The Math ConneXion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

http://www.imacc.org

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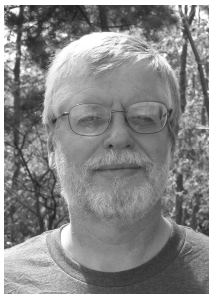

Dave Clydesdale
President
Harper College
1200 W. Algonquin Road
Palatine, Illinois 60067
(847) 925-6728
dclydesd@harpercollege.edu

Brenda Alberico
President-Elect
College of DuPage
425 Fawell Drive, M Building
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137
(630) 942-3035
Alberico@cdnet.cod.edu

Mary Beth Beno
Past President
South Suburban Comm. College
15800 State Street
South Holland, Illinois 60473
(708) 596-2000, ext. 2333
mbeno@southsuburbancollege.edu

Vicki Beitler
Secretary
Parkland College
2400 W. Bradley Avenue
Champaign, Illinois 61821
(217) 351-2540
vbeitler@parkland.edu

Steve Kifowit
Treasurer
202 South Halsted Street
Chicago Heights, Illinois 60411
(708) 709-3954
skifowit@prairiestate.edu

President's Message

Am I an optimist or a fool? For me, each semester begins with hope. Students in my classes will be treated to inspiring lessons which they will thoroughly enjoy. They will love mathematics for it own sake. Calculus students will stop me in the hall looking for more work with delta-epsilon arguments. Algebra students will not groan when you say the word logarithm. Instead, they will make those sounds you hear at a Fourth of July fireworks display.

Well, now it is November. I feel less optimistic and more foolish. Logarithms still bring scowls to the faces, and students put their heads on their desks if they see delta and epsilon in the same sentence. I am alone. Recently, people from two different schools have expressed similar feelings. "Do you think we have a bad batch?" one said. "It was basic stuff, but he told me it was the hardest test he had ever taken!" commented another.

All of this especially reminded me of a calculus class. One student in the class sat in the back row. He often fell asleep. He never wrote a good test. When he stopped by the office for help, it was clear that he had done no homework. He would make excuses about his part-time job and his personal life. On top of all this, he wanted to be a math teacher. He had little chance of passing calculus, to say nothing of completing a mathematics degree. Does any of this sound familiar?

John Anderson, an IMACC member, taught that calculus class, and I was the student. Mr. Anderson did not give me any breaks. In fact one day, to my embarrassment, he woke me up during class. "You will need to know this if you want to be a teacher," he said. The thing that I remember most about Mr. Anderson was a meeting in his office. I am sure that I was not prepared, but he told me that I had a lot of promise. I would like to say that my academic life was changed that day, but it wasn't. It took more time for me to evolve into a student. It was however, a start. Through the years, I have thought about that day many times. It serves as an example that helps me deal with my students when I hit the mid-semester doldrums.

Recently, we voted on a constitutional change. As the ballots came in, I placed them in two folders: "for" and "against." Mr. Anderson's ballot came in with a note.

> Dave,
>
> Glad to see that you are still in teaching and still taking an active part in IMACC. I am enjoying retirement in Arizona with golf and senior softball taking up much of my time. Keep up the good work.
>
> John Anderson

(Continued on page 2)

President's Message cont.

(Continued from page 1)

I made sure that ballot stayed on the top of the pile so I could see it every time I opened the folder.

As I mentioned earlier, IMACC conducted a vote on a constitutional change. The change was approved by a vote of 140 to 4. Please refer to the list of upcoming conferences and dates listed in this newsletter. Of course take note of the dates for our Allerton conference. Many of you have expressed concern about the cost of the Allerton conference. The board met on October 1 at Parkland College. One of the issues discussed at length was cost containment for the conference. We are doing our best to keep rates as low as possible. If you have any cost saving ideas, please send them to Diane Martling (dmartlin@harpercollege.edu).

