

Ohio

MATYC

Fall 2007

*The Semi-Annual Newsletter of the Ohio Mathematics
Association of Two Year Colleges*

Message from the President

Rodney Null, Rhodes State College

Dear OhioMATYC Colleagues,

I hope this note finds you rejuvenated from an enjoyable summer and, dare I say, enthusiastic about a new and productive academic year. To enhance that enthusiasm and productivity, I challenge all of you to take an active part in OhioMATYC. Our organization boasts well over 150 members, but as I look through these ranks I see a number of folks that have never been to one of our meetings or an AMATYC conference. Being professionally active involves more than sending in a dues check once a year and glancing at a couple of newsletters. Yes, I know we are all very busy, funds are scarce, and it takes extra effort. The reasons to not participate will always be there. So too, are the reasons to be involved. No other venues will provide you with the information and the opportunities for professional development, directly relevant to mathematics education at the two-year college level in Ohio, which OhioMATYC does. Participating actively in OhioMATYC can help you to be a better informed and more effective mathematics educator.

For those of you who already met this challenge, I encourage you to reach out to those tentative or reclusive colleagues who have not and get them involved in OhioMATYC. The more mathematics educators our organization represents and the greater their involvement, the stronger and more effective OhioMATYC becomes.

Challenges aside, some important reminders/opportunities to pass along:

OhioMATYC's student scholarship nominations must be received no later than Saturday, September 29th. Details and nomination forms can be found on the organization's website: <http://www.terra.edu/ohiomatyc>

OhioMATYC's fall meeting this year will be held Friday, October 5th at Columbus State Community College.

Jan Cook is working hard on the program for this meeting so I will refer you to her article in this newsletter for details.

AMATYC's 33rd Annual Conference will be November 1-4 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. More information can be found at: www.amatyc.org

That's all for now, best wishes in meeting your challenges in the new academic year and let's hope to see some unfamiliar faces in Columbus.

Red

Message from the Past President

Jan Cook

I hope you will all find the program for the fall meeting very helpful in understanding the machinations taking place in Columbus. You have all heard and worked with TAG's. You may even be aware of placement issues that will soon affect your institutions. I wanted to provide a view of the whole picture --- how these projects are related and how they will affect you.

I have had the privilege of working with Ed Laughbaum on an OBR committee dealing with High School to College Articulation. The committee has identified assessment and placement as keys in the smooth transition from high school to college. Ed, then, is ideally placed to assist in the placement piece of this endeavor. The EMPT is in place and provides the information that has been identified as necessary. He will relate what other instruments the committee is considering and the directions it may take.

Some of the work on the placement part of the OBR committee has included case studies of placement programs at two and four year institutions. The participants of these case studies included the mathematics (and English) programs at The Ohio State University. Dr. Dan Shapiro coordinated the case study in mathematics and will summarize the process and results. Since OBR is being asked to consider standardizing a placement process, we all need to be aware of the procedures currently being looked at.

Our final presentation is from Patrick Bibby, from Miami Dade County, who will update us on the Mathematics Across the Community College Curriculum Program (MAC³). He will give us ideas to take back to our campuses for implementing the concept locally. Can we make it unusual for people to freely admit they "don't get math?" It's a goal!

Plan to join us on Friday, October 5, 2007 at Columbus Community College. Update your understanding of topical subjects and share your experiences with colleagues. This is always a good time.

Jan

Visit us on the Web at

<http://www.terra.edu/ohiomatyc>

Visit AMATYC at <http://www.amatyc.org>

News

AMATYC News — Times Are Changing

Jim Roznowski, AMATYC Midwest Vice President

It's the last act. The curtain is coming down. The torch is being passed. Pick your favorite cliché, but they all mean my term as Midwest VP is drawing to a close. It has been an interesting and invigorating four years. The best part has been meeting and working with so many of my colleagues throughout the region. As my term ends at the close of the Minneapolis conference, I still have a little life left in me. I hope to go out with a bang.

The main item before the AMATYC Delegate Assembly this year will be a position paper on "The Use of Technology in Mathematics Education." There will be a Thursday evening forum for you to provide input. You can also offer input through your delegates. Representing you at the Delegate Assembly in Minneapolis are Ohio state delegates Sandy Franz from the University of Cincinnati and Judy Giffin from Rhodes State; and OhioMATYC delegates Rodney Null from Rhodes State, Denis Johansen from the University of Cincinnati and Janet Cook from Edison. The Friday morning regional breakfast is a good opportunity to meet your delegates and share with them your ideas and concerns about AMATYC.

Looking beyond Minneapolis plans are moving ahead for the 2008 AMATYC Conference to be held in Washington, D.C. at the Washington Hilton Hotel. The hotel is a quarter mile from the Dupont Circle metro station which provides easy access to many Washington attractions. Proposals to present in Washington will be accepted November 1, 2007 through February 1, 2008. Please consider submitting a proposal to share the exciting things we are doing in the Midwest with your colleagues from around the country.

If you are interested, there are many ways to get more involved in AMATYC. (Visit www.amatyc.org for more information)

Hope to see you all in Minneapolis or as I visit your affiliate. If there is anything I can do to help you, please let me know at jaroznow@delta.edu.

News Across Ohio

Dr. Jon Dunlap has been hired as lead mathematics faculty at Terra Community College. Jon is a graduate of Bowling Green State University. He and his wife Robin have relocated to Fremont.

