



## Updates from Your MichMATYC President – Jack Rotman, Lansing CC

Our organization continues to be active with a focus on helping mathematics faculty throughout Michigan. Jon Oaks has been working on the mini-grant process, which has existed for a few years but lacked structure and accessibility. You can read more about the mini-grant process elsewhere in this newsletter.

About the same date that this newsletter is published, MichMATYC will be hosting a small workshop on Quantitative Reasoning (QR) courses (February 6) in Lansing. The focus of this workshop is on helping institutions develop QR courses that will work with the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA). Several faculty are coming to the workshop with information about their QR course; I hope to assemble this information for posting on our web site this spring.

For information on the MTA, see <http://www.macrao.org/Publications/MTA.asp>.

As usual, conferences are a big part of what we do. The Spring joint meeting of MichMAA and MichMATYC will occur in April (April 10 and 11) at Hope College in Holland. My hope is that the earlier date will enable many more of us to attend. I have found this conference to be a very good opportunity for community college faculty to network with university math faculty; the sessions provide a blend of research mathematics, mathematics for fun, and classroom ideas. [I still use an idea from the spring meeting of 20 years ago 😊.] See the conference page at <http://sections.maa.org/michigan/15meeting.html>. Jan Roy is the MichMAA 2-year vice president, and helps with the program. The program committee has extended me an opportunity as a Local Invited Speaker.

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## Michigan Community College Jobs

**Delta College** invites applications for two full-time, tenure-track positions in mathematics at the rank of instructor, beginning Fall 2015. Required qualifications include a Master's Degree in Mathematics, Mathematics Education or related field (with at least 18 hours of graduate courses in mathematics). Applicants should have the ability to teach a full range of community college mathematics courses including developmental mathematics. First consideration will be given to applications received by February 27, 2015. Details are available at <https://delta.peopleadmin.com/postings/2058>

**Jackson College** seeks an enthusiastic tenure-track mathematics teacher who will have a primary role for facilitating learning in Mathematics beginning in Winter 2015. At least 50% of the instruction will take place at Jackson College's center in Adrian, Michigan (JCC@LISD). A minimum of a Master's Degree in mathematics, Master's Degree in mathematics education, or a Master's Degree in statistics is required. Details are available at <https://jobs.iccm.edu/postings/526>

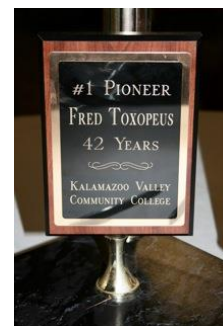


### Fred Toxopeus

Fred Toxopeus, the first member of KVCC's Mathematics Department (1968), passed away on December 10th.

Fred taught high school math in Muskegon and taught at Muskegon CC before beginning a long career at KVCC.

He retired in 2010 and enjoyed life to the fullest.



## President's Message (continued from page 1)

The MichMATYC fall conference will be at Macomb Community College on October 2 and 3, 2015. This would be the time to start thinking about what you can do to help. Especially if you have not done a presentation at a MichMATYC conference in the recent years, please consider what you can share. Our conferences are all about sharing and connecting; your work does not need to be "perfect" before you share it at the conference. Watch for the call for presenters in a few weeks.

I was very pleased to see a large number of Michigan faculty at the last AMATYC conference in Nashville. The 2015 conference will be in New Orleans (<https://amatyc.site-ym.com/?2015ConfHome>). The venue is terrific, and the sessions outstanding. Please start making any plans you can that would enable you to attend! Related to that ... each affiliate receives a scholarship from AMATYC to cover the registration fee for the conference, to be used to help send one faculty member; MichMATYC uses this scholarship to help a first-time attendee get to the conference. We will request nominations for this scholarship in late spring or early summer.

Nominations are open now for our two awards: Teaching Excellence, and the Karen Sharp Student Scholarship. The details are on our website (<http://www.michmatyc.org/Awards.html>), and we have teams ready to look at the nominations. Do your part ... identify a faculty member who deserves to be recognized, and identify a student who deserves a scholarship; complete the form(s) on the website.

One of the member benefits in MichMATYC is the use of our email list (MichMATYC-List). As a member, you can use this list to ask questions or share information. If you are a member of MichMATYC and are not receiving emails from that list, add the email to your 'safe list'. Although the email list is private, this Newsletter is posted on our web site, and can be read by 'non-members'; if you are not a member, note that the cost of joining MichMATYC is \$5 per year, and there is a link on our web site for joining online.

