

# The Math ConneXion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

<http://www.imacc.org>

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## *President's Message*

It is the beginning of the semester, snow is everywhere, and the 2014 Annual IMACC Conference is less than three months away. The conference is scheduled for April 3 – 5 at Allerton House in Monticello. There will be four general sessions presented by four national speakers. The Friday morning session speaker will be Alan Tussy from Citrus College in Glendora, CA. The title of his presentation is "The Eureka! Experience – Instructional Techniques that Encourage It." I saw him give this presentation at AMATYC in Anaheim, CA this year and it included participation by the audience.

The Friday afternoon speaker will be Paul Zorn from St. Olaf's College in Northfield, MN. The title of his presentation is "Extreme Calculus." He will also give a Friday breakout session entitled "Revisiting Familiar Places: What I learned at the *Magazine*." He is the Past-President of MAA and a fascinating speaker.

The Friday evening speaker will be David Graser from Yavapai College in Prescott, AZ. The title of his presentation is "How to Dezombify Your Students". He will discuss the flipped classroom and "zombie learners". I saw him give a similar presentation at AMATYC in Anaheim and found it quite interesting and entertaining. The Saturday morning speaker will be a PARCC representative who will describe the PARCC assessment test.

There will also be a wide variety of breakout sessions which will include discussions on calculus, GeoGebra, developmental mathematics, classroom management, statistics, common core, teacher education, and the new PMGE courses.

Keven Hansen and Jim Olsen have organized a conference to address the proposed changes in the elementary teacher education curriculum. The conference will be held on March 1 at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, IL. More information may be found at <http://illinoiseledandmsteachered.wordpress.com/>.

Please consider nominating a deserving student for the IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship. The deadline is March 1 and more information may be found at <http://www.imacc.org/memfund.html>.

## **Deadline for Submissions:**

Summer 2014-April 15  
Fall 2014-October 15  
Winter 2015-January 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 on the IMACC website. If your membership has expired or is about to expire, you can use the form on page 13 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)*

Please also consider nominating a colleague for the James Armstrong Award or the Distinguished Service Award, and if someone at your college is retiring, check if they meet the qualifications for the Life Membership Award. The deadline is March 1 and more information may be found on the IMACC website.

Several members have not renewed their membership. Please renew soon and encourage your colleagues and institutions to become IMACC members. Individual and institutional forms are available in this newsletter and at <http://www.imacc.org>.

I look forward to seeing all of you at Allerton in April. The conference dates coincide with Illinois' Mom's Day weekend so make your hotel reservations early if you do not plan to stay at Allerton.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as president of this exemplary organization. I wish to thank several of the past-presidents for their helpful advice. They include Jim Trefzger, Bob Cappetta, Roberta Christie, Keven Hansen, and Rodger Hergert. I also appreciate the great work done by Connie McLean, Kyra Rider, Steve Kifowit, Diane Koenig, James Jones, Sunil Koswatta, and all of the board and committee members. Please feel free to contact me at [oadawi@parkland.edu](mailto:oadawi@parkland.edu) if have any questions or suggestions.

Omar

IMACC has reserved a block of 25 rooms at the Monticello Best Western for conference rate of \$109.99 per room per night plus tax. There are 20 double queen and 5 king rooms. The rate is for any room, single or double. Call them at 217-762-9436 to make your reservations, mentioning the IMACC conference rate. Room block will be held till 3/16/2014. Please note there is no hotel transportation to Allerton Retreat Center.

## Institutional Members

Black Hawk College	2013
Carl Sandburg College	2014
College of DuPage	2013
College of Lake County	2014
Elgin Community College	2012
Harper College	2014
Illinois Central College	2013
John A Logan College	2014
Kankakee Community College	2014
Kaskaskia College	2012
Kishwaukee College	2017
Lake Land College	2013
Lewis & Clark Community College	2014
Lincoln Land Community College	2014
McHenry Community College	2013
Moraine Valley Community College	2013
Morton College	2014
Parkland College	2013
Prairie State College	2013
Rend Lake College	2013
Richland community College	2013
Rock Valley College	2014
Sauk Valley Community College	2013
Shawnee College	2013
South Suburban College	2014
Southwestern Illinois College	2014
Triton College	2013
Waubonsee Community College	2014
Wilbur Wright College	2013

## Letter From the Editor

This edition of the *ConneXion* is one of my favorites to work on since I get a sneak peek of the speakers that are lined up and the presentations that are scheduled for the Allerton Conference. As the subzero temperatures outside remind us that we are still in the middle of winter, the thoughts of our April conference with the hope of warm spring weather and the time we get to reconnect with colleagues and friends across the state have me filled with anticipation. The four general session speakers give a great variety of focus and the breakout sessions offer interesting presentations for all.

