The Math ConneXion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

http://www.imacc.org

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President's Message

Welcome back! I hope that all have been refreshed during the summer months, even if your breaks creatively occurred between summer sessions. A special welcome is extended to all new faculty and new adjunct joining our ranks on campuses all across this great state of Illinois.

One week ago I was looking for the parking place in the shade. Today I am looking through my office window at brightly colored leaves of red and gold, drifting downward, drawing back the curtain of a new season.

It may be difficult for newer members to realize that IMACC was once only the vision of a handful of forward thinking individuals committed to "developing innovative mathematics programs and promoting cooperative study of problems relating to mathematics and the teaching thereof ". So forceful was this vision that it established not only IMACC on the state level, but also gave way to the national AMATYC. Today – the story of mortgaging individual's homes to secure a conference is part of the IMACC lore, but then it was a real life risk. The first and each subsequent annual conference has been held in Monticello Illinois at the Allerton Park. In fact, the IMACC conference is frequently referred to as simply "Allerton".

I guess that I am neither a charter member of IMACC, nor a newer member. I have served on board and committees with some of those charter members, as well as with some second generation IMACC members. IMACC as an organization has moved into its second and third generation, and as any other grown child it has taken on a life of its own, independent from but indebted to those pioneers who have earned their own full measure of generativity.

Allerton Park has made changes. Prices increased sharply and unexpectedly in 2001, several thousand dollars were needed from the general fund in that year to support the conference. We are no longer able to set dates two years in advance, so fewer dates are available for our conference. The Allerton contract requires more fees, insurance, taxes and penalties. Capacity is decreasing. Two years ago there were 98 beds at Allerton, last year 72, and this year 58. A bridal suite, telephones, televisions, and wireless service have been added to the facility to attract a new market. Meals are now catered from a local restaurant. These updates are naturally driving up the pricing.

Evaluations from the previous conferences have been reviewed. There was a conference survey sent out by e-mail and on the website over the summer. Your replies confirmed that you like the general type of conference that currently is held. Responses indicated preference that the conference remain geographically-centered, a retreat environment, Thursday-Saturday, and at more reasonable rates.

(Continued on page 2)

Institutional Members

Institutional membership is an important source of support for IMACC. If the year after your college's name is 2007, then your membership expired on June 30 and 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.

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

College	Expires
Black Hawk College	2008
Carl Sandburg College	2007
College of DuPage	2007
College of Lake County	2008
Elgin Community College	2008
Harper College	2008
Illinois Central College	2008
Illinois State University	2008
ITT Technical Institute	2006
John A. Logan College	2007
Joliet Junior College	2008
Kankakee Community College	2007
Kishwaukee College	2009
Lewis & Clark Community College	2007
Lincoln Land Community College	2008
McHenry County College	2008
Moraine Valley Community College	2007
Morton College	2007
Oakton Community College	2008
Parkland College	2007
Prairie State College	2007
Richland Community College	2008
Rock Valley College	2007
Shawnee Community College	2008
South Suburban College	2009
Southwestern Illinois College	2007
Waubonsee Community College	2008

Deadline for Submissions

Winter 2008 Issue—January 15, 2008
Summer 2008 Issue—May 15, 2008
Fall 2008 Issue—October 15, 2008

The following Windows-based formats are most easily used:

Text: MS Word or Rich Text File formats

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

In response to the aforementioned market changes and your input, your conference committee has been traveling this summer. A centrally located conference/retreat center has been secured that appears to meet your highest preferences. IMACC 2009 will be held April 16-18 at Eagle Creek Resort. Check the site: www.eaglecreekresort.com

Note these important items:

- The board met October 13 in Springfield, and brings a proposal to the next general assembly for updating the Computer Science Courses in the Illinois Mathematics and Computer Science Articulation Guide. The ISMAA board has approved the same proposal and will bring it to ISMAA membership for vote April 4, in Charleston. The proposal may be found at www.imacc.org Many thanks to Jim Harris, Curriculum Chair, and the members who devoted much time to this project.
- Memorial Fund Scholarship information and applications are available at www.imacc.org Good news! The criteria were revised recently, so please read the updated eligibility requirements. Students may be awarded up to $2000. A brochure is now available for posting on your campus. More information is included later in this edition. Thank you to Angie Gum, Chair, and to the dedication of this committee.
- Register early for IMACC 2008 (Allerton). To meet contractual obligations, deadlines will be early in March. The registration forms will be posted on the website as soon as possible. Thank you to Diane Martling for coordinating this event.
- ConneXion printing costs have gone up. Please look at the electronic version of this newsletter, and consider electing to receive only the electronic version. The paper version is expensive and has limited space. Click web links directly as you read the newsletter. Don't miss articles and photos! Thank you to Rodger for the years of service he has devoted to this publication.
- Did you receive an e-mail notification last week when the newsletter was posted online? If not, then please send your updated e-mail address to Steve Kifowit at skifowit@prairiestate.edu ALL members should be receiving this e-mail.

