

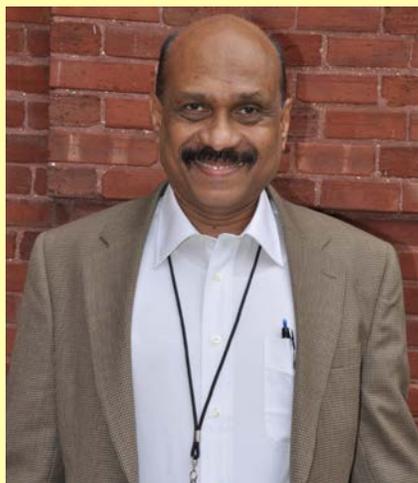
The Math ConneXion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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Number 1



Sunil Koswatta
President

Harper College
1200 W Algonquin Rd
Palatine, IL 60067-7398
skoswatt@harpercollege.edu

Diane Koenig
President Elect

Rock Valley College
3301 N Mulford Rd
Rockford, IL 61114
d.koenig@rockvalleycollege.edu

Steve Kifowit
Past President

Prairie State College
202 South Halsted St.
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
skifowit@prairiestate.edu

Amy Frankel
Secretary

Waubonsee College
RT 47 Waubonsee Drive
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
amymathprof5@gmail.com

Natalie McGathey
Treasurer

Prairie State College
202 South Halsted St
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu

President's Message

Dear IMACC members:

It is November already and we only have about 6 months before our next conference. I have chosen the theme for the next conference as "Progression from Common Core State Standards of Mathematics (CCSSM) to the First Two Years of College". I am planning to bring at least three well known mathematicians, who are directly or indirectly involved in mathematics education and CCSSM, to our conference. I will say more about this in my Winter message.

A committee is working on creating a new website for IMACC and therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our current webmaster James Jones from Richland College. James has been our webmaster since the late 1990's and has done a yeoman's job maintaining an aesthetically beautiful website. It is important to point out that there were not many web-hosting companies in the late 90s, and even the few of us who knew how to code, did not have access to a server. James not only has access to a server, but is also willing to host and maintain our website for free. He has been paying the cost to maintain our website out of his pocket. The current IMACC website is not just beautiful, it serves all IMACC's needs since its inception. Please join me in thanking James Jones for all he has done for our organization.

There is an increase in "Think Tanks" flushed with millions of dollars of grant money proposing highly controversial and untested arm-chair ideas. When these Think Tanks fail to attract no more than a few followers from the academic and education sector to participate, they are increasingly lobbying legislators to get their ideas implemented. Unfortunately, some of our college administrators love these ideas. They help these "Think Tanks" in their lobbying efforts. We have seen several laws passed by the Illinois legislators in recent years that we, the educators, think are bad laws. Perhaps, as an organization, IMACC needs to think about hiring a lobbyist or partnering with faculty unions for lobbying purposes. A good book to read about think tanks is "*Nonsense on Stilts*" by Massimo Pigliucci. The title of the fifth chapter is "Debate on Science: The Rise of Think Tanks and the Decline of Public Intellectuals." A review of this book appeared on the Notices of the American Mathematical Society few years ago.

[See <http://www.ams.org/notices/201104/rtx110400582p.pdf>]

I wish you all a good remaining Fall semester, and Happy Holidays.

Sincerely,

Sunil Koswatta
IMACC President
Harper College

Deadline for Submissions:

Winter 2019 - January 15

Summer 2019 - April 30

Fall 2019-October 15

Submit items to:

Jeremy Chamberlain, Editor

The Math ConneXion

jchamber@harpercollege.edu

Online Math ConneXion

The online version can be found at

<http://www.imacc.org>

Is Your Membership Current?

Be sure to check your membership expiration date listed on the IMACC website.

If your membership has expired or is about to expire, you can use the form on

page 9 to renew. In

addition, if there are mathematics faculty at your college who are not

members of IMACC, please invite them to join. Please take time to also check the Institutional Membership for your school.

Annual Conference Registration Fee Waiver Opportunity

For the third year in a row, IMACC will be offering five registration fee waivers for our annual conference. These waivers are intended to support current IMACC members who wish to attend both days of the annual conference, but whose institutions will not provide financial support. Applicants must submit a completed conference registration form along with a signed statement affirming that their colleges are not providing adequate financial support. The registration form and the letter must be received by the conference coordinator no later than February 15. The five recipients will be randomly selected from the applicant pool.

