The Math ConneXion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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President's Message

Greetings, IMACC members!

It is an honor to serve as the next president of IMACC. I joined the Black Hawk College math department in January 2012, and I quickly became an IMACC member. I attended my first IMACC conference in 2013, and I have regularly attended IMACC conferences ever since. In 2019, I was elected to the IMACC Board, and I was appointed to the newly established Legislative Committee. I became chair of the Legislative Committee in 2022. IMACC has been a significant part of my professional life, and I look forward to this next chapter as president.

Thank you and congratulations to Past-President Ellen Field (Waubonsee Community College) and our new conference coordinator, Jeremy Chamberlain (Harper College), for a fantastic IMACC conference in April! Friday morning, Michael Sullivan (Florida SouthWestern State College) shared ways we can help students use AI to learn. Friday afternoon, Craig Zilles (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) presented a framework for more frequent, lower-stakes testing with a computer-based testing facility. Friday evening, Arthur Benjamin (Harvey Mudd College) wowed us with very impressive mental math. Saturday Morning, Michael Sullivan advocated for modernizing introductory statistics courses. Throughout the conference, we had a variety of great breakout sessions offered by numerous IMACC members.

During my term as IMACC president, I have the privilege of working with IMACC officers, Board members, and other dedicated individuals. I have already received a treasure trove of information from my predecessor, Past-President Ellen Field (Waubonsee Community College), and I am immensely grateful. The following Board members are one or two years into their three-year terms: Joseph Craan (Olive-Harvey College), Peter Kay (Carl Sandburg College), Kyriakos Kypriotakis (Joliet Junior College), Matthew Lee (Oakton College), Natalie McGathey (Prairie State College), and Jennifer Watkins (Shawnee Community College). Congratulations and thank you to the officers and Board members who were elected in February.

- President-Elect: Brian Mercer (Parkland College)
- Secretary (reelected): Jake Winters (Black Hawk College)
- Treasurer: Kate Sims-Drew (Prairie State College)
- Board members: Andrew Carr (John A. Logan College), America Masaros (Harper College), and Tina Mote (Triton College)

Illinois Mathematics Association of Community Colleges

Online Math ConneXion

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

Deadline for Submissions:

Fall 2026- October 15
Winter 2027-January 15
Summer 2027-April 30

Submit items to: Ellen Field, Editor of The Math ConneXion
ellenfield05@gmail.com

Is Your Membership Current? **********

Be sure to check your membership expiration date listed on the IMACC website. If your membership has expired or is about to expire, you can use this form: https://www.imacc.org/members/member-registration 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.

Please be sure to give yourself time for rest, relaxation, and recuperation this summer. As faculty, we tend to be workaholics, but we cannot run on all cylinders all the time. Before anyone says it, I know I need to follow this advice, too! 😉

Chris Appuhn
IMACC President
appuhnc@bhc.edu

And the Awards Go To…

Distinguished Service: Omar Adawi, Parkland College
Teaching Excellence: Tina Mote, Triton College
James Armstrong: Linda Sons, Northern IL University
Life Membership: Kim Martin, Southeastern IL College & Angie Gum-Miller, Lincoln Land CC

Awards Committee Chair: Deanna Welsch

IMACC Memorial Fund Scholarship Recipient: Shane Beard, who plans to major in secondary mathematics education at Eastern IL University. Nominated by Kevin Hastings of Parkland College.

Thanks to the Scholarship Committee: Angie Gum-Miller (chair), Kenny Beynon, Diane Koenig, and Tony Paris

Institutional Members

College	Expires
Black Hawk College	2026
Carl Sandburg College	2026
College of DuPage	2027
College of Lake County	2026
Elgin Community College	2026
Harper College	2019
Heartland Community College	2025
Illinois Central College	2026
John A. Logan College	2017
John Wood Community College	2019
Joliet Junior College	2019
Kankakee Community College	2026
Kaskaskia College	2024
Kishwaukee College	2026
Lake Land College	2019
Lewis & Clark Community College	2026
Lincoln Land Community College	2021
McHenry Community College	2018
Moraine Valley Community College	2026
Morton College	2022
Oakton Community College	2026
Parkland College	2026
Prairie State College	2025
Rend Lake College	2018
Richland Community College	2018
Rock Valley College	2026
Shawnee Community College	2026
South Suburban College	2026
Southwestern Illinois College	2026
Triton College	2026
Waubonsee Community College	2025

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, please email Ellen Field at ellenfield05@gmail.com (if you haven't already). If you would like to update your address or email address information, please go to the member's area on the IMACC website.

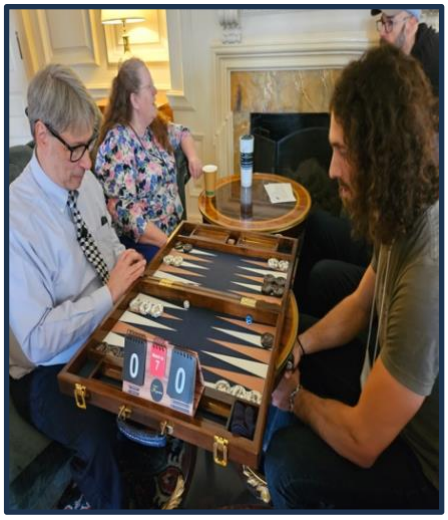
Institutional membership is an important source of support for IMACC. If the year after your college's name is any time before 2026, your college needs to renew. If your college is not listed, you need to join! Talk to your department head or coordinator and make sure your college renews or joins.