Please find individual and institutional membership forms on the IMACC website. Individual membership is down a bit. Please make the effort to welcome new faculty into the organization by personal invitation.

May all of the IMACC family enjoy safe travels and peace during the fall and winter holidays.

Catherine Moushon
Elgin Community College

Changes to the IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship

Please consider encouraging deserving students from your institution to apply for the IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship. In an effort to increase the number of applicants for the awards, the IMACC Board has approved a change that will allow both faculty and students to initiate the scholarship application process. The faculty's responsibility in the process will be deemed as recommender rather than nominator, though it is still very much the hope and desire that faculty will initiate the scholarship application process by making their qualified students aware of the award, by writing those recommendation letters, and by encouraging and helping the qualified students with the application process. Complete information about the IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship, including the Faculty Recommendation Form, Student Application Form, and an informational flyer to post on your campus, is provided by clicking on "Memorial Fund Scholarship" at the IMACC website, www.imacc.org. Please add your name and contact information to the flyer so that students can come to you with any questions about the application process!

Again, please encourage your deserving students to apply. A total of $4000 is available to award in the spring of 2008. For the applicant to be considered, the faculty recommendation form, the student application form, and the student's supporting materials must be completed and received by the IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship Committee Chairperson Angie Gum no later than March 21, 2008.

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News & Notes from the Membership

Heather Foes of Rock Valley College was selected as a member of the 2007-08 cohort for the AMATYC Project ACCCESS program. This is a professional development program that assists faculty in their first three years of teaching at a two-year college in becoming leaders in their field. Participants attend the AMATYC conference, a local conference, and engage in networking with each other and a group of distinguished mathematics educators. They also develop, implement, and evaluate a project at their home institution. Heather's project will involve adding some data gathering activities to her Precalculus class using a TI CBL unit.

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IMACC Award for Teaching Excellence

This annual award will be given to an outstanding mathematics teacher in a community college. The recipient of this award will then be nominated for the AMATYC Award for Teaching Excellence. Please take time to nominate a colleague whom you feel is an outstanding teacher and who meets the following criteria.

a) Instructional Effectiveness and Support of Students
   innovative teaching strategies, alternative assessment methods, curriculum development, creating a learning environment for all students, accessible to students in and out of the classroom, etc.
b) Professional Involvement and Professional Development/Renewal Activities
   active participation in professional organizations, speeches, articles, conferences, etc.
c) Service to Departments/Division/College
   active contributor to college community

Nominees must be IMACC members whose primary assigned duties must be delivering instruction in an associate degree granting program. Nominees must have the equivalent of a minimum of 5 years of full-time teaching experience. Individuals can be selected for the award only once.

IMACC members and non-members, such as a supervisor, may nominate. Members may nominate themselves.

Nominations must include:
a) **cover letter** from nominator addressing the three criteria above (not to exceed 3 pages)
b) completed **nomination form** (available on the IMACC website).

IMACC Annual Conference 2008

The IMACC Annual Conference will be at Allerton on April 10-12. Here is some important information to note:

- The cost for this year's conference will be the same as last year.
- Because of the changes Allerton has made in their accommodations, the number of beds has been reduced meaning fewer attendees will be able to stay on site this year than in the past. Rooms at Allerton will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis once registration begins. The registration deadline will be March 15.
- This same weekend is Mom's Day at the University of Illinois. As a result, rooms within a significant distance of Champaign-Urbana are scarce. To further complicate things, there is a rather large bowling tournament being held at the same time in Decatur. So, hotels in the vicinity of Allerton are already quite full for the weekend of the conference.
- A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Express; 5170 Wingate Drive; Decatur; 217-875-5500 reserve by March 10 ($70). Let them know you are with the IMACC conference.
- It would be really nice if someone from each school could bring prizes for the raffle.
- The program for this year's conference will have an assessment theme. The main speaker will be Dr. Daniel Weinstein from Millersville University.

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Join the IMACC Awards Committee

The IMACC Awards Committee consists of Paul McCombs, Rodger Hergert, and Diane Martling. The committee is looking to add two new members. This committee conducts all of its business via email, so there is no need to travel for meetings. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Cathy Moushon (cmoushon@elgin.edu).

Below is a list of the awards that are traditionally given at the IMACC Annual 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 Paul McCombs, IMACC Awards Committee Chair (pmccombs@ednet.rvc.cc.il.us).

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.

