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Website: www.ala.matyc.org

2013 AlaMATYC Conference Conversations

The 2013 AlaMATYC Conference at Southern Union State Community College in Opelika, AL proved that the conferences are getting better each year. The conference theme was *Transitions: Ensuring Student Success*. Rob Farinelli, past president of AMATYC, was the keynote speaker and shared his thoughts on the state of mathematics education in 2013. The information was enlightening as he forced the audience to think about solutions to some of the problems we face as mathematics educators, such as developmental mathematics courses and its effects on student persistence. This year, a panel discussion was added to the event, and it provided a very engaging conversation



Conference Panelists (left to right): Dr. Marilyn Strutchens, Dr. Mark Heinrich, and Dr. Charles Nash

between the audience and distinguished guests. The panelists inspired us all to rethink our individual roles in ensuring student success. The conference panelists were Dr. Marilyn Strutchens (Auburn University), Dr. Mark Heinrich (Alabama Community College System), and Dr. Charles Nash (University of Alabama). We look forward to continuing the conversation next year. Special thanks goes to Paige Feibelman (site coordinator) and her SUSCC colleagues for a job well done in preparing the conference site. We shall meet again next year in Birmingham, Alabama.



2013 AlaMATYC Conference Attendees (left to right) Michael Green, Padmal Mahawanniarachchi, and Darrell Hagler collaborate on a conference activity

2013-2014
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39th Annual AMATYC Conference

October 31—November 3, 2013
Anaheim, California



If you have not attended a national conference before, I assure you that you will not be disappointed if you attend the 39th Annual AMATYC Conference. The conference is in Anaheim, California this year which means one thing: **Disneyland.**

If this doesn't convince you that attending the conference may be worthwhile for you and/or your family, then consider spicing up things in the classroom. Are you tired of the same old routine day in and day out? The conference is sure to light your fire and rejuvenate your enthusiasm for teaching mathematics. Perhaps, you are already on fire and want to spread your passion by getting more involved on the state, regional, or national level. AMATYC will provide you many opportunities to do just that. Attending the conference will only benefit you. Think about it!!

You have a few months to decide, but don't wait too long. The conference hotel usually books up quickly.

Conference Dates:
Oct. 31—Nov. 3, 2013

Featured Speaker:
Paige McKeeague,
MathTV.com
Five Minutes to a More Satisfying Course

Discount Registration:
Member \$340
Non-member \$445

Discount Registration Deadline:
Monday, Sept. 30, 2013.



PAIGE FEIBELMAN TO PRESENT AT THE 39TH AMATYC CONFERENCE

Congratulations to our very own, Paige Feibelman (2013-2014 President), whose proposal to present at the AMATYC conference in Anaheim was accepted. In her presentation "*Charter a Mu Alpha Theta Chapter at Your College,*" Paige will provide ideas for meetings, projects, and activities.

WHY ATTEND THE AMATYC CONFERENCE?

You can watch videos by conference participants sharing reasons to attend the AMATYC conference on AMATYC's website. The reasons may persuade your administrators to support you in your efforts to travel out-of-state for professional development. Our very own Shawanda Thomas (2013-2014 President-Elect) was selected to provide one of the videos. You can check it out at

http://www.amatyc.org/Events/conferences/_/2013Anaheim/whyattend_conference.html

2014 MATHEMATICS EXCELLENCE AWARD

AMATYC is encouraging nominations for a colleague who deserves special recognition for his or her outstanding contributions to mathematics or mathematics education in two-year colleges. Nominations for the AMATYC Mathematics Excellence (ME) Award are now open. Go to amatyc.org. Deadline: November 1, 2013



May 1st marks the deadline for the next cohort of Project ACCESS participants. Mathematics faculty in their first, second, or third year of a full-time renewable position are invited to apply for the next Project ACCESS cycle.

The goal of Project ACCESS is to facilitate current and continued professional growth for a cadre of two-year college mathematics faculty who will become the leaders of their profession. Participating fellows will gain knowledge of the culture and mission of the two-year college and its students, acquire familiarity with the scholarship of teaching, commit to continued growth in mathematics, and participate actively in professional communities. The project will provide

experiences that will help new faculty become more effective teachers and active members of the broader mathematical community. Our SE Vice-President, Annette Cook, participated in Project ACCESS. Fellows will attend two consecutive as well as regular conference activities. Fellows will be selected on the basis of breadth of interests, motivation for participation, plans for implementing project goals, interest in leadership and degree of institutional support. For more information, go to www.access.amatyc.org/access-flyer.pdf to access the application. Support from your administration is needed to be considered.

GRANT HIGHLIGHT



Sponsor:
National Science Foundation

Grantee:
Lawson State Community College

The STEP-UP-2-Pathways into STEM (2-Pi-STEM) Project is an *Implementation Grant* designed to create pathways to professional careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) through awareness activities, field experiences, teaching and learning through problem-based learning concept and the establishment of a college bridge program at Lawson State Community College (LSCC).

The HBCU-UP Implementation Grant partnership with Lawson State will give students, teachers, and educational partners the opportunities to develop and capitalize on their roles in the development of STEM career pathways. Additionally, faculty involvement in the partnership will be increased academic and technical performance of STEM career majors. The project is a five-year program between the National Science Foundation, Lawson State Community College, educational partners, and business/industry.

Lawson State Community College 2-Pi STEM/HBCU-UP Program Goals:

(1) Provide cross-curricular mentoring within a learning community framework for LSCC STEM majors, increasing persistence and efficacy, (2) Provide STEM enrichment and enhancement to high school and undergraduate students pursuing STEM career paths, and (3) Provide college bridge program for recent high school graduates and LSCC STEM majors.

For more information, contact the Director of 2-PI STEM: Calvin Briggs, (205)929-6331
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2013 AlaMATYC Conference Pictures—continued

2014 ALAMATYC Conference

Location

Lawson State Community College
Birmingham, AL

Tentative Date

Friday, February 28, 2014

Conference Theme

*Transitions II: Ensuring Student
Success*

**It only costs \$10 to be a
member of AlaMATYC.
Join TODAY, and put it on
your RESUME'!!**

For more information, go to
AlaMATYC's website
www.ala.matyc.org
Or
contact Dr. Shawanda Thomas
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Calvin Briggs, AlaMATYC President, welcomes conference attendees.



Annette Cook demonstrates the use of implementing TV games in class to help prepare students for math exams.



Rob Farinelli, AMATYC Past-President, was the keynote speaker for the event.



Conference participants work together to answer a math problem.



Eddie Pigg shows participants how to develop an engaging PowerPoint presentation for math courses



Door Prizes were given out at the end of the conference.



(Left to right): Annette Cook, Dr. Marilyn Strutchens, Calvin Briggs, Dr. Mark Heinrich, and Dr. Charles Nash

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Let me begin by thanking our AlaMATYC members for making this year's state conference the best yet! The AlaMATYC Executive board has done an outstanding job of planning the 2013 conference and looks forward to the 2014 conference at Lawson State Community College. Congratulations to the newest board members; we welcome your time, talent, and treasures.

As president, I have been honored to serve the organization, first as secretary followed by president-elect. As past president, I will continue to work on the executive board to expand membership, share resources, and most importantly, assist in providing opportunities for mathematics professionals to enhance and share instructional strategies. In addition, we must continue to encourage positive dialogue between mathematics professional and educational leaders throughout the state and the region—charting a clear path to student achievement in mathematics. Again, thank you for your service and allowing me to serve AlaMATYC.

Calvin Briggs, 2012-2013 AlaMATYC President