



Executive Board:

PRESIDENT

Paige Feibelman
Southern Union
Community College
pfeibelman@suscc.edu

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Shawanda Thomas
Lawson State
Community College
sthomas@lawsonstate.edu

SECRETARY

Carol Gudauskas
Southern Union
Community College
cgudauskas@suscc.edu

TREASURER

Michael Green
Shelton State
Community College
mgreen@sheltonstate.edu

WEBMASTER

Darrell Hagler
Shelton State
Community College
dhagler@sheltonstate.edu

PUBLICATIONS

Ghytana Goings
Wallace State
Community College—Selma
Ghytana.goings@wccs.edu

LIAISON TO ACTM

Lisa Nix
Shelton State
Community College
lisa.nix@sheltonstate.edu

PAST-PRESIDENT

Calvin Briggs
Lawson State
Community College
cbriggs@lawsonstate.edu



This Issue

2014 AlaMATYC Conference **P.1**

Teaching Excellence Award **P.2**

Project ACCESS **P.2**

Highlights from Anaheim **P.3**

Grant Highlight—Shelton State **P.3**

STEM Policy **P.4**

Register Now for the 2014 AlaMATYC Conference

It is time to register for the AlaMATYC Conference again. If you have not attended the conference before, make sure you join the fun this upcoming year. The conference will be held on Friday, February 28, 2014 at Lawson State Community College in Birmingham, Alabama. Convince a colleague to ride along with you. Mark your calendar, and begin the registration process now. Go to the website for more details: ala.matyc.org.

We expect the conference to be bigger and better. We have some exciting presentations in store. Dr. Maria Andersen will be the keynote speaker for this event. Dr. Andersen is the Director of Learning and Innovation at Area9, where she designs and develops personalized learning software (particularly focusing on STEM learning). Dr. Andersen has traveled extensively speaking and giving workshops about the future of learning and the technology of learning. We look forward to having her. Additionally, consider becoming a presenter at the conference. Presenting at the AlaMATYC conference is a great way to share ideas among your peers in a more intimate setting.

To Register for the Conference:

Go to www.ala.matyc.org
Fill out the registration form and send to Michael Green, AlaMATYC treasurer, with payment. On-site registration will also be available on the day of the conference, but you will not be guaranteed to receive a t-shirt since t-shirts must be pre-ordered.

To Present at the Conference:

Go to www.ala.matyc.org
Fill out the speaker/presenter form and submit.
Deadline: February 14, 2014

If you have any questions regarding the conference, you may contact Dr. Shawanda Thomas, (205) 929-3443 at sthomas@lawsonstate.edu



Dr. Maria Andersen, Director of Learning and Innovation, will provide the keynote address for the 2014 AlaMATYC Conference

Pictures from past
AlaMATYC Conferences
JOIN THE FUN!!



Nominate a Colleague for the Teaching Excellence Award



AlaMATYC would like to honor someone for the Teaching Excellence Award this year. If you know someone who is deserving of this award, your nominations will be appreciated. The Teaching Excellence Award is intended for educators who have made outstanding contributions to mathematics or mathematics education at a two-year college. Teaching excellence is the main focus of the award. The winner of this award will be recognized at the conference and will receive \$100 from AlaMATYC. In order to nominate someone or yourself, the following information must be submitted: cover letter from the nominator, resume or vita of the nominee, letters of recommendation from a student, colleague, and supervisor, summary of candidate's most recent student evaluations. The winner of AlaMATYC's Teaching Award will be encouraged to submit information for AMATYC's Teaching Award which will be given at the 2015 annual conference. **Deadline for Submission: February 1, 2014**

E-mail the nomination packet to Paige Feibelman: pfeibelman@suscc.edu



best
teacher



Are you a math instructor in your 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year of teaching? If so, you should take advantage of Project ACCESS, a highly recommended opportunity that will help develop your teaching skills. **May 1st** marks the deadline for the next cohort of **Project ACCESS** participants.

