



MichMATYC Sum-Times

Two-Year College Mathematics in Michigan

September 2014

Edited by Khadija Ahmed, Monroe CCC, kahmed@monroecc.edu

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MichMATYC Fall Conference and Developmental Math Summit/ Campus News/ Save the Date

Updates from Your MichMATYC President – Jack Rotman, Lansing CC

Welcome to a new academic year. Most of our colleges have been in session for a few weeks by this time, and we are hoping that you are enjoying your classes with the challenges and opportunities they bring.

Conference at LMC; Summit on developmental mathematics
Awards – student scholarship, teaching excellence
Officers (Jeff, Doug, Frances); kudos to campus representatives
AMATYC conference
MichMAA
New email list
New web site; looking for a web master

Elsewhere in the Newsletter you will find information about the fall conference (October 4) and the Michigan Summit on Developmental Mathematics (October 3) to be held at Lake Michigan College. The planning team has been busy with details and programs; it's time for us to do our part: to register and then show up for a great conference. Please join me, and bring as many of your colleagues as possible. The MichMATYC conference continues to be one of the most efficient uses of professional development funds available – the conference is just \$40 (with membership) and the Summit is only \$10. Lodging is reasonable, and you will have the beauty of western Michigan.

Historically, there is a focused professional development on the Friday preceding the conference ... often on technology or pedagogy. This year features a very special opportunity: the Michigan Summit on Developmental Mathematics. I encourage all institutions interested in improving their developmental mathematics program to send a team (2 or more) to this event; the sessions are focused on specific issues and solutions that will help your program now and in the future. Look for the link to the Summit on the conference web page <http://www.lakemichigancollege.edu/michmatyc14>.

(Continued on page 3)

MichMATYC Conference 2014

October 3 and 4, 2014

Our colleagues at Lake Michigan College have put together an excellent line of presentations at the MichMATYC Fall conference. The keynote speaker will address the rapidly changing topic of undergraduate mathematics education in the US, the forces that shape it, and strategies for improvement. Other sessions deal with a wide variety of topics from mathematics education to online learning to the teaching of algebra and calculus. If you haven't registered for the conference yet, please visit the conference website, and see the information on next page. www.lakemichigancollege.edu/michmatyc14

MichMATYC Summit on Developmental Mathematics

Friday, October 3, 2014

Come early to the MichMATYC conference... activities start on Friday with the developmental math summit. The Summit is organized by MDEC, MichMATYC, and the Michigan Center for Student Success and provides a forum for college teams to get information, and discuss issues and solutions in developmental mathematics. Some of the topics presented will be: Michigan Transfer Agreement, acceleration models, reform models, and math literacy. Time will be provided for teams from your college to meet and process the information. For registration and information on the Summit, visit the MichMATYC conference website www.lakemichigancollege.edu/michmatyc14

MichMATYC 2014



This is a conference you won't want to miss!

We have talented and interesting speakers to engage you in topics highlighting the important issues facing math educators.

As an added bonus, you'll have the opportunity to see picturesque southwest Michigan in the autumn.

Where: Lake Michigan College Benton Harbor, Michigan

When: Developmental Math Summit Friday, October 3rd, 2014

and

MichMATYC Conference Saturday, October 4th, 2014

Registration information, hotels, list of speakers and topics can be found at

<http://www.lakemichigancollege.edu/MichMATYC14>

Questions? Contact

Jim Larson

larson@lakemichigancollege.edu

President's Message (continued from page 1)

During the conference, we will have a business meeting; among the highlights of the business meeting is the presentation of our two awards: the Karen Sharp Student Scholarship, and the MichMATYC Teaching Excellence award. This is the time to be thinking about who YOU will nominate next year; think of your outstanding mathematics students ... think of your respected colleagues ... and then answer the call next spring when we ask for nominees

Your MichMATYC officers are President-Elect Doug Mace (Kirtland), Treasurer/Secretary Jeff Morford (Henry Ford), Affiliate Delegate Frances Lichtman (Delta) and myself. Routine decisions are made by this group, whether by email or face-to-face. Our top priority is to support mathematics faculty working in the first two years of college. If you have a suggestion for how MichMATYC can help, please contact one of the officers. Non-routine decisions are brought up at our business meeting during the fall conference (combined with the lunch).

