

# The Math ConneXion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

(webpage - <http://www.richland.cc.il.us/imacc>)

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NUMBER 1

## President's Message

It is difficult to believe that for many of us the semester is more than half over. As busy as we all are some how the important work of IMACC continues to get done. I am appreciative of the many people who make IMACC an important and thriving association in Illinois. This fall is a unique year for IMACC. As most of you know, the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges' FALL 2000 CONFERENCE is being held November 9-12, 2000 at Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel Rosemont (Chicago), IL. As the sponsoring affiliate, we owe a great debt of gratitude to Marvin Johnson, the committee chair and his committee for the great work they are doing. There are three things we can do to assist the committee. First, volunteer to help at the Hospitality Suite. Contact Dan Lopreno, [dloprein@harper.cc.il.us](mailto:dloprein@harper.cc.il.us) at William Rainey Harper College. If you don't, you may find a blues brother on your case. So if you can attend the conference, give an hour at the Hospitality Suite. Second, the Hospitality Suite is an expensive activity. To ensure that no one college or group has to take on too much of the burden, we are asking IMACC institutional members to donate up to \$100 to the Hospitality Suite activities. Make your checks out to AMATYC and send to Marvin Johnson at College of Lake County. Your support will help provide refreshments, a place to relax at the conference, local entertainment, local transportation, and we hope email access. Finally, we have been asked to provide a poster board of materials about our

affiliate for the Hall of Fame-Affiliates section. I have asked Jim Trefzger, our historian to take on this challenge but you can help by contacting him with any ideas you may have to show off our organization and its history. He can be reached at [jtrefzger@parkland.cc.il.us](mailto:jtrefzger@parkland.cc.il.us) (Parkland College).

The IMACC board met September 30th at Parkland College. Many thanks to Vicki Beitler for her making sure we have a place to meet and Parkland College providing us with lunch. The meeting was useful and lively. It is a joy to work with such dedicated faculty. Your board makes my task much easier and very enjoyable. Our discussions were substantive. I am sure IMACC will continue to be a potent force in Illinois mathematics education. Be sure

to act on the committee requests in this ConneXion. Your input makes their work possible. The curriculum committee has a vital role in the organization and the state. There are several important questions before the committee. There needs to be a state wide discussion of developmental mathematics education. Where does the algebra sequence fit



Vern Kays  
IMACC President

## *President's Message cont. Institutional Members*

*(Continued from page 1)*

into the current needs of students? Another important question is "What is College Algebra?" This particular question is of interest to not just IMACC institutions but also ISMAA and ICCB. This will be a continuing topic at the Annual Conference. Your suggestions are needed. The nominations committee chair, Jim Harris is looking for a few good mathematics faculty interested in serving the IMACC organization. The program chair, Vern Kays sees this year as a unique opportunity for membership input. With the AMATYC conference in Chicago, many of you will attend. If you find a particularly good presentation, contact me with your suggestion. From your surveys, important topics continue to be developmental courses, NCA accreditation, technology and its role in teaching and learning, teaching as an adjunct, teacher education and the community college role in teacher training and re-certification. To conclude, I am honored to represent you and to be your president. My hope is that every day is interesting. I have said this more than once, but I am blessed with the best job in the world, helping students learn mathematics at a community college. I hope you find time reflect on your work. I encourage you to share your opportunities and disappointments with other faculty. I encourage you to share with your faculty both full-time and adjunct to become members of IMACC and AMATYC. Change comes slowly. You are the leaders of mathematics education. What you share with not just your students but your faculty and administrators makes a difference. Thank you for your time and efforts on behalf of your students and faculty. As always be sure to share your concerns with the IMACC leadership. Hope to see many of you at AMATYC soon.

Vern Kays  
 Assistant Professor of Mathematics  
 IMACC President 2000-2001  
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 or VernonK787@aol.com

Institutional membership is an important source of support for IMACC. If the year after your college's name is 1999 rather than 2000, your college needs to renew. If your college is not listed, you need to join! Talk to your department head or coordinator and make sure your college renews or joins.

<i>College</i>	<i>Date</i>
Belleville Area College	2002
Black Hawk College	2000
College of DuPage	1999
College of Lake County	2000
Elgin Community College	2000
Harper College	2000
Illinois Central College	2001
Illinois State University	1999
Illinois Valley Community College	1999
John A. Logan Community College	2000
Joliet Junior College	1999
Kaskaskia College	1999
Kishwaukee College	2001
Lake Land College	1999
Lewis & Clark College	2000
Lincoln Land Community College	1999
McHenry County College	1999
Moraine Valley Community College	2000
Oakton Community College	2001
Olney Central College	2000
Parkland College	1999
Prairie State College	1999
Richland Community College	1999
Rock Valley College	2000
Saint Xavier University	1999
Sauk Valley College	1999
South Suburban College	2000
Waubonsee Community College	2000

## *Committee Reports*

### *Awards Committee Call For Nominations*

Dear IMACC Members,

I am the chairperson for the IMACC Awards Committee. I am asking for your nominations for the following awards. Please submit nominations to me by February 28th:

- 1) The James Armstrong Award
- 2) The Distinguished Service Award
- 3) The Life Membership Award

The **James Armstrong Award** was established in 1978 to honor the late University of Illinois professor James Armstrong, whose leadership fostered a spirit of cooperation between two-year college mathematics teachers and the mathematics faculties at four-year colleges and universities. The Award is to be given annually to a four-year college or university professor who continues this tradition of cooperation and assistance with the two-year colleges.

