

THE MICHMATYC TIMES

THE MICHIGAN MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF TWO-YEAR COLLEGES

FALL 2008

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Message from the President

Lisa Winch

Kalamazoo Valley Community College



Welcome to the 2008-2009 school year and greetings from your colleagues at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. Our colleague Daniel Cunningham is on Sabbatical this Fall and we will greatly miss Jeffery Swigart who accepted a position at Harold Washington College in Chicago.

I'd like to welcome Maria Andersen from Muskegon Community College to the Executive Board of MichMATYC. Maria will serve as President-Elect and take over next summer as the President of our wonderful organization. Maria presented at last year's MichMATYC Fall Conference and she will be offering a couple of sessions at this year's conference at Delta. She would like to encourage everyone to bring along your adjunct and part-time faculty to the MichMATYC conference this October.

I also want to thank and acknowledge Sam Bazzi from Henry Ford CC who continues to serve as our Secretary-Treasurer. He does a wonderful job of keeping me informed about MichMATYC's finances and is one of our organization's strongest proponents, always recruiting new members to our ranks.

Our colleagues at Mott CC hosted last year's conference and I would like to congratulate Karen Sharp, Bernie Cunningham, and their colleagues for their outstanding work in organizing a wonderful conference. I hope everyone enjoyed their experience at the conference and Mott's beautiful campus facilities.

I would like to thank Sue Hollar, Jeannine Dawson, Brienne Lodholtz and Nancy Vendeville for reading and evaluating the MichMATYC Student Scholarship applications. The winner will be announced at this fall's conference. I would also like to thank Jan Roy, Karen Sharp and Jeff Morford for serving on the nominating committee which handled the last elections.

Our 2008 MichMATYC Fall Conference, *Mathematics: Collaborating for Student Success*, will be held at Delta College on October 11. A pre-conference session on the new TI-Nspire calculator is scheduled for Delta College on Friday, October 10 from 12:30 to 3:30pm. Information has been included as part of this mailing and it can also be found on our MichMATYC website.

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Campus Notes

Alpena Community College

Dan Rothe

We are beginning another busy semester here at Alpena Community College. Our recent enrollment trend of high numbers in remedial math classes and lower numbers in higher classes continues. Dual enrollment Precalc and Calculus students from Alpena, Posen, and Rogers City high schools help the numbers in those areas.

Sigma Zeta Math/Science honor society is preparing plans for another year. Last spring we visited the MSU planetarium and Cyclotron Laboratory. The students enjoyed the trip. Officers for the 2008-2009 school year are: Amy Parker -- President, Michael Townsend -- Vice President, Amy Lee -- Secretary, and Scott Helinski -- Treasurer. Twelve new members were inducted in the spring.

Delta College

Jim Roznowski

As many of you know, earlier this year Dawn Schmidt passed away. Dawn was a past MichMATYC president and was just completing her last of six years as division chair. She was looking forward to returning to her first love - teaching. The division has started an award in her honor that will recognize an outstanding student planning to enter education.

To cover Dawn's classload, we are fortunate to have been able to hire Eric Wiesenauer as a one-year appointment. Eric received his degree

from Central Michigan and has been an adjunct faculty member here for a year.

Grand Rapids Community College

John Dersch

GRCC is happy to welcome two full-time mathematics faculty members: Curt Baragar joins us from the ranks of GRCC adjunct. He actually started at GRCC as a student and a tutor in the Math Lab. Brienne Lodholtz comes to us from Montcalm Community College. They are replacing (as much as it is possible to replace anyone) Jim Chesla, who retired 12/07, and Dave Pruis, who will retire 12/08. They and their combined 80 years' teaching experience will be sorely missed.

The department started a series of monthly Mathematics Seminars in March 2008. For details visit <http://www.grcc.edu/seminars>.

Henry Ford Community College

Jeff Morford

The Math Division at Henry Ford Community College welcomes its newest full-time math instructor Rama Chidambaram. Rama comes to HFCC from the University of Michigan Dearborn. During the Winter 2009 semester the Mathematics Division will run a pilot section of Beginning Algebra modeled after courses taught in Emerging Scholars programs. Contact Scott Barnett at sebarnett@hfcc.edu for details.