Other critically important people in our organization include the Campus Representatives, who facilitate communication. I appreciate the time they take to submit information for our Newsletters, and their efforts to provide information to colleagues at their institution. We currently have a couple of vacancies for campus representatives; if you are unsure whether your college has a representative, check the web page http://www.michmatyc.org/Campus_Rep.html.

Our web site (<http://www.michmatyc.org/>) provides another means of communication. Over the past few months, David Tannor has spent time providing our site with an updated design. After about 20 years, the old design needed this "extreme site makeover". Take a look!

If you have a little skill with web pages and 'ftp' procedures, we actually need a regular web master. Our new web site was designed by David Tannor; however, we knew he would have a limited period of time to help us. Our web master normally does routine updating (items like the job board or conferences), which need to be done within a few days. Please let me know if you might be able to help MichMATYC by doing the web site updates.

Our outstanding Newsletters are one major means of communication with our membership. I appreciate the work that Khadija Ahmed (Monroe County) invests to help us; we all should provide support for the newsletters ... whether it's just reading them, or submitting items on occasion.

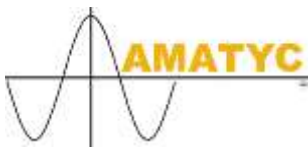
The other primary communication with members is the MichMATYC email discussion list. This summer, we completed the transition to a new software and list, run through our internet service provider. The new list (MichMATYC-List@michmatyc.org) is a 'closed' list, which means that you will never receive spam or advertising; the list is reserved for members of MichMATYC. If you are not able to come to the conference in the fall, you can continue to be a member of MichMATYC (and use the discussion list) by completing the membership process online at our web site <http://www.michmatyc.org/Join%20MichMATYC%201.html>. Note that our membership cost continues to be \$5 per year.

Some of us are also members of AMATYC. My view is that all full-time mathematics faculty working in the first two years of college should be members of AMATYC; we are a profession ... AMATYC is our professional organization, and our primary source of professional development and networking.

Clearly, our professional work also connects with others ... I think it is especially important that many of us are involved with the Michigan section of the MAA. MichMAA and MichMATYC have enjoyed a long history of collaboration; I hope to develop stronger organizational ties between the two groups. I encourage you to consider attending ... or presenting ... at the Spring meeting (Hope College in Holland, April 2014), which is a joint meeting of our two groups. Jan Roy (Montcalm) is the 2-year Vice President of MichMAA.

Thank you for your involvement with MichMATYC and our profession, and for all you do to help our students succeed in mathematics.

~~ Jack



A MESSAGE FROM THE MIDWEST VICE PRESIDENT OF AMATYC

The American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges is the only national organization focused solely on issues related to mathematics education in the first two years of college. If you are already a member of AMATYC, you are well aware of what AMATYC has to offer. If you are not yet a member, I encourage you to visit the website at <http://www.amatyc.org> and become a member. Below you will find a sampling of AMATYC and national events and activities.

I look forward to seeing you at the MichMATYC Fall Conference at Lake Michigan College, or at the annual AMATYC conference in Nashville.

Jim Ham
jaham@delta.edu



The 40th AMATYC Annual Conference will be held in Nashville, Tennessee on November 13-16, 2014. Online registration is now open. Early online registration ends October 7, 2014. For details of our spectacular conference, visit the AMATYC website.

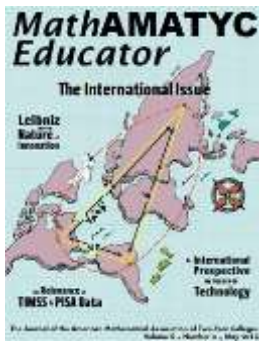
The Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) will host its fifth National Forum at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Reston, VA on October 5-7. The focus and theme will be on building student success in the first two years of college math. Details about the forum with a schedule and listing of confirmed speakers are available at www.cbmsweb.org/Forum5/index.htm. Registration is now open and the web page has links to the online registration form and to the hotel reservation system.



