The Math ConneXion

Newsletter of the Illinois Mathematics Association of Community Colleges

http://www.imacc.org

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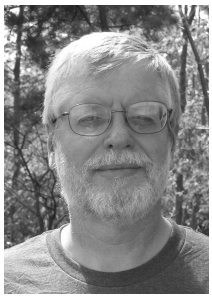

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President's Message

As I write this message on an absolutely perfect evening from a campsite on the banks of Lake Superior, I hope that you are enjoying your break as much as I am (or as I will be after I finish this). To prepare, I have looked at websites, read and re-read previous messages and find myself to be less knowledgeable and eloquent than past presidents of this organization. What can I tell you that you might be interested in but don't already know? Since there is nothing in the constitution (I read that too) requiring me to follow the same tact, I have decided to share an experience that I had today.

Like you I have just finished writing, administering, and worst of all grading exams. After averaging and turning in grades, suddenly a long semester became a short break, and there I was, enjoying the cool breeze from the lake. While minding my own business, a couple walking by our campsite asked if they could pet our dogs. During the ensuing conversation the man told me that he was a psychology major but began in a more technical field which he would have preferred. "Why did you switch?" I asked, walking right into the trap. His one word response was, "Calculus!" He followed this with the question, "What do you do?" I should have been wearing my "Java Math" t-shirt. It would have nipped the conversation in the bud.

Later, I could not help remembering the disdain in the man's voice as he said the word "calculus." I also thought of the calculus exams which I had just finished grading. When the second in a stack of sixty exams has a mistake that takes me 15 minutes to run down, I have on occasion questioned the student's intelligence and sometimes even family lineage. At one time, this man, now retired, was represented by one paper in a stack. The grade that his professor wrote on that exam still has repercussions for him after nearly a half century. This once again reminded me that we cannot overestimate the importance of our work.

I am not suggesting that we give our students grades that they don't deserve, only the consideration that they do deserve. I for one cannot do this on a daily basis without a break. We owe it to ourselves, and more importantly to our students to spend some time recharging this summer. All too soon the summer and fall semester will be here and we need to meet our students with a fresh supply of patience and understanding.

I also encourage you to become more involved in your profession and its organizations when you return to school. You can do this by using the FOIL method.

First if you are not a member, become one. If you are unsure of your IMACC membership status contact Steve Kifowit.

Once you are a member, work on a committee. Most committee chairs will be happy for the help.

Ideas you have used in your class can be shared in a conference presentation. I

(Continued on page 2)

President's Message cont.

(Continued from page 1)

will be accepting proposals for next year's IMACC conference.

Last, nominate someone (even yourself) for office or an award. Brenda Alberico is the chair of the nominations committee this year, and Kim Martin chairs the awards committee. Contact either of them for more information.

Before anyone criticizes me for using the FOIL method, notice that does very little to help you remember these four things. You will have to remember the general principle, *distribute* your talents.

Before I finish, there are several acknowledgments that I want to make. We have just enjoyed another successful Allerton conference. Marybeth Beno, thank you for the terrific program. You made it look easy. Brenda Alberico, thanks for making sure that we had places to sleep and good food to eat. Thanks also to Kevin Hastings who coordinated the publisher's tables at the conference. The officers and board of directors shared their time and effort to insure another successful IMACC year. A special word of appreciation goes to Beth Beno, who just finished her term as president, and to Richard Diefenbach, Brian Mercer, and Catherine Moushon who completed terms on the board of directors.

For the upcoming year, Brenda Alberico was elected president-elect. Catherine Moushon will replace Brenda on the board of directors for the balance of her term. Brian Garant, Tracey Hoy, and Tony Paris were elected to three-year terms on the board. Thank you all for your commitment to IMACC.

Remember, enjoy your summer so that you can come back in the fall with renewed commitment to your students and to IMACC.

Sincerely,

Dave

Editor's Choice for Summer Reading

If you're looking for a good math book to read for fun this summer, check out *Zero: The Biography of a Dangerous Idea* by Charles Seife. It's a quick read, but very entertaining and informative. I found much that I could bring in to my first-semester Calculus class as I was reading it during this past semester. There are some stories that you may have heard many times, but I also found some unique perspectives that are not found in other books of this type.

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.

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	2005
ELGIN COMM COLLEGE	2005
HARPER COLLEGE	2005
ILLINOIS CENTRAL COLLEGE	2005
ILLINOIS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	2005
JOHN A. LOGAN COMM COLLEGE	2005
KASKASKIA COLLEGE	2004
KISHWAUKEE COLLEGE	2005
LEWIS & CLARK COMM COLLEGE	2005
LINCOLN LAND COMM COLLEGE	2006
MCHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE	2005
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	2005
SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE	2004
WAUBONSEE COMM COLLEGE	2005

Deadline for Submissions

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

The following Windows-based formats are most easily used:

Text: MS Word or Rich Text File formats
Spreadsheet: Excel format

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

AMATYC Student Mathematics League 2004-2005 Final Results: We Are the Champions!!