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, and participate actively in professional

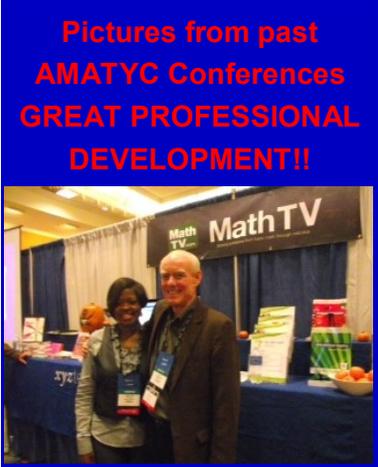
communities. The project will provide experiences that will help new faculty become more effective teachers and active members of the broader mathematical community. Fellows will attend two consecutive as well as regular conference activities. Fellows will be selected on the basis of breadth of interests, 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.



39th Annual AMATYC Conference

October 31—November 3, 2013
Anaheim, California
HIGHLIGHTS FROM ANAHEIM



The 2013 AMATYC Conference in Anaheim, CA was SWEET as ever. The conference fell on Halloween and tons of candy were being dispersed and consumed. The sessions proved insightful and covered some major themes: curriculum redesign, developmental mathematics, distance learning, instructional strategies, research, statistics, and teacher preparation. Some workshop titles included, “Five Minutes to a More Satisfying Course,” “Using Mathematics to Teach Financial Literacy,” and “Interactive Learnings with Wolfram Technologies.” The conference location was great especially for families who attended because Disneyland was right down the street. Several people from Alabama attended the conference including Paige Feibelman, Shawanda Thomas, and Annette Cook. Paige Feibelman, AlaMATYC President, presented “Charter a Mu Alpha Theta Chapter at Your College” and shared many insights on engaging students and fundraising ideas. Next year, the conference will be in our region — Nashville, Tennessee, and it will not disappoint. AMATYC will be celebrating its 40th anniversary, so expect more than before. Sounds like MUSIC TO MY EARS! I look forward to seeing you there!

GRANT HIGHLIGHT



Sponsor: NASA
Grantee: Shelton State Community College

For the past three years Shelton State Community College (SSCC) has been a member of the Alabama Space Grant Consortium and an ASGC grant recipient. The grant funds have been used to provide stipends to SSCC students who are chosen through an application and interview process. Each year four students have been chosen to receive \$1500 research stipends. These students are partnered with students at the University of Alabama to do research in various engineering related fields. Several students have participated on UA’s lunabotics teams and competed with the teams in the international competition at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Other students worked on a rocket launch project, while others worked on a project to utilize aerial reconnaissance in disaster areas (very apropos considering the tornado disaster in Tuscaloosa).

Also as part of the grant, SSCC has begun hosting an Engineering Day each spring for area high school students and SSCC students. Some highlights from E-Day include guest speakers, break-out sessions, and egg drop and catapult launch competitions.

In-state travel is another component of the grant. With money from the grant, SSCC took a group of students to the Marshall Space Flight Center. The group was given access to areas not open to the public. Students toured the Friction Stir Welding lab, the Environmental Control and Life Support System facility, the EMI test facility, the X-Ray and Cryogenic Facility, and the Combustion Research Lab. Students heard first hand from mechanical, electrical, chemical, and computer engineers about how the engineering process works and what those jobs entailed.

Broadening STEM Participation or Narrowing it?

By Calvin Briggs

Is the National Science Foundation dismantling two highly effective STEM recruitment and retention programs that target African Americans and Native Americans? In an effort to broaden the participation of underrepresented minorities in Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) the National Science Foundation (NSF) has proposed the implementation of a controversial policy. The policy, conjectured by some, would dilute STEM diversity and eliminate Federal funds established to encourage historically marginalized and disenfranchised minorities, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs).