Another way to connect with MichMATYC is on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/MichMATYC>). Our group has reached 90 "likes", with quite a few from outside of the state; joining MichMATYC is not required to 'like' us ☺. We use Facebook for informal sharing and brief reminders; however, you can use it for questions as well.

Our current membership list has about 200 people. Oakland Community College has our largest membership portion (37 listed); the next largest groups are at Grand Rapids and Delta (with 16 and 15). Wouldn't it be great if we achieved 50% membership at each college? My department has about 90 math faculty, so that would give us 45 members of MichMATYC. Wouldn't it be fantastic if each college invested the \$5 per faculty member so that everybody is connected? Perhaps your college will be the first to take this step.

I hope your semester is off to a good start, and that your students learn more mathematics than they thought possible! Let me know if you have an idea for how MichMATYC can help our profession.

~~ Jack

## Join MichAMATYC

For more information about the organization and its activities, visit the MichMATYC website at <http://michmatyc.org>

Visit the MichMATYC Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MichMATYC>

### 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

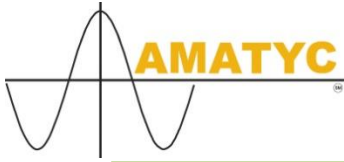
The selection criteria, requirements and application process can be found at: <http://michmatyc.org/Awards.html>

### MAA – Call for Nominations

The nominating committee is soliciting nominations for a four-year-college vice chair to be elected in 2015.

The four-year-college vice chair typically continues to serve as chair and past chair in following years.

Please contact Steve Blair (EMU) at [sblair6@emich.edu](mailto:sblair6@emich.edu) to nominate someone or to volunteer.



## A Message from the Midwest Vice President of AMATYC

Jim Ham  
jaham@delta.edu  
January 23, 2015



At the recent AMATYC conference in Nashville, over 1400 AMATYC members participated in top-notch professional development activities and celebrated AMATYC's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The 2014 conference proceedings are now available. For details, see <http://www.amatyc.org/?page=2014ConfProceedings>.

Two position statements were approved at the Delegate Assembly:

- *The Role of Intermediate Algebra as a Prerequisite Course*
- *The Preparation of Two-year College Mathematics Faculty*

About 61 Michigan colleagues attended the conference. The following AMATYC members from Michigan presented: **Anne Cawley, Julie Gunkelman, Andrea Hoagland, Elaine Lande, Linda Leckrone, Eliza Lee, Vilma Mesa, Jon Oaks, Lisa Rombes, Jack Rotman, and David Tanner.**



Lights on the grounds of the Grand Ole Opry Hotel

A couple of the highlights of the conference were our keynote speakers. The videos of these keynote presentations can be viewed at the links below.

### ***Reflections from the founding president***

<http://youtu.be/VMsm31PxHol>

(Presentation begins around minute 29)



**Herb Gross**

### ***Cleaning up after the Common Core***

<http://youtu.be/Lv6y8qbh1TU>

(Presentation begins around minute 23)



**Zalman Usiskin**



Start making plans to attend the 2015 AMATYC conference. Here are some details:

### **41st AMATYC Annual Conference**

New Orleans, LA  
November 19-22, 2015

**Affiliate Scholarship Continues!** One member from MichMATYC will receive a free conference registration.

The conference hotel is located in the French Quarter on Canal Street, near all the great food and jazz.

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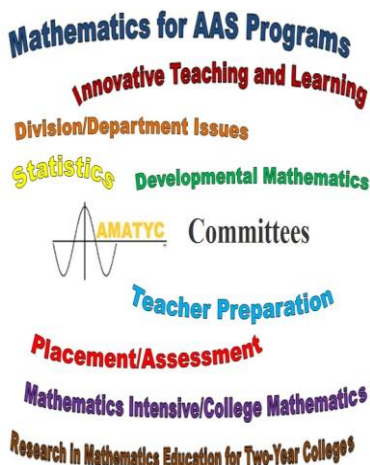
(Midwest VP message – continued from page 3)



The following are Project ACCESS fellows from the state of Michigan: **Amy Barnsley, Rama Chidambaram, Andrea Hoagland, Josh Illian, Jennifer LaRose, Eliza Lee, Nicole Lloyd, Elonia Lusha, Everett Mcllwain, Jon Oaks, and Tom Wells.**

AMATYC Project ACCESS is a mentoring and leadership program for two-year college mathematics educators who are beginning their careers. Funded in large part by the AMATYC Foundation, this year-long, multi-year project sends about 25 new AMATYC members to the AMATYC conference two years in a row and connects them with a community of learners.

