

# MichMATYC SUM-TIMES

Two Years College Mathematics in Michigan



Edited by Indah [kooswinarsinindyahd@macomb.edu]

May 2019

## MichMATYC Leadership

**President:** Anna Cox, Kellogg CC

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Sam Bazzi, Henry Ford CC

**Affiliate Delegate:** Lisa Winch, Kalamazoo Valley CC

**President-Elect:** Michael Pemberton, Lansing CC

**Sum-Times Editor:** Indah

## *Greetings from The President*

As another academic school year winds down, I am reminded how honored I am to be serving as MichMATYC's president. Many of you have made a tremendous impact on me and I am truly humbled by your dedication and commitment to education. I look forward to Michael Pemberton's leadership as the new president and Sam continuing in his current role. Indah continues to do a remarkable job with our newsletter. Sang Lee will be our new MAA representative and we want to thank Sascha for doing such a wonderful job these past few years.

Mark your calendars for both the MichMATYC conference at Henry Ford College on October 11 and 12, 2019 along with AMATYC in Milwaukee in November. Our new website is amazing and Michael has been posting announcements on our FB page too! Check them out if you haven't been there recently:

<https://michmatyc.netlify.com/> and  
<https://www.facebook.com/MichMATYC/>

Anna Cox

## SAVE THE DATES

**MichMATYC 2019 Conference**  
October 11-12, 2019  
Henry Ford Community College

**45<sup>th</sup> AMATYC Annual Conference**  
November 14-17, 2019  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

## *Very Important Calls*

### **CALL FOR PRESENTERS FOR MichMATYC 2019 CONFERENCE**

The deadline has been extended to May 31. Anyone interested in presenting should go to the conference website: <https://michmatyc2019.org/present/>

### **CALL FOR EVALUATORS**

The AMATYC Student Research League (SRL) has opened for its second year and we need evaluators! Students are working to complete their research and prepare their thesis for review. Evaluators will review papers in two rounds. The first, qualifying round involves YOU! We want math faculty to evaluate and select the top submissions to move on to our panel of finalist judges. We would like to have papers reviewed by three math faculty in the first round and anticipate that this will take about an hour per paper. The papers will be available in late April, and we ask that you complete your evaluation by June 1st. We would like each student team that submits a paper to receive some positive feedback and also a comment or two helping them to improve their thesis. Thank you for considering this work! Contact [Holly.Ashton@ppcc.edu](mailto:Holly.Ashton@ppcc.edu) if you can support this work.

### **CALL FOR NOMINATION FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD**

**Nominations due June 30, 2019**

Nominations for the 2019 Teaching Excellence Award are now being accepted. The Teaching Excellence Award Committee encourages departments or individuals to nominate their worthy colleagues for this award. We recognize that there are many outstanding teachers in MichMATYC, but we can only consider those who are nominated.

The criteria for the award include instructional effectiveness, professional involvement, and service. Nominees must have a minimum of five years of full-time teaching experience at a two-year college. The person selected by the Committee will be presented with the award at the 2019 MichMATYC Fall Conference.

The nomination form is available on the MichMATYC website, [www.MichMATYC.org](http://www.MichMATYC.org). Send an electronic copy of the completed form to Laura Wicklund at [lkwicklu@oaklandcc.edu](mailto:lkwicklu@oaklandcc.edu). Anyone may make a nomination. Nominations from department chairs, supervisors, and campus representative are particularly encouraged.

### **KAREN SHARP STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

Do you know of any student who deserves the MichMATYC Karen Sharp Student Scholarship award? If so, please encourage the student to apply. The scholarship award is in the amount of \$500, and the application deadline is June 1, 11:59 pm ET. For more information please visit <https://michmatyc.netlify.com/awards/>.

## MichMATYC Teaching Excellence Award



Recognized for his extraordinary teaching and service to the mathematics community, Jack Rotman is seen in the photo with Laura Wicklund, receiving the 2018 MichMATYC Teaching Excellence Award. During his 47 years at Lansing Community College (LCC), Jack has been deeply involved in curriculum development and mentoring LCC mathematics faculty. He has contributed to *AMATYC Crossroads* and *Beyond Crossroads* and has chaired the AMATYC Developmental Mathematics Committee. Above all, in the words of Jack's colleague, "He works tirelessly towards a single goal: student success."

