

The Math ConneXion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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President's Message



Roberta Christie
President

Shawnee Comm College
8364 Shawnee College Rd
Ullin, IL 62992
(618) 634-3328

Bob Cappetta
President Elect

College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
(630)942-2182

Keven Hansen
Past President

Southwestern IL College
2500 Carlyle Ave
Belleville, IL 62221
(618) 235-2700 ext. 5611

Terra Stamps
Secretary

Prairie State College
202 South Halsted St.
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
(708) 709-3608

Steve Kifowit
Treasurer

Prairie State College
202 South Halsted St.
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
(708) 709-3954

Only a few weeks have passed since IMACC's conference at Allerton, but the memories of a great event are still present. I hope that everyone benefitted from the experience as much as I did. A special thanks must go to Keven Hansen (program coordinator) and Yixia Lu (conference coordinator) for pulling together a wonderful conference. And, as usual, the setting was perfect.

Because networking and exchanging ideas is such an important part of IMACC's mission, I would like to share some of the highlights for those who were unable to attend. IMACC honored Mary Beth Beno from South Suburban College with the Distinguished Service Award and David Hazlett of Galesburg, IL with the IMACC Memorial Scholarship. The keynote speakers ranged from informative to fascinating. Sue and Randy Pippen's session on the national core standards was so good; I am already trying to set up a workshop with them for our faculty and high school math instructors. George Woodbury's ideas on creating learning communities in both developmental and transfer classes gave tools for improving retention as well as learning. And it was an honor to have the President-Elect of AMATYC, Jim Roznowski, share how he has implemented knowledge gained at AMATYC conferences into his classes. Almost every evaluation commented on how much they liked Marty Kemen's presentation of art work based on mathematics; many asked to have her at future events.

There were so many breakout sessions this year that it was often hard to choose which to attend. A huge thank you is extended to all of the presenters. The conference would not be possible without you. And as traditional, many games...I mean mathematical principles...were used to raise money for our scholarship fund. As usual, the poker game.....I mean applied probability...raised the most money. The raffle prizes also get better and better (as long as you are not the 30th

Deadline for Submissions:

Fall 2011-October 15
Winter 2012-January 15
Summer 2012-April 15

Submit items to:
Diane Koenig, Editor
The Math ConneXion
d.koenig@rockvalleycollege.edu

Online Math ConneXion

The online version can be found at
<http://www.imacc.org>

Is Your Membership Current?

Be sure to check the membership expiration date listed in your address label. If your membership has expired or is about to expire, you can use the form on page 10 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.

(President's Message continued)

winner) with every passing year.

The conference was not all good news. At a time when ICCB and ISBE often approach our organization for recommendations and input, our numbers are dropping. Although the number of conference attendees is holding fairly steady, IMACC lost 40 members this year while gaining only 14 new members. We would like to give a voice to as many community college faculty as possible. Please encourage full time and adjunct math faculty to join our organization. Membership is important. If people cannot attend the conference, the \$15 in annual dues still supports valuable work for the mathematical community.

The beginning of my year as president means that Keven Hansen's burden has shifted. I would like to personally thank Keven for doing such a wonderful job as president. Orchestrating the conference was only part of the work he did for IMACC. The opportunity to work with such dedicated and talented professionals in IMACC is a large reason I accepted my present position. Please join me in congratulating Keven on a job well done. I am lucky that the Past President position is still a very active role.

Lastly, mark your calendars for March 30-31, 2012 for next year's conference. As I put the program together for 2012, I would really like your input. What topics would bring you to Allerton? And if you are interested, what sessions would you be willing to present? Please contact me at robertac@shawneecc.edu with your answers.



Institutional Members

Black Hawk College	2011
Carl Sandburg College	2011
College of DuPage	2009
College of Lake County	2011
Elgin Community College	2011
Harper College	2011
Illinois Central College	2011
Illinois Institute of Technology	2010
John A Logan College	2011
Kankakee Community College	2011
Kiswaukee College	2010
Lewis & Clark Community College	2011
Lincoln Land Community College	2011
McHenry Community College	2011
Moraine Valley Community College	2010
Morton College	2011
Oakton Community College	2009
Parkland Community College	2011
Prairie State College	2011
Richland community College	2011
Rock Valley College	2011
Shawnee College	2011
South Suburban College	2011
Southwestern Illinois College	2010
Waubonsee Community College	2011

Letter From the Editor

As anticipated, this year's Allerton Conference was a time of reconnecting with friends from across the state, sharing ideas and learning about new initiatives. The concurrent sessions were enjoyably diverse and it was hard to choose which ones to attend. I enjoyed each of the sessions I sat in on and heard great things about the other sessions during our coffee break times.