Each year AMATYC offers a 2-round mathematics competition for two-year college students. Students from across the country and beyond participate in the competition. As you can see from the table to the right, Michigan two-year college teams performed well in last year's competition, taking three of the top five rankings in the Midwest region. The deadline to participate in this year's competition is September 30, 2014.

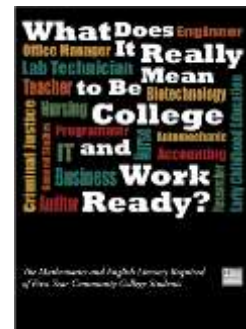
Midwest Region Team Standings

Rank	Team	Score
1	College of DuPage	201.0
2	Oakland CC	192.5
3	Schoolcraft College	182.0
4	College of Lake County	154.0
5	Delta College	152.0



The *MathAMATYC Educator* is published three times per year and is now available online. Members now have access to all past and present editions of the AMATYC journal.

The recent publication, "What does it really mean to be college and work ready?" contains some interesting and provocative conclusions about what math is needed at the two-year college and beyond. You can download a free version of this publication at <http://www.ncee.org/college-and-work-ready/>.



The AMATYC newsletter is published four times per year and keeps members informed of AMATYC events, volunteer opportunities, national trends in mathematics education, committee updates, award opportunities, and affiliate information. MichMATYC President, Jack Rotman, wrote a nice article about MichMATYC in the *Focus on Affiliates* section of the most recent issue. For more information on recent AMATYC events and activities, download the most recent edition of the *AMATYC News* at <http://www.amatyc.org/?page=AMATYCNews>.

Follow us or like us on ...



Alpena CC - Dan Rothe

We begin the fall semester here at Alpena Community College with declining enrollment numbers which seems to be the norm in recent years. Remedial classes and those that attract dual enrollment students are the ones with the best enrollment. We have adopted new textbooks for our Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, and Intermediate Algebra classes. We choose to go with texts from XYZ publishing to save our students some money. So far all three seem to be working well. Online classes in Precalc (Meghan Cameron) and Intermediate Algebra (Kristin Berles) continue to be popular. Jim Berles' GIS class also went well. Off campus dual enrollment math classes continue in Rogers City as well as on campus classes with Alpena High School students. The ACC math requirement for the MTA has been determined to be Mth 121 College Algebra (Finite Math in most labeling schemes), Mth 123 (Precalc), Mth 223 (Statistics), or higher. We have changed the statistics prerequisite to intermediate algebra since in recent years we have seen more students in statistics who are not business majors needing finite math for their program.

Sigma Zeta Math/Science Honor Society inducted 9 new student members in the spring. The group enjoyed an end of the semester trip to the Ford Rouge Factory tour in Dearborn. Due to a high graduation rate, we have very few members remaining to start the fall semester. Interim officers are Courtney Grohowski (President), and Sierra Sauls (Secretary).

Delta College – Frances Lichtman



After 25 years of distinguished teaching in the Mathematics Division at Delta College, Professor Katrina Nichols will be retiring at the end of this academic year. Recognized for her exceptional success with students, Katrina was selected for Delta College's top two teaching honors: the Bergstein Award in 1999 and the Carlyon

Endowed Teaching Chair in 2003. In 2008, Katrina was a member of the team that received the SunGard Higher Education Endowed Teaching Chair. Members of the Mathematics Division will miss Katrina's professionalism and collegiality.

Katrina and eleven other members of the Delta College Mathematics Division will be attending the upcoming AMATYC Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. We hope to see you there!

