTM Board of Directors, and Dottie Whitlow, mathematics specialist at the National Center on Education and the Economy.

Check out the Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics' website, www.gctm.org for handouts and useful websites that were shared among conference participants! Make plans now for the 46th annual conference which will be held October 20 – 22, 2005 at Rock Eagle.

FLOYD COLLEGE SEMINAR *Enhancing P-5 Teacher Preparation*

Brent Griffin, Floyd College

On Friday, May 14, 2004, Floyd College hosted a one-day seminar entitled, "Enhancing P-5 Teacher Preparation." Organized in conjunction with a National Science Foundation/Phi Theta Kappa grant recently awarded to Floyd College and its partner institution, State University of West Georgia, the seminar engaged mathematics and science educators in conversations about the mathematics, science, and technology proficiencies necessary for P-5 teachers. Seminar participants included representatives from local school systems, students majoring in P-5 education, two-year and four-year college mathematics, science, and education faculty, and college adminis-

trators. During the seminar, attendees discussed how to improve the performance of preservice teachers on the Praxis examination, develop an interdisciplinary science course designed to expose students to a broad range of scientific topics, provide instructional support to students enrolled in core curriculum mathematics courses, and expand students' opportunities for early field (*i.e.* classroom) experience.

Dr. Susan Wood, Professor of Mathematics, and Ms. Barbara Stewart, Associate Professor of Biology, from J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College in Richmond, Virginia delivered the key-

note address entitled "Pathways and Partnerships for Preservice Teachers, Paraprofessionals, and Post-Baccs." Dr. Wood and Ms. Stewart serve as mentors to Floyd College and State University of West Georgia during the life of the grant project. Their ideas and advice, as well as that of other seminar participants, is leading to improved P-5 teacher preparation in mathematics, science, and technology at Floyd College.

Did you know?

- Orlando has 95 theme parks.
- The airport designator code "MCO" comes from the former McCoy Air Force Base, on which site, located at -81.08°W 28.96° N, and at 113 feet above sea level, Orlando International Airport now stands.
- The Orlando area, where Disney World is located on a 27,000-acre site, is Florida's most popular tourist destination.

To prepare for the 30th Annual AMATYC Conference, you probably will look at sessions and workshops and prepare your own personal schedule. There are many sessions on various topics and it is advisable to study the conference program:

(www.amatyc.org/Orlando) before getting to Orlando.

Here are a couple of more things about the Orlando conference you should know:

1. **First-Timers Session (S13)**

This session has three purposes: to meet other colleagues attending the conference for the first time, to learn about AMATYC, and to learn how to get the most from the conference. Please join us!

2. **Regional Meetings and Continental Breakfast**

Get to know the people and activities in your region, and interact with your Regional Vice President on Friday, November 19, at 8:00 a.m. while enjoying a continental breakfast. Network with colleagues from colleges and AMATYC affiliates in your region. Take advantage of this opportunity to express your views to your state and affiliate delegates regarding Delegate Assembly issues. Your

attendance at the meeting of your region is strongly encouraged.

3. **AMATYC Forums**

Four forums will be held on the evening of Thursday, November 18. Everyone is invited to participate by attending as many of these as are of interest and providing valuable suggestions and insight to guide AMATYC.

FORUM SCHEDULE

6:30 p.m. The Crossroads Revisited Project

7:00 p.m. Position Statement on Dual Enrollment in Mathematics

7:30 p.m. AMATYC Dues Increase

8:00 p.m. AMATYC's Future: Goal Setting

Ok, so now you're ready to head for Florida. By the way, the capital of Florida? Tallahassee.

GMATYC Congratulates...

- Steve Davis of Macon State College who received the 2004 Macon State College Award for Outstanding Teaching.
- Delbert Grear and Thomas Hartfield of Gainesville College who were promoted to Assistant Professor.
- Beata Hebda and Gina Reed of Gainesville College who were promoted to Professor .
- Jerry Graveman of Gainesville College who received tenure.
- Heather Howington of Gainesville College who was selected to be in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2004* and was also promoted to Assistant Professor.
- Sandee House of Georgia Perimeter College who was awarded a grant from Hewlett-Packard/MESA (see article page 5).
- Charles Fowler, Heather Howington, and Gina Reed each who received Innovative Teaching Grants.



18th Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference

Kimberly Bennekin, Georgia Perimeter College, Dunwoody

The 18th Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference will return to the Lawrenceville Campus of Georgia Perimeter College on February 18-19, 2005. We are 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)

Dr. Panoff also serves as the lead designer of Project Interactivate. Project Interactivate is a professional development curriculum for middle school mathematics teachers. Dr. Panoff is also the co-founder of the NSF Corporate and Foundation Alliance which brings together leaders from the NSF, industry and private foundations to address critical issues in undergraduate education.

