

The Math ConneXion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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President's Message

There is an old curse that says "May You Live in Interesting Times." We are all in that now, aren't we? I have not spent a full day at my college (Kankakee Community College) since March 6th. I have stopped in for some training, getting stuff from my office, and so on, but that's it. However, as (almost) all of us have experienced, online teaching is the norm now. Whether it be fully online (mine are), hybrid, or hyflex, I know all of us are working very hard for our students in these trying times (and keeping our cats off of our keyboards!). However, things must push on, and as IMACC president, I am hoping we push on as well.

As you are all aware of, our 2020 annual conference was canceled. There were no great keynote speeches, informative breakouts, talking to vendors, buying raffle tickets from Tony, games on Friday night, and most of all, those cinnamon rolls! Not to mention our wonderful hosts at Allerton. As I said, we push on, and the board met virtually 3 times this year. Our proposed budget must be approved along with other items. Since no annual meeting took place, we thank those who left comments in the Google Group, and voted on our two issues. Our budget did pass, as did the basic skills referendum.

For those of you who saw it in the Google Group, we were planning on a 1-day conference on October 2nd, but due, again, to the ongoing pandemic, we will instead be offering 3 one-hour sessions during October on a variety of topics. You will see info in this issue about that and how to register. You may already know that the annual AMATYC conference will be virtual coming up in November and IMACC's annual conference in April will also be virtual. Visit the AMATYC website on more info regarding the virtual conference. More info on IMACC's April virtual conference is forthcoming.

As we are all transitioning to an online environment, it is important that IMACC can support you in your professional development needs. The IMACC Webinars in October will help, the AMATYC Forums have been a great source for teachers, Jon Oaks' Midwest Region Facebook page, and The Illinois Online Network, among many others. IMACC has also put up a list of resources for your online teaching needs on the webpage at imacc.org. Please check that out if you have not already.

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Deadline for Submissions:

Fall 2020 - October 15
Winter 2021 - January 15
Summer 2021-April 30

Submit items to:
Jeremy Chamberlain, Editor
The Math ConneXion
jchamber@harpercollege.edu

Online Math ConneXion

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

Is Your Membership Current?

Be sure to check your membership membership expiration date listed on the IMACC website.

If your membership has expired or is about to expire, you can use the online form to renew at:
<https://www.imacc.org>

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

Lastly, I would like to speak a little about the ongoing crisis. Last spring was difficult for faculty, admin, and students. Also, let us not forget that high school seniors were battling their way through e-learning with their courses as well. It is vitally important we keep all of this in mind this fall and next spring. It is very likely that we will have students that will be unprepared for our classes, and we need to be prepared as much as possible and to do what we can to help our students be successful. We have great math teachers in Illinois, and I know you do this already, but you will probably have to do it more over this next year and beyond.

Thank you all for supporting IMACC. We are a great organization, and I know we are the envy of many other states.

Take care and stay safe.

Michael Caparula
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<http://www.imacc.org>

Board Member Elections

Consider serving in an IMACC leadership position next year!

Each year in early spring, IMACC holds elections for 3 Board members and the offices of President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Please consider running! For detailed information on the positions, please visit the IMACC By-Laws:

<https://www.imacc.org/about-us/about-imacc/imacc-by-laws/>.

To apply, just complete this nomination form:

<https://forms.gle/SsQJ9QN4b87tLzny6?>

Nominations are due by January 31, 2021.

If you have questions, please contact Dan Kernler, President-Elect and Elections Committee Chair, at dkernler@elgin.edu.

Institutional Members

Black Hawk College	2020
Carl Sandburg College	2020
College of Lake County	2019
Elgin Community College	2020
Harper College	2019
Heartland Community College	2020
Illinois Central College	2020
John A. Logan College	2017
John Wood Community College	2019
Joliet Junior College	2019
Kankakee Community College	2020
Kishwaukee College	2020
Lake Land College	2019
Lewis & Clark Community College	2020
Lincoln Land Community College	2021
McHenry Community College	2018
Moraine Valley Community College	2020
Morton College	2019
Oakton Community College	2016
Parkland College	2020
Prairie State College	2020
Rend Lake College	2018
Richland Community College	2018
Rock Valley College	2020
Shawnee Community College	2020
South Suburban College	2020
Southwestern Illinois College	2018
Triton College	2020
Waubonsee Community College	2020

Notification Needed

In an effort to cut down on the unnecessary mailing of paper copies, IMACC members wishing to continue receiving the *ConneXion* in hardcopy format, must email Jeremy Chamberlain at ichamber@harpercollege.edu by March 1, 2021.

Please note, you must send an email to opt in and continue receiving a paper copy if that is the format you prefer. Any member who does not send an email stating they would like to continue receiving paper copies will receive future issues of the *ConneXion* in electronic form via an email with a link. If you have had any change to your address or email address, please email the IMACC Membership Chair, Christopher Riola, at riolac@morainevalley.edu with your updated information.

Send in your Nominations

Consider nominating a deserving student for the IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship (deadline March 1), a deserving colleague for the Distinguished Service Award or the Excellence in Teaching Award (deadlines March 1), or retiring members meeting the qualifications for the Life Membership Award. More information about these awards can be found at www.imacc.org.

