

# GMATYC NEWSLETTER

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



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: Behnaz Rouhani,  
Perimeter College at Georgia State University

This past fall, close to 1508 faculty and guests gathered at the AMATYC conference in Orlando and took part in an amazing professional development. Faculty from all different corners of the US, Canada, and Guam returned to their classrooms with new approaches to: teach challenging concepts in their curriculum, handle under-prepared students, motivate and engage online students, incorporate mathematical mindsets, get students to persist in math and in college, provide equitable mathematics experiences for each and every student, incorporate non-cognitive skills in corequisite math classes, learn about the many careers in business, industry and government for students who study math, use writing prompts in algebra classes, build trust in adjuncts for student success with networked support, and many more. . . .

The main attraction at that conference was the unveiling of the AMATYC IMPACT, a just released AMATYC publication. IMPACT stands for Improving Mathematical Prowess And College Teaching. The document is available online at [amatyc.org](http://amatyc.org) > Publications > IMPACT

The program committee planned presentations of varied formats at the conference. Some of the best practitioners and researchers in the first two years of mathematics across the US made presentations. The keynote speech, given by Guadalupe Quintanilla during the Saturday Awards Breakfast, was a moving one. It inspired everyone tremendously when this small built woman shared her personal experience and insights into how she helps students succeed in their mathematical journey. The link to her talk is posted to our GMATYC homepage. Hope you consider attending the AMATYC conference this year in Milwaukee. It is always a delight meeting old friends, making new ones, and experiencing all that the conference has to offer.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

1. President's Corner
2. The 32nd Annual Perimeter College Mathematics Conference
3. Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics
4. 25th Annual University of North Georgia Mathematics Tournament
5. February was American Heart Month
6. Join GMATYC

# THE 32ND ANNUAL MATHEMATICS CONFERENCE AT PERIMETER COLLEGE, GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

By Diana McGinnis,  
Math Conference Chair

The 32nd Annual Mathematics Conference at Perimeter College, Georgia State University took place on Friday and Saturday, February 15-16, 2019, on the Clarkston campus. The theme this year was “Active Learning in Mathematics—Put the Ball in their Court”. Dr. Allison Wolf, who teaches at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, gave the keynote address: “How to Know What the Students Don’t Know: Experiments in Increasing Engagement”. This talk focused on the use of responsive techniques within a modified flipped classroom to address the mismatch of student and instructor expectations, with the goal of increasing student engagement. Pre-reading and completion of responses to these readings allow students to take an active role in shaping the lesson. Dr. Wolf’s presentation showed that active learning in mathematics begins first and foremost with the instructor’s willingness to make this a priority.



Events on Friday included concurrent sessions and mini-sessions as well as the GMATYC meeting. Saturday morning was devoted to student presentations. Attendees could choose from a variety of well-researched presentations including the history of machine learning, an Arduino-controlled car, a number-sliding puzzle game, an aquaponics ecosystem, and several others. The quality of work by these students was exceptional and an inspiration to those who attended.





# GEORGIA COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS

By: Denise Huddlestun, GCTM President  
and Nikita Patterson, GMATYC President Elect

The Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics (GCTM), established in 1950, is an affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM). The organization is made up of classroom teachers from pre-school to graduate school in addition to non-teachers who just share an interest in mathematics education in the state of Georgia. The mission of the Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics is to:

- promote a high quality mathematics education for all students,
- encourage an active interest in mathematics and in mathematics education,
- promote ongoing professional development for mathematics education, and
- promote and reward excellence in the teaching of mathematics in the state of Georgia.

The objectives of the Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics are to encourage an active interest in mathematics and to act as an advocate for the improvement of mathematics education at all levels.

2019 GCTM highlights and opportunities for mathematics educators around the state:

- GCTM Summer Math Academies - Based on last year's Georgia Mathematics Conference theme of "Embracing Productive Struggle," this year's participants will continue to examine strategies to support productive struggle. <http://new.gctm-resources.org/gctm/dv7/?q=academies>
- 2019 60th Annual Georgia Mathematics Conference- the theme is "Acquiring the Keys to Access and Equity", October 16 - 18, 2019 <http://new.gctm-resources.org/gctm/dv7/?q=gmc>
- Math Day at the Capitol occurred on Tuesday, February 12. Officers had the opportunity to talk with state legislators at a sponsored breakfast on February 12, 2019.
- GCTM has been listed as a collaborating partner in the Launch Years Initiative grant received by the Mathematics Program Department of the Georgia Department of Education. The grant is provided through the Dana Center at the University of Texas and is backed by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Nominate deserving teachers for one of the several awards that GCTM presents at its annual conference. <http://new.gctm-resources.org/gctm/dv7/?q=node/36>