The new policy “NSF Comprehensive Broadening Participation of Undergraduates in STEM (CBP-US)” took effect in fiscal year 2011. Some observers thought the policy would shift nearly \$90 million in funding (see table below) designated for HBCUs and TCUs to the proposed CBP-US division under the Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR); systematically dismantling Historically Black Colleges and Universities - Undergraduate Programs (HBCU-UP) and Tribal Colleges and Universities - Undergraduate Program (TCUP). Under the new CBP-US the pool of academic institutions competing for funding would decrease the number of underrepresented minorities instead of increasing them. Currently, HBCUs (105) and TCUs (36) make up approximately 3 percent of all colleges and universities in the United States. The fear that accompanied the policy change was decreasing funding and access for institutions that produce more than 60 percent of all STEM degrees earned by African Americans and Native Americans.

Since 2011 funding for the Human Resource Directorate (HRD) which houses the HBCU’s and TCUP’s programs has experienced a nearly 26 million dollar decrease in funding since fiscal year (FY) 2010 (FY 2010:\$156.91 & FY 2013: \$129.63 million). This decrease in funding in overall funding has left budgets for programs like Historically Black Colleges and Universities - Undergraduate Programs (HBCU-UP), the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), and Tribal Colleges and Universities-Undergraduate Program (TCUP) stagnant, showing little to no growth between FY’s 2010 and 2013(see Table 2).

During this nearly four year period the National Science Foundation has established the Broadening Participation at the Core (BPAC), an overarching framework in the Division of Human Resource Development (HRD), building on the existing portfolio of activities. The initial fears that *Comprehensive Broadening Participation of Undergraduates in STEM* would eliminate or reduce funding for HRD’s established HBCU and TCUP programs have been eased, but advocates for HBCU’s and TCUP programs, like the Minority STEM Coalition, are engaged with key policymakers, in addition to providing programmatic oversight.

The new BPAC framework has included increased outreach to community colleges, establishing bridge to the baccalaureate and undergraduate research programs. These new innovative collaborations seek to broaden participation in STEM at the undergraduate levels.

Substantive involvement of STEM professionals (teachers, instructors, professors, administrators, and policymakers) is essential to securing the necessary resources to broaden STEM participation.

Table 1.

Realignment of HRD Programs (Dollars in Millions)			
Actual	Estimate	Request	Amount
Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU-UP)	\$32.00	-	-\$32.00
Undergraduate Program Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP)	44.75	-	-44.75
Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP)	13.35	-	-13.35
Comprehensive Broadening Participation of Undergraduates in STEM (CBP-US)	-	103.10	103.10
Total, Realigned Programs	\$90.10	\$103.10	\$13.00

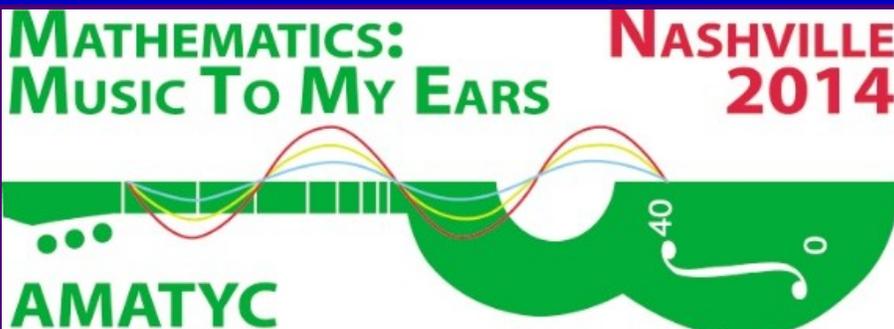
Totals may not add due to rounding. National Science Foundation Budget Request FY 2011. *retrieved from <http://www.nsf.gov>*

Table 2.

HRD Programs (Dollars in Millions)		
Actual	FY 2010	FY 2013
Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU-UP)	\$32.00	31.85
Undergraduate Program Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP)	45.63	45.48
Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP)	13.35	13.33
Comprehensive Broadening Participation of Undergraduates in STEM (CBP-US)	-	103.10
Total, Realigned Programs	\$90.10	\$103.10

Totals may not add due to rounding. Data retrieved from National Science Foundation Budget Request FY 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2013. *retrieved from <http://www.nsf.gov>*

2014 AMATCY CONFERENCE



NOVEMBER 13-16, 2014

Location
Nashville, TN

The speaker proposal submission deadline is
February 1, 2014.