

# MichMATYC Sum-Times



Two-Year College Mathematics in Michigan

Edited by Jack Rotman, Lansing CC

May 2011



**MichMATYC Conference**  
**Lansing October 7 – 8, 2011**  
**“Capitalizing on Math”!**

Proposals were due by April 20; we may still be able to accommodate new proposals ... form available at  
<http://michmatyc.org/michmatyc2011/Speakers.htm>

Overview:  
 Friday afternoon professional development (collaborative learning, lesson study, Jing, online homework systems, etc), followed by ‘social’ (dinner) and presentation & activities  
 Saturday:  
 Keynote by Pete Wildman (of Spokane Falls CC)

Washington) – presenting a math play with song  
 Concurrent sessions  
 Lunch and business meeting  
 Exhibitors  
 Snacks (of course!)

We hope to see you ... and many of your colleagues. In particular, we are eager to see more adjunct faculty.

Look for more information on our conference web page  
<http://michmatyc.org/michmatyc2011/HomePage.htm>

## Michigan MAA – MichMATYC joint meeting

May 6 – 7, 2011 at Western Michigan University

The Program Committee is delighted to announce a speaker list that includes plenary addresses by Erik Demaine (Pólya Lecturer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Michael Dorff (Brigham Young University), Dan LaDue (Michigan Department of Education), Ivars Peterson (MAA), and Paul Zorn (President of the MAA, St. Olaf College).

In addition, we look forward to local invited talks given by our Michigan colleagues Teena Gerhardt (Michigan State University), Michael Merscher (Lawrence Tech University), David Murphy (Hillsdale College), Jack Rotman (Lansing Community College), and Ping Zhang (Western Michigan University).

<http://www.calvin.edu/~mdb7/2011MAA/>

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## President's Message

Dr. Maria Andersen, Muskegon Community College Greetings!

There are several initiatives and opportunities I would like to make you aware of.

First, AMATYC is giving each affiliate organization one free early-registration scholarship for the Fall AMATYC conference. This free registration must be given to a first-time attendee of AMATYC. So, if your department has a faculty member that meets this description, **and** you know that there is funding available to send them to AMATYC, they can apply to receive the scholarship. To apply, send an email to [maria.andersen@muskegoncc.edu](mailto:maria.andersen@muskegoncc.edu) (subject line: AMATYC Registration Scholarship) with the following information:

- The name of the faculty member with confirmation that this will be their **first** AMATYC conference.
- Confirmation that either the college or the person being nominated will be able to pay the travel and lodging costs for the applicant.
- What the person hopes to get out of attending the AMATYC Conference.

You may self-nominate for this scholarship, however Project ACCESS fellows are not eligible since they already will receive funding. The MichMATYC board will select the person to receive this registration scholarship. The deadline is June 30, 2011.

Second, all the affiliate state organizations were "challenged" by ArizMATYC to donate \$100 per ACCESS fellow to the AMATYC Foundation in 2011. The 2010 Fall MichMATYC Conference did very well financially, and so the board has decided to meet this challenge by donating a total of \$500 to the AMATYC Foundation for our five Michigan Project ACCESS Fellows:

- Rama Chidambaram
- Jennifer LaRose
- Nicole Lloyd
- Ryan Petitfils
- Thomas Wells

Third, if you're a participant in social media, I'd like to remind you that there are several ways to receive announcements and updates from both MichMATYC and AMATYC:

- AMATYC Facebook Page:  
[www.facebook.com/AMATYC](http://www.facebook.com/AMATYC)
- AMATYC Twitter Account: @MathAMATYC  
([www.twitter.com/MathAMATYC](http://www.twitter.com/MathAMATYC))
- MichMATYC Facebook Page:  
[www.facebook.com/MichMATYC](http://www.facebook.com/MichMATYC)

You do NOT need to have a Facebook or Twitter account to

simply view these pages. If you'd like updates to be pushed out to you, you need to LIKE the Facebook page or follow the Twitter account.

Fourth, if you aren't an AMATYC member, you are most likely missing out on a new professional development opportunity. AMATYC is now hosting webinars throughout the year. With each new webinar, members are sent an email to register free of charge for the live event. So far this year there have been four webinars:

- Unleash the Power of Your Tablet PC
- Lights, Camera, Action Research
- Guided Reinvention of Sequence Convergence
- Math of Video Games

If you've missed the webinars, they are all recorded and archived at: [www.amatyc.org/publications/webinars/](http://www.amatyc.org/publications/webinars/) Non-members are allowed to register for webinars in the final week (assuming there is still space), but you'll have to keep up with announcements on Facebook or Twitter to catch the registration window.

Fifth, for those of you who participated or are interested in my dissertation research about Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices of Michigan Community College Math Instructors, the results of the research study (my dissertation) can be found at: <http://bit.ly/kapgap> (and yes, that means I'm finished with the PhD).

So, that's all the news I've got. Enjoy your summer!

Editor's Note: Scholarship applications are still being considered (until June 10)!!!

## MICHMATYC STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, MichMATYC awards one or two scholarships (\$500 each) to students who began their mathematics at a community college. Nominations were due March 20, but can still be submitted in May!

CRITERIA: THE STUDENT MUST HAVE

- Completed a minimum of 12 credit hours, with 6 hours from a Michigan community college, overall college GPA of 3.2
- Completed at least two of the following courses at a two-year Michigan community college: Trigonometry, Statistics, Calculus and/or Above Calculus
- Maintained a 3.5 cumulative G.P.A. in all community college mathematics courses
- Attended a Michigan community college this year

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

MichMATYC Treasurer report

MichMATYC Goes Green!