# 25TH ANNUAL UNIVERSITY OF NORTH GEORGIA MATHEMATICS TOURNAMENT

By: Gina Reed,  
University of North Georgia

The University of North Georgia at the Gainesville Campus held the 25th annual Math Tournament on Saturday, April 6th, 2019. There were two main events: the morning test was an individual Calculus test consisting of 40 multiple choice questions and the afternoon portion of the Tournament was a team competition (non-calculus problems) consisting of timed questions considered by teams of up to 4 students. After all the scores were tallied, the winning individuals for the morning were: Daeyoung Son (first place), Erick Boniface (second place), David Niu (third place), Melkamu Tirago (fourth place), and Christain Monger (fifth place). The afternoon winners were: Middle Georgia State College - Team 1 (first place), Wake Tech Community College - Team 3 (second place), Mitchell Community College - Team 1 (third place), and Catawba Valley Community College - Team 1 (fourth place). The overall winners were: Middle Georgia State College (1st), Wake Tech Community College (2nd), Mitchell Community College (3rd), and Gaston College (4th). Winning individuals and winning teams received cash prizes and winning schools in the overall competition received trophies.



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



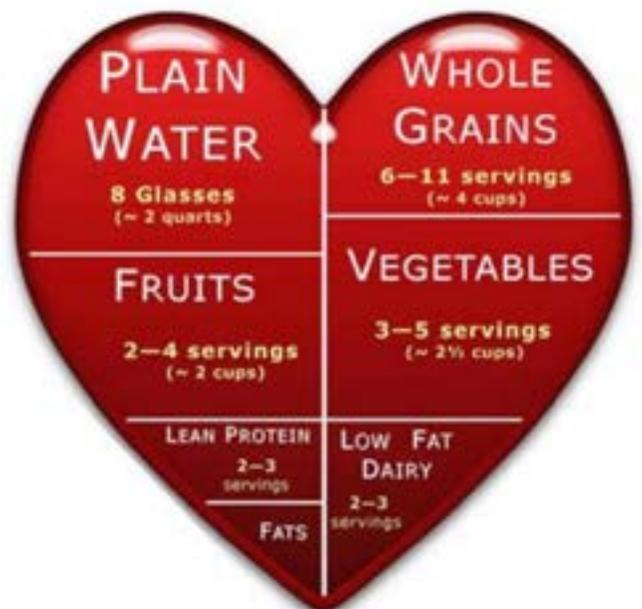
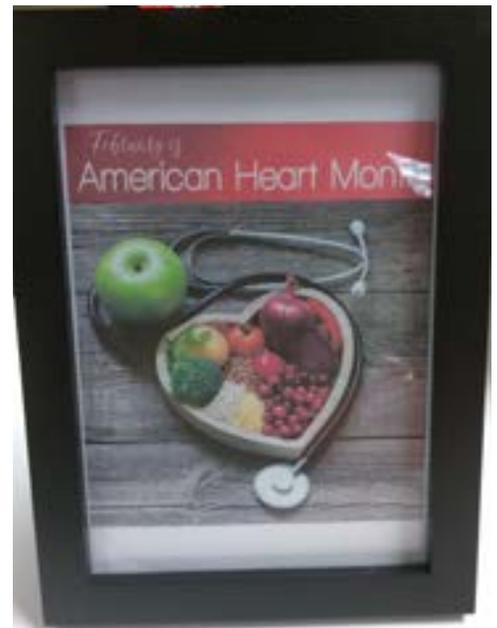
# FEBRUARY WAS AMERICAN HEART MONTH

By: Debbie Kean,  
Devry University

MATH062/Beginning Algebra students at DeVry University recently analyzed a dataset on heart health (e.g., 1 in 4 deaths are caused by heart disease). They decided to raise awareness of their research! They created mini-posters and heart disease awareness ribbons for the DeVry University/ Decatur reception area.



*Get  
Heart  
Smart!*



# JOIN GMATYC



By: Kim Bennett  
Perimeter College at Georgia State University

Do you have colleagues that would enjoy being a part of our group? Please encourage them to join GMATYC. You can't beat the \$10 price for membership in one of the best organizations for college and university instructional STEM professionals in Georgia to share expertise and make lasting contributions in education. We are presently conducting a membership drive to include adjunct and university faculty who teach first and second year college students in the STEM field. So, join the fun, spread the news, and send in your applications for membership to Sanda at [rmanole@gsu.edu](mailto:rmanole@gsu.edu). A link to the application form can be found at <https://sites.gsu.edu/gmatyc/membership>.



## CURRENT OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT:**

Behnaz Rouhani

**PRESIDENT ELECT:**

Nikita Patterson

**SECRETARY:**

Somaya Muiny

**TREASURER:**

Sanda Manole

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

Margie Lewkowicz

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

Lynda Cain  
Stephanie Garofalo  
Angi Lively  
Lisa Yocco

**WEBSITE COORDINATOR:**

Stephanie Garofalo

**45TH AMATYC ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN  
NOVEMBER 14-17, 2019**

**PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!**