While at Allerton, I thought not only of how I could implement many of the great ideas and activities in my classrooms, but also some classroom activities I would like to share at next year's conference. If you had a similar experience, now is the time to put your ideas in writing and submit them to Roberta. She is already collecting contacts to use when building next year's conference and I know she is looking forward to hearing from you.

Please also consider sending updates from your school to be included in the next *ConneXion* newsletter. Let us know about new hires, retirements or other news you would like to share.

Please note the deadlines for submitting articles in the future issues of *The Math ConneXion* found in the left margin of the second page.

Sincerely,
Diane Koenig
Rock Valley College
The ConneXion Editor

Upcoming Conferences

Dates	Organization	Location
August 4-6, 2011	MAA Math Fest	Lexington, KY
October 26-28	NCTM (Regional)	St. Louis, MO
November 10-13, 2011	AMATYC	Austin, TX
January 4-7, 2012	AMS/MAA	Boston, MA
March 29-31, 2012	IMACC	Monticello, IL
August 2-4, 2012	MAA Math Fest	Madison, WI

Welcome New Faculty

Rock Valley College is pleased to welcome Patrick Sugrue to their full time math faculty. Patrick comes to RVC after being a graduate student at Northern Illinois University.

Awards



Jim Trefzger (Parkland), Mary Beth Beno Distinguished Service Award recipient (South Suburban College), and Judith Marwick (Harper College)

On April 1st, IMACC honored Mary Beth Beno of South Suburban College with the Distinguished Service Award. Presenting the award were Jim Trefzger of Parkland and Judith Marwick of Harper College. We all greatly appreciate all of the service Mary Beth has given to IMACC!

Other awards presented on April 1st were:

David Hazlett of Galesburg, IL was awarded the IMACC Memorial Scholarship. David is currently finishing his AAT in Mathematics at Carl Sandburg College. He plans to continue in mathematics education at Monmouth College in the fall. David's career goals are to become a high school mathematics teacher and a coach.

The Life Membership Award was given to John Gaudio of Waubensee Community College, MaryAnn Tuerk of Elgin Community College, Jerry Frang of Rock Valley College and Manouchehr Azad of Harper College. We wish you the best for your retirement and hope to see you at Allerton.

Morton Modular Math

Starting in Fall 2011, Morton College will begin to offer developmental algebra as a sequence of four 8-week (2 credit) modules alongside the two traditional 16-week (4 credit) courses. Elementary algebra modules will be introduced first, followed by intermediate algebra in Spring 2012. During the first year, we will only be offering a few sections of the modular courses. If our data show that the modular approach is successful, we will add more sections in future semesters. This "pilot program" is being undertaken by Morton College as part of our participation in the "Achieving the Dream" initiative.

Our motivation for offering modular courses is to help students who struggle with developmental algebra by increasing pass and retention rates and getting students ready for college-level math courses as quickly as possible. Because a grade will be earned after the first eight weeks, students will have the opportunity to succeed sooner and early success will hopefully build students' self-confidence and lead to future successes. Students who do not complete a module successfully will only need to repeat 8 weeks – not 16 weeks – of material. Because modular courses begin every eight weeks, students may be able to repeat a module without waiting until the start of the next semester.

