

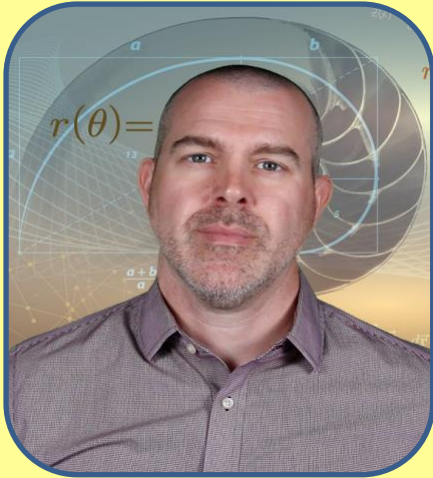
# The Math ConneXion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Volume 51

Fall 2021

Number 1



**Daniel Kernler**  
*President*

Elgin Community College  
1700 Spartan Dr.  
Elgin, IL 60123  
[dkernler@elgin.edu](mailto:dkernler@elgin.edu)

**Laurel Cutright**  
*President-Elect*

Olney Central College  
305 N West St.  
Olney, IL 62450  
[cutrightl@iecc.edu](mailto:cutrightl@iecc.edu)

**Michael Caparula**  
*Past President*

Kankakee Community College  
100 College Drive  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
[mcaparula@kcc.edu](mailto:mcaparula@kcc.edu)

**Amy Frankel**  
*Secretary*

Waubonsee College  
RT 47 Waubonsee Drive  
Sugar Grove, IL 60554  
[amymathprof5@gmail.com](mailto:amymathprof5@gmail.com)

**Natalie McGathey**  
*Treasurer*

Prairie State College  
202 South Halsted St  
Chicago Heights, IL 60411  
[nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu](mailto:nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu)

## President's Message

Here we are in the middle of another fall semester. But...it's not really just "another" fall semester, is it? I know some of us are still teaching remotely for at least a portion of our loads, and speaking only for myself, I'm pretty tired of looking at a bunch of black squares. Even for those who are back on campus, we're wearing masks, dealing with vaccine and testing mandates, trying to keep ourselves and students socially distant, and then all the other myriad of professional and personal ways that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to create disruption.

Still, I'm so impressed with the good work that IMACC is doing. Even in the middle of a pandemic, we're continuing to offer professional development. We have another series of webinars, with the first two already completed by the time you read this (*The State of Community College Teaching and Effective (and Secure) Assessment in an Online Environment*), and a third on the topic of *Developmental Education Reform* scheduled for Friday, 10/22, from 3-4pm. For more details on the webinars, visit [imacc.org](http://imacc.org). Recordings and notes for all three sessions will be posted. Many thanks to the hosts of these sessions and to our webmaster, Chris Cunningham, for getting links and details posted on the site so quickly.

We're also working on some significant statewide initiatives. Due to the developmental changes in HB2170, institutions across the state are coming up with plans to create a pathway for students to complete a transfer-level math course within 2 semesters of enrolling. We're also looking to update curriculum like College Algebra, giving institutions more flexibility in what is offered in these courses. Look for more information on this and a proposal from the Curriculum Committee for the General Membership Meeting at the Spring 2022 conference.

Looking forward, we'll have elections for the IMACC Board and officers in early 2022. More details will be coming soon about how to submit your name for a position. If you have questions about the process, contact IMACC President-Elect Laurel Cutright at [cutrightl@iecc.edu](mailto:cutrightl@iecc.edu). Oh, and speaking of positions, our amazing Treasurer of the last 7 years, Natalie McGathey, is going to finishing her term this year. We are looking for someone interested in serving in this crucial role. Natalie has been kind enough to create a [List of Treasurer Duties](#), and she is more than willing to work with anyone who is

## 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.

## Deadline for Submissions:

Winter 2022 - January 15  
Summer 2022-April 30  
Fall 2022 - October 15

Submit items to: Ellen  
Field, Editor The Math  
ConneXion  
[ellenfield05@gmail.com](mailto:ellenfield05@gmail.com)

interested in taking over. If you have questions or would like to learn more,  
please contact Natalie at [nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu](mailto:nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu).

Finally, I'd like to share a bit about the Spring 2022 conference, scheduled  
to be held April 7-9 at the Allerton Park & Retreat Center in Monticello, IL.  
We have two amazing speakers set to headline the conference. Dr. Francis  
Su is a Professor of Mathematics at Harvey Mudd College and is the author  
of [Mathematics for Human Flourishing](#). You can learn more about Dr. Su  
at [francissu.com](http://francissu.com) or follow him on Twitter [@mathyawp](#). Marian Dingle is a  
veteran educator who specializes in mathematics and culturally responsive  
teaching. You can learn more about Marian at [mariandingle.com](http://mariandingle.com) or follow  
her on Twitter at [@DingleTeach](#). I'm excited about both of these speakers,  
and I think you'll really enjoy their sessions.