Upcoming Conferences of 2020/2021

WisMATYC	September 26 th	Zoom Social Hour
AMATYC	November 6 th , 13 th , & 20 th	Virtual Conference Fridays
IMACC	October 9 th , 15 th , 22 nd	Webinar Series (details page 6)
IMACC	April 8 th —10 th	Virtual Format

Curriculum Corner

by: Keven Hansen
CURRICULUM CORNER
September 15th, 2020

Since the committee's last report earlier this year, a lot has happened! The following are the primary items before the committee presently:

Articulation Guide:

- The next phase of updating curriculum standards will focus on pre-calculus courses (college algebra, trigonometry, etc.). This was slated to be done in the Spring, but now likely will not take place until next Spring. An IMACC task force was appointed (Jeremy McClure, Linda Blanco, Mike Caparula, and Chris Bailey)—hopefully, all are still available to serve. ISMAA members interested in participating in the revision process will be contacted by Keven Hansen
- Two changes to the Mathematics for Elementary Teachers sequence have been brought to the board. One change addressed *when* the geometry pre-requisite is implemented (first semester or second) and the other supports (but doesn't require) the use of basic skills assessments in the course (now that it is no longer a state requirement). These changes will need to go to the full membership and to ISMAA for approval.
- In Fall 2019, the IAI general education math panel slightly revised the description for M1 901: Quantitative Literacy. ISMAA and IMACC will need to coordinate on getting this revision implemented in the Articulation Guide.

Dual Credit: Concerns continue to be expressed about how minimum instructor requirements are interpreted for dual credit instruction under the new amendment. However, there appears to be little room for institutions (or IMACC) to require additional requirements beyond the HLC minimum standard.

Placement: The status of the SJR 41 report is unknown at present, but there have been numerous concerns expressed about the "attacks" on placement processes that have occurred during the pandemic. Many schools report having lost the ability to administer placement tests and fear this may become permanent. Guidance from ICCB for this Fall overrode plans already in place at many schools, and it is unclear if that guidance will be extended to Spring.

Transitional Math:

- The geometry requirement appears to be unevenly applied throughout the state when working with students who have successfully completed the STEM pathway. Some institutions are still checking the geometry requirement while others are assuming it has been met since TM students in theory have already met high school graduation requirements.
- There continues to be frustration that TM-STEM materials promised by the state are not forthcoming. Greg Wheaton, Bob Wachtel, and Keven Hansen will be beginning a process to try to assemble good project-based learning options for this course. If anyone has suggestions, let one of these individuals know!
- Concerns regarding the efficiency of feedback from the portability panel have been expressed. This may simply be COVID-related, but many schools report difficulty in getting accurate feedback on how to improve rejected or "needs more information" courses.

Proctored Testing: Throughout the Summer and this Fall, numerous questions have circulated about how various schools are handling proctored testing requirements in the department.

News From AMATYC

No. 1 Announcing the new AMATYC Midwest Region webpage!

Now, even if you're not on Facebook, you can stay connected with what's going on in the Midwest Region! Have you ever wanted

- to give one of your colleagues or an administrator a list of AMATYC Membership benefits,
- to get involved in your state's affiliate and wanted to know the website,
- to see the notes from past Midwest Region events, such as the recent "Midwest Meet-Up on Groupwork and Assessment,"
- to view a calendar of upcoming AMATYC events and have an easy way to save them to your calendar so that you don't miss anything, or
- to have a place to have discussions and share resources with others on the new myAMATYC?

You can do all that and more on the new AMATYC Midwest Region webpage at amatyc.org/midwest

No 2: AMATYC Position Statements

There are three proposed AMATYC position statements that are up for final review this fall. Providing your feedback and comments on the following position statements is a great way to get involved and have your voice heard.

- **Equity in Mathematics**, sponsored by the Equity Committee; send comments to AJ Stachelek at equityinmathed@gmail.com.
- **Mathematics and Global Learning**, sponsored by the International Mathematics ANet; send comments to Barbara Leitherer at bleitherer@ccbcmd.edu.
- **Professional Development for Faculty Teaching Developmental Mathematics**, sponsored by the Developmental Mathematics Committee; send comments to Kathryn Van Wagoner at kathrynvanson@weber.edu.

Awards, Scholarships and Distinctions

Congratulations to **Chris Cunningham** as the recipient of the **Teaching Excellence Award**.

Congratulations to **Roberta Christie** for receiving the **Distinguished Service Award**.

Congratulations to both **Diane Koenig** and **Marybeth Beno** for receiving the **Lifetime Member Award**.

Congratulations to **Brittany Roberts** for being awarded a \$1250 **Memorial Fund Scholarship**.

Echoes and Highlights from the IMACC Annual Conference that did not occur at Allerton 2020

Past-President Diane Koenig passes the gavel to incoming President Michael Caparula.

IMACC members enjoying breakfast, good conversation and comradery over a nice hot breakfast.

A nice view of IMACC members chatting, joking and shuffling about in between scheduled conference presentations.

Saturday, moments before the presentation of awards.

IMACC Webinar Series

During October, IMACC President Mike Caparula and IMACC President-Elect Dan Kernler will be hosting 3 webinars on topics in online learning. These webinars are FREE and you can register on our webpage, IMACC.org.

- 1. Creating Engaging Videos**
(moderated by Dan Kernler)
Date: October 9th, 3 - 4PM
- 2. The State of Community College Teaching- A Virtual Round Table Discussion**
(moderated by Dan Kernler)
Date: October 15th 4:5:30PM
- 3. "Grows and Groans"- Best and Worst Practices in Online Teaching**
(moderated by Mike Caparula)
Date: October 22nd 3-4PM

[IMACC Fall Webinar Series](#)

Registrations are due the day before each webinar.

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