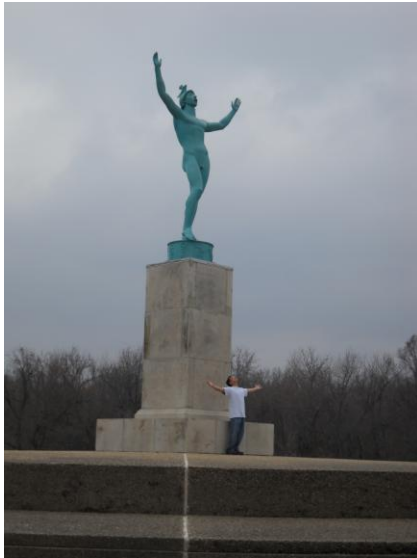
We have packaged the modules so students who plan to take "gen ed math" as their first college-credit math course will only need to complete 2 credits of intermediate algebra. Only students who plan to take college algebra will need to take 4 credits of intermediate algebra.

Throughout the development of the modular courses we have learned from other schools who have successfully implemented this approach. Kathy Almy of Rock Valley College has been an especially helpful resource.

For more information about Morton Modular Math, please contact Geoff Krader, Math Instructor (geoffrey.krader@morton.edu, 708-656-8000 x292), or visit our website: www.morton.edu/modularmath.

*Share your math department's news and current events with others in the state.
Send articles to be included in the Math ConneXion to
d.koenig@rockvalleycollege.edu.*

Highlights from Allerton



In addition to the wonderful keynote speakers and breakout sessions, Allerton Park has great walking paths and sculptures to see along the way. One of the most popular to venture out to see is the Sun Singer. Copying the pose is hard to resist after the long walk out to view the statue.

Social hour provides the perfect opportunity to enjoy a game or two (or three) of backgammon. Greg Wheaton of Kishwaukee College and Paul Gunsul of Rock Valley play the game as Rodger Hergert (Hergert Numbers, spread the word) of Rock Valley looks on.



Participants were kept involved during Connie McLean's (Black Hawk College) session entitled "Activities for 'Math for Elementary Teachers' That Students Love!". In addition to making pyramids and prisms out of marshmallows and toothpicks they also learned a card game called 99 and were introduced to several other hands on activities for the classroom.

IMACC Leadership

President

[Roberta Christie](#)

Shawnee Community College
8364 Shawnee College Road
Ullin, IL 62992
(618) 634-3328

President-Elect

[Bob Cappetta](#)

College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd
Glenn Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 942-2182

Past President

[Keven Hansen](#)

Southwestern Illinois College
2500 Carlyle Ave
Belleville, IL 62221
(618) 235-2700 ext. 5611

Secretary

[Terra Stamps](#)

Prairie State College
202 South Halsted St.
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
(708) 709-3608

Treasurer

[Steve Kifowit](#)

Prairie State College
202 South Halsted St.
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
(708) 709-3954

Board of Directors

2009 - 2012

[Paul McCombs](#)

Rock Valley College
3301 N Mulford Rd
Rockford, IL 61114
(815) 921-3459

[Scott Elliott](#)

John A. Logan College
700 Logan College Road
Carterville IL 62918
(618) 985-3741 ext. 8394

[Amy Madden](#)

Moraine Valley Community College
9000 W College Pkwy
Palos Hills, IL, 60465
(708) 974-5233

2010 – 2013

[Tom Pulver](#)

Waubonsee Community College
Rt 47 at Waubonsee Dr
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
(630) 466-5718

[Connie McLean](#)

Black Hawk College
6600 34th Ave
Moline, IL 61265
(309) 796-5369

[Tim Sullivan](#)

Northern Illinois University
320 Watson Hall
DeKalb, IL 60115
(815) 753-6767

2011 - 2014

[Omar Adawi](#)

Parkland College
2400 W Bradley Ave
Champaign, IL 61821
(217)-373-3863

[Andy Geary](#)

Harper College
1200 W Algonquin Rd.
Palatine, IL 60067-7398
(847) 925-6526

[Diane Martling](#)

Harper College
1200 W Algonquin Rd.
Palatine, IL 60067-7398
(847) 925-6337

IMACC Committees 2011 - 2012

Awards Committee

Budget

Assessment

Paul McCombs

Rock Valley College
3301 N Mulford Rd
Rockford, IL 61114
(815) 921-3459
Rodger Hergert
Rock Valley College
Tracey Hoy
College of Lake
County
Diane Martling
William R. Harper
College
Deanna Kindhart
Illinois Central
Community College