The **Distinguished Service Award** is to honor one of our members for a career of outstanding service to IMACC. This award may be given annually under the conditions that the nominee must:

- a) Be an active member who has participated in IMACC for at least 10 years (retired members are eligible).
- b) have held an elected office (President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Director) in IMACC.
- c) have served at least 4 years in some combination of elected offices, committee appointments, ConneXion Editor, or conference coordinator.
- d) have the recommendation of an IMACC member familiar with the nominee's qualifications.

For the **Life Membership Award**, (IMACC members who are retiring) the recipient must have:

- a) been a member of IMACC for at least 10 years (not necessarily in a row)
- b) been a regular attendee at the IMACC conference or have other significant contributions to the organization.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Nodzenski

Black Hawk College

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### *Scholarship Committee Call For Nominations*

Committee Members: Carol Schmidt (chair), Diane Koenig, Mary Beth Pederson

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME you or your college submitted an application for the IMACC Armstrong Memorial Fund SCHOLARSHIP? If it was PRIOR TO LAST YEAR or NEVER, put it on your list of things that you MUST DO THIS YEAR! If it was LAST YEAR certainly plan on a REPEAT PERFORMANCE THIS YEAR!

This issue of the ConneXion contains the faculty information form, the required faculty nomination form, and the student information form. For a student to be considered, the nomination form completed by a faculty member, the student information form, and the student's supporting materials, must be completed and received by the IMACC Scholarship Chair Carol Schmidt *no later than March 1, 2001*.

# *Allerton House History and Information*

Allerton House is the site of the IMACC Annual Conference. Built as a private home by Robert Allerton in 1900, it was developed into a conference center in 1946. It is located just west of Monticello, Illinois and is part of the University of Illinois system. More information, including maps, can be found on their web site at <http://www.conted.ceps.uiuc.edu/rapcc/index.html>. Also, Dr. Sunil Koswatta has put a tour of Allerton Park on his web site at <http://www.harper.cc.il.us/mathdept/mathnews.html>.

The Conference Center, which consists of the main house and three additional lodging facilities, is surrounded by a 1500 acre forest designated as a National Nature Landmark. Adjacent to the Conference Center are formal gardens, decorative ornaments and museum-quality sculptures. Miles of hiking trails are maintained in the woodlands, and the Sangamon River winds its way through the middle of the park.

The Conference Center is designed as a place to get away from the pressures and responsibilities of everyday life to focus on teaching and learning mathematics, and to interact with colleagues from across the state. Plan on joining us in April - you will not be disappointed in the experience.

Lodging rooms for the annual IMACC Conference are located in the Main House, the Evergreen Lodge, the Gate House and the Little House in the Woods. Most rooms are double occupancy with two single beds, but some are dormitory style (4-10 beds) with limited bathroom space. In keeping with the educational atmosphere and rustic setting, rooms are not equipped with telephones or televisions. A variety of recreational activities are available including pool and ping-pong. You may even be able to find a card game or two going on! Quarters are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. There is very limited space for spouses, and the conference is not designed for, nor do the facilities adequately accommodate, children. More specific information will be contained in the Winter edition, along with the registration form.

Conference meals are preplanned by the Conference Coordinator and deliciously prepared from scratch by the Allerton staff. Special dietary needs can be accommodated if you contact the Conference Coordinator ahead of time. Snacks are served throughout the day and evening, and publishers are present with textbooks on display for your perusal. All amenities are included in the registration fee.

In years past, when the number of registrants exceeds Allerton's capacity, the overflow has been housed at either Foster's Plaza or the Best Western, both in downtown Monticello. If you prefer to stay off-site, you must make your own reservations from among our block of rooms at one of these two facilities. Please do so early, since April 19-21 is also Mom's Weekend at U of I, and hotel rooms will be scarce. Indicate "no lodging" on your reservation form if you stay in town. Questions or concerns regarding Allerton House should be directed to Beth Beno At South Suburban college by phone, (708) 596-2000, ext. 2333, or by email at [mbeno@ssc.cc.il.us](mailto:mbeno@ssc.cc.il.us).

Keep a lookout for the registration form in the Winter edition and come experience Allerton!

