

# ArizMATYC NEWS

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DECEMBER 2003

## ArizMATYC Spring Meeting to be held jointly with MAA at NAU

The 2004 Joint Meeting of the Southwestern Section of the MAA and ArizMATYC will be held April 2-3 in Flagstaff on the Northern Arizona University campus. Polya lecturer David Bressoud of Macalester College and current College Mathematics Journal editor Underwood Dudley of DePauw University will be featured speakers at the meeting.

The program will include sessions on mathematics, teaching of mathematics at all levels, and workshops. A special session on the use of visualization in the classroom is planned. Other events include a Friday evening banquet and, as desired, tours of area attractions. The banquet will feature puzzle master/games master Steve Wilson.

Proposals for minicourses, workshops, special sessions or other events should be submitted by January 15, 2004. Titles and abstracts for talks (generally 20-25 minutes in length) are due by March 12, 2004. Please send submissions to John.Hagood@nau.edu or Janet.McShane@nau.edu, or via hard copy to either of the above at Department of Mathematics and Statistics, PO Box 5717, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5717.

More information is posted at <http://math.nau.edu/~jwh/maa2004.html>.



Mark your calendar!

Plan now to join your colleagues  
in Flagstaff on April 2 and 3!

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**AMATYC Conference Report**

By Quincy Magby

The 29th AMATYC Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah proved to be a conference to remember, from the magnificent hotel, the different types of foods to choose and the great speakers on the program.

The Technology in Mathematics in Education committee has a new chairperson from the Southwest Region, our very own David Graser from Yavapai Community College. This committee is reviving their position statement of the Use of Internet Resources to Enhance.

There was some discussion about the AMATYC Standards 2006, AMATYC Strategic Plan, and Dual Enrollment. The AMATYC Strategic Plan encourages colleges to integrate adjunct faculty in the mathematics curriculum. The curriculum in Technical Mathematics for Tomorrow is changing along with science, technology, and engineering technology.

If you would like to learn more about the CRAFTY workshops entitled "Calculus Reform and the First Two Years", visit the website at <http://www.waketech.edu/~rlkimbal/CRAFTY/>.

Quincy D. Magby  
Professor of Mathematics  
Arizona Western College  
P.O. Box 929

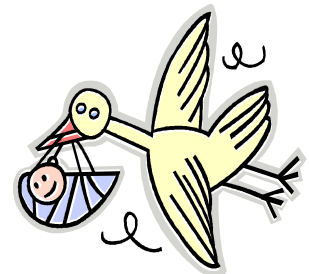
**We need your news for the newsletter!**

Mail articles to Sue Jensen at  
Pima Community College  
8181 E. Irvington Rd.  
Tucson, AZ 85709-4000

Or e-mail to  
Susan.Jensen@pima.edu

**Congratulations!!**

ArizMATYC President Kate Kozak and husband Rich are the proud parents of Dylan Riley, born December 30, 2003. Dylan weighed in at 8 lbs 12 oz, and all are doing fine.



# AMATYC Conference Report

By David Graser

It *was* primetime in Salt Lake City (especially if you like rain). This year's conference lived up to its billing in terms of the venue and the quality of presentations. The Grand America - Little America complex proved to be the most luxurious conference site I have been to since I started attending AMATYC conferences in 1997. Although I stayed at a less expensive hotel nearby, the wood paneling and crystal chandeliers at Grand America made the most boring session (few and far between) amusing. Every time I entered the building in the complex, I felt I need to wipe my feet for fear the luxury police might catch me tracking in mud. My eight by ten foot office now seems awfully inadequate.

Overall, the quality of the sessions was high. The themed sessions were well attended and appropriate. These sessions focused on specific topics like Internet use or technology in the classroom. Each session consisted of three hour blocks with individual speakers using 15 to 25 minutes for presentation. I have heard attendees at past conferences indicate how some presentations could have been shortened considerably. The themed sessions are perfect for this situation and allow the audience to hear from twice as many speakers in a given amount of time.