Steve Kifowit, Chair

Prairie State College
202 South Halsted St.
Chicago Heights, IL
60411
(708) 709-3954
Dave Clydesdale
William Rainey Harper
College
Rodger Hergert
Rock Valley College

Mary Beth Beno, Chair

South Suburban
College
15800 State St
South Holland, IL
60473
(708) 596-2000 ext.
2333
Roberta Christie
Shawnee CC
Diane Grzeczka
South Suburban
College
Keven Hansen
Southwestern Illinois
College
Diane Martling
William R. Harper
College
Abbas Meigooni
Lincoln Land CC
Marcia Wallace
South Suburban
College

Conference

Nominations / Elections

Program

Geoff Griffiths, *publishers*

Parkland College
2400 W Bradley Ave
Champaign, IL 61821
(217) 353-2191

Yixia Lu, *coordinator*

South Suburban
College
15800 South State St
Room #4148M
South Holland, IL
60473
(708) 596-2000 ext.
2425

Bob Cappetta

College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd
Glenn Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 942-2182

Roberta Christie
Shawnee Community
College

Keven Hansen
Southwestern Illinois
College

Roberta Christie

Shawnee Community
College
8364 Shawnee
College Road
Ullin, IL 62992
(618) 634-3328

Bob Capetta
College of Dupage

Keven Hansen
Southwestern Illinois
College

Historian**Math ConneXion Editor****Webmaster**[Jim Trefzger](#)

Parkland College
(retired)
2400 W Bradley Ave
Champaign, IL
61821
(217) 373-3744

[Diane Koenig](#)

Rock Valley College
3301 N Mulford Rd
Rockford, IL 61114-
5699
(815) 921-3458

[James Jones](#)

Richland
Community College
One College Park
Decatur, IL 62521
(217) 875-7211 ext.
490

Curriculum Committee**Membership****Memorial Fund
Scholarship**[Bob Cappetta](#), Chair

College of DuPage
425 Fawell Blvd
Glenn Ellyn, IL
60137
(630) 942-2182

Donna Carlson
College of Lake
County

Sandra Cox
Kaskaskia CC

Jim Hajek
Lincoln Land CC
(retired)

Keven Hansen
Southwestern
Illinois College

Tracey Hoy
College of Lake
County

Catherine Moushon
Elgin CC

Terra Stamps
Prairie State
College

Marilyn Zopp
McHenry County
College

[Pat Szewczyk](#), Chair

Kishwaukee College
21193 Malta Rd
Malta, IL 60150
(815) 825-2086 ext.
534

Brenda Alberico
College of DuPage

Laurie Hoecherl
Kishwaukee College

Kathy LaBeau
William Rainey
Harper College

Deanna Kindhart
Illinois Central
College

[Angie Gum](#), Chair

Lincoln Land
Community College
5250 Shepherd
Road, Box 19256
Springfield, IL
62794-9256
(217) 786-4928

Chris Cullop
Kishwaukee College

Diane Koenig
Rock Valley College

Tony Paris
Carl Sandburg
College

Audit**Constitution / Bylaws****Parliamentarian**

[Dave Clydesdale](#), Chair

William Rainey
Harper College
1200 W Algonquin
Rd.
Palatine, IL 60067-
7398
(847) 925-6728

Roberta Christie
Shawnee CC

Sunil Koswatta
William Rainey
Harper College

[Roberta Christie](#), Chair

Shawnee
Community College
8364 Shawnee
College Road
Ullin, IL 62992
(618) 634-3328

Keven Hansen
(Past President &
keeper of the
Constitution/Bylaws)

Southwestern
Illinois College

Jim Trefzger
(Historian)
Parkland College
(retired)

Bob Cappetta
College of DuPage

[Jon Odell](#)

Richland
Community College
One College Park
Decatur, IL 62521
(217) 875-7211 ext.
486



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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**

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c/o Steve Kifowit
Prairie State College
202 S Halsted St
Chicago Heights, IL 60411

IMACC's membership year begins July 1 and ends June 30. You may check your current membership status at the IMACC website <http://www.imacc.org/> or by looking at the printed label on your *The Math ConneXion*.

The Math ConneXion

Diane Koenig, Editor
Rock Valley College
3301 N Mulford Road
Rockford, IL 61114