## *IMACC MEMORIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIP FLYER*

The center sheet of this issue of the newsletter may be removed and used as a flyer to post in your department. It is hoped that this will increase interest in the IMACC scholarship. Please feel free to make copies of the flyer if that is helpful.

## **Wanted Qualified Mathematics Teachers at All Levels**

We were unanimous in the opinion that qualified teachers of math and science must become a priority. ISBE claims to be doing their part by supporting the initiatives mentioned above. We as college instructors also challenged each other to identify and encourage our best mathematics students to consider teaching as a profession. Personal conversations and notes can assist in the cause. We were asked to pass this information along to our colleagues, and share other tactics regarding this crucial issue.

## **Prairie State Achievement Exam**

The PSAE will replace the ISAT exam for high school students beginning April 2001. All high school juniors will take the exam, which includes the actual, official ACT test, and is supplemented by written response and science content items. Detailed results of this exam, though not a criteria for graduation, will appear on the student's high school transcript. This should become an additional tool for college placement purposes, as well as data that may interest employers.

Mary Beth Beno

## *Delegates and Representatives*

### **AMATYC Delegates**

#### **Affiliate Delegates**

Vern Kays	Richland CC
Jim Harris	John A. Logan CC
Dr. Sunil Koswatta	Harper CC
Tim Grant	Southwestern Illinois College
Alternate to be named later	

#### **State Delegates**

To be named later

### **Representatives to Other Mathematics Organizations**

<b>ISMAA:</b> Vicki Beitler	Parkland
<b>MOMATYC:</b> Tim Grant	Southwestern Illinois College
<b>NCTM:</b> Barb Gentry	Parkland

## *Upcoming Conferences*

### **IMACC**

2001	Annual Meeting	Allerton Conference Center	April 19-21
2002	Annual Meeting	Allerton Conference Center	April 11-13

### **AMATYC**

2000	Annual Conference	Chicago, IL	Nov 9-12
2001	Annual Conference	Toronto, Ontario, Canada	Nov 15-18
2002	Annual Conference	Phoenix, Arizona	Nov 14-17
2003	Annual Conference	Salt Lake City, Utah	Nov 13-16
2004	Annual Conference	Orlando, Florida	Nov 18-21

### **ISMMA**

2001	Eightieth Annual Meeting	U of I Urbana-Champaign	Mar 23-24
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### **ICTCM**

2000	Annual Conference	Atlanta, GA	Nov 16-19
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## *IMACC News and Notes from the Membership*

# *IMACC Leadership*

## *IMACC Officers 00-01*

### **President**

Vern Kays                      Richland Community College

### **President-Elect**

Jim Harris                      John Logan College

### **Past-President**

Judy Marwick                      Morton College

### **Secretary**

Vicki Beitler                      Parkland College

### **Treasurer**

Dave Clydesdale                      Sauk Valley College

## *IMACC Board of Directors*

### **Terms Ending 2001**

Robert Cappetta                      College of DuPage  
Barb Gentry                      Parkland College  
Peter Nodzanski                      Black Hawk College

### **Terms Ending 2002**

Mary Beth Beno                      South Suburban  
Tim Grant                      Belleville Area  
Sunil Koswatta                      Harper College

### **Terms Ending 2003**

Tammi Kostos                      McHenry County College  
Angie Gum                      Lincoln Land Community College  
Rodger Hergert                      Rock Valley Community College  
Kim MArtin                      Southeastern Illinois College

## *IMACC Committees 00-01*

### **Awards Committee**

Peter Nodzanski                      Black Hawk College  
Dan Loprieno                      Harper College  
Linda Schultz                      McHenry County College  
Pat Ward                      Illinois Central College

### **Budget Committee**

Dave Clydesdale, Chair      Sauk Valley College

### **Conference Coordinators**

Phil Bossaers                      Parkland

(publisher)

Mary Beth Beno                      South Suburban  
(membership)

### **Home Page Committee**

Vern Kays, Chair                      Richland  
James Jones                      Richland  
Steve Kifowit                      Prairie State College

### **Curriculum Committee**

Jim Harris, Chair                      John Logan College  
John Bradburn                      Elgin Community College  
Frank Coppetta                      College of DuPage  
Cathy Moushon                      Elgin Community College  
Mike Scroggins                      Lewis & Clark College  
Jim Hajek                      Lincoln Land College

### **Historian Committee**

Jim Trefzger                      Parkland College

### **Membership**

Karen Froelich, Chair                      Harper College  
Sandra Cox                      Rend Lake College  
Sunil Koswatta                      Harper College

### **Memorial Fund Scholarship**

Carol Schmidt, Chair                      Lincoln Land College  
Mary Beth Pederson                      Illinois Central College  
Diane Koenig                      Rock Valley College

### **Nominations/Elections**

Jim Harris, Chair                      John Logan college  
Vern Kays                      Richland  
Judy Marwick                      Prairie State College

### **Math ConneXion Editor:**

Diane Koenig                      Rock Valley College

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