A series of sessions on the scholarship of teaching and learning caught my attention the most. Dr. Tom Angelo and others demonstrated how community college instructors can use assessment in a meaningful way. Dr. Angelo discussed how instructors can develop their own research studies to determine what is effective in the classroom. He pointed out that community college instructors should not only teach, but also evaluate what the students are learning. Donna Duffy and Hayat Weiss focused their presentations on developing a research program on learning in the mathematics classroom. All of the participants in these sessions left the room with a new understanding of the role that assessment should play in the classroom. Each of us understood that assessment should be used to improve learning, not to fulfill accreditation requirements imposed from above.

Since ARIZMATYC president Kate Kozak was not able to attend the conference, I attended the delegate assembly instead. Unlike previous years, no position papers or important issues were on the agenda. After the treasurer's report and a number of minor comments by various delegates, the delegate assembly was adjourned.

Next year our annual conference will take place in Orlando, Florida. This venue should allow for many recreational activities in addition to the usual slate of presentations, themed sessions, social functions and exhibitors. Sessions are not being scheduled for Friday afternoon to allow conference participants to enjoy the nearby themed parks. If you are submitting a proposal for Orlando, please be as flexible as possible in deciding when you would like to present. Scheduling proposals for Friday or Saturday will be very competitive. If these days are the only days you can present, be aware that many excellent proposals may be turned down because of time constraints. Possible alternatives might be to submit a proposal to a themed session. These sessions are organized through the AMATYC committees and proposals must be submitted directly to the committee chairman. For more information on the themed sessions, consult the AMATYC website or subscribe to the MATHEDCC listserv.

See you in ORLANDO!

# ArizMATYC Business Meeting

## October 10, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 1:38pm by President Kate Kozak.

A motion was made by David Dudley and seconded by Debra Green to approve the minutes of the previous meeting; motion passed.

### Reports

**Treasurer:** Anne Dudley gave her report, and explained that \$200 was sent to the Salt Lake City AMATYC convention committee for hospitality.

**Newsletter:** Sue Jensen requested that campus news be sent to her for the newsletter. An appeal for news will also be posted on the ArizMATYC website.

**Webmaster:** Shay Cardell will post information about presentations at this conference on the ArizMATYC website ([www.arizmatyc.org](http://www.arizmatyc.org)) and she will announce this on the listserv.

### New Business

**1. Salt Lake City AMATYC Convention:** Quincy Magby and Howard Spier are state delegates, and Dave Graser and Debra Green will serve as affiliate delegates, to the national AMATYC convention. The motion was made and seconded to pay the registration fee for two delegates; payment will be made after they attend the delegate assembly. Delegates will write articles about the convention and send them to Sue for inclusion in the next newsletter. Jenny Jameson will attend the President's luncheon at the Salt Lake City AMATYC convention in the place of Kate Kozak, who will be unable to attend.

**2. ArizMATYC Website:** Currently we host our own website, [www.arizmatyc.org](http://www.arizmatyc.org). If we change to AMATYC hosting, we won't get a listserv. Shay pays \$99/year for our current site, which gives us a chat room/bulletin board that has not yet been used. It was decided that we will ask AMATYC for a web address from them, and we will link from their page to ours.

**3. Math Excellence Award:** The deadline for submission of an application is November 3, 2003.

**4. Upcoming Election:** Dan Russow is seeking names of candidates for the Spring election. Those elected will take office after the Fall 2004 ArizMATYC meeting. Jenny

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Jameson volunteered to be a candidate for Secretary. Others who are interested in running for office should contact Dan as soon as possible.

## Information Items

**1. Meeting schedule for 2004:** The Spring ArizMATYC meeting will be held jointly with MAA at NAU on April 2-3, 2004. The ArizMATYC business meeting and campus roll call will be held on Friday morning. The Fall ArizMATYC meeting will be held at the Snowflake Campus of Northland Pioneer College in October 2004. A host campus is needed for the Spring 2005 ArizMATYC meeting. The 2004 MAA national meeting will be held January 7-10 in Phoenix.