We want to hear from you! Please be sure to share information about your school and your department. I didn't have any updates for this issue but I am hoping to hear from you for future editions. For those of you who missed the deadline but have news to share, let us know about new hires, retirements or other news and I will include it in the next edition.

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

## A Message from the Midwest Vice President of AMATYC

It was great to see many of you at the AMATYC conference in Anaheim, California. The state of Illinois was well represented at the conference with 78 attendees (5<sup>th</sup> highest). This is a great showing given that attendance required a plane trip and significant expenses. AMATYC is very appreciative of the significant contributions and active participation of IMACC members for the organization.

The 2013 conference proceedings are now available at the AMATYC website. Also available are videos of the conference's keynote speakers. Sheila Tobias and Victor Piercey presented the *Last Word on Math Anxiety*, and David Masunaga gave an entertaining presentation on  $\pi$ . If you missed this year's conference, or if you want to review the slides of a presentation or to download a handout, please visit the 2013 conference proceedings page at <http://www.amatyc.org/?page=2013ConfProceedings>.

Planning for next year's conference is well under way. We will convene in Nashville, Tennessee at the Grand Ole Opry Hotel on November 13-16, 2014. There will be a special celebration to commemorate AMATYC's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The drive from Chicago to Nashville is only 7 hours so we hope to have a large contingent from Illinois at next year's conference. **Remember to submit your proposal to present by the February 1, 2014 deadline.**

The draft position statement on *The Appropriate Use of Intermediate Algebra as a Prerequisite Course* was recently reviewed and revised by AMATYC's Developmental Mathematics Committee (DMC). This position statement will continue to be reviewed in the coming months and, if acceptable, approved at next year's conference. Please review the statement and send your comments to me or to the DMC chair, Linda Zientek ([lrz002@shsu.edu](mailto:lrz002@shsu.edu)).

Another topic being considered at AMATYC is whether or not to have a *members-only* section on the new AMATYC website. Since the beginning AMATYC has made its online content available to all, members and non-members alike. All AMATYC publications (except the journal), all position statements, the *AMATYC News*, past Student Math League tests, etc. have been available to any website visitor. Some argue that AMATYC intellectual property should only be available to members who pay for the privilege, and others argue that AMATYC can best fulfill its mission of promoting mathematics education in the first two years of college by disseminating its publications as widely and freely as possible. Please let me know your thoughts on this notion of a member-only section of the AMATYC website.

AMATYC's Project ACCESS is now accepting applications for Cohort 12. Project ACCESS "*is a mentoring and professional development initiative for two-year college mathematics faculty. The project's goal is to provide experiences that will help new faculty become more effective teachers and active members of the broader mathematical community.*" Please encourage one of your newer colleagues to apply for this worthwhile professional development experience.

If you are already a member of AMATYC, you are well aware of what AMATYC has to offer. If you are not yet a member, I encourage you to visit the website at <http://www.amatyc.org> and become a member. For more information on recent AMATYC events and activities, download the most recent edition of the *AMATYC News* at <http://www.amatyc.org/?page=AMATYCNews>.

I thank you for your support of AMATYC and look forward to seeing many of you at the annual IMACC meeting in the spring. Have an enjoyable and productive new year.

Jim Ham  
AMATYC Midwest Vice President  
[jaham@delta.edu](mailto:jaham@delta.edu)  
January 15, 2014

# Position Statement of The American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges: The Appropriate Use Of Intermediate Algebra As A Prerequisite Course

Approved by the DMC November, 2013

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## The Appropriate Use of Intermediate Algebra as a Prerequisite Course

### Rationale

The prerequisites should provide a foundation for optimal student success. The content of a mathematics course should determine the prerequisite level of mathematical literacy, skills, and knowledge necessary for successful completion of the course.

The content of intermediate algebra is generally an appropriate prerequisite to algebra-based courses in a calculus-based course of study, but not a universal prerequisite for all college level mathematics courses.

College-level courses outside of the calculus-based course of study can be better served by other prerequisite courses that are more appropriate and relevant for preparing students for non-STEM courses of study. The content of a course, as defined by the course description and learning outcomes, should determine its mathematical level, prerequisites, and transferability.