Henry Ford Community College is in its second year offering a course titled "Mathematics for Food Service

Careers." It was initially started due to a request to help improve student mathematical success in the culinary arts and hospitality programs. The topics covered are calculator usage, computational skills, ratio and proportion, percentages, measurement, dimensional analysis and an introduction to data analysis with problems chosen to represent those commonly encountered in the food service industry. Faculty in the culinary arts and hospitality programs are very helpful as they provide information, data and tools from the kitchen to use in class and relate the mathematics with their discipline.

Macomb Community College

Barbara Jur

We were saddened to see Art Daniel end his long career at Macomb Community College this spring. He had been active in speaking to professional meetings and governance, particularly DCTM and MCTM as well as MichMATYC. At Macomb he did a great deal of data analysis and was responsible for the schedule for mathematics. He joins Bill Knott who retired at the beginning of the Winter semester. Bill was the union president and formerly chief negotiator. Both will be greatly missed.

We do have two positions open which should be filled for the winter term. One has an emphasis on Developmental Mathematics and the other needs someone interested in business math, statistics, and/or mathematics for education.

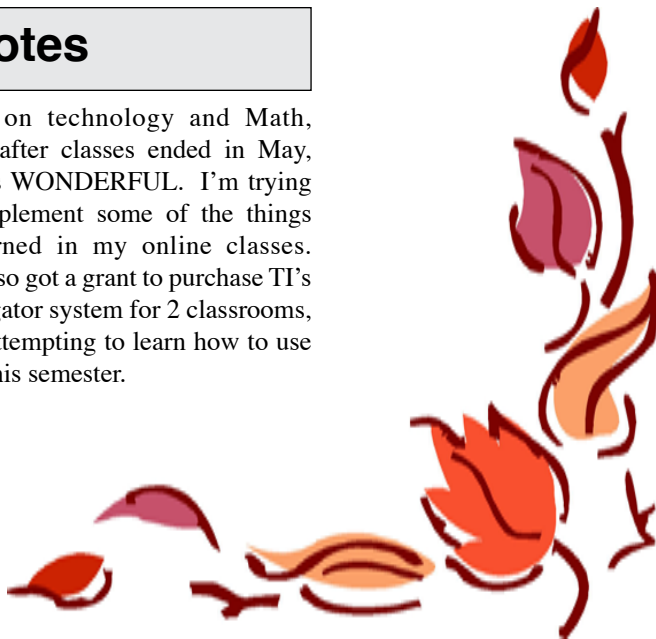
Campus Notes

St. Clair County Community College

Cindie Wade

Our President took a new job, so we are looking for a new one. We hired Nick Goins to teach some of our upper level Math courses; he was teaching at Monroe CC. Carol Lambert is telling everyone that this is her last fall semester to teach, Jan Roy and I are “training” Brianne to travel with us! I attended Maria Anderson’s work-

shop on technology and Math, right after classes ended in May, it was WONDERFUL. I’m trying to implement some of the things I learned in my online classes. We also got a grant to purchase TI’s Navigator system for 2 classrooms, I’m attempting to learn how to use that this semester.



Important Dates and Deadlines

October 10 & 11, 2008	MichMATYC Fall Conference, Delta College, http://www.michmatyc.org/2008conference Friday Conference Pre-Session, Introduction to the TI nspire
September 30, 2008	Last day for early registration for AMATYC's 2008 Fall Conference, Washington, DC, http://www.amatyc.org Last day to register for the AMATYC Student Mathematics League without a late charge.
November 1, 2008 - February 15, 2009	Proposals to present at AMATYC's 2009 Conference in Las Vegas are being accepted at http://www.amatyc.org
November 20-23, 2008	AMATYC Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, http://www.amatyc.org
December 8, 2008	Deadline to nominate a colleague for the AMATYC Teaching Excellence Award http://www.amatyc.org .