**2. 2003-2004 AMATYC Student Math League:** The Pima CC team placed second (after Austin CC) in the Southwest Region, and Pima student Igor Popov placed second and Mesa student John Wells tied for seventh in the regional individual standings. These two students were awarded \$350 and \$150 respectively by ArizMATYC.

**3. Involvement in ArizMATYC/Attendance at conferences:** Many suggestions were made to increase faculty involvement in ArizMATYC, among them a personal appeal to colleagues, having invited addresses by big name speakers, making the conference program available in advance, polling faculty to find out what topics would draw the most people (assessment, teacher prep, technology, etc.), contact AMATYC to learn about active affiliates and what they do (Kate Kozak and Dan Rusow will do this.)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.

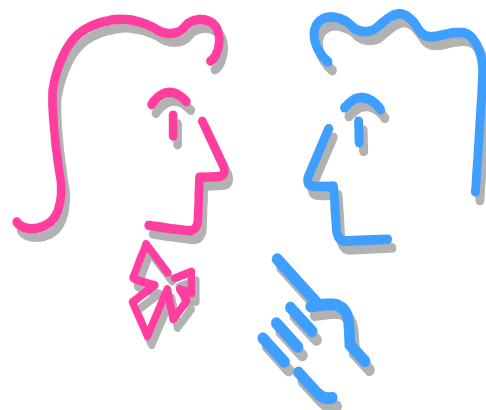
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### You Can Help to Strengthen ArizMATYC

Are your colleagues all ArizMATYC members? If not, encourage them to join now. Ask them to send their name, college, contact information, and \$5 to

Anne Dudley, ArizMATYC Treasurer  
Glendale CC  
6000 West Olive Avenue  
Glendale, AZ 85302

Questions about ArizMATYC? Call Anne at 623-845-3389



## Campus Reports – October 10, 2003

**Arizona Western:** one new full timer, one opening for 2004-05; assessment program for dev ed online in January; NSF-sponsored project using super computer for math modeling; offered combined elementary ed and math methods course for 9 hours/day last summer; problems with Prentice Hall software.

**Central Arizona:** one recent retirement; 20%-25% increase in math offerings; have a NASA grant to take their portable planetarium on the road.

**Cochise:** market-based pay scale now in effect; contract signed with Douglas Unified School District; increasing ITV offerings in January; calculus I will be offered online in the next year; enrollment down 4%, fulltime staff down 27%, online enrollment up 55%; using Bittinger for dev ed; some classes using MyMathLab; some sections of 3-credit classes meeting for 4 hours at no extra charge to the students; Douglas campus on a 4-day schedule; faculty are being pushed to use common finals; currently using pre and post tests; creating MAT 192/193 for Special topics; would like information on common assessments.

**Coconino:** dropped MyMathLab because of cost, difficulty for students and faculty; MAT 142 offered successfully online; will offer a stats class and math for elementary ed online in fall (retention is better online); assessing dev ed classes.

**Chandler-Gilbert:** enrollment growth; two new math faculty will be hired this year.

**Diné:** two campuses (one in AZ, one in NM); grant to examine course content has a diverse group of investigators; NSF planning grant for technology (engineering and computer science); 20%-25% enrollment increase; 2 new fulltime faculty to replace two who left; assessment; sent math and science students to various summer programs to do research.

**Eastern:** lost 1 math faculty and gained 1 engineering faculty; enrollment increasing; using combined Bittinger text for MAT 092/122; going through accreditation.

**Embry-Riddle:** adding new majors; placement issues.

**Glendale:** three new hires, one more anticipated this year; enrollment increasing; new campus "Glendale North".

**Mohave:** being downsized (have lost ten fulltime faculty overall since last year); added new dev ed instructor; all math offered online using MyMathLab; using

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common finals due to large number of adjunct faculty; assessment included in final exams (10 questions) with results correlated with final exam grades and course grades.