Upcoming Conferences

Year	Organization	Dates	Location
2008	AMS/MAA	January 6 – 9	San Diego, CA
2008	ISMAA	April 4 – 5	Charleston, IL
2008	NCTM	April 9 – 12	Salt Lake City, UT
2008	IMACC	April 10-12	Monticello, IL
2008	MAA (MathFest)	July 31 – August 2	Madison, WI
2008	NCTM (regional)	October 16 – 17	Cleveland, OH
2008	AMATYC	November 20 – 23	Washington, DC
2009	AMS/MAA	January 5 – 8	Washington, DC
2009	IMACC	April 16 – 18	Findlay, IL
2009	NCTM	April 22 – 25	Washington, DC
2009	MAA (MathFest)	August 6 – 8	Portland, OR
2009	AMATYC	November 12 – 15	Las Vegas, NV

Delegates and Representatives

AMATYC Delegates

Affiliate Delegates

Carol Schmidt	Lincoln Land Community College
Cathy Moushon	Elgin Community College
Amy Curry	College of Lake County

State Delegates

Dave Clydesdale	William Rainey Harper College
Wendy O'Hanlon	Illinois Central College
Tom Pulver	Waubonsee Community College

Representatives to Other Organizations

ISMAA
Paul McCombs — Rock Valley College

NCTM
Brenda Alberico — College of DuPage

MOMATYC
Tim Grant — Southwestern Illinois College

ICTM
Diane Martling — William Rainey Harper College

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IMACC Committees 2007-2008

Awards

Paul McCombs*	Rock Valley College
Rodger Hergert	Rock Valley College
Diane Martling	William R Harper College

Budget

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

Conference

Publishers	
Geoff Griffiths*	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
Catherine 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

Pat Szewczyk*	Kishwaukee College
Karen Froelich	William R. Harper College
Sandra Cox	Kaskaskia Community College
Kathy LaBeau	William R. Harper College
Brenda Alberico	College of DuPage

Memorial Fund Scholarship

Angie Gum*	Lincoln Land Community College
Chris Cullop	Kishwaukee College
Diane Koenig	Rock Valley College
Tony Paris	Carl Sandburg College

Nominations & Elections

Carol Schmidt*	Lincoln Land Community College
Catherine Moushon	Elgin Community College
Brenda Alberico	College of DuPage

Program

Catherine Moushon*	Elgin Community College
Brenda Alberico	College of DuPage
Carol Schmidt	Lincoln Land Community College

(* 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.

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ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

IMACC Individual Membership Form 2007-2008			
Name		**School**	
Home Address		**School Address**	
City/State/Zip		**City/State/Zip**	
Phone ( )		**Phone ( )**	
Email Address			
To which of the above addresses do you wish correspondence? (Circle One)		**Home**	**School**
Do you wish your name distributed with the IMACC database? (Circle One)		**Yes**	**No**
Do you wish to receive *The Math ConneXion* by mail? (Circle One)		**Yes**	**No**
Membership Fees			
1 Year $15.00	Membership Amount		
3 Years $40.00	Scholarship Contribution		
5 Years $65.00	Total Amount Submitted		
Please make check payable to :		**IMACC**	
Mail to:		**IMACC** **c/o Steve Kifowit** **Prairie State College** **202 S. Halsted St.** **Chicago Heights, IL 60411**	

IMACC Institutional Membership Form 2007-2008		
Invoice: 200708		**Amount Due: $325.00**
(IMACC Tax I.D. #: 371127733)		ENTER AMOUNT:
Date:	Signed:	Title:
Please Complete The Following Information		
School	**President**	
Address	**Vice-President**	
	Contact Person	
City/State/Zip	**Contact Phone ( )**	
Phone ( )	**Contact Email**	
Please make check payable to :	**IMACC**	
Mail to:	**IMACC** **c/o Steve Kifowit** **Prairie State College** **202 S. Halsted St.** **Chicago Heights, IL 60411**	

*IMACC's membership year begins July 1, 2007 and ends June 30, 2008. Annual dues must be paid by March 1, 2008 in order to receive a complimentary conference registration for the institutional representative.

Wanted: ConneXion Editor

I started as ConneXion editor with the Summer 2003 issue. It's been a lot of fun honing my layout skills. Trying to get each issue to fit neatly into 8 or 12 pages has been an interesting exercise in both maximizing and minimizing at various times. One of the biggest challenges has been trying to sneak a Dave Clydesdale reference into each issue.

But now it's time to pass the torch. The Winter 2008 issue completes five years as editor and that seems like a good time to hand it over to someone new. So, IMACC is looking for a member to take over as ConneXion editor beginning with the Summer 2008 issue. I am more than happy to assist the next editor in any way that I can. If you are interested in the position, please contact Cathy Moushon (cmoushon@elgin.edu). Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the job.

Rodger Hergert, ConneXion editor

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 ($15).

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The Math ConneXion
Rodger Hergert, Editor
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Request for Classroom Activities

Dear Colleagues,

I am responsible for a classroom ready student activity for one ICTM Bulletin for the next 3 years for college level students. These activities are 1-3 pages, and can be for any level of college mathematics. If you have an activity that you would like to share with other math teachers in Illinois please send it to Rfischbach@aol.com. You will receive total credit! I will have at least one other ICTM Board member assist in selecting the activities that we use. If you have questions, please email or call me 309-444-2966.

Appreciatively,
Rita Fischbach