I am currently in the process of putting together the program. If you have any ideas or presentations that you would like to share, be sure to let me know (dclydesd@harpercollege.edu). Also, encourage new members of your department to attend Allerton and to become involved in IMACC. Brenda Alberico is putting the election slate together (alberico@cdnet.cod.edu). I am sure that she would also be happy to receive any ideas.

I hope to see many of you at the AMATYC conference in San Diego, and all of you at Allerton.

Sincerely,

Dave Clydesdale

Deadline for Submissions

Winter 2006 Issue—January 15, 2006
Summer 2006 Issue—May 15, 2006
Fall 2005 Issue—October 1, 2006

Rodger Hergert, ConneXion Editor
RodgerH@ednet.rvc.cc.il.us

Institutional Members

Institutional membership is an important source of support for IMACC. If the year after your college's name is 2005 rather than 2006, 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. The membership year is July 1 to June 30.

You will find the combined Individual and Institutional membership forms at the end of this issue.

College	Expires
BLACK HAWK COLLEGE	2006
CARL SANDBURG COLLEGE	2005
COLLEGE OF DUPAGE	2005
COLLEGE OF LAKE COUNTY	2006
ELGIN COMM COLLEGE	2005
HARPER COLLEGE	2006
ILLINOIS CENTRAL COLLEGE	2005
ILLINOIS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	2005
JOHN A. LOGAN COMM COLLEGE	2006
KANKAKEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2006
KASKASKIA COLLEGE	2004
KISHWAUKEE COLLEGE	2006
LEWIS & CLARK COMM COLLEGE	2005
LINCOLN LAND COMM COLLEGE	2006
MCHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE	2006
MORAINE VALLEY COMM COLLEGE	2005
MORTON COLLEGE	2005
OAKTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2004
PARKLAND COLLEGE	2006
PRAIRIE STATE COLLEGE	2005
RICHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2007
ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE	2005
SAINT XAVIER UNIVERSITY	2005
SOUTH SUBURBAN COLLEGE	2006
SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE	2006
WAUBONSEE COMM COLLEGE	2006

News & Notes from the Membership

- IMACC member Yixia Lu (South Suburban College) received her Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from the University of Arizona in May 2005.
- Math Professor Bill Naegele of South Suburban College was appointed to the Illinois Community College Board by Governor Rod Blagojevich in July 2005. His term runs until 2011, during which he pledges to represent community college faculty to the best of this ability.
- Waubonsee Community College is currently accepting applications for a Mathematics Instructor position that will focus on developmental mathematics beginning in Fall 2006. For more information, go to http://www.waubonsee.edu/employment.
- College of Lake County is now seeking applicants for two positions within their mathematics faculty to begin in August 2006. For more information go to http://www.clcillinois.edu/aboutclc/jobs.asp

Ten Things You Should Know About The AAT Degree

By Tracey Hoy, College of Lake County, Grayslake, IL

1. In September 2002 a steering committee was formed in cooperation with the IBHE (IL Board of Higher Education), the ICCB (Illinois Community College Board), and ISBE (Illinois State Board of Education). This committee was created as part of a project of the Illinois P-16 Education Initiative that sought to more effectively partner community colleges and universities in the area of teacher education. The steering committee's charge was to create AAT (Associate of Arts in Teaching) degree models that would facilitate transfer and attract students to high-need teaching disciplines.

2. In June 2002 workgroups of community college and university faculty met at the University of Illinois Springfield to develop sample course syllabi, link professional standards to course content, and discuss assessment. Matrices for education courses and discipline specific courses were developed that detailed standards, competencies, and assessment measures and artifacts.

3. The mathematics sub-committee was co-chaired by Doug Bower of Eastern Illinois University and Tracey Hoy of the College of Lake County. Committee members included Community College faculty: Marcella Beacham (Malcolm X), Kevin Bodden (Lewis and Clark), Jim Harris (John A. Logan), and Jim Trefzger (Parkland). University Faculty on the committee were: Allen Davis (EIU), David Rusin (NIU), Cindy Stecher (NIU), and Beverly Rich (ISU).