## MichMATYC MiTEAM

Michael Pemberton  
MiTEAM Coordinator

The mentoring and professional development initiative for new full-time or adjunct mathematics faculty at two-year colleges in the state is now accepting applications for MiTEAM Cohort 3 (2019-20). The program's goal is to provide experiences that will help new faculty at two-year colleges become more effective teachers and active members of MichMATYC, as well as the broader mathematical community. MiTEAM also provides knowledge of the culture and mission of the two-year college and its students, familiarity with the scholarship of teaching, and a commitment for continued growth in mathematics.

Participants will attend two consecutive MichMATYC Conferences where they will complete a program developed for new faculty, including regular conference activities. In the intervening year, participants will be required to develop, implement, and evaluate a project at their home institution. In addition to learning and networking opportunities, participants will receive a one-year membership in MichMATYC for each year and a certificate of completion.



Shanna Simpson-Singleton, the newest member of MichMATYC MiTEAM, with the MiTEAM Leadership Team (Anna Cox, Michael Pemberton, and Jon Oaks)

## MichMATYC SUM TIMES

If you, or a colleague, will be in the first three years of teaching full- or part-time at a community college during the 2019-20 academic year, please consider applying for Cohort 3 that will meet for the first time at the 2019 MichMATYC Fall Conference. Applications and additional information may be found at on the MichMATYC website.

Furthermore, at this year's conference at Henry Ford College, MiTEAM Cohort 2 (2018-19) will be completing their second year in the program, which includes a presentation during a break-out session at the conference.

Anyone interested in mentoring the MiTEAM Cohort 3 participants, have questions, or need more information should email Michael Pemberton, MiTEAM Program Coordinator, at [pembert@lcc.edu](mailto:pembert@lcc.edu) or call (517) 483-1536.

### AMATYC Update

Jon Oaks

AMATYC Midwest Regional Vice President

[jonnyoaks@gmail.com](mailto:jonnyoaks@gmail.com)

I recently returned from the AMATYC Spring Board Meeting and would like to share the following updates with you:

**Volunteer Opportunities** - If you are looking for a way to become more involved within AMATYC year-round, consider applying for one of these positions:

- Regional Representative for the Math and its Applications for Careers Committee
- At-Large Representative for the Statistics Committee
- Historian
- Professional Development Coordinator

**AMATYC Annual Conference** - Don't forget that the AMATYC Annual Conference is November 17-19, in Milwaukee, WI. Please consider signing up to be a presider if you haven't already.

**AMATYC Institutional Membership** - Effective immediately, AMATYC Institutional Membership now includes one free AMATYC Adjunct Rate Membership per year, as well as a 50% discount off AMATYC Regular Individual 1-Year Membership for anyone who has not previously been an AMATYC Member. A list of all Institutional Members will be in the program for the AMATYC Annual Conference.

Please take advantage of these benefits if your institution is an AMATYC Institutional Member. If you are not, this would be a great time to join as the AMATYC Institutional Membership Rate will rise to \$530 on July 1, 2020.

**ICME-14 in 2020** - Save the date now for ICME-14 in Shanghai, China, July 12-19, 2020. You can find more information at <http://www.icme14.org/>.

**Mathematics Excellence Award** - The AMATYC Mathematics Excellence Award (ME Award) is intended for educators who have made outstanding contributions to mathematics or mathematics education at the two-year college. ME award recipients are recognized in even-numbered years. All nominations for the 2020 ME Award must be received no later than November 1, 2019.

**AMATYC Midwest Regional Group on Facebook** - If you would like to see more updates like this, along with other news and interesting articles, please join the AMATYC Midwest Regional Facebook Group at <http://bit.ly/amatycmidwest>.

Thanks so much; I hope you have a great upcoming summer!

Jon

## CAMPUS NEWS

### Bay De Noc CC - Britt Slade

Bay College is currently working on expanding our course offerings that use Open Educational Resources, as well as addressing accessibility needs in our classes.

### Delta College - Frances Lichtman

The mathematics faculty thanks Pete Carlson for serving as Mathematics Discipline Coordinator for the past two years. Pete's flexibility has been a great asset in carrying out this responsibility under the College's recent reorganization. The faculty welcomes Phoebe Lutz as the next Mathematics Discipline Coordinator and looks forward to working with Phoebe in her new role.