The purpose of this position statement is to support the development of multiple options into college-level courses.

### Whereas

- The prerequisites of a mathematics course should be those appropriate to providing a foundation for student success in that course;
- The course description and learning outcomes of a mathematics course determine the prerequisite level of mathematical literacy, skills, and knowledge necessary for successful completion of the course;
- The equivalent content in intermediate algebra courses is generally required to master the content of algebra-based courses leading to calculus; and,
- The equivalent content in intermediate algebra courses is not required to master the content for most college-level mathematics courses not leading to calculus.

### Therefore, it is the position of AMATYC that:

- Prerequisite courses other than intermediate algebra can prepare students for courses of study not leading to calculus.

# IMACC 39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (Tentative)

## THURSDAY, April 3

6:00-? Room Check-in (Allerton Main Desk)

7:00-9:00 Pick up conference packets, Games and Social Gathering, Refreshments

## FRIDAY, April 4

7:15-8:15 Breakfast Buffet

8:15-9:30 Opening Session: Alan Tussy "The Eureka! Experience - Instructional Techniques that Encourage It"

9:40-10:40 Concurrent Sessions

Paul Zorn: Revisiting Familiar Places: What I Learned at the *Magazine*

Kathy Almy: Authentic Problem Solving in a Math Literacy Course

Kevin Hastings: Flipping the College Algebra and Precalculus Classrooms

Keven Hansen: Mathematics Department Chair Discussion

Michael Sullivan: Simulation and Randomization Techniques in Introductory Statistics

10:40-11:00 Coffee Break, Exhibits

11:00-12:00 Concurrent Sessions

Kris Campbell, Chalyce Deterding, Dan Kernler, Nicole Scherger, and Greg Wheaton:  
Maple Usage Throughout the Calculus Sequence

Jim Olsen: 24 Percent Tweets (24 Tweets on Percent)

Ken Benyon and Tony Paris: Classroom Management Discussion

Bob Cappetta: PMGE Discussion

Sunil Koswatta: Birds of a Feather – Algebra and the Common Core

Geoffrey Krader: Morton Modular Math- A Different Approach to Modular  
Developmental Algebra

12:00-1:00 Lunch Buffet

1:00-2:00 General Session: Paul Zorn "Extreme Calculus"

2:00-2:20 Coffee Break, Exhibits

2:20-3:20 Concurrent Sessions

Keven Hansen and Jim Olsen: Mathematics for Elementary and Middle School  
Teachers Discussion

Brian Mercer and Erin Wilding-Martin: Parkland College's Developmental Mathematics  
Redesign: What Have We Learned?

Bob Cappetta: Calculus Sequence Discussion

Christian Roldan Santos: Developmental Mathematics: Current Practices and Policy  
Implications

Sherri Messersmith: Using the POWER Framework to Teach Study Strategies in Math

Andy Geary and Mariano Arellano: Back by Popular Demand: GeoGebra Workshop  
(2:20 – 4:20)

## **Friday, April 4 (continued)**

3:20-4:40 Park Activities and Exhibits

4:40-5:40 Social Hour and Committee Meetings

Curriculum Committee

Membership Committee

5:40-6:50 Dinner and Awards

7:00-8:00 Evening Program: David Graser "How to Dezombify Your Students"

8:00-9:00 Evening Activities: Games, Scholarship Fundraising

8:10-? Board Meeting

## **SATURDAY, April 5**

7:15-8:15 Breakfast Buffet

8:15-9:15 IMACC Business Meeting

9:25-10:25 General Session: PARCC Assessment

10:25-10:40 Coffee Break

10:40-11:40 Concurrent Sessions

Roberta Christie: Unethical Games

Tom Pulver: ICCB Update

Diane Koenig: Activate Your Calculus Students!

Jim Ham: Statistics in Action: The Evolution of a Phone-survey Project

Richard Kolasa: Using ALEKS PPL to Increase Student Success Through Proper Math Placement

11:45-12:00 Contest Results, Raffle, Closing Remarks, Pass the Gavel

12:00-1:00 Lunch Buffet

Special needs or questions: Contact Sunil Koswatta at 847-925-6445 or by e-mail: [skoswatt@harpercollege.edu](mailto:skoswatt@harpercollege.edu).

## Fast Facts about Allerton and the IMACC Conference

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 directions) can be found at <http://allerton.illinois.edu/>.

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. 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.

There is wireless internet access for all of the first floor, and possibly all of the main house by conference time.