Notification Needed

In an effort to cut down on the unnecessary mailing of paper copies, IMACC members wishing to continue receiving the *ConneXion* in hardcopy format, must email Jeremy Chamberlain at jchamber@harpercollege.edu by March 1, 2019.

Please note, you must send an email to opt in and continue receiving a paper copy if that is the format you prefer. Any member who does not send an email stating they would like to continue receiving paper copies will receive future issues of the *ConneXion* in electronic form via an email with a link. If you have had any change to your address or email address, please email the IMACC treasurer, Natalie McGathey at nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu with your updated information.

Send in your Nominations

Consider nominating a deserving student for the IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship (deadline March 1), a deserving colleague for the Distinguished Service Award or the Excellence in Teaching Award (deadlines March 1), or retiring members meeting the qualifications for the Life Membership Award. More information about these awards can be found at www.imacc.org.

Institutional Members

Black Hawk College	2018
Carl Sandburg College	2018
College of Lake County	2018
Elgin Community College	2018
Harper College	2018
Heartland Community College	2018
Illinois Central College	2017
John A Logan College	2017
Joliet Junior College	2017
Kankakee Community College	2018
Kishwaukee College	2018
Lake Land College	2016
Lewis & Clark Community College	2018
Lincoln Land Community College	2018
McHenry Community College	2018
Moraine Valley Community College	2018
Morton College	2017
Oakton Community College	2016
Parkland College	2018
Prairie State College	2018
Rend Lake College	2018
Richland Community College	2018
Rock Valley College	2018
Shawnee College	2018
South Suburban College	2018
Southwestern Illinois College	2018
Waubonsee Community College	2018

News from IMACC Members

Highland Community College is a small, but vibrant community college in the northwest corner of Illinois, within driving distance of Chicago and Madison, Wisconsin. We are seeking to fill an opening for a full-time tenure-track instructor of Math beginning the spring 2019 semester. This position will teach up to 15 contact hours each week (fall and spring semesters) and fulfill other duties included in a full-time faculty position. Ability to effectively teach Statistics, Math for Elementary Teachers, College Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, Preparatory Mathematics for General Education, Applied Practical Math, and other mathematics courses as needed is required. Master's degree in Mathematics, Statistics or related field required. Previous teaching experience preferred.

Application is not complete until the following materials are submitted: cover letter, resume/CV, copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts (unofficial copies are acceptable for the purpose of application), three current professional letters of recommendation, a statement of teaching philosophy, and a statement of diversity. Review of applications will begin October 5, 2018.

To apply for this position and view complete job description and requirements, please visit our website at: www.highland.edu/employment or contact Human Resources at 815-599-3426 for an alternative application method.

Highland Community College is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer committed to a policy of nondiscrimination, and encourages applications from veterans, minorities, people with disabilities and other diverse groups.

Member Spotlight



In this issue of Member Spotlight, we feature Steve Kifowit. Steve never really planned to be interested in mathematics. In fact, when he was in high school, he preferred taking shop classes, and he generally avoided deep thinking. In his youth, Steve religiously practiced Taekwondo and waited patiently to become a U.S. Army infantryman, which he did at age 18. During his training, Steve was recruited to the Army's infantry unit that is responsible for military ceremonies. Stationed for 3-1/2 years in the 3rd Infantry Regiment at Ft. Myer, Virginia, Steve was a member of a prestigious specialty unit called the Continental Color Guard. His work included routine infantry duties as well as ceremonial duties that brought him into frequent contact with heads of state from all over the world. Steve was at the White House when Prince Charles and Princess Diana visited in 1985, when Mikhail and Raisa

Gorbachev visited in 1987, and when El Salvador's Jose Napoleon Duarte kissed the American flag (that Steve was holding!) during his visit in 1987. Steve also hid in his wall locker one morning to avoid having breakfast with President Reagan (a stunt he regrets with hindsight).