**Mesa:** NCA visit next year; 6 classes being taught in two adjoining rooms so that students can choose between lab or lecture; MAT 082 through 182 offered with distance learning, calculus may be added; new math learning center; 1 retiree possible with no new hires expected.

**NAU:** enrollment down due to tuition increase; one statistician and one math educator hired after two retirements; MyMathLab in use; want to try online homework in calculus; joint meeting of MAA and ArizMATYC in April 2004, invite suggestions for workshop topics.

**Northland Pioneer:** one new hire; two new buildings; ArizMATYC Fall 2004 meeting on October 8 at Snowflake campus; enrollment down slightly, perhaps due to elimination of the basketball team and disbanding of athletic department; singled out by NCA for having a good assessment plan, with math especially noted (questions on common final); math for elementary ed online.

**Phoenix:** Dennis Shaw is writing Maple labs for calculus; enrollment up; Math Center open Monday through Saturday; using MyMathLab and Maple; Title V money used for tech classroom, smartboard; classroom sets of calculators; last year's Math Awareness celebration had 1000 attendees.

**Pima:** two new fulltime hires this year, two more expected for 2004-2005; debating common finals; sick of Academic Systems; revamping Engineering program; moving toward mandatory placement and computer enforcement of prerequisites for mathematics classes.

**UA:** Math for Business Decisions I and II has been published by MAA, national workshops available; Bill Velez is new undergraduate head; hiring people other than fulltime faculty to run some programs in the department; tutoring in the Library.

**Yavapai:** prerequisites put back on math courses; faculty want mandatory assessment testing and placement; common finals now used for 092 and 122 (90% of classes taught by adjunct faculty); special topics course for help on AIMS test for high school, middle school and elementary teachers; 20% growth; at least one fulltime opening next year.

*No reports from ASU, Estrella Mountain, Gateway, Grand Canyon, Mesa, Paradise Valley, Rio Salado, South Mountain, Tohono O' Odham*

## ASU MATHEMATICS IS RUNNING AMUC! CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

The First Annual Arizona Mathematics Undergraduate Conference (AMUC) is being held on the campus of Arizona State University, February 27-29, 2004. The goal of the conference is to welcome undergraduates to the wonderful world of mathematics research, to develop and foster a rich social network between the mathematics students and faculty throughout the great Southwest, and to celebrate the accomplishments of our undergraduate students. We encourage undergraduate students from all years of study to participate and give presentations on all areas of mathematics, including applications to other disciplines. However, while we do recommend giving a talk, it is not a requirement for conference participation.

Faculty are encouraged to challenge their students with interesting projects to present at the conference. Feel free also to nominate for participation students who will not give a talk but who would benefit from attending. The registration process will include input from a faculty sponsor. We recommend, if possible, that one faculty member from each school attend for every 4-6 of their students who participate.

### CONFERENCE FORMAT

The conference will take place at the Holiday Inn on the southwest corner of campus. Registration will begin on Friday afternoon and will be followed by the opening dinner and then the Inaugural Lecture.

Saturday will be filled by 15-minute presentations by students, most likely in parallel sessions, followed by a problem session before dinner. If participation is high we may also consider having a poster session. Breakfast, lunch and the conference banquet dinner will be provided, and our Keynote Speaker will give a talk before lunch.

There will be more talks on Sunday morning after breakfast, and we will close the conference with some barbeque and volleyball at Tempe Lake around noon.

### LODGING

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn. Students will be paired to share rooms and may submit their roommate preference to us on the registration form.

### REGISTRATION

The conference website is under construction and will be ready soon. Students will be able to register and submit an abstract if they intend to give a talk. Support for travel, lodging and food is expected to cover most students and is available on a first-come basis. There is the possibility that we will obtain extra funding that will support a limited number of faculty as well. The registration deadline is January 9, 2003.

### SUPPORT

Generous support for AMUC is being supplied by the following institutions: Arizona State University, Mathematics Association of America, Northern Arizona University, Rocky Mountain Mathematics Consortium, SUMS Institute, University of Arizona