But we need you as well! The IMACC conference is always driven by the  
high-quality presentations of our members. Please consider applying to  
present. We certainly have a lot to talk about! The application form will be  
online this year: [2022 IMACC Speaker Information Form](#). If you have any  
questions about the process or want to float an idea by me, please email me  
at [dkernler@elgin.edu](mailto:dkernler@elgin.edu).

Thanks for all you do! I'm so proud (and honestly still a little amazed) to  
be the president of an organization like IMACC. I can't wait to see what  
the rest of this year brings, and I look forward to seeing you all at the  
spring conference!

Dan Kernler  
IMACC President  
<http://www.imacc.org>

## 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 Ellen Field at [ellenfield05@gmail.com](mailto:ellenfield05@gmail.com).

Please note, you must send an email to opt to 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](mailto:riolac@morainevalley.edu) with your updated information.

## Institutional Members

College	Expires
Black Hawk College	2020
Carl Sandburg College	2022
College of Dupage	2021
College of Lake County	2019
Elgin Community College	2022
Harper College	2019
Heartland Community College	2020
Illinois Central College	2022
John A. Logan College	2017
John Wood Community College	2019
Joliet Junior College	2019
Kankakee Community College	2021
Kishwaukee College	2020
Lake Land College	2019
Lewis & Clark Community College	2021
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	2021
Rend Lake College	2018
Richland Community College	2018
Rock Valley College	2020
Shawnee Community College	2020
South Suburban College	2022
Southwestern Illinois College	2018
Triton College	2020
Waubonsee Community College	2021

## 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](http://www.imacc.org).

## Faculty Job Posting

Joliet Junior College has a full-time tenure track math faculty

opening. Apply at:

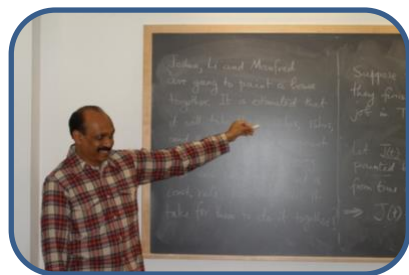
[https://jjc.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/JJCHR/job/MC-Main-Campus/Faculty--Mathematics\\_REQ-89](https://jjc.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/JJCHR/job/MC-Main-Campus/Faculty--Mathematics_REQ-89)

## Upcoming Conference

October 28-31- 47<sup>th</sup> AMATYC Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ. To find out more, visit the Conference website at [www.amatyc.org/2021ConfHome](http://www.amatyc.org/2021ConfHome).

## Annual Conference Fee Waiver

IMACC will again be offering five registration fee waivers for the IMACC Conference in April 2022. These waivers are intended to support current IMACC membership who wish to attend both days of the conference, but whose institutions will not provide financial support. Applicants must submit a completed conference registration form along with a signed statement affirming that their colleges are not providing adequate financial support by February 15. The recipients will be randomly selected from the applicant pool.



## Member Spotlight

**Past IMACC President: Sunil Kaswatta**

On the left, Sunil at Berkeley in 2014;  
And in 1992 (right)



I became a Harper faculty member in 1995. There were two philosophies in the department at the time and the so called “reform philosophy” was the dominant one. I became disillusioned with this reform philosophy soon and was wondering if there is a national resistance to this. Then I read the article titled “What do we do about calculus? First, do no harm” by one Richard Askey in the American Mathematical Monthly October 1997 issue. I was so happy to read it and decided that I have to meet this, Richard Askey. I did not have to wait too long.

There was a special session titled “Mathematics Education and Mistaken Philosophies of Mathematics” organized by Saunders Mac Lane and Richard Askey at the American Mathematical Society (AMS) annual meetings at San Antonio in January 1999.

I registered and arranged necessary flights and accommodations to be there as soon as I saw this. Askey (He asked me to call him Dick, but I couldn’t. I addressed him as Professor Askey until he died in 2019.) was happy to see me and introduced me to a private mathematics education discussion blog that he hosted at University of Wisconsin. The strict requirement of this blog is that the members cannot share the posts. This requirement is there so that members can freely express their opinions without any fear of a backlash. Henceforth, I refer to this blog as the “Askey’s blog”.