I am excited to report that you no longer need to download, print the membership renewal form and, then mail it out in order to renew your membership or make a donation to the Student Scholarship Fund.

Now, you can simply go to MichMATYC website, click on the "Join MichMATYC" link, use the Google Checkout option to pay your dues or make a donation. If you have a "Google Checkout" account, use it to make your payment. If you don't have an account, you will be prompted to create one and then make your payment.

On the same page, you will notice a link to an electronic form that you would need to fill out and submit online in order for me to receive your school and contact information.

Thank you very much for your continuous support of MichMATYC  
Sam Bazzi  
Secretary/ Treasurer

## Campus News

### **Alpena Community College** (Rep: Daniel Rothe)

Our enrollment is down slightly from last spring but still at high levels compared to the five year average. Our faculty remains stable with no full time staffing changes except the addition of R. C. Laugal on the Huron Shores campus (Oscoda). She is teaching chemistry and math at the Oscoda campus and satellite locations and Hale and Whittemore High Schools. We will be hosting the Regional Science Olympiad on Saturday, March 12.

Sigma Zeta Math/Science honor society inducted 10 new student members. This semester, we inducted our 100th member. The organization was started in the fall of 2007. The members enjoyed a tour of the Silverado plant in Flint last month and will be helping with the Science Olympiad.

### **Lansing Community College** (Rep: Kathy Burgis)

This year, we have had some success with two initiatives designed for students who have taken the math placement exam twice, and placed below the required level for our lowest math course, pre-

algebra. We have a Boost program, in which students meet with a math instructor, work independently through a series of workbook assignments, and get help as needed from tutors. The Boost program carries no college credit, and costs the students nothing except for the price of an inexpensive workbook. We also have a one-credit intensive Math Refresher. Math Refresher meets for five days (4 hours a day) during the week before a semester begins. The cost to the student is one credit, plus a textbook. After participating in either Boost or Math Refresher, students get another opportunity to retake the placement exam. We are still early in our data collection, but so far, we have been pleased with the results from both initiatives. The majority of students this year, from both these programs, have placed into, and then successfully completed, pre-algebra. We are also very excited that, as a result of grant funding, Professors Louise Paquette and Jing Wang will take 6 LCC pre-engineering students to the American Society for Engineering Education conference in Vancouver, Canada, June 26-29. While in the Northwest, the students and professors will also have the opportunity to visit engineering job sites, such as the Boeing plant in Seattle.

### **Mott Community College** (Rep: Bernie Cunningham)

The college has an AQIP committee dealing with the developmental students attending MCC. This was one of the items done in campus wide sessions that all faculty were concerned with during open forums held about a year and a half ago. A representative committee was formed from all areas of the college in May of 2010. The committee will make recommendations on what it feels will make a successful college student at MCC by the end of the spring semester

### **Muskegon Community College** (Rep: Maria Andersen)

We are pleased to announce the hiring of Karin Burrell as a full-time faculty member in our math department.

### **Oakland CC -- Highland** (Rep: Emily McAllister)

OCC Highland Lakes Campus hired a new full-time math faculty, Dave Nosanchuk, who started Winter 2011. (It's the first time ever we've had 5 full-time faculty on this campus!)

## General Education Mathematics at Michigan Community Colleges

by Jack Rotman, LCC

The community colleges in Michigan differ widely in the mathematics required for an associates degree. I reviewed many of our web sites (in January 2011) looking for any math required for associate degrees. Below is the summary of what I found.

The 'mode' for this data is "no math required for an associate degree" (7 of the 12 checked). Of the 5 with a requirement, all count intermediate algebra. Three CC use a statistics course as one option.

When I did a comparable check at universities, the results showed a more consistent 'requirement' (for a BA or BS). Statistics was again fairly common; however, two universities have some statistics courses with only a beginning algebra prerequisite (WMU, EMU). Of the 3 CC with a gen ed statistics course, only 1 has a beginning algebra prerequisite (Washtenaw).

Obviously, any errors in the data are my own.

## CONFERENCES & EVENTS

MICHMAA & MICHMATYC SPRING CONFERENCE

PLACE WMU DATE MAY 6-7

[HTTP://WWW.CALVIN.EDU/~MDB7/2011MAA/](http://www.calvin.edu/~mdb7/2011MAA/)

MICHMATYC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

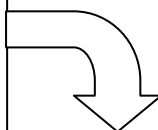
PLACE LANSING CC DATE OCTOBER 7-8

<http://michmatyc.org/>

AMATYC 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PLACE AUSTIN, TX DATE NOVEMBER 10 TO 13

<http://www.amatyc.org/Events/conferences/2011Austin/index.html/>



Institution	Required mathematics	Prerequisites
Oakland Community Coll	Plane Geometry Intermediate Algebra Finite Math College Algebra Statistics	Elementary Algebra  Intermediate Algebra
Schoolcraft College	Business Math Applications – Utility of Math Intermediate Algebra Elementary Statistics	Basic math Beginning Algebra Intermediate Algebra
Mott Community College	Math Approaches for Paraprof. Applications-based Mathematics Beginning Algebra Intermediate Algebra	Basic Math  Beginning Algebra
Washtenaw Community College	Everyday College Math Technical Algebra Basic Statistics Intermediate Algebra	Foundations of Math  Foundations of Algebra
Lansing Community College	Intermediate Algebra Math for Business Art of Geometry Math – Applications for Living Technical Math II	Introductory Algebra

Apparently No Math Requirement for associate degrees: Grand Rapids CC, Kalamazoo Valley CC, Northwestern Michigan College, Muskegon CC, Macomb CC, Henry Ford CC, Jackson CC