Conference meals are pre-planned by the Conference Coordinator. Special dietary needs can be accommodated if you contact the Conference Coordinator by March 3, 2014. Snacks are served throughout the day and evening, and publishers are present with textbooks on display for your perusal. Publishers also usually donate towards our evening social hours. All amenities are included in the registration fee.

Attire has been somewhere between corporate casual and unkempt. You may want to bring: an umbrella (spring rain, some buildings not connected), hiking shoes, a camera, and your favorite game (social gatherings in the evenings center around card games, table tennis, and other activities).

There is no evening meal on Thursday night so plan accordingly.

In years past, some participants preferred to stay at the Monticello Best Western hotel at the intersection of Interstate 72 and IL-105; there is a block of rooms reserved until March 16, 2014. Be sure to state that you are with the IMACC conference. Rooms cost \$109.99 + tax per night. [217-762-9436]

No matter where you stay off-site, you must make your own reservations. Please, indicate no lodging on your reservation form if you are not staying at Allerton. Questions or concerns regarding conference registration should be directed to Sunil Koswatta at 847-925-6445 or e-mail him at [koswatt@harpercollege.edu](mailto:koswatt@harpercollege.edu).

## Do You Know the Way to Allerton?

### Main Entrance

- 1) Turn off the interstate at Monticello Exit 164 onto Bridge St. which will take you into Monticello.
- 2) Turn right at the first stop sign onto Market Street.
- 3) Follow Market St. to the stop sign at Marion Street and turn right.
- 4) Follow Marion St. to the next stop sign and turn left onto Allerton Road. This takes you out of town. It's about 2 miles to the entrance of Allerton Park and Conference Center. It will be on the right. Watch for the sign, it is easy to miss, especially after dark.

### West Entrance

- 1) Turn off Interstate 72 at Monticello exit 164 onto Bridge Street. Turn left (south) off the ramp and drive towards Monticello. Turn right (west) at the first crossroads, which will be old Route 47.
- 2) Travel approximately 2 miles west on old Route 47 and turn left (south) onto County Road 625 E, located just past the brown "Allerton Park and Conference Center" sign.
- 3) Continue on County Road 625 E for approximately one mile. At the stop sign, turn right (west) onto County Farm Road.
- 4) Turn left (south) onto the first road you come to, which will be Old Timber Road, and go through the brick columns. Follow signs to the main parking lot to the left. Conference Center guests may park in the main lot. Follow signs to the Conference Center.

2014 IMACC CONFERENCE  
Allerton House: April 3-5, 2014  
Return to Sunil Koswatta by Monday, Mar. 3, 2014

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Please print all information**

First Name	Last Name	Gender	
Street Address	City	State	Zip
School Name	e-mail address		
__ Home phone	__ Cell (indicate which)	School Phone	

Please check all that apply:

- I am attending for the first time.  
 I am a graduate student at \_\_\_\_\_.  
 I am retiring this year.

**ACCOMMODATIONS & FOOD**

Which night(s) will you be staying at Allerton House?

Thursday  Friday  BOTH

None: I will stay in town & make my own arrangements for lodging. [IMACC has reserved a block of 25 rooms at the Monticello Best Western for conference rate of \$109.99 per room per night plus tax. Call them at 217-762-9436 to make your reservations, mentioning the IMACC conference rate. Room block will be held till **3/16/2014**. Please note there is no hotel transportation to Allerton Retreat Center.]

Housing Preference: indicate 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices:

Main House  Gatehouse  Evergreen Lodge  Little House in the Woods

Roommate preference(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (some rooms will have more than one bed)

Meals: Check all meals that you will eat at the conference:

Friday:  Breakfast  Lunch  Dinner  
Saturday:  Breakfast  Lunch

Will you need vegetarian meals?  YES  NO

Do you have special dietary needs?  YES  NO Indicate your needs:  
 NO

Do you need a receipt prior to the conference?  YES  NO

Receipts will be included in conference folders at Allerton. If you need a receipt prior to the conference, include a self-addressed stamped envelope or clearly write your e-mail. Only fully paid attendees may get receipts prior to the conference.