Delta College hosted the 22nd annual Middle School Mathematics Competition on

Saturday, March 16. This year's theme was *Math Through the Ages*. About 380 students from 30 schools attended the event. Throughout the day, students and their families enjoyed activities related to the Double Bubble Conjecture, the Chinese Remainder Theorem, slide rule construction, recursive jigsaw puzzles, mediation and duplication, and the Sierpinski Triangle.



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***Delta College continued***

After 30 years of distinguished service, Professor Habib Kheil will be retiring on June 30, 2019.



A longtime member of MichMATYC and AMATYC, Habib has been teaching a wide range of courses from developmental mathematics through calculus. He served as chair of Delta College's Human Relations Committee and is currently active in his community as a Rotarian.

Committed to the mathematics education of young people, Habib and his wife, Amal, have opened their own Mathnasium™ in Saginaw. A world traveler, Habib taught mathematics in Kenya while on sabbatical. The mathematics faculty extends best wishes to Habib as he embarks on new adventures.

I, too, am retiring at the end of this academic year.

**Kalamazoo Valley CC - Jon Stasiuk**

As the Winter 2019 semester concludes, so does Sue Hollar's 37 years of service to the students of KVCC. Sue was the first woman hired at KVCC in the math department to a full-time tenure-track faculty position. Sue always displayed the joy of teaching students. This was evident

if you ever had the opportunity to walk by a classroom that she was teaching in. In addition to being a great friend to many, she was also an admirable mentor. Sue is a true professional, someone who cares about both her students and her colleagues. If there ever was a need, she was always available with a listening ear and some good humor. Although it will be difficult to fill her role and say our goodbyes, we will relish in the fact of the freedom that her retirement brings. Thank you Sue for all you have done for KVCC and MichMATYC over the years!

**Kellog CC - Anna Cox**

Anna Cox was one of the keynote speakers at the Junior Achievement Girls Dream Fair at Western Michigan University. Dozens of seventh and eighth grade girls from various West Michigan schools attended the inaugural event. Graham Smith and Pat Kopf continue to improve our practical algebra course. Susan Stetler and Emily Patterson have been busy on a scholarship committee for the school. Marcus Anderson continues to be missed while on sabbatical; however, we have been fortunate to have David Tannor join us temporarily. David also encouraged students to participate in the AMATYC SRL competition which I believe is the first time KCC has had a team. Good luck students!

**Lansing CC - Leslie Mohnke**

Lansing Community College has been experimenting with keeping students in a class who have become home bound during the semester. While the students do not get the totality of the classroom experience, most notably they only see what is on the screen, it is a fully synchronous classroom experience. WebEx, ELMO (PX-10), Connect Math, the Smart Board, and just about anything else that can show up on the computer screen, including the TI-84 CE emulator, is used. The sessions are recorded with both audio and video for the students to review as needed, as well as anything from the ELMO, can be cut and pasted into the Smart Board for export as a PDF, which is sent to the students at the end of the class session. While less than optimal, situations such as these do not automatically mean a withdrawal for home bound students.

In addition, the Mathematics Department hosted a Black Male Forum during spring semester. The purpose was to address increasing success for underrepresented populations in program courses and partner with the Center for Data Science and the Center for Engaged Inclusion to monitor success data and to find strategies to help at-risk groups increase achievement, respectively. The entire department is looking forward to debriefing and viewing the video of the forum.

Lastly, LCC has had a team of faculty working diligently to create a more robust and rigorous Algebra Vision across all courses. The team has a shared vision to create one Developmental Algebra course to be more accessible to Math Literacy students and to focus on key topics with an emphasis on reasoning and communication to facilitate the transition to pre-calculus.

**Mid-Michigan CC - David Kedrowski**

We completed a program review this winter (something all programs are required to submit once every four years). Two highlights were our online work and our developmental redesign project. Success rates in our online sections have been improving and are now very similar to our traditional sections (in the aggregate). Our three primary developmental courses, Basic Mathematics, Basic Algebra, and Intermediate Algebra, show increased student success rates following our redesign work (approximately 2013 through 2016) with improvements of about 1.5 points, 13 points, and 6.5 points respectively.