A new cohort of AMATYC fellows is selected each year. **The deadline to apply to be included in the next cohort is May 1, 2015.** Please consider nominating yourself or one of your newer colleagues.



AMATYC academic committees focus on a single theme and are open (free!) to all AMATYC members. The level of engagement in the committees varies from committee to committee and from year to year. You can be as active as you would like in the committees. One thing is sure: you will find a community of learners who are passionate about the committee theme.



MichMATYC members, **Vilma Mesa** (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), **Visu Iyengar** and **Paul Drelles** (not pictured) serve as regional representatives for an AMATYC academic committee. The committee reps shared their committee's work at the recent AMATYC conference.

## AMATYC Membership Drive

AMATYC is having a "Refer a Friend" membership drive. The membership drive will run from January 1, 2015 – May 31, 2015. Members who encourage a non-AMATYC member colleague to join AMATYC will receive \$10 off their next membership renewal. Members will receive the \$10 membership discount for each referral who joins AMATYC (up to the cost of the member's one-year membership).

Please see the January, 2015 AMATYC newsletter for more details.

I encourage you to learn about and join AMATYC if you are not a member. For more information about AMATYC events and activities, please check out the recent AMATYC newsletter at <http://www.amatyc.org/?page=AMATYCNews> or visit the AMATYC website at [amatyc.org](http://amatyc.org). If you are a current member I encourage you to continue your AMATYC membership throughout your career like so many of your committed MichMATYC colleagues.

Have a great semester!

## ~~~~~Campus News from across the State ~~~~~

### **Alpena CC – Daniel Rothe**

Our spring semester has begun. Our new Electrical Power Technology Center has been completed and the electrical programs are in the process of moving into their new space. This new space will increase the capacity of the electrical studies programs which will affect some of our technical math classes. The new Electrical Systems Technology Bachelor of Science Degree will be launching with the next year or so and should bring some new students into some of our math classes.

We look forward to hosting the regional Science Olympiad Tournament in early March with faculty members running a number of events.

Sigma Zeta Math/Science Honor Society enjoyed an end of the semester tour of the Sault Lock with the assistant engineer. Wandering through the tunnels under the locks and looking at all the equipment gives the students a good picture of the use of math and engineering. The software monitoring ships and systems from the control tower was of interest to those with a computer science career in their future. In the afternoon, we toured Cloverland Electric's Edison Sault Hydroelectric power-plant. The members are planning the event they are supervising for the Science Olympiad as well as looking forward to Spring Induction and as yet to be determined end of the semester trip.

### **Delta College – Frances Lichtman**



After 37 years of distinguished service, Professor Barbara (Bobbi) Allen will be retiring at the end of this academic year. Bobbi has served Delta College, its Faculty, and the Division of Mathematics with distinction. In our shared governance process she has served as both the President of the Delta College Senate and the Chair of the Faculty Executive Committee. She is

also known for her interest and development of classroom assessment and the generous gift of her time to several community organizations. The Mathematics Division wishes her the best as she embarks on new adventures.

### **Jackson C – Steven Tuckey**

Here at Jackson College, our big news is the retirement of Jerome Krakowiak, and a resulting open mathematics instructor position. More information and application is available at <https://jobs.jccmi.edu/postings/526>.

### **Lansing CC – Leslie Mohnke**

Lansing Community College would like to announce that Andrea Hoagland is now serving as Interim Associate Dean for Science and Mathematics. Our previous Associate Dean, Todd Troutman, has moved into the position of Executive Project Director of Academic Affairs for the college.

A full time Mathematics Professor position will be posted soon at Lansing Community College. The position is to be filled by Fall 2015.

Math faculty, Nan Jackson has been working with Biology Professor, LuAnne Clark. They have been collaboratively working and sharing a mapping activity that Professor Clark has used in her integrated physical science for non-majors. This cross curricular activity utilizes and develops critical thinking and math problem solving skills within the science arena.

The computer science faculty at LCC (part of the math department) is holding a summit with the faculty in the computer information technology program on February 13; the primary goal of the summit is to get faculty acquainted with the courses in the other program. The programs are supplementary, and will be looking for ways to collaborate.