Henry Ford C – Jeff Morford

It has been a busy few months at Henry Ford College. First, the name of the College has changed from Henry Ford Community College. Second, the merger between the Math Division and the Science Division appears that it will become permanent based on preliminary reports on its effectiveness. Third, the math department has begun to run modular developmental math classes this fall. We also have a math literacy course that resembles the AMATYC New Life model in our catalog, but it has not yet run.

We have had some personnel changes, too. Suresh Ailawadi retired this summer. We thank him for his many years of service to the college. Adam Cloutier continues to be on administrative reassignment. We congratulate him on completing his Doctorate in Community College Leadership from Ferris State University. To fill in for Adam and Suresh the department welcomes Jeanine DiDonato and Michael Zalzali as temporary full time appointments for 2014-2015.

Kellogg CC – Susan Stetler

Kellogg Community College has been very busy looking at our curriculum and the new Michigan Transfer Agreement. We are trying to match up courses with the transfer requirements and therefore changing up the outcomes of our Intermediate and College Algebra courses (MTA-STEM Pathway). Our Math for Liberal Arts meets the MTA-Quantitative Analysis Pathway and our Statistics course meets the MTA-Stats Pathway.

We have also looked hard at student needs with respect to Beginning Algebra. We have found that many students who are not STEM (or Elementary Education majors) need more work in applications, proportions and measurement skills and less in some traditional skills of say difficult factoring, algebraic rational expressions and maybe even radical expressions. We have worked with our Allied Health program and they have given us some great feedback about their program needs. To that end we are developing two paths from remedial Pre Algebra (or COMPASS placement) will take a "traditional" algebra course. Those that are non STEM or whose curriculums allow, will take a course we are calling Practical Algebra. This course is still being developed but topics include Operations with Rational Numbers and

(Kellogg CC continued)

Unit Conversion, Algebraic expressions, Linear Equations, Proportions and Percentages, Graphing, Data and Measures of Central Tendency, and Consumer Savvy Applications.

This last course, Practical Algebra, is the one we would like to know if anyone is teaching something similar. Do you have text resource ideas? We are excited about these changes but do not want to re-invent the wheel if someone has suggestions. Thanks for your time!!

We have not updated our department additions in a while. Both of our newest faculty were adjunct for many years: Marcus Anderson joined us three years ago as a full time faculty is active in Statistics and Intermediate Algebra (soon to be the College Algebra MTA course). He is married with two children and is a featured writer about gaming system design—way over my head. Our newest member is Emily Patterson. She is our Developmental Math program faculty. Also married with two children. She loves to run (LONG distances) and travel.

Lansing CC – Leslie Mohnke

Lansing Community College would like to welcome Shawn Smith as new full time math faculty. Professor Smith has been teaching mathematics for more than twenty years ranging from secondary education through college. He earned a BS in Mathematics Education from Michigan State University and an MA in the Teaching of Mathematics at the University of Detroit Mercy. For nine summers he functioned as Head Counselor for the MSU Summer Math/Science Program for Michigan Youth, focused upon serving students from underrepresented minorities. Currently his assignment will focus on teaching statistics and we look forward to his future contributions to the department.

Jing Wang is leading a group of math faculty that will be teaming with STEM colleagues to form a Mathematica Group. It will be an opportunity to introduce faculty to Mathematica and give them a chance to share classroom demonstrations and computer projects.

Jack Rotman will be leading a team of faculty that will investigate the development of new course that would combine and integrate Beginning and Intermediate Algebra. The past three years LCC has been teaching an 8 credit combo course with great success and with strong data to

support an increase in pass rates and completion of the developmental course sequence.

Macomb CC (South Campus) – Jonathan Oaks

Unfortunately, one of our long-time professors, Mustfa Munem, did not return to teach this fall. We wish him the best of luck in the future!

Wayne State University just opened the Advanced Technology Education Center across the street from Macomb's South Campus. We are looking forward to the partnership with the University for years to come. The grand opening of the new entrance to the college was on September 16, 2014.

One of our professors recently received his Macomb Multicultural International Initiatives (MMII) Certificate. MMII is a program at Macomb that is designed to help community members gain a better understanding of other cultures. Congratulations, Jon!