Ready to come

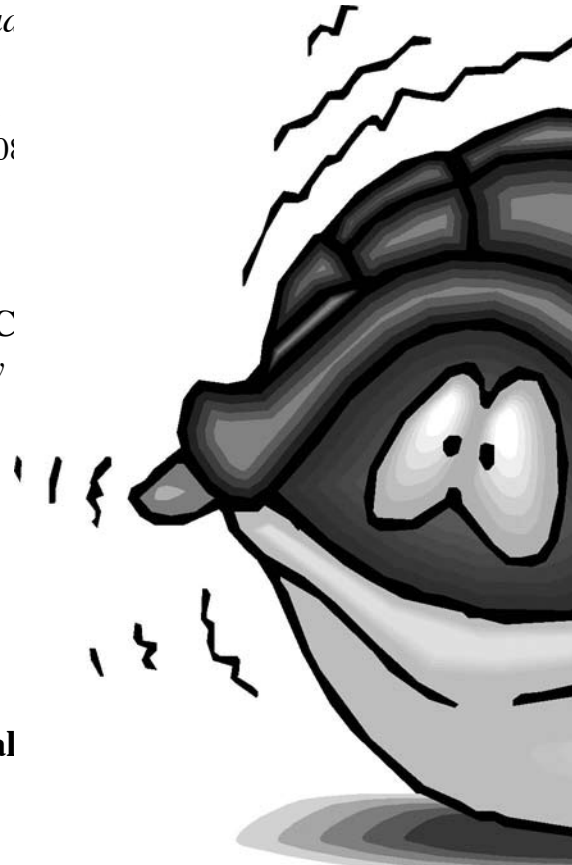
MichMATYC 2008

Mathematics: Collaborating for Students
Delta College
October 10 & 11, 2008
website: <http://www.michmatyc.org/2008>

League For Innovation in the Community Colleges
Conference on Information Technology
Salt Lake City, Utah
October 19 - 22, 2008
website: <http://www.league.org>

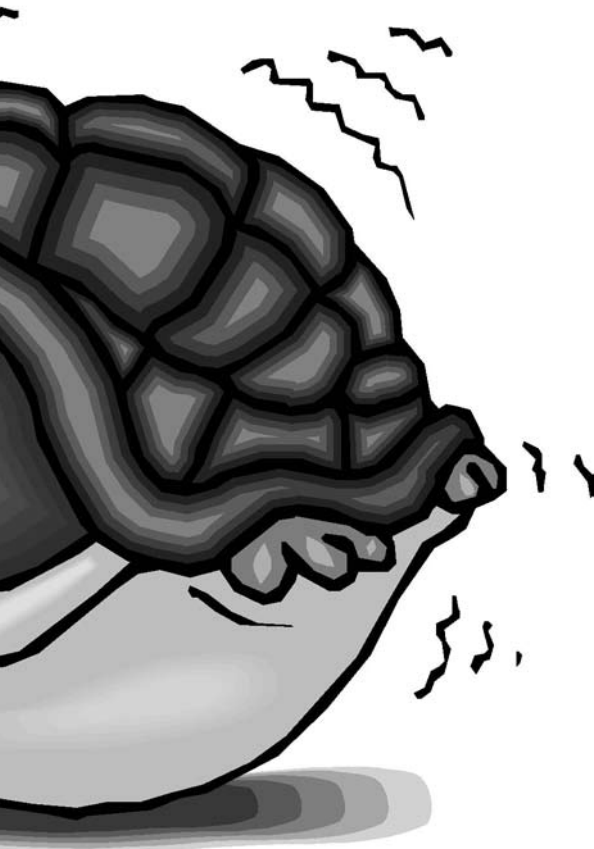
NADE

**National Association for Developmental
- 33rd Annual Conference**
Where Excellence Blooms
Greensboro, North Carolina
February 25 - 28, 2009
website: <http://cfcc.edu/ncade/nade2009>



**National Council of
2009 Annual Meeting**
*Equity: A
Wash
April 2
website: <http://www.ncaee.org>*

out of your shell?



AMATYC - 34th Annual Conference

C - A Monumental Place for Mathematics

Washington, DC

November 20 - 23, 2008

website: <http://www.amatyc.org>

MAA - AMS

Joint Mathematics Meeting

Washington, DC

January 5 - 9, 2009

website: http://www.ams.org/amsmtgs/2110_intro.html

ICTCM

Annual International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics

New Orleans, Louisiana

March 12 - 15, 2009

Deadline for Paper Submissions

September 25, 2008

website: <http://www.ictcm.org>

NCTM

Teachers of Mathematics

Meeting and Exposition

All Means ALL

Washington, DC

February 22 - 25, 2009

website: <http://www.nctm.org>

Message from the President

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This year's 34th Annual AMATYC conference in Washington, DC, runs from November 20 – 23. Please say hello to Maria Andersen and me when you see us, and if you have suggestions or ideas for our national or state affiliates to implement, please pass them along to us in person or by e-mail. Your contact information is on the last page of the newsletter. We look forward to seeing you at our conferences at Delta and Washington, DC.