Lansing Community College is the lead post-secondary institution for C3R. C3R stands for The Coalition for College and Career Readiness. C3R is a coalition of concerned individuals and organizations in the tri-county area, Ingham, Clinton, and Eaton counties working together to increase the college and career readiness of high school graduates. Through partnerships and a common agenda, C3R will seek to ascertain the gap between high school and first - year college and career readiness skills, increase academic success for students PK - post secondary, improve college readiness and reduce the number of high school students in the tri-county area requiring developmental course work. Mathematics faculties are serving as leads and members on various action teams. Visit the C3R website at: <http://lcc.edu/k12/c3r>

### **Macomb CC – Caroline Castel**

Macomb Community College has been busy on a number of fronts. We recently revamped our Precalculus sequence (College Algebra, Trigonometry and Precalculus) based on success data of our students in Calculus. This project was (MCC continued on next page)

(MCC continued from page 5)

spearheaded by Faith Miller. We are hoping to continue to adjust our Calculus and Developmental sequences using the same process. We are also looking forward to hosting the annual MichMATYC conference in the fall of 2015. Look forward to more information from us in the near future. Our faculty would also like to share the successes of our students in some recent competitions. Our college sponsored two teams in the Michigan Autumn Take-Home Challenge and they finished 27<sup>th</sup> and 53<sup>rd</sup> out of a pool of 76 teams. The teams were coached by Dave Friday. Our college also did well in the first round of the Student Math League, with our teams placing 9<sup>th</sup> in the country. Our SML team was coached by Matt Halfaf and Lori Chapman. On the other end of the spectrum, Deb Swiderski will be retiring at the end of this semester. Although the department is happy for Deb, we are sad to see her go. We anticipate a posting to hire her replacement soon.

### **Macomb CC (South Campus) – Jonathan Oaks**

One of our long-time professors, Mustafa Munem, retired at the beginning of January. We are sorry to see him go, but we wish him well on his retirement. Congratulations on your many years with the college!

Starting in January 2016, the building that houses the majority of math classes offered at our campus is going to be renovated. We are looking forward to the well-needed renovations to modernize the building to better suit the

needs of our students. One of the things being considered is adding a student lounge to the building.

Macomb Community College will be hosting the MichMATYC Fall Conference this year. We are very excited about the upcoming conference and plans are already well underway. The conference team consists of instructors from both of our campuses. We are all looking forward to seeing you this fall on October 1-2!

### **Monroe CCC – Khadija Ahmed**

For the last two years, at MCCC we have worked on College wide assessment of student learning. General education goals and competencies, including learning outcomes and objectives have been established. In the math department, we are working with our colleagues across the divisions to create or update courses that will become general education satisfiers and meet the needs of programs such as business, technology and health careers.

### **St. Clair County Community College – Cindie Wade**

We combined our Basic Math course with Pre-Algebra a year ago, now making it just Pre-Algebra, using the Emporium Model. Nick Goins published a Calculus book and is piloting it in his Calculus classes this semester. Paul Bedard is piloting a new course in compliance with the Quantitative Reasoning requirements for MTA. Cindie Wade was named Professor of the Year for Michigan by Carnegie Foundation.

~~~~~ Congratulations, Cindie!! ~~~~~

## **MichMATYC Grant Applications Now Being Accepted!**

MichMATYC: The Michigan Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges was founded to provide a venue for interaction between the mathematics faculties at community colleges across the State of Michigan. Our top priorities are to share ideas, consolidate resources, and plan for the future needs of community college students in the state of Michigan. In this spirit, MichMATYC is offering a grant of up to \$500 to support the activities of its membership, including but not limited to innovative programs, events or projects that will significantly enhance a students' classroom experience or professional development shared among regional institutions.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Grant recipient must be a member of MichMATYC residing in Michigan; however, the grant recipient need not necessarily have to be a mathematics professor at a two-year college in Michigan.

**Grant Requirements:** Grant is limited to up to \$500 and may be used to partially or fully fund a one-time project or start-up costs for a long-term project. Grantees are required to submit 1-page follow-up/final report after the completion of the project that summarizes the project and next possible steps for involvement by other MichMATYC members. Grantees will work with the MichMATYC Newsletter Editor to have this report published in the newsletter within 1 year of the completion of the project. All unused funds must be returned.

Apply online now at: <http://bit.ly/michmatycgrant>

## Save the Date

### **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

<http://coe.wayne.edu/ted/mathematics/cac.php>

### **Chicago Lesson Study Conference 2015**

May 7 and 8, 2015

<http://www.LSAlliance.org>



**Next issue of MichMATYC Sum-Times: May 2015**