

MichMATYC Sum-Times



Two-Year College Mathematics in Michigan

Edited by Jack Rotman, Lansing CC

September 2012



Monroe County CC is hosting the MichMATYC 2012 Fall Conference to be held October 5 – 6. Join us in Monroe to make the 28th Annual MichMATYC conference “perfect”.

The theme of this year’s conference is *Innovations in Teaching Mathematics*. The program is available online at <http://www.monroecc.edu/kahmed/MichMATYC2012/>. We have scheduled a variety of presentations that promise to provide excellent opportunities for professional development for all.

Here’s an overview of some of the activities:

Friday, October 5 – Pearson Event
9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., La-Z-Boy Center, MCCC
Pearson’s 3rd Annual Great Lakes Navigators Conference –
Join colleagues from Michigan and northern Ohio to learn about MyMathLab and related technologies through hands-on

sessions and peer-to-peer discussions. More information is available at the GLN III website. Please register in advance at GLNI
<http://myevents.pearsoned.com/myevents/site/index.jsp?eventid=860>

Friday 6 p.m. – Dinner at Harbor Inn and Ale
<http://harborinnandale.com/>

Friday 8 p.m. – Play– Escanabe in Love (written by Jeff Daniels) at the La-Z-Boy Center, MCCC

Saturday, October 6 – MichMATYC Conference
8:00 a.m. – 4:20 p.m., La-Z-Boy Center, MCCC
Registration and continental breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m.

Keynotes:

John Squires, Chattanooga State CC “Meeting the Challenges: The Goals of Math Redesign”

Vilma Mesa, University of Michigan “Making sense of teaching: Different ways to look at mathematics classrooms”

Concurrent sessions, lunch, business meeting and exhibitors.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1 | MichMATYC 2012 at Monroe County CC |
| 1 | President’s Message |
| 2 | Note from your President-Elect |
| 2 | Math in Action conference |
| 2 | MichMATYC Scholarship & Awards |
| 3 | Campus News |
| 4 | Conferences & Events |

President’s Message Bernard Cunningham, Mott

I am watching the US Open tennis finals while typing this email. It is a great match in the 4th set as I start this! It will be difficult to concentrate. What a great match, now in the 5th set and only two lines written! Finally, the match is over and I may be able to finish this!

Wow, another year has passed and it is time to think of the MichMATYC Conference at Monroe CCC! It looks like a great line up of sessions on both Friday and Saturday. I am looking forward to another gathering of mathematics professors in our state. MichMATYC needs to thank Mary Roberson from Delta College for serving as the Student Math League (SML) Coordinator for the past four years. She has resigned as of July. She recommends that the new coordinator be a SML moderator for their institution. So, all of you moderators, it is time to step up and volunteer. Please contact me when you decide to accept this worthwhile responsibility. In addition, I believe that someone from Delta College has been doing this for a number of years. Again, thank *continued on page 2*

mathematics department at Delta College for your support in this endeavor.

MichMATYC is still looking for a first time attendee to the AMATYC Conference this fall in Jacksonville. The early conference registration fee will be paid by AMATYC. Please contact me if you or one of your colleagues satisfies the requirements!

I encourage you to attend AMATYC. I did attend for the first time last year and found the conference very enlightening. The most interesting thing that I brought back from the conference in Austin, Texas (not counting the cowboy boots) was what was happening to the mathematics curriculum at community colleges in the United States. I have to confess that I have a concern for what is happening in states like Tennessee and Virginia. The concern is the centralization of the curriculum. I hope that we can keep this from happening and all of us should be aware that it is happening elsewhere. Tennessee has mandated to every community college in the state that all developmental mathematics courses are done with computer software similar to what is done at Monroe CCC and presented at last years MichMATYC conference. My concern is that each community college in this state has developed a plan of action that is specific to their student's needs. What works for MCCC may not work at another institution. I do not think that our institutions should all be lumped together at the whim of a centralized organization! Please be on alert for this idea that has been implemented in other parts of the country.

In closing, I hope you have a productive school year and that you will attend MichMATYC!

President-Elect Message Jack Rotman, Lansing

Time for some housekeeping!!

First, if you are not going to attend the MichMATYC conference at Monroe, be aware that your membership in this group ends at the conference. I hope that you will renew your membership – you can do that online at <http://michmatyc.org/join.html> In fact, I hope you encourage all of your colleagues to join.

Related to that ... we have roughly 60 AMATYC members from Michigan, but only 31 of these are current MichMATYC members. (Looking the other direction, there are about 160 MichMATYC members, but only 30 of those are AMATYC members.)

Second, my work as Newsletter Editor and Webmaster will end by next June at the latest. Why? Because I will become President of MichMATYC in June of 2013. Please consider whether you can take on one of these jobs (the same person can do both, but this is not needed). We have 3 newsletters per year, with the majority of the content coming from other people. The web pages do not require much maintenance; however, the web site is long overdue

for a re-design.

If you are interested in either the newsletter or the web site, you can let our President know (Bernard Cunningham). I would be glad to answer any questions you might have.

Math in Action 2013

Dear Colleagues,

As you know, the GVSU Math Department and the Regional Math and Science Center presents Math in Action annually. This conference serves K-12 teachers, curriculum coordinators, administrators, university math and statistics faculty and the occasional parent. During the conference, we present high-quality mathematics activities and pedagogical ideas that teachers can take into their classrooms and use the next day! Presentations are interactive, involving teachers in the activities and discussions about pedagogy. We hope that you will consider presenting this year. If so, please submit a proposal online at http://www.gvsu.edu/rmsc/mia_proposal.htm.

We are especially interested in proposals that help teachers understand and prepare for teaching in an era of the Common Core State Standards. We are also interested in proposals that address the use of new technologies such as iPads or classrooms where all students have a laptop or tablet computer.