The AMATYC Student Mathematics League (SML) Contest was completed in March. William Rainey Harper College was the national champion by a whopping 39.5 points over second place Bellevue Community College from Washington. College of DuPage also represented our state well nationally by placing 16th overall. Individually, Harper had three students ranked in the national top ten, including national champion Chenyu Feng who recorded perfect scores on both exams. There were seven students from IMACC institutions among the top fifty individuals in the nation.

Illinois fared pretty well in the Mid-West Region, as well. Five of the top seven colleges in the region came from our state with Harper (1st) and College of DuPage (2nd) being joined near the top by Oakton (3rd), Moraine Valley (6th) and Rock Valley (7th). Illinois community college students dominated the individual standings in our region with sixteen of the top eighteen students (including the entire top ten).

For more information go to: http://www.amatyc.org/SML/SML.html

Midwest Region Team Standings

1	William Rainey Harper College	IL	342.0
2	College of DuPage	IL	237.5
3	Oakton CC	IL	210.0
4	Grand Rapids CC	MI	199.0
5	Lansing CC	MI	177.5
6	Moraine Valley CC	IL	175.0
7	Rock Valley College	IL	170.5
8	Sinclair CC	OH	164.0
9	Madison Area TC – Truax	WI	149.0
10	Lakeland CC	OH	147.0
11	Columbus State CC	OH	141.5
12	University of Wisconsin Colleges - Rock County	WI	127.5
	Oakland CC	MI	127.0
14	South Suburban College	IL	122.0
15	Delta College	MI	118.5
16	College of Lake County	IL	117.5
17	Prairie State College	IL	111.0
18	Monroe County CC	MI	101.5
19	Kirtland CC	MI	99.0
20	Lincoln Land CC	IL	96.0

IMACC Award Winners from Allerton 2005

Two major awards were presented at the 2005 IMACC Annual Conference at Allerton.

Judy Marwick, currently Assistant Vice President of Academic Programs at Moraine Valley Community College, received the Distinguished Service Award. Judy is a longtime IMACC member who spent much of her teaching career at Prairie State College in Chicago Heights. Judy has served our organization as member of the Awards Committee, the Program Committee, and the Nominating Committee. She also served with distinction on the IMACC Board from 1996-98. The reason that she served only 2 years on the Board was that she was elected as IMACC's 25th President, and began serving as President-elect in 1998-99, which would otherwise have been her third year as a Board Member.

Mary Wright, Professor and Distinguished Teacher of Mathematics at Southern Illinois University, was announced as the recipient of the James Armstrong Award. Mary has worked tirelessly to help the area community colleges maintain course transferability with the Math Department at SIUC. She has even been known to assist in transferring courses that are outside of her department. Her nominator declared, "Mary's spirit of cooperation with community colleges truly exemplifies the legacy of James Armstrong."

In addition, Lifetime Membership Awards were given to Marvin Johnson of the College of Lake County, Norman Rees of John A. Logan College, and Mary Gronke of McHenry County College who are all retiring (or have retired) from their respective colleges.

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News & Notes from the Membership

- Diane Koenig of Rock Valley College was named 2005 Faculty of the Year on her campus. She was in the middle of teaching a class when RVC President Jack Becherer wandered into her classroom to present her with the award.
- James Jones of Richland Community College was selected as the RCC Outstanding Faculty of the Year for 2005. On James's website, he remarks, "Luckily, there's no speech required with this honor, but I do get to help read the names of students at graduation."

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Scholarship Committee Report

Unfortunately, there's nothing to report this year from the Scholarship Committee because there were no students nominated this year. Please consider nominating a deserving student from your institution for the IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship next year. Remember that the scholarship is for students intending to major in mathematics or mathematics education. Complete information about this award is provided on the IMACC website (http://www.imacc.org) and will be included in the fall issue of The Math ConneXion.

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** (see page 8).

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IMACC Board of Directors

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Proposed IMACC Constitution Changes

Below you will find a copy of the proposed changes to the IMACC Constitution. According to the IMACC By-laws, these must be given to the membership at least one month prior to a vote to be done by mail. In addition, you will find proposed changes to the IMACC By-laws on the following page. So, in about a month you will receive a ballot by mail to vote on the changes that are presented here.

CONSTITUTION OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Ratified June 1975 Amended 1980, 1984***, 2005***

Article II – Name *Purpose*

The Illinois Mathematics Association ***of Community Colleges*** is a nonprofit educational association. The purpose is to encourage and develop innovative mathematics programs, to afford a medium of interchange of views regarding mathematics and mathematics education, to encourage and promote the cooperative study of problems relating to mathematics and the teaching of mathematics, especially at the community college level, and to seek solutions thereof.

Article VIII – Elections

Officers and Directors are elected by the members of record as of January 15. The vote is conducted by mail ***at least*** thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. New Officers take office immediately following the Annual Meeting and hold office through the next Annual Meeting.