Mid-Michigan CC - David Kedrowski

Here at Mid Michigan CC we rolled out our redesigned Basic Arithmetic course this Fall after success pilot sections in Winter and Summer. We also started offering a College Algebra course (replacing our Business Mathematics I offering) and a Mat Lit course called Mathematical Reasoning. Our next projects involve redesigning our Basic Algebra course and working on our assessment program as part of our college's DQP (Degree Qualification Profile) work.

Monroe CCC – Khadija Ahmed

We continue to use the Emporium model in our developmental mathematics classes, Basic Skills to Intermediate Algebra. Our first data results show significant improvement in student success, especially in Intermediate algebra. We are hoping that this results in more students going on to college algebra and beyond.

An exciting change in our developmental math program is the addition a “Math Den”, a designated room in the mathematics building where students can get help or meet in groups to work on their math homework. The math department has hired tutors to work with students in developmental math. Many of the tutors are students who have successfully completed our developmental math program, and have completed college algebra or beyond.

Montcalm CC – Jan Roy

Montcalm Community College has begun offering courses this fall from The New Mathways Project at The Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin. A developmental course in Foundations of Mathematical Reasoning is being taught in full. The materials for a second course that is intended to be college-level, in Quantitative Reasoning, are being field-tested. The two courses are being offered as a non-algebra-intensive pathway paralleling the traditional Beginning and Intermediate Algebra pathway.

Mott CC – Bernard Cunningham

This summer we ran our version of "Boot Camp". There were two sessions each 4 days long for 3 hours each day. The first session concentrated on pre-algebra skills and the second session focused on beginning algebra. The goal was

to have the students retake the Accuplacer Test and place into a higher class than they originally placed into!

Hear-ye, Hear-ye, we have "Engagement Hours". "Say What?" You heard me, Engagement Hours! So, instead of serving office hours for 6 hours per week for 15 weeks, each instructor can set how they spend their 90 hours per week for curriculum, professional development, committee meetings, etc. and if so desired office hours. Yep, this was negotiated!

The mathematics faculty is in process of creating textbooks for almost every class that is considered developmental. We have four courses in this category. A book was written for our Basic Math course about 4 years ago. A subset of this book is being used for a numeracy course below Basic Math which is in our STAT Track. Another text is being field tested this semester for our second course in the STAT Track.

Correction: In the last issue of the MichMATYC Sum-Times (May 2014), I had left out the name of one of the authors of the article "Lesson Study: A Format for On-going Professional Growth". The article was jointly written by Rheta Rubenstein (University of Michigan-Dearborn) and Kristen Bieda (Michigan State University.) This omission was corrected, and both names are included on the newsletter that was posted on the MichMATYC website, but not the copies that were mailed to the members.

<http://michmatyc.org/Newsletters/MichMatycNewsletterMay2014.pdf>

Call for Nominations for MichMATYC Sponsored Awards

Teaching Excellence Award – due date May 15, 2015

Karen Sharp Student Scholarship Award – due date June 1, 2015

The selection criteria, requirements and application process can be found at: <http://michmatyc.org/Awards.html>

Save the Date

MichMATYC Conference 2014 and Developmental Mathematics Summit

October 3 & 4, 2015

Lake Michigan College

www.lakemichigancollege.edu/michmatyc14

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2014 Annual AMATYC Conference

Mathematics: Music To My Ears

November 13 – 16, 2014

Nashville, Tennessee

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

Conversations among Colleagues 2015 Conference Supporting Teachers Mathematically and Pedagogically

Keynotes: James Hiebert, University of Delaware

Hyman Bass, University of Michigan

March 21, 2015 at Wayne State University

cac2015@wayne.edu

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Chicago Lesson Study Conference 2015

May 7 and 8, 2015

<http://www.LSAlliance.org>

Visit the MichMATYC Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/MichMATYC>

Next Issue of MichMATYC Sum-Times

February 2015

Enjoy the colors!!