Special Recognition

Barbara Carruth of Sinclair Community College was recognized as Professor Emeritus at the 2007 commencement exercises. With only two such honorees each year, this is an exceptional honor for Barb who retired from fulltime teaching in 2005. Starting part-time in 1978 and later becoming a full-time tenure-track member in 1985, Barb was very involved

professionally in mathematics organizations and in presenting at conferences. She did pioneering work at Sinclair in incorporating graphing calculator technology in the classroom and was extensively involved in the teaching of statistics as a lab-based course. She was one of a team of four who earned the college's prestigious Innovator of the Year Award in 2002 for her teaching approaches in mathematics. She was also Sinclair's nominee for the 2005 OATYC Faculty Member of the Year Award. Barb has continued to teach part-time at Sinclair since her retirement.

Metacognition

Helping Students Think About Their Thinking

*Leslie Smith, Professor at
Columbus State Community College*

In my Elementary Statistics classes (Web, Hybrid, and Traditional), I present a "Motivator of the Week". This quarter one in particular seemed to make an impression on a many of my students.

The students were provided a brief summary of the dynamics of metacognition, including why thinking about thinking results in more efficient and effective encoding of information. To practice cognitive processes, students were encouraged to ask themselves what?, when?, and how? while taking notes and working through homework.

To help them with this process they were provided an "If/then" table, leaving the "then" side blank for students to complete. I listed about 20 "if" statements and left space for more to be added as the quarter continued. For example, if:

P(A, given B)

P(A or B)

Uniform distribution and asked to calculate a probability
Provided n and p, and asked to find expected value

Many students commented on how much this helped them prepare for the test, and that they were adding to it for the next test. One such response made my quarter:

"At the beginning of the quarter, I would never have thought that at some point I might anticipate getting an "A" on any math test (ever) - certainly not in statistics and certainly not on the final. However, your motivational activities (especially the table) have done wonders for my ability to get this information straight. I shake my head in amazement as I type this, but I fully intend to get an "A" on this final, and more importantly than that, I will actually retain it." (Hybrid student)



Question: Why is 6 afraid of 7?

Answer: Because 7 8 9!

Agenda for OhioMATYC Fall Meeting

Columbus State Community College

October 5, 2007

9:00 AM—9:15 AM	Welcome
9:15 AM—10:15 AM	“Changes Pending in P-16 Mathematics Education in Ohio” <i>Ed Laughbaum — Director, Early Mathematics Placement Test</i>
10:15 AM—10:30 AM	Break
10:30 AM—11:30 AM	“Math Placement at OSU” <i>Dan Shapiro — Mathematics Department Chair, OSU</i>
11:30 AM—12:30 PM	Lunch
12:30 PM—1:30 PM	Business Meeting
1:30 PM—2:00 PM	Break
2:00 PM—3:00 PM	“Join the Mathematics Across the Community College Curriculum Project ” <i>Patrick Bibby — MAC³ Presenter, Miami Dade College</i>

Fall Meeting Registration

Advanced registration should be sent to OhioMATYC Treasurer Tony Ponder and should be postmarked on or before October 1, 2007. If you cannot attend the conference, please renew your membership by filling out the form below and sending it along with your check to Tony.

Tony Ponder, OhioMATYC Treasurer
Sinclair Community College
444 W. Third Street
Dayton, OH 45402
(937) 512-5305

Make check payable to OhioMATYC.

Registration for Fall Meeting: \$25.00

Renewing Membership (check one): 1 year (\$10.00)

3 years (\$25.00)

Amount Enclosed _____

Name:	College:
College Department:	Street Address:
Telephone Number:	City, State & Zip:
E-mail Address:	Home Address:
Home Telephone Number:	City, State & Zip:

Driving Directions:

From the East: Take I-70 West to I-71 North, to the Broad Street exit. Go left on Broad Street to the first street on the right (Jefferson Avenue.) Turn right onto Jefferson Avenue, follow Jefferson Ave. across Long and Spring Streets and into campus.

From the North: Take I-71 South to the Spring Street exit, which exits on the left side of the highway. Go right on Spring Street. Make an immediate right on Jefferson Avenue into campus.

From the South: Take I-71 North, to the Broad Street exit. Go left on Broad Street to the first street on the right (Jefferson Avenue.) Turn right onto Jefferson Avenue, follow Jefferson Ave. across Long and Spring Streets and into campus.

From the West: Take I-70 East to I-71 North, to the Broad Street exit. Go left on Broad Street to the first street on the right (Jefferson Avenue.) Turn right onto Jefferson Avenue, follow Jefferson Ave. across Long and Spring Streets and into campus. Once on campus, follow around until you see a walking ramp on your left. Parking will be on your right, Delaware Hall Athletic Center is on your left.

From Port Columbus International Airport: Exit Airport at Stelzer Road to I-670 West. From I-670 West, exit at I-71 South, then take the first exit at Leonard Avenue/Cleveland Avenue. Go left on Leonard Avenue, Then left again on Cleveland Avenue. Columbus State will be on the left.

PARKING: Attendees can park in any student lot (passes will be provided). Visitor spots are metered, so do not park in visitor lots.

Lodging Info:

- Drury Inn (only a few blocks from campus)
- Discounted rate of \$83.99 for single or \$93.99 for double
- 1-800-325-720 — Ask for the OhioMATYC block at the Columbus Convention Center location.
- Rooms must be booked by September 20th.



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