



GMATYC News

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

President's Corner

Don Brown, *GMATYC President*
Macon State College

A huge welcome to all returning and new members of GMATYC! I am very excited to be your new president. There are many new and exciting challenges that await our organization and profession during the next few years. Developmental mathematics is facing a re-design, Core curriculum mathematics courses are being re-examined, and teacher mathematics content courses are challenged to produce more mathematically prepared teachers. In addition, all of these areas are challenged with retaining and producing successful students. These are just a few of the challenges that await us. Yet, don't let these challenges weight you down.

Spring is here and Summer is not far away! For you see, Spring is the most exciting and beautiful time of the year. Spring "pops" with vibrant, bright colors that awakens everyone from the routines of winter and harkens us to rekindle and establish relationships with others. It is during this time that we as professors of mathematics begin to entertain the thoughts of "closing

the books" on the current year. We start to look forward to Summer with dreamy eyes and yearn for what we hope will be a very restful and enjoyable summer. Yet, at the same time, we begin to plant ideas for the next academic year. We consider new ideas for our classes, our professional meetings, and other tasks. We reflect on the knowledge gained from conferences such as AMATYC, Georgia Mathematics Conference, and others we attended during the year. We begin to rejuvenate ourselves with the strength and energy to attack the challenges that await us.

I ask that, as you ponder upon the year that will end soon, you spend some time to consider our organization, GMATYC. Ask yourself, what you want from GMATYC, what are some ways in which these "wants" can be reality, and in what way(s) can you help to make your "wants" come to fruition. You see, GMATYC is not just my organization. It is our organization. Therefore, I encourage all members to become an active participant in our organization. I welcome your thoughts and ideas on how we can make GMATYC an organization



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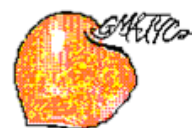
that meets our needs and the needs of the students we teach. Keep in mind that there are many ways in which you can serve our organization. I encourage you to get involved in GMATYC and AMATYC.

Finally, and just as important, I want to say a huge thank you to Ralph Wildy, who has served as the President of GMATYC during the past two years. Ralph, you did a great job! I hope that I can continue such a great legacy that was started by Linda Exley in 1987, twenty-five years ago. Also, thank you to our past officers, Jessica Craig, Queen Harris, Allison Wolf and Albert Lu, and the members of our Nominating and Membership committees.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at don.brown@maconstate.edu with your ideas and thoughts for our organization.

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Check out the
GMATYC Website

[http://
www.gmatyc.org/](http://www.gmatyc.org/)

Send GMATYC
Newsletter articles to
Jessica.Craig@gpc.edu

25th Annual GPC Mathematics Conference

By Martha Nega, Georgia Perimeter College

The 25th Annual GPC Mathematics Conference was held at the Clarkston Campus of Georgia Perimeter College on Friday and Saturday, February 17th and 18th, 2012. The conference featured four main speakers spread throughout the two day period and hosted a record number of attendees and presentations.

The conference started on Friday at 8am and lasted until 7pm. The **featured speakers** for Friday's conference were Cheryl Ooten, Sloan Despeaux and Lew Lefton. **Cheryl Ooten** spoke on the topic of managing math anxiety and **Dr. Sloan Despeaux** spoke on the history of mathematics. The day was filled with over 30 parallel sessions including panel discussions on topics about redesigning learning support Mathematics. The evening included a wine reception, stand-up comedy hour with **Dr. Lew Lefton**, and dinner.

The conference resumed on Saturday morning with a featured presentation by **Tom Carson** on improving student performance. This was followed by the newly implemented themed sessions in which presenters took 15-minutes to share an innovative teaching technique from their classes in areas such as Learning Support Mathematics, College Algebra, Liberal Arts Math, Pre-calculus, Statistics, Calculus, use of technology, and service learning.

The conference planning committee would like to thank all presenters, volunteers, and attendees for helping celebrate the 25th anniversary. We are committed to seeing the conference continue to improve and grow. We welcome your feedback and ideas. If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Ginny Powell at ginny.powell@gpc.edu.

In addition, visit our website:

<http://depts.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc/> for

conference proceedings, and continue to check the site later in the year for information regarding next year's conference.

We hope to see you next year!

Martha Nega

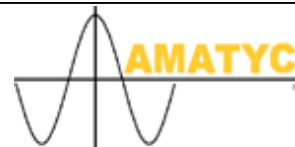
Chair, 25th Annual GPC Math Conference



25th Annual
Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics
Conference
Clarkston Campus, N-Building
February 17-18, 2012

For Conference Proceedings visit

<http://depts.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc/#proceedings>



I am honored to serve as the Southeast Vice-President for AMATYC. As I begin my two-year term, I look forward to visiting affiliate conferences and meeting more of you. It was great seeing so many members at our annual conference in Austin. I hope that everyone was able to network with their friends, attend some great sessions (including the breakfast keynote speaker Terri Manning), and spend some time visiting the Live Music Capital of the World. If you weren't able to attend, you can go to <http://www.amatyc.org/Events/conferences/2011Austin/proceedings.html> and find videos of keynote presentations, as well as some of the sessions. Handouts and slideshow presentations from some of the workshops and sessions are also available.