Special needs or questions: Contact Sunil Koswatta at 1-847-925-6445 or via e-mail at skoswatt@harpercollege.edu

Please circle the appropriate dollar amount depending on your specific conference package:

- Make checks payable to: **IMACC**; *if a name must be used: IMACC/Steve Kifowit, treasurer*
- “Members” must have paid dues for 2013-2014 by the postmark deadline for the conference (Mar. 3, 2014) to get the member-rate for the conference.
- Each college can send one institutional representative to attend the conference at no cost if the college has paid the institutional membership fee for 2013-2014 by the postmark deadline for the conference (Mar. 3, 2014).

Package Choice	Member	Non-Member	Grad Student or Retired Member	Institutional Representative
Entire Conference: Thurs & Fri Lodging, Fri & Sat Meals	\$350	\$385	\$255	N/C
Registration, Thurs Lodging, Fri Meals	\$230	\$250	\$170	N/C
Registration, Fri Lodging, Fri & Sat Meals	\$265	\$285	\$190	N/C
Registration, no lodging, Fri & Sat Meals	\$180	\$200	\$130	N/C
Registration, no lodging, Friday Meals	\$130	\$150	\$90	N/C
Registration, no lodging, Saturday Meals	\$105	\$120	\$75	N/C

- Late (postmarked after Monday, Mar. 3) registrations and on-site registrations: add \$25 late fee.

TOTAL:

Refund Policy:

- Those canceling before the Mar. 3 deadline will receive the full refund.
- Those canceling after the Mar. 3 deadline should not expect a refund, but may appeal their circumstances to the IMACC Board for consideration. Appeals must be sent in writing to the IMACC President Omar Adawi.

#### Confirmation

Those requesting early confirmation of their conference registration should include a correct e-mail or a self-addressed stamped envelope with your registration form: please indicate YES or NO on the front of the registration form. Receipts will be included in all conference folders at Allerton.

### Make your check payable to **IMACC**

If your school requires that a name on the check must be included, please use **IMACC/Treasurer, Steve Kifowit**, not Sunil Koswatta.

Please send all registration materials (including the check) to:

Sunil Koswatta  
Department of Mathematical Sciences  
Harper College  
Palatine, IL 60067  
1-847-925-6445

skoswatt@harpercollege.edu

No registration is complete without a **fully completed registration form** and a check.

# **IMACC Leadership**

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## **Past President**

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## **Secretary**

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Tracey Hoy, Lake  
County  
Diane Martling, Harper  
Paul McCombs, Rock  
Valley

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Rodger Hergert, Rock  
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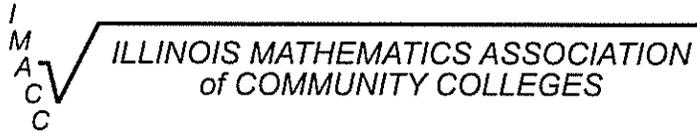
### **Conference**

[Rodger Hergert](#), *Publishers*

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## IMACC Individual Membership Form 2012 - 2013

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

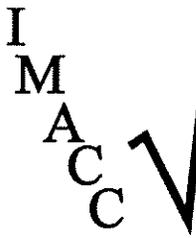
Membership Fees:  1 Year: \$15.00  3 Years: \$40.00  5 Years: \$65.00

Membership Fee	+	Scholarship Contribution	=	Total Enclosed
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Please make checks 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 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*.



**ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION  
OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

**INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP FORM  
2013 – 2014\***

**INVOICE 201314**

**AMOUNT DUE: \$350.00**

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**IMACC Institutional Members may send  
one institutional representative to the  
annual IMACC meeting free of charge  
(not including transportation.)**

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

President \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-President  
or Dean of  
Academic Affairs \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Information:

Title and Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\* IMACC's membership year begins July 1, 2013 and ends June 30, 2014. Annual dues must be paid by March 1, 2014 in order to receive the complimentary conference registration for the institutional representative.

## **We want to know what is new in your math department!**

The Illinois Mathematical Association of Community Colleges would like to know what is new in your school so that we can include it in the next edition of our newsletter.

Please send us information about:

- newly hired faculty
- newly achieved degrees
- awards received
- special projects that are underway
- pilot classes
- or anything else that is exciting in your department

We are also interested in sharing information about any new jobs that you will be listing. These can be added to the newsletter and links to listings can be added to our Facebook page.

Our one other request is that you let us know about faculty that are retiring from your department. We would like to be able to add their names to a list of recognized retirees in our newsletter and at our annual conference.

We value your time and would like to help you brag about your wonderful department. Please send any information you can share to: Diane Koenig, email: [d.koenig@rockvalleycollege.edu](mailto:d.koenig@rockvalleycollege.edu)

# The Math ConneXion

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