4. Matrices and sample syllabi were distributed to faculty and administrators at public institutions in the state for review and a report was filed in October 2003 that included a recommended model for the AAT in Teaching Secondary Mathematics.

5. At some colleges there was administrative support to develop the degree, but not faculty support. At others, faculty wanted to create the degree, but did not have administrative support. Individuals who had spearheaded the initiative of an AAT degree have retired or changed schools leaving the degree to successors who were not in favor of the project.

6. Community colleges were invited to create an AAT degree specific to their individual institutions. A few schools submitted degrees that were approved immediately. Others made multiple submissions before obtaining degree approval. At this time ten Illinois community colleges have degree approval.

7. Mathematics departments found that they needed to rely heavily on the cooperation and work of the education departments at their institutions. Mathematics departments also found that before their AAT degree could be considered they needed to obtain IAI approval for specific mathematics courses.

8. Some schools that are offering the degree report few or no students interested.

9. Some schools are experiencing problems with the transfer of courses that are part of the AAT degree. Although four-year schools may have made "policy promises" regarding transferability of courses, there is, at this time, no formal written agreement or "guarantee". Counselors and advisors are reluctant to direct students into a degree program in which the transferability of courses may be in question. There is also nothing in place to prohibit transfer institutions from adding other admission requirements beyond those in the AAT degree.

10. Some schools are offering the AAT degree. Some schools are still working on the AAT Degree. Some have put it on hold until they see how it works out at other schools. There are colleges who have decided to not participate. AAT degrees in Science, Special Education, and Early Childhood Education are also being created at some institutions.

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Scholarship Committee Report

Recall that there were no applicants for the IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship last year. Please consider nominating a deserving student or two from your institution this year. Remember that the scholarship is for students intending to major in mathematics or mathematics education. Applications are due March 15, 2006. Complete information about this award, including the application form, is provided on the IMACC website (http://www.imacc.org).

IMACC Awards

Below is a list of the awards that are traditionally given at the Allerton Conference. A nomination form for Life Membership Award can be found on the IMACC website (http://www.imacc.org). To nominate someone for the others, simply submit a letter of support to Kim Martin, IMACC Awards Committee Chair (kim.martin@sic.edu).

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.

James Armstrong Award Winners

1982	Anthony Peressini	University of Illinois
1984	Arnold Wendt	Western Illinois University
1985	John Dossey	Illinois State University
1987	Larry Eggan	Illinois State University
1988	Albert Otto	Illinois State University
1990	Robert Hathaway	Illinois State University
1991	Robert Kuller	Northern Illinois University
1993	Arunas Dagys	Saint Xavier College
2003	James R. Olsen	Western Illinois University
2005	Mary H. Wright	SIU at Carbondale

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.

IMACC Distinguished Service Award Winners

1987	Ron Mickelson	Danville Area College
1988	Dale Ewen	Parkland College
1989	John Bradburn	Elgin Community College
1990	Tom Cochran	Belleville Area College
1991	Eline Svendsen	Lakeland College
1992	Barbara Juister	Elgin Community College
1993	La Verne McFadden	Parkland College
1994	Rita Fishbach	Illinois Centeral College
1995	Caroline Goodman	Parkland College
1996	Bill Schooley	Harper College
1997	Jim Brunner	Black Hawk College
1998	Marvin Johnson	College of Lake County
1999	Dom Magno	Harper College
2000	Jim Hajek	Lincoln Land CC
2001	Bill Drezdzon	Oakton Community College
2002	Bob Custer	Black Hawk College
2003	Jim Harris	John A. Logan College
2004	Ruth Anne Hartman	Black Hawk College
2005	Judy Marwick	Moraine Valley CC

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.

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Bored? Run for the Board!

If you are looking for a way to get more involved in IMACC, consider running for the IMACC Board of Directors. To nominate yourself or a colleague, please e-mail IMACC President-Elect Brenda Alberico at Alberico@cdnet.cod.edu.