Then in November 2001 there was a meeting organized by AMS to release the “The Mathematics Education of Teachers” report in Washington DC. I came to know about this through Askey’s blog and realized that some members of the blog were attending the meeting and I wanted to meet them. However, individual participation was not allowed and only a group could attend the meeting. Mercedes McGowen a member of the department at the time wanted to go as well. She arranged us to go as a group from University of Illinois, Chicago. Meeting Hung-his Wu, another member of the Askey blog, at this meeting was a life changing event for me. He was conducting institutes for elementary and middle school teachers at Berkley at the time and invited me to come to the next institute in the summer of 2002. (Henceforth, I refer to them as “Wu Institutes”.) Our dean at the time allowed me to team teach my summer classes so that an adjunct faculty member would cover my classes for the three-week period that I have to attend the Wu Institute of 2002. I was so impressed by this experience; I attended every Wu Institute from 2002 to 2014. (The funding for institutes ended in 2014.) I could not get summer teaching arrangements like in 2002 for subsequent years and had to give up nearly \$300,000 summer pay for those years to attend Wu Institutes. (Wu arranged for me to receive a small grant in those years that covered my travelling and lodging expenses.) But the experience was fully worth it.

As a result of being a member of the “Wu team” for Wu Institutes, I was invited to be a member of the writing team of the “Engage New York” common-core mathematics curriculum. In the introductory meeting at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, I met several other members of the Askey’s blog, namely, James

Madden, Roger Howe, James Tanton, and Scott Baldrige. (Madden and Baldrige now hosts the Askey's blog.)

I was also invited to write two CliffsNotes books titled "Geometry: Common core Quick Review" and "Trigonometry: Common Core Quick Review" and these books were published in 2017 and 2018 respectively.

I attend every IMACC meeting since 1995 and served as a board member in 1999 – 2002. I was a member of the Planning Committee of the AMATYC conference held at Chicago in 2000. I served as the IMACC coordinator from 2014 to 2018 and as the IMACC president in 2019.

I wanted to invite Askey and Wu as speakers, and they agreed to come in 2019. Unfortunately, Askey was terminally ill and bed-ridden in 2019 and he could not come.

My biggest achievement as the president of IMACC was organizing the opposition to the so called "co-requisite bill" or the senate bill SB446 and preventing it from becoming the law. I would like to acknowledge my IMACC colleagues Chris Apphun, Keven Hansen, and Linda Blanco for providing yeomen's work in this regard.

Finally, I also want to mention my IMACC "birds of a feather" buddies Omar Adawi and Kathiravan Giritharan.

## Opportunity to Hold Office

Looking to make a difference but with only a 1-year time commitment? IMACC is looking for someone to be the treasurer for the 2021-2022 year. The list of treasurer duties is [here](#). Please contact Natalie McGathey at [nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu](mailto:nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu) or Dan Kernler at [dkernler@elgin.edu](mailto:dkernler@elgin.edu) if interested.

## Curriculum Corner

### Curriculum Committee Update by Abby Bailey

**Inclusion:** If any members want to join the curriculum committee, please do not hesitate to volunteer. Joining the Curriculum Committee is not an elected position, and we like to see representation from each community college. It's a great place to share and learn of new and old curricular ideas. Email me at [abailey@elgin.edu](mailto:abailey@elgin.edu) to get information on the next meeting held via Zoom (on November 4th) to join.

**Elementary Education:** Some colleges within the state have their geometry in the first course of the Mathematics for Elementary Teaching course sequence, while others more heavily focus on geometry in their second course. The Committee has written a statement may allow community college to be more flexible with their curricular planning. IMACC members will see a draft of this closer the upcoming spring conference.

### **Articulation Guide:**

- The work of the Task Force on college algebra, trigonometry, and the combined college algebra/trigonometry course was presented to ISMAA's Two-Year College Committee and their Section Board as of September 25th, 2021. It is now ready to go to our membership this coming spring (along with theirs) for a vote of approval.
- Upon closer review of the articulation guide, there are a several small revisions to course descriptions coming from the IAI panel work. We would like to review these non-curricular edits, and, if insignificant to content, go to our membership this coming spring for a vote of approval.
- The review of the articulation guide also may bring about revisions worth a subcommittee's consideration.
- A subcommittee is beginning to review the developmental section of the articulation guide (following Post-Workforce Readiness, Dual Credit Quality, and Education and Workforce Readiness). We would like to collect feedback and data from you, our membership, before proceeding with any editorial recommendations. Please be on the look-out for a topical survey!
- IAI now has Calculus I as the prerequisite to Linear Algebra.