For more information regarding Math in Action please go to our website: <http://www.gvsu.edu/math/math-in-action-2013-3.htm>

Thanks for your help!

MICHMATYC KAREN SHARP STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AND TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Consider your students and colleagues ... nominate them for the scholarship or award.

Forms and further details are available on our web site at <http://michmatyc.org/awards.html>

Campus News

Alpena Community College (Rep: Daniel Rothe)

We have started a new semester here at ACC. Kim Metevier is teaching a section of elementary algebra for us along with her new duties as Testing Center Coordinator. We are now offering a section of Precalc online. Dual enrollment continues to strengthen our number of sections in some of the higher classes. Jim Berles is on sabbatical in Hawaii studying GIS technology in order to develop some new classes for our Marine Technology degree in cooperation with the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The remaining instructors are picking up the load while dreaming of sand and pineapples! Sigma Zeta Math Science Honor society had an active spring semester. The member helped with events at the regional Science Olympiad tournament. Members enjoyed a trip to tour the Soo Locks and thanks LSSU for the tour of the Robotics laboratory. New members were inducted and fall inductees honored at the spring ceremony. Officers for the 2012-2013 school year are: President Allan Phillips, Vice President Gwenda Heacock, Secretary Joe LaVigne, and Treasurer Savannah Fleishans. The group will again be providing valet parking for the military ball.

Delta College (Rep: Frances Lichtman)

Delta College faculty enjoyed attending professional conferences during spring and summer. Among them was The 12th International Congress on Mathematical Education (ICME-12) in Seoul, Korea, attended by Myung Pinner and former Delta Mathematics Division chair Jim Roznowski.

Lansing Community College (by Jack Rotman)

We have two new full-time faculty this year – Leslie Mohnke (a long-time adjunct) and Mark Chapman (returning to Michigan). Our College has THREE Fellows in the AMATYC Project ACCESS cohort: Andrea Hoagland, Eliza Lee, and Everett McIlwain. Obviously, we are very proud of these faculty. We have a new Mathematical Literacy course starting Spring semester; the course (Math105) is an alternative to beginning algebra and will

be a prerequisite to Math117, Math118, Math119, and our new Stat170 (intro statistics) ... Stat170 starts next summer or fall.

Macomb Community College (Rep: Jon Oaks)

This fall we welcomed two new full-time faculty members to our Center Campus, David Friday and Elonia Lusha. David comes to us from Grand Rapids Community College and Elonia comes to us from Oakland University. They are a great addition to our department and we are happy to have them here.

We are seeing continued success with many of our new math initiatives, such as our classes through the continuing education program and our new Everyday Math class. Jon Oaks and Mike Somyak will be co-presenting with Lansing Community College on some of the initiatives at the Student Success Summit at the end of September. The college has approved funding for our Supplemental Instruction pilot to continue for the current semester. Results from our Winter 2012 pilot showed that 76% of students who attended the sessions agreed that the sessions helped them feel more connected to Macomb Community College.

At our South Campus, one of our math classrooms was recently mediated and the desks were replaced with tables and chairs. The classroom will be primarily used for our Math for Education, Statistics, and Everyday Math classes. We hope that the set-up with tables and chairs will encourage instructors to use more groupwork in class.

In AMATYC News, Jon Oaks recently accepted the position as the Interim Professional Development Coordinator. He also was accepted into the ninth Cohort of Project ACCESS. If you are attending the AMATYC Conference in Jacksonville, you can expect to see him there!

Monroe County Community College (Rep: Khadija Ahmed)

At Monroe County CC, we've had a very busy year that included work on assessment and general education requirement. In addition, we were successful in making the change in the designation of Beginning Algebra as a developmental level course.

We have also completed two semesters (Winter and Spring) of Redesign Emporium model in all sections of developmental math. Students use netbooks and sign a very detailed contract promising to do what we know they need to do to succeed. We have implemented study skills into the Basic Math and Pre-Algebra courses. Overall,

continued on page 4

we are happy with the increase in student engagement.

Finally, I we are pleased to have the opportunity to host the MichMATYC conference this year. Please join us to make it a successful one. Visit the conference website for further information and registration form

<http://www.monroeccc.edu/kahmed/MichMATYC2012/>

Mutt Community College (Rep: Bernard Cunningham)

The mathematics area has implemented a track that leads directly to Probability and Statistics without going through the typical Algebra sequence. It was mentioned in the last report that this track was being developed. Depending on where you place in the sequence of courses, at most there would be two developmental courses to complete (Basic Math and Foundations of Math I) and one college level course to complete (Foundations of Math II) before getting to Probability and Statistics. This initiative was led by Michael Carr. This track will also allow a student to take Applied Calculus if the student so chooses. The overall enrollment at MCC has declined by around 2000 students due to funded programs that are no longer being funded. This drop in enrollment was anticipated.

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

MICHMAA & MICHMATYC SPRING CONFERENCE 2013

PLACE LAKE SUPERIOR STATE DATE MAY 3-4

<HTTP://SECTIONS.MAA.ORG/MICHIGAN/>

MICHMATYC ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2012

PLACE MONROE COUNTY CC DATE OCTOBER 5-6

<HTTP://WWW.MONROECCC.EDU/KAHMED/MICHMATYC2012/>

AMATYC 38TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2012

PLACE JACKSONVILLE, FL DATE NOVEMBER 8 TO 11

<WWW.AMATYC.ORG>

MATH IN ACTION 2013

PLACE GRAND VALLEY STATE DATE FEBRUARY 9

<HTTP://WWW.GVSU.EDU/MATH/MATH-IN-ACTION-2013-3.HTM>