Not less than three (3) months prior to the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors appoints an Elections Committee of not less than three (3) members. ***The Elections Committee consists of the Past-President, President, and President-Elect, with the President-Elect as chair.*** It is the duty of the Elections Committee to nominate at least one member for each of the positions to be filled. All candidates for all elective positions must be members of the Association. Any vacancy in an elective position except that of President is filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired terms. A vacancy in the position of President shall be filled by the President Elect assuming duties of Acting President.

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Proposed By-laws Changes

BY- LAWS OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Ratified June 1975 Amended 1980, 1984, 1992, 1998***, 2005***

Article II – Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall:

a) preside at all meetings of the Association;
b) serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors and prepare the agenda for all Board meetings;
c) act as ex-officio member of all committees, except the Elections Committee;
d) organize and coordinate the program of the Annual Meeting;
e) notify members of the Association concerning membership meetings; and
f) serve as a non-voting member on the Board which ***that*** immediately follows his or her presidency.

Section 2. The President-Elect shall:

a) be responsible for publicity and public relations;
b) act as President in the absence of the/a President;
c) be responsible for confirming appropriate reservations for the next Annual Meeting, setting tentative dates for the meeting two years hence, and announcing these dates at the Annual Meeting; and
d) ***serve as chair of the Elections Committee;***

assume other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Secretary shall:

a) keep accurate permanent records of the meetings of the Association, and of the Board of Directors; and
b) be responsible for official correspondence of the Association.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall:

a) be in charge of all financial records and funds of the Association;
b) be in charge of all receipts and disbursements of the Association, and keep accurate records of the same;
c) keep an up-to-date mailing list of members and potential members, and provide Secretary with same; and
d) make a financial report at each regular business meeting and an annual report, audited by a supervisory committee, at the Annual Meeting.

Article III – Duties of Board of Directors

Section 1. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall:

a) aid the President in carrying out the purposes and obligations of the Association;
b) select ***approve*** the places and dates of the meetings;
c) make decisions concerning the Association when a vote of the entire membership is not required;
d) appoint a member**s** as representative**s** to ***affiliated organizations*****;** the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics; and
e) install the newly elected officers and directors upon completion of "old business" of the organization at the Annual Business Meetings ***at the beginning of the board meeting held the day before the Annual Business Meeting*** or April 30, whichever is earlier.

Article V – Amendment*s* to **of the a By-Laws**

These By-Laws may be amended by the affirmative vote of a simple majority of the members voting on the amendment. A copy of the proposed amendment(s) shall be mailed to all members with the ballot. The vote shall be conducted by mail.

IMACC Award for Teaching Excellence

Nomination Form (please type or print) Complete nomination packets must be Postmarked by November 1, 2005.	**Mail completed information to:** IMACC Awards Committee Kim Martin, Committee Chair Southeastern Illinois College 3575 College Road Harrisburg, Illinois 62946

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name:		
College:		
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Telephone: ( ) -	FAX Number: ( ) -	
E-mail:		
Nominee's College President:		
President's Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Nominees number of years of teaching experience:	IMACC Member? ☐ YES ☐ NO	

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Name:		
College:		
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Telephone: ( ) -	FAX Number: ( ) -	
E-mail:		

NOMINATOR'S PACKET CHECKLIST

☐ this nomination form
☐ cover letter from the nominator, not to exceed 3 pages in at least 12 point font

- In fairness to all candidates, no additional materials will be considered. Pages exceeding limits will not be considered. Materials not in the checklist will not be considered. Faxed materials will not be considered.
- Additional information will be requested from the winner before the application can be submitted to the AMATYC Awards Committee for the AMATYC Award for Teaching Excellence.

Upcoming Conferences

Year	Organization	Dates	Location
2005	MAA (Mathfest)	August 4 – 6	Albuquerque, NM
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
Alternate:	
Diane Martling	William Rainey Harper College

State Delegates

Jim Trefzger	Parkland College
Steve Kifowit	Prairie State College
Alternate:	
Amy Trefzger	College of Lake County

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 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.

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.

IMACC Committees 2004-2005

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 7 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
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.

Mathematical Web Gems

Here are some links that I have found through various sources that I thought I'd share with you. If there are any math sites that really knock your socks off, please send them to me and I'll get them in the next issue.

- Math in the Media (AMS): http://www.ams.org/mathmedia/
- The Mathematics of Tsunamis: http://mathworld.wolfram.com/news/2005-01-14/tsunamis/
- Martindale's Online Calculator Center (a collection of 20,000+ online calculators): http://www.martindalecenter.com/Calculators.html
- Science Cartoons Plus: http://www.sciencecartoonsplus.com/gallery.htm
- Earliest Uses of Various Math Symbols: http://members.aol.com/jeff570/mathsym.html
- The Ultimate NUMB3RS Fan Site: http://www.numb3rs.org/

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 11 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).

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The Math ConneXion
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