Treasurer's Report

IMACC Treasurer Steve Kifowit presented a complete treasurer's report at the IMACC Fall Board Meeting on October 1. The General Fund saw a slight increase of $547.95 over the past year. Without scholarships being awarded for last year, the Scholarship Fund grew to $18,860.02. If you would like to see a complete report of either the General Fund or the Scholarship Fund, please e-mail Steve Kifowit at skifowit@prairiestate.edu.

Upcoming Conferences

Year	Organization	Dates	Location
2005	AMATYC	November 10 – 13	San Diego, CA
2006	AMS/MAA	January 13 – 15	San Antonio, TX
2006	NCTM	April 26 – 29	St. Louis, MO
2006	IMACC	March 30 – April 1	Monticello, IL
2006	MAA (Mathfest)	August 10 – 12	Knoxville, TN
2006	NCTM (regional)	September 20 – 22	Chicago, IL
2006	AMATYC	November 2 – 5	Cincinnati, OH
2007	AMS/MAA	January 4 – 7	New Orleans, LA
2007	IMACC	April 12 – 14	Monticello, IL
2007	MAA (Mathfest)	August 3 – 5	San Jose, CA
2007	AMATYC	November 15 – 18	New Orleans, LA

Delegates and Representatives

AMATYC Delegates

Affiliate Delegates

Dave Clydesdale	William Rainey Harper College
Beth Beno	South Suburban College
Brenda Alberico	College of DuPage
Alternate:	
Steve Kifowit	Prairie State College

State Delegates

Jim Trefzger	Parkland College
Patricia Blus	National-Louis University
Terra Stamps	Prairie State College

Representatives to Other Mathematics Organizations

ISMAA

Sandra Cox	Kaskaskia College

MOMATYC

Tim Grant	Southwestern Illinois College

NCTM

Betty Truit	Black Hawk College
Alternate:	
Tim Grant	Southwestern Illinois College

IMACC Board of Directors

Terms Ending 2006

Angie Gum
Lincoln Land Community College
(217) 786-2385
Angie.Gum@llcc.edu

Jim Harris
John A. Logan College
(618) 985-3741 Ext. 8460
jimharris@jalc.edu

Kim Martin
Southeastern Illinois College
(618) 252-5400 Ext. 2222
kim.martin@sic.edu

Diane Martling
William Rainey Harper College
(847) 925-6000, ext. 2388
dmartling@harpercollege.edu

Terms Ending 2007

Catherine Moushon
Elgin Community College
(847) 214-7500
cmoushon@elgin.edu

John Bradburn
Elgin Community College (retired)
(847) 741-4730
Jdbradburn@aol.com

Amy Trefzger
College of Lake County
(847) 543-2493
atrefzger@clcillinois.edu

Terms Ending 2008

Brian Garant
Morton College
(708) 656-8000 ext. 353
Brian.Garant@morton.edu

Tracey Hoy
College of Lake County
(847) 543-2901
traceyhoy@clcillinois.edu

Tony Paris
Carl Sandburg College
(309) 341-5443
mparis@sandburg.edu

IMACC Committees 2005-2006

Awards

Kim Martin*	Southeastern Illinois College
Rodger Hergert	Rock Valley College
Richard Diefenbach	Shawnee Community College
Diane Martling	William R Harper College
Brian Mercer	Parkland College

Budget

Steve Kifowit*	Prairie State College
Dave Clydesdale	William R Harper College
Rodger Hergert	Rock Valley College

Conference

Publishers	
Kevin Hastings*	Parkland College
Co-coordinator	
Diane Martling	William R. Harper College

Curriculum

Jim Harris*	John A. Logan College
John Bradburn	Elgin Comm. College, retired
Bob Cappetta	College of DuPage
Sandra Cox	Kaskaskia Community College
Jim Hajek	Lincoln Land CC, retired
Vern Kays	Richland Community College
Cathy Moushon	Elgin Community College
Terra Stamps	Prairie State College
Amanda Starkey	Southwestern Illinois College
Marilyn Zopp	McHenry County College