I hope the southeast has a strong presence at our 2012 conference in Jacksonville. The AMATYC Board and conference planning personnel are trying to come up with different ideas to make your experience memorable. Instead of having a regional meeting during the early hours of Friday morning, it will be held during the lunch hour with a box lunch provided. Also, there will be an Ignite event on Friday evening sponsored by the Innovative Teaching and Learning Committee. If you don't know what an ignite event is, go to <http://igniteshow.com/> and watch a few examples.

AMATYC isn't just the annual conference! Have you participated in any of AMATYC's webinars this past year? They have been very popular, and more are scheduled for this year. These webinars are hosted by the AMATYC committees and coordinate by Maria Andersen, AMATYC's Professional Development Coordinator. She asks that as you attend conferences and events to recommend outstanding topics and speakers that can be brought to all AMATYC members through the webinar series. If you have any suggestions, let me know, and I will see that she gets the information. AMATYC members get first notification of upcoming webinars, but as the date approaches registration does open up to non-members. By the way, recordings of previous webinars have been archived at <http://www.amatyc.org/publications/webinars/index.html> I am sure that there is something there that just might pique your interest!

AMATYC's refereed journal, *MathAMATYC Educator*, is always looking for items for publication. This journal provides an avenue of communication for all mathematics educators concerned with the views, ideas, and experiences pertinent to two-year college teachers and students. Author and publication guidelines can be found at <http://www.amatyc.org/publications/mathamatyceducator/index.html/>. The Problem Section (Take the Challenge) has returned and there is a need for additional problems for this feature. They should be interesting, challenging, and related to the material that is taught in the two-year college. For further information, contact Joe Browne at <mailto:brownej@sunyocc.edu>.



The AMATYC Foundation supports the mission and goals of AMATYC. Currently there is a campaign to create an endowment fund whose growth and interest will provide ready support for current and future initiatives. Current projects include support of AMATYC Project ACCCESS (more about this later), continuing mini-grants and current initiatives such as the New Life Developmental Mathematics project, engaging members in the research in two-year college mathematics, and other professional development activities. If you are interested in becoming an at-large member of the Foundation board, more information can be found in the latest issue of *AMATYC News* and at <http://www.amatyc.org>. We are looking for AMATYC members who have specific experiences related to foundation work and who have expertise in fundraising and investments. It is very rewarding to serve on this committee when you see the results of projects that have been funded.



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From the Office of our AMATYC Southeast Vice-President

(Continued)



It is time to encourage your new two-year college faculty members (or you may yourself be one!) to apply for AMATYC Project ACCESS. So, just what is this? It is a mentoring and professional development initiative for two-year college mathematics faculty. The goal of the project is to provide experiences that will help new faculty become more effective teachers and active members of the broader mathematical community. More information can be found at <http://www.access.amatyc.org/>. The application for the next cohort should be available online by March 1st with the deadline for applications set for May 1, 2012. I am a graduate of Project ACCESS (go Cohort 5!) and strongly encourage anybody interested to pursue this incredible opportunity.

As always, my job is to represent you in AMATYC. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at <mailto:acook@sheltonstate.edu>.

As Annette Cook mentioned in her article, check out the AMATYC Webinars! They are free! If you missed one live, check out the archived webinars at

<http://www.amatyc.org/publications/webinars/index.html>



38th AMATYC Annual Conference
Jacksonville, Florida
November 8-11, 2012

Conference Theme: *River-of-Knowledge, Ocean-of-Dreams*



President, Don Brown

Macon State College

Past-President- Ralph Wildy, Jr.
Georgia Military College, Martinez

Secretary, Barry Biddlecomb
Georgia Gwinnett College

Treasurer, Queen Harris
Georgia Perimeter College, Decatur

Publications Chair, Jessica Craig

Georgia Perimeter College,
Alpharetta

Webmaster, Albert Lu
Georgia Perimeter College,
Dunwoody

Run for GMATYC office!! This year we will elect a President Elect and two members of the Nominating Committee. (You get so much more from an organization by getting involved!!)

Send your nomination to: Ann Hardy ahardy@gpc.edu

***Nominate one of our excellent teachers (including yourself) for the
GMATYC Bill Bompert Teaching Excellence Award!***

To find out more about this award, go to the GMATYC Website: www.gmatyc.org



GMATYC