When Steve entered the military, he had expected to be a lifetime soldier, but he had a change of heart the morning of the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger. Admiring the scientists and engineers (and the school teacher) aboard the Challenger, Steve decided to become a physicist. He began taking classes at Northern Virginia Community College and eventually ended up in the physics program at NIU. Steve's physics professors encouraged him to take math courses well beyond those required for his major, and then those math professors convinced him to pursue a Ph.D. in mathematics. While in graduate school, Steve fell into teaching math part time at Waubensee Community College. His teaching excited him far more than his research, and he was subsequently hired full time at Prairie State College. He has been at PSC since 1998.

During his career, Steve has found lots of ways to keep himself busy. At PSC, he was department chair for several years, he was involved in numerous grant projects, and he was named faculty of the year in 2010. At the state level, Steve was the IMACC treasurer from 2004 to 2016, the IMACC president in 2017-18, and a member and co-chair of the IAI General Education Math panel for 16 years. Nationally, Steve has presented at many AMATYC conferences, and he has reviewed and published articles in the MAA journals. In the last few years, Steve has been heavily involved in research projects with his students. Several of those projects have resulted in publications. Recently, an article that Steve coauthored with two students appeared in the College Mathematics Journal (CMJ) and has been named one of the most read CMJ articles of the last two years. It is freely available until the end of December at <http://explore.tandfonline.com/content/est/MAA-most-read-2018>.

Outside of mathematics, Steve mostly enjoys being with his family, which includes his wife, two daughters, one son, one son-in-law, and two grandchildren. Many of you may know Steve's wife Stephanie, who often joins the poker games at the IMACC conferences. When Stephanie hangs out with Steve, she gets to play poker at IMACC. When Steve hangs out with Stephanie, he gets to do things like attend the commissioning of the nuclear submarine USS Illinois or have dinner with Neil deGrasse Tyson. Who gets the better end of the deal?

AMATYC UPDATES

- 1. Student Research League** – The Student Research League (SRL) is a partnership between two-year college students and Faculty Mentors who are seeking STEM knowledge through an AMATYC approved research program. The Student Research League (SRL) will require AMATYC Faculty Mentors to sponsor a team of one to three mathematics students from their college to participate in addressing a designed research STEM Challenge Problem. The student(s) will have nine days to complete the task. The Registration Period for 2019 will be January 1 – March 15. If you are interested in being a reader for the problems, please contact your affiliate president.
- 2. Project ACCESS** – AMATYC Project ACCESS is a mentoring and professional development initiative for two-year college mathematics faculty. The project's goal is to provide experiences that will help new faculty become more effective teachers and active members of the broader mathematical community. Although applications for Cohort 15 closed, the application materials for the next cohort will be available [here](#) on March 1st, and the application deadline is May 15.
- 3. Teaching Excellence Award Deadline** – The Teaching Excellence Award (TE Award) is intended for educators who have made outstanding contributions to mathematics or mathematics education at a two-year college. Teaching excellence is the main focus of the award. In odd-numbered years, we honor TE Awardees. The deadline for the 2019 Teaching Excellence Awards applications is December 7, 2018. For more details about the 2019 TE Award, please click [here](#).
- 4. AMATYC Exhibits Chair** – AMATYC is searching for a new Exhibits Chair to succeed the current Exhibits Chair. The AMATYC member in this position works closely with other members of the conference committee, especially the Advertising Chair, and the AMATYC office. The Exhibits Chair is a vital member of the conference committee. If you have questions regarding this position, please contact Nancy Rivers at njrivers@waketech.edu or Keven Dockter at Keven.Dockter@anokaramsey.edu. Although a review of applications began on October 10, 2018, the position will remain open until filled.
- 5. Foundation Campaign Reminder** – There's still time to share a short blurb about how the AMATYC Foundation has inspired you! We would like to get the blurbs soon so that we can share them with other Midwesterners during the AMATYC Conference in Orlando next month. If you're willing to participate, or if you have any questions, contact WisMATYC President Turi Suski at suski@fvtc.edu or AMATYC Midwest Vice President Jon Oaks at jonnyoaks@gmail.com.