Historian

Jim Trefzger*	Parkland College

Webmaster

James Jones*	Richland Community College

Math ConneXion

Rodger Hergert*	Rock Valley College

Membership

Karen Froelich*	William R. Harper College
Sandra Cox	Kaskaskia Community College
Sunil Koswatta	William R. Harper College
Brenda Alberico	College of DuPage

Memorial Fund Scholarship

Angie Gum*	Lincoln Land Comm. College
Chris Cullop	Kishwaukee College
Diane Koenig	Rock Valley College
Tony Paris	Carl Sandburg College
Carol Schmidt	Lincoln Land Comm. College

Nominations & Elections

Brenda Alberico*	College of DuPage
Dave Clydesdale	William R Harper College
Mary Beth Beno	South Suburban College

Program

Dave Clydesdale*	William R Harper College
Mary Beth Beno	South Suburban College
Brenda Alberico	College of DuPage

(* indicates committee chair)

Committee Chair Contact Information

If the chair is a Board member, see page 5 for contact information.
If the chair is an Officer, see page 1 for contact information. Other chairs are listed in this table.

Kevin Hastings
Parkland College
2400 West Bradley Avenue
Champaign, Illinois 61821
217 353-2692
khastings@parkland.edu

Karen Froelich
William R. Harper College
1200 West Algonquin Road
Palatine, Illinois 60067
kfroelic@harpercollege.edu

Jim Trefzger
Parkland College
2400 W. Bradley Avenue
Champaign, Illinois 61821
217 373-3744
jtrefzger@parkland.edu

Rodger Hergert
Rock Valley College
3301 North Mulford Road
Rockford, IL 61114
815 921-3456
rodgerh@ednet.rvc.cc.il.us

James Jones
Richland Community College
One College Park
Decatur, Illinois 62521
james@richland.edu

ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION of COMMUNITY COLLEGES

IMACC Individual Membership Form
2005-2006

Name: _____ School: _____

Home Address: _____ School Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____
_____

To which of the above addresses do you wish to have correspondence sent? HOME SCHOOL

Do you wish your name distributed with the IMACC database? YES NO

Membership Fees: 1 Year: $ 10.00 3 Years: $ 25.00 5 Years: $ 40.00

_____ + _____ = _____
Membership Fee Scholarship Contribution Total Enclosed

Please make checks payable to: IMACC

Mail to: IMACC, c/o Steve Kifowit, Prairie State College, 202 South Halsted Street, Chicago Heights, IL 60411

IMACC Institutional Membership Form*
2005-2006

Invoice: 200506 Membership Dues: $ 285.00 per year

IMACC Tax I.D. #: 371127733 Amount Enclosed: _____

Date: _____ Signed: _____ Title: _____

Please Complete The Following Information

School: _____ President: _____

Address: _____ Vice-President: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ Contact Person: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Contact Phone: (_____) _____

Contact Email: _____

*IMACC's membership year begins July 1, 2005 and ends June 30, 2006. Annual dues must be paid by March 1, 2006 in order to receive a complimentary conference registration for the institutional representative.

Save the Date!!

IMACC Annual Conference at Allerton
March 30-April 1, 2006

Details to come in the Winter ConneXion!!

Membership Committee

Be sure to check the membership expiration date listed in your address label below. If your membership has expired or is about to expire, you can use the form on page 7 to renew. In addition, if there are mathematics faculty at your college who are not members of IMACC, please invite them to join. Retiring IMACC members may consider "sponsoring" the membership for the person hired to take their place by paying for their first year's IMACC dues ($10).

Check Us Out Online!

In an effort to move into the 21st century and save a few trees, many of the forms that used to appear in the ConneXion throughout the year will now only be found on the IMACC website at http://www.imacc.org.

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The Math ConneXion
Rodger Hergert, Editor
Rock Valley College
3301 North Mulford Road
Rockford, IL 61114