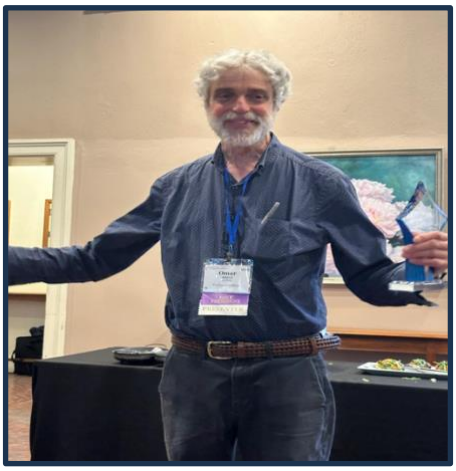
Conferences

2026	InMATYC	September 18	Indianapolis, IN
2026	IMATYC	October 9	Des Moines, IA
2026	AMATYC	November 19-22	Philadelphia, PA
2027	IMACC	April 1-3	Monticello, IL
2027	AMATYC	November 11-14	Spokane, WA
2028	IMACC	April 6-8	Monticello, IL
2028	AMATYC	November 9-12	Phoenix, AZ

Memories of 2026 IMACC's 51st Annual Conference

Photos by
Rodger Hergert





Top row left: Amy Madden (Moraine Valley ret.) shares what she learned from over 30 years of mathematics teaching.

Top row center: Backgammon grandmaster Arthur Benjamin (Harvey Mudd College) was extremely excited to take on Greg Wheaton (Elgin CC) in a game after his Friday afternoon breakout session.

Top row right: This year's Distinguished Service Award winner Omar Adawi (Parkland College).

Middle row left: Carl Trank (Rock Valley), Regan Polly (Moraine Valley CC), Cole Regnery (Rock Valley), and Chris Benshoof (Harper College) enjoy a park excursion after lunch.

Middle row center: Kenneth Beynon (Elgin CC) and Cole Regnery (Rock Valley) face off across the chess board.

Middle row right: Arthur Benjamin (Harvey Mudd College) captivates the crowd with his incredible feats of mental calculation during the Friday night keynote session.

Bottom row left: A few folks from Southwestern Illinois College took advantage of a break in the conference to play a game of Just One in the dining room as dinner was being prepared.

Bottom row center: America Masaros (Harper College) provides tips on making PDF files accessible.

Bottom row right: Ellen Field (Waubonsee CC) passes the gavel to the next IMACC president Chris Appuhn (Black Hawk College).

American Mathematical Society

The 2027 Joint Mathematics Meetings (JMM) is being planned as an in-person meeting in Chicago, IL
January 12-15, 2027 (Tuesday-Friday)
McCormick Place, Lakeside Center and South Building

A Round of Applause

A huge thank you goes to Tony Paris for his running the raffle and to Angie Gum-Miller for her leadership with the Memorial Scholarship Fund.

We are pleased to announce that America Masaros and Natalie McGathey have graciously offered to take over these respective roles.

IMACC Curriculum Committee
By, Jennifer Watkins

After a recent hiatus, the IMACC Curriculum Committee met again on April 10, 2026 at Allerton. The goal of this committee is to provide resources for faculty and departments of mathematics on issues related to community college math curriculum, with particular emphasis on curricular paths within the state of Illinois. We have a lot of work to do over the next year as we strive to complete multiple updates to the Joint Articulation Guide and address various curriculum related issues. We want to have representation from as many institutions as possible on this important committee. Would you be interested in serving with us? If so, please email committee chair Jennifer Watkins jenniferw@shawneecc.edu. Our next meeting will be held on Friday, September 18 via Zoom.

A Final Word from our Past President

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 51st IMACC Conference. I truly appreciate all of those who supported me (Kyra Ryder, Chris Riola and the many who helped over email). I'm grateful for the grace extended me regarding my logistical errors—from forgetting Friday's dessert to scheduling two corequisite sessions at the same time.

I have learned a great deal about organization through this process, and I am reminded of how kind and fun this community is. Special thanks go to our new Conference Coordinator, Jeremy Chamberlain, who handled numerous unexpected issues with a wonderful attitude.

Ellen Field

Full-Time Math Faculty Job Postings

Black Hawk College Fall 2026 https://www.schooljobs.com/careers/bhcedu/jobs/5301566/mathematics-instructor-full-time

Is your school an institutional member for AMATYC? Institutional members can have their job posting information posted on the AMATYC job board as well. Please visit https://amatyc.org/page/JobBoardPostPolicy for more information about having your job posting placed on AMATYC's job board site.

The AMATYC job board can be found at https://amatyc.org/page/jobboard

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IMACC Leadership 2026-2027

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