6. Important Dates:

- Teaching Excellence Award Deadline – December 7, 2018.
- Student Research League registration – January 1–March 15, 2019.
- KYMATYC Conference – February 22 – February 23, 2019.
- Project ACCESS Application period – March 1–May 15, 2019.
- Michigan Section MAA/MichMATYC Spring Conference –April 5–6, 2019.
- IMACC Conference – April 11 – April 13, 2019.
- InMATYC Meeting at Ivy Tech Community College–Kokomo – April 12, 2019.
- MichMATYC Fall Conference at Henry Ford College – October 11–12, 2019.
- WisMATYC Conference at Northcentral Technical College – Wausau – September 28, 2019.

7. Don't forget about the [Midwest Region Facebook Group](#) for more information.

Jon

Curriculum Corner

Keven Hansen

The Curriculum Committee met on October 13th at Harper College to discuss items of interest to community college math faculty in Illinois—16 members of the committee were in attendance. Here are some of the highlights:

TRANSITIONAL MATH

These high school courses are on the rise since they are now mandated by the PWR Act. Hopefully, your college has already had (or soon will) a “Transitional Math Summit” with Kathy Almy, Illinois Director for Transitional Math. The competencies and policies for these courses were finalized in August and are available at: <http://bit.ly/TMcomps> .

IMACC, together with Kathy Almy, will be sponsoring three symposia in Spring 2019 for interested community college math faculty to learn more about these courses and provide input on issues such as best practices, data collection, and coordination with high schools. These symposia will be hosted by College of DuPage, Parkland College, and Southwestern Illinois College—more details to come soon! The Curriculum Committee is also developing plans for a “poster session” on Transitional Math at the annual conference in April—what will your poster look like?

ARTICULATION GUIDE UPDATES

The articulation guide is the joint course curriculum document of ISMAA and IMACC (<http://www.imacc.org/articulation/articulationguide.pdf>). At its October 13th meeting, the IMACC board voted on a new procedure which allows for annual updates to the guide. The membership will be notified at least 30 days before the annual meeting of proposed changes, and a vote on those changes will occur at the meeting. We are hoping ISMAA will adopt a similar process, allowing us to keep the articulation guide up-to-date and vibrant for years to come. For 2019, changes to both General Education Statistics and Statistics (for Business Majors) will be proposed. One goal here is to maintain alignment between the very short IAI

panel descriptions of courses and the more complete descriptions (including specific learning objectives and course content) found in the guide. FYI, in the Summer Curriculum Corner it was announced that a new General Education Statistics description was on its way—that description has already been replaced (again) by the IAI Math General Education Panel, so be sure to check out the latest descriptors for all math general education courses at <http://itransfer.org/courses/gecc/mathematics.php>.

MULTIPLE MEASURES PLACEMENT POLICY

The final version of the “Multiple Measures Document” developed by the ICCCAO/ICCCSO was approved on June 1st by the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents. The IMACC board communicated a number of concerns regarding earlier drafts of this document and as a result significant changes were made. You can find the final document at: https://www.iccb.org/academic_affairs/baccalaureate-transfer/final-placement-recommendations/. A state-wide committee is being formed to transition this document from recommendation to policy and to discuss implementation state-wide of these placement methods. IMACC will have a seat at the table, so if you have particular concerns, let me know at keven.hansen@swic.edu.

DUAL CREDIT LEGISLATION

Changes to the Dual Credit Quality Act were signed into law August 23rd, effective January 1st, 2019. These changes impact minimum instructor qualifications, the use of out-of-state dual credit agreements, and much more. There is some concern that aspects of the new legislation may conflict with requirements of the Higher Learning Commission. For details of the new act, see: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=100-1049>.

Finally, if your college doesn't have representation on the Curriculum Committee, consider volunteering! We'd like to have at least one member from every community college. If you have any questions or additional information about the above or other topics relevant to the Curriculum Committee, please email me at keven.hansen@swic.edu!

Looking for some totally cool IMACC wear?

It's not too late!

Golf shirt (polo) and hoodie orders will be taken until December 31.

Last chance until 2019 conference!



Polo shirts are Nike Dry Fit. (Ladies' sizes seem to run small, so you may want to order a size larger than usual.) Please specify men's or women's style/cut along with your size.

Zip up hoodies are a heavy quality and sizes run large. Hoodie sizes are unisex.