In addition to our dynamic keynote speaker, a variety of paral-

lel sessions and workshops will be available for conference participants. For those who are interested in presenting a parallel session, please email your proposal to Dr. Margie Lewkowicz at mlewkowi@gpc.edu. Proposals should include the name of the presenter(s), college or organization affiliation, email address, daytime telephone number, mailing address, proposed title, an abstract of 50 words or less, and a list of equipment needed.

For more information, please contact Kimberly Bennekin (kbenneki@gpc.edu). 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 conference!



**The Gainesville College
Mathematics Tournament will
be held Saturday,
April 2, 2005**

Grant Award to Georgia Perimeter College

Sandee House Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston

Sandee House, associate mathematics professor at Georgia Perimeter College's Clarkston Campus, was awarded a grant from Hewlett Packard/MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) in June, 2004, for implementation during the 2004-2005 academic year. The grant, worth over \$80,000 in equipment and cash, included 6 HP desktop computers for use in a Student Center designated to help students with

math-based majors. The grant also included an HP-Mobile classroom consisting of 18 laptops and recharging/storage cart. The purpose of the programs funded by the grant will be to assist educationally disadvantaged students to excel in math and science so they can attain baccalaureate degrees in math-based fields. "Math-based fields" include those areas where students are required to take a two-course sequence in math be-

ginning at the Precalculus level. At GPC those degrees are as follows: AA Biology, AA Chemistry, AS Computer Science, AS Engineering, AA Geology, AS Information Technology, AA Mathematics, AA Physics, AS Pre-Dentistry, AS Pre-Medicine, AS Pre-Pharmacy, and AS Teacher Education (Secondary Science or Mathematics).

AMATYC Award for Teaching Excellence

Rob Kimball, AMATYC Southeast Vice-President, Wake Tech Community College

The AMATYC Award for Teaching Excellence is given in odd-numbered years to an outstanding two-year college mathematics instructor from each region. The first round of eight awards was presented at the 1997 Annual Conference in Atlanta. Awards were presented again in 1999 in Pittsburgh, in 2001 in Toronto, and then in 2003 in Salt Lake City. The next round of awards will be presented in San Diego in 2005 at the Annual Conference. Each winner will receive an AMATYC medallion and a \$500 check from Houghton Mifflin.

Selection Criteria

Teaching excellence is the main focus of the Teaching Excellence Award. Criteria for selection are:

- Instructional Effectiveness and Support of Students (innovative teaching strategies, alternative assessment methods, curriculum development, creating a learning environment for all students, accessible to students in and out of the classroom, etc. 25 points)
- Professional Involvement and Professional Development/Renewal Activities (active participation in professional organizations, speeches, articles, conferences, etc. 15 points)
- Interaction with Colleagues (sharing and discussing ideas with other colleagues 5 points)

- Service to Departments/Division/College (active contributor to college community 5 points)

Nominees must be AMATYC members whose primary assigned duties must be delivering instruction in an associate degree-granting program. Nominees must have the equivalent of a minimum of 5 years of full-time teaching experience. Individuals can be selected for the award only once. In order to make a regional award, there must be a minimum of three nominees from the region. The names of the awardees of the 2005 AMATYC Award for Teaching Excellence will be announced at the 2005 Conference in San Diego. All award nominees will be notified individually prior to the conference.

Nomination Packet

Nominations are invited from AMATYC individual members, AMATYC institutional members, or affiliates.

Non-members, such as a supervisor, may nominate a member. Members may nominate themselves. A completed nomination packet consists of a:

- nomination form
- cover letter from the nominator (not to exceed 3 pages, in at least a 12-point font)

- resume or vita of the nominee (not to exceed 3 pages, in at least a 12-point font)
 - letters of recommendation from each of a student, a colleague, and a supervisor, (not to exceed 1 page, in at least a 12-point font)
 - summary of the candidate's most recent student evaluations (not to exceed 2 pages, 12-point font)
- Policy dictates that additional information will **NOT** be considered.

Complete nomination packets must be received by Thursday, December 9, 2004.

Send nominations to:

Kathy Mowers, Chair

AMATYC Teaching Excellence Committee

Owensboro Community and Technical College

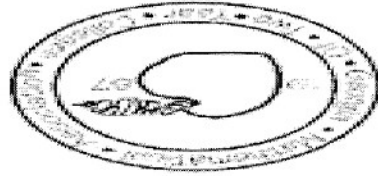
4800 New Hartford Road

Owensboro, KY 42303-1899

For more information contact Kathy Mowers via email at Kathy.Mowers@kctcs.edu

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GMATYC NEWS



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