### **Membership Concerns:**

- Colleges across the state are dealing with changing their placements and curricular sequencing due to the Education and Workforce Equity Act. There is variability in how schools are interpreting how to comply with HB2170. Some community colleges have joined working groups for assistance in creating a curriculum that will satisfy the legislation and encourage student learning of the mathematics they need.

This shows a degree of uncertainty in how to satisfy this ideology of remedial mathematics and meeting the preconceived notions of the expected learning outcomes.

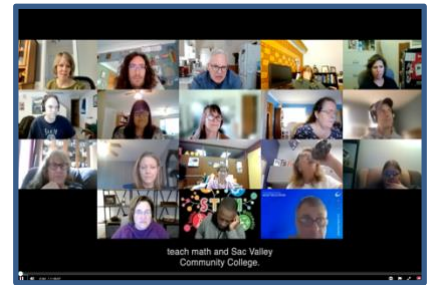
- Some members would like to see curriculum recommendations for technical math. The Committee will discuss the feasibility of this as a possibility.
- Accurate assessment of student knowledge continues to be a concern for math courses being offered online mathematics without proctored testing.
- ISMAA brought up a recent increase in failures of students passing the elementary licensure in Illinois (edTPA).

If you have any ideas you want to share, ideas you want to gain, concerns about curriculum you want to voice, or interest in joining our committee, then send me a quick (or lengthy) email to [abailey@elgin.edu](mailto:abailey@elgin.edu). Happy teaching!

*Due to transitioning to a new Midwest Region VP, we have no news for AMATYC at this time.*

## Fall 2021 IMACC Virtual Webinar Series

- The State of Community College Teaching: Thursday, 10/7; Hosts: Cindy Johnson ([Cindy.johnson@heartland.edu](mailto:Cindy.johnson@heartland.edu)) and Dan Kernler ([dkernler@elgin.edu](mailto:dkernler@elgin.edu)) Here's a [youtube recording](#) and a [summary document](#).
- Effective (and Secure) Assessment in an Online Environment: Friday, 10/15; Hosts: Jennifer Reeb ([jreeb@oakton.edu](mailto:jreeb@oakton.edu)) and Dan Kernler ([dkernler@elgin.edu](mailto:dkernler@elgin.edu)). Here's a [youtube recording](#) and a [summary document](#).
- Developmental Education Reform Roundtable: Friday, 10/22; Hosts: Mike Caparula ([mcaparula@kcc.edu](mailto:mcaparula@kcc.edu)) and Ellen Field ([efield@waubonsee.edu](mailto:efield@waubonsee.edu)). Here's a [youtube recording](#).



### IMACC Leadership 2020-2021

#### Officers

##### President

Daniel Kernler  
[dkernler@elgin.edu](mailto:dkernler@elgin.edu)

##### President-Elect

Laurel Cutright  
[cutrightl@iecc.edu](mailto:cutrightl@iecc.edu)

##### Past-President

Michael Caparula  
[mcaparula@kcc.edu](mailto:mcaparula@kcc.edu)

##### Secretary

Amy Frankel  
[Amymathprof5@gmail.com](mailto:Amymathprof5@gmail.com)

##### Treasurer

Natalie McGathey  
[nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu](mailto:nmcgathey@prairiestate.edu)

#### Board of Directors

##### 2019-2022

Kimberley McHale  
[Kim.McHale@heartland.edu](mailto:Kim.McHale@heartland.edu)

Jeremy McClure  
[Jeremy.mcclure@heartland.edu](mailto:Jeremy.mcclure@heartland.edu)

Chris Appuhn  
[appuhnc@bhc.edu](mailto:appuhnc@bhc.edu)

##### 2021-2023

Kim Martin  
[Kim.martin@siu.edu](mailto:Kim.martin@siu.edu)

Michael McClure  
[Michael.mcclure@swic.edu](mailto:Michael.mcclure@swic.edu)

Dawn Peterson  
[dawn.peterson@jcc.edu](mailto:dawn.peterson@jcc.edu)

##### 2021-2024

Ellen Field  
[Ellenfield05@gmail.com](mailto:Ellenfield05@gmail.com)

Joe Dethrow  
[josephdethrow@jale.edu](mailto:josephdethrow@jale.edu)

Tony Paris  
[mparis@sandburg.edu](mailto:mparis@sandburg.edu)

Ellen Field  
Math ConneXion Editor  
Waubonsee Community College  
Route 47 at Waubonsee Dr  
Sugar Grove, IL 60554