**Mott CC - Bernard Cunningham**

There is nothing much happening at MCC this semester except for trying to cover all the necessary material in classes due to the days missed by weather conditions!

**Muskegon CC - Karin Burrell**

Muskegon Community College has hired a new full time math faculty member. We were happy to welcome Brad Pretzer into our department Fall semester, 2018!

The combined Math and Physical Sciences Department began offering STEM lectures and activities under the coordination of math faculty member, Gary Nonnemacher. Gary has brought in numerous speakers from industry to present and talk with our students about careers in STEM fields.

**Oakland CC SE Campus - Celeste Bogan**

When the Oakland Community College Math Club celebrated Pi Day this month, it decided to invite a circle of friends from two nearby schools to pay tribute to that most iconic of mathematical constants.

Besides OCC students and staff, visitors from Berkley and Madison Heights Lamphere high schools devoted a piece of their March 14 — a.k.a. 3-14 — to the infinite joys of pi. One of those joys being, for Berkley students, 3.14 points of extra credit for attending.

Festivities began with a three-minute (Yes, it was 3 minutes and 14 seconds, if you must be precise.) video featuring Matt Parker, a frequent guest on the YouTube Numberphile channel. With a touch of

irreverence, Parker estimated the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter (the classic way to define pi) by using actual pies.

Best-selling author Simon Singh, whose works include *The Simpsons and their Mathematical Secrets*, sent a "Happy Pi Day" video as the afterglow to the Math Club's sharing of pi jokes and some pi history.

The main course was testing of one's pi-memorizing prowess. The three top scores were OCC students Charbel Yammine, who memorized 60 digits after the decimal point in pi, and Levon Alshabi, who recalled 54; and Tim De Zwaan from Lamphere High, who remembered 52 digits.

And what does 60 digits look like?

3.14159265358979323846264338327950  
2884197169399375105820974944.

If you start now, maybe you'll be ready come March 14, 2020. We'll circle back with you.

**St Clair County CC - Cindie Wade**

Nothing too exciting happening around here.

I have survived my "trip" at Disney for AMATYC, when I fell and broke my hip. I missed all of the conference! The Math discipline covered for me for 3 weeks and it was just before Final exams last semester.

Jeff VanHamlin has taken over being Academic Lead. All is well in Port Huron!!

### Schoolcraft CC - Michael McCoy

The Schoolcraft math department is excited to announce two job openings for full-time faculty positions. The deadline to apply is May 15, 2019 the positions will begin in the Winter 2020 semester. The job positing can be found at the following link:

<https://jobs.schoolcraft.edu/postings/3502>

Professor Kathy Jankoviak-Anderson will be redeveloping our online Business Math course, Math 101. She plans to utilize open resources such as Lumen's Online Homework Manager (OHM). Our department currently uses OHM for three courses: Math 47 (Pre-Algebra), Math 111 (Liberal Arts Math), and Math 122 (Stats). We've experienced a great deal of success using this platform, which provides a nice alternative to similar publisher resources.

The Schoolcraft Math & Physics Club participated in a "Girls in STEM" event on campus on March 23. About 120 girls, grades 5-8, came to campus to learn about various STEM fields. Club faculty advisor, Mike McCoy, along with 11 club members (all Schoolcraft students) created and led

a hands-on activity on probability. The girls ran trials rolling two dice, recording the totals. Then, they learned how to use math to predict the results and compared the experimental data with the theoretical probabilities. Throughout the day, the club compiled around 1900 trials. The following week, the Math & Physics club analyzed the large data set in greater detail and learned more sophisticated methods for analyzing the sampling errors contained within it. The project was a great success, benefiting both the middle school girls visiting campus and the Schoolcraft Math & Physics club members.

Lastly, congratulations to Nina Perry, winner of the 2019 Pythagorean Prize. Every year, the Pythagorean Prize competition recognizes the best mathematics students at the college. The award program was launched in 1995-96 through the efforts of Larry Williams, now an Emeritus Professor of Mathematics. The program is currently chaired by Professor Larry Choraszewski, who incidentally won the award in 2005 when he was a student at Schoolcraft!