Please email your order (quantity of each and size) to Linda Blanco at lblanco@jic.edu prior to December 31. When I am sure we have a big enough order, I will let you know where to send the check made out to IMACC (and if a shipping fee will apply.) Polos are \$45 each, hoodies \$40.

I will place the order on *December 31*, so please do not delay!

We will not be taking orders again until next year.



**IMACC Individual Membership
Form 2018 - 2019**

Name: _____ School: _____

Home Address: _____ School Address: _____

City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Phone: _____ ext. _____

Email: _____

To which address would you like correspondence sent? Home School

Do you wish your name distributed with the IMACC database? Yes No

Would you like to receive *The Math ConneXion* electronically? Yes No

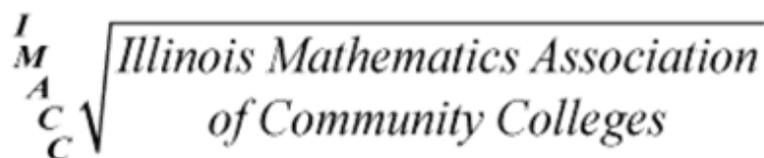
An email will be sent to you notifying you when the *ConneXion* is available.
You may then visit the IMACC website and read or print the latest issue.

Membership Fees: 1 Year: \$15.00 3 Years: \$40.00 5 Years: \$65.00

_____	+	_____	=	_____
Membership Fee		Scholarship Contribution		Total Enclosed

Please make checks payable to: **IMACC**

Mail to: IMACC
c/o Natalie McGathey
Prairie State College
202 S Halsted St
Chicago Heights, IL 60411



**INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP FORM
2018 – 2019***

INVOICE 201819

AMOUNT DUE: \$350.00

(IMACC Tax I.D. #: 371127733)

ENTER AMOUNT: _____

DATE: _____

SIGNED: _____ TITLE: _____

Make check payable to IMACC
c/o Natalie McGathey
Prairie State College
202 S. Halsted St.
Chicago Heights, IL 60411

**IMACC Institutional Members may send
one institutional representative to the
annual IMACC meeting free of charge
(not including transportation.)**

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

Institution _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

President _____

Vice-President
or Dean of
Academic Affairs _____

Contact Person Information:

Title and Name _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

* IMACC's membership year begins July 1, 2018 and ends June 30, 2019. Annual dues must be paid by March 1, 2019 in order to receive the complimentary conference registration for the institutional representative.

IMACC Leadership 2018-2019

Officers

President

Sunit Koswatta
Harper College
1200 W Algonquin Rd
Palatine, IL 60067-7398
skoswatt@harpercollege.edu

Secretary

Amy Frankel
Waubonsee Community College
Route 47 at Waubonsee Dr
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
amymathprof5@gmail.com

President-Elect

Diane Koenig
Rock Valley College
3301 N Mulford Rd
Rockford, IL 61114
d.koenig@rockvalleycollege.edu

Treasurer

Natalie McGathey
Prairie State College
202 South Halsted St
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu

Past-President

Steve Kifowit
Prairie State College
202 South Halsted St
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
skifowit@prairiestate.edu

Board of Directors

2016-2019

Donna Carlson
College of Lake County
19351 W Washington St
Grayslake, IL 60030
donnacarlson@cicillinois.edu

Jeremy McClure
Heartland CC
1500 W Raab Rd
Normal, IL 61761
Jeremy.McClure@heartland.edu

Dan Kernler
Elgin Community College
1700 Spartan Dr
Elgin, IL 60123
dkernler@elgin.edu

2017-2020

Linda Blanco
Joliet Junior College
1215 Houbolt Rd
Joliet, IL 60431
lblanco@jjc.edu

Kim Martin
Southeastern Illinois College
3575 College Rd
Harrisburg, IL 62946
kim.martin@sic.edu

Kyra Rider
Kishwaukee College
21193 Malta Rd
Malta, IL 60150
krider@kish.edu

2018-2021

Michael Caparula
Kankakee College
100 College Drive
Kankakee, IL 60901
mcaparula@kcc.edu

Jeremy Chamberlain
Harper College
1200 W Algonquin Rd
Palatine, IL 60067-7398
jchamber@harpercollege.edu

Laurel Cutright
Olney Central College
305 N West St
Onley, IL 62450
cutrightl@iecc.edu