Finally, please encourage your full and part-time colleagues to join

MichMATYC this year. Some of our purposes include: to promote liaison and cooperation between community colleges, other associate degree institutions, universities, public schools, and the state of Michigan; to encourage the development of effective mathematics programs; to provide a state forum for the exchange of ideas; to further develop and improve the mathematics education and mathematics-related experiences of students in two-year colleges; and to promote professional cooperation and communication be-

tween teachers and administrators for the realization of sound educational achievements; and more. The membership application can be found in our website.

I hope you have a great year, and please keep in mind that your charitable donations to MichMATYC (e.g., to the Student Scholarship Fund) are now tax-deductible. This is an exciting time with our country's Presidential elections coming this fall before our conference in D.C. and Washington should be interesting as it gears up for the next inauguration.

Message from the President-Elect

Maria H. Andersen

For those of you who don't know much about me, I am beginning my seventh year at Muskegon Community College. I teach courses from Algebra through Calc II with side deviations into Math for Elementary Teachers and occasionally, Chemistry. This year will be particularly interesting because I will be taking a sabbatical from January to August. My time will be spent a) writing my PhD dissertation, b) working on a project called "Math Breaks" (like commercial breaks) to collect interesting online material for algebra classes, and c) going to India for a month. My PhD work is in the field of Higher Education Leadership, and most of my studies focused on faculty development and technology use in higher education. You can follow

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my studies and learning adventures about these two topics on my blog,

Teaching College Math, at www.tcmtechnologyblog.blogspot.com.

I hope you're all off to a great start this fall! Each semester brings its own excitement, trials, and tribulations – but the fall semester always seems like a time to be optimistic to me. I suspect that we educators make our New Year's Resolutions in August instead of in January.

One of my "Fall Resolutions" every year (in addition to the old standby – don't wait till the last minute to prep) is to try to find ways to make sure that adjunct instructors have access to the same training and learning opportunities as full-time instructors. Did you know that for precollege mathematics, 56% of the courses are taught by part-time instructors? (CBMS Report 2005) Many colleges have no officially allocated funds for adjunct training, but there are ways to do it – general

professional development funds, distance education funds, assessment funds – look around and see what you can find.

The Fall MichMATYC conference provides an excellent opportunity to access a full day of professional development at a site that is not too far from home. Most likely, if you are planning to go, you're already planning to pay for travel expenses and a hotel room - if you're willing to share your room, you will only need to find funding on your campus for the additional \$35 conference fee per person.

Please consider bringing one or more part-time instructors with you to the MichMATYC conference this fall. This year, we'd like to see part-time instructors represented at MichMATYC in large numbers!

As another part of my mission,
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Campus Reps

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MichMATYC listserv

To keep up-to-date with what is going on in MichMATYC between issues of the newsletter, sign on to the MichMATYC listserv.

The listserv is an online discussion board. It is open to all MichMATYC members. The listserv is very easy to join, just send a message to:

LISTSERV@LISTSERV.DELTA.EDU. Leave everything else in the heading blank. In the body of the message type: SUB MICHMATYC-L firstname lastname, for example SUB MICHMATYC-L John Smith.

You may also contact Jim Ham at jaham@delta.edu and he will add you to the group.



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Math Technology Corner: Math and YouTube

If you haven't checked out YouTube lately, there are some great gems that you could be using in your classes. To find these, just go to www.youtube.com, and do a search with the suggested search words:

- Math Girl Episodes – search *math girl*
- Moebius Transformations Revealed – search *moebius*
- The Honda Rube Goldberg Ad – search *honda commercial*
- I Will Derive! – search *will derive*
- They Might Be Giants Polygon song – search *polygon song*
- Mathematicious – search *math-maticious*
- New Math – search *Tom Lehrer math*

YouTube truly involves searching for that needle in a haystack, but when you find the diamond in the rough – it is really great!

Message from the President-Elect

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you (and others in your department) will be receiving an online survey to ask you what MichMATYC can do for you in terms of professional development, online training, data collection, research, etc. We have spent some time this summer compiling a list of all the community college math faculty in Michigan (full-time and part-time) that MichMATYC could be serving. It's a big list, and less than 20% of the list are currently members. We're going to reach out and see if we can't become that

“must-belong-to” organization for math faculty in Michigan.

Finally, I'd like to say “thanks” for electing me to this position. I hope that I can really make a difference and help to strengthen the organization! If you have any concerns or suggestions, please send me an email (maria.andersen@muskegoncc.edu).

