



ArizMATYC NEWS

VOLUME 8, No.1

JANUARY 2010

ArizMATYC Spring Meeting April 9-10, 2010

The Arizona Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges Spring Meeting will be held jointly with the MAA Southwest Section at Scottsdale Community College. The latest Information is available on the ArizMATYC webpage.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD
2010**

President

Ken Hurley, Central AZ CC
Kenneth.Hurley@centralaz.edu

Past President

Shay Cardell, Central AZ CC
Cardell@theriver.com

President-Elect

Ana Jiménez, Pima CC
ajimenez@pima.edu

Treasurer

Anne Dudley, Glendale CC
Anne.dudley@gmail.maricopa.edu

Secretary

Eli Blake, Northland Pioneer CC
No_draft@yahoo.com

Historian

David Dudley, Scottsdale CC
David.dudley@scmail.maricopa.edu

Web Page Editor

David Graser, Yavapai College
David_graser@yc.edu

Web page:

www.arizmatyc.org

We need your news for the newsletter! Mail articles to Sue Jensen at Pima CC, East Campus
8181 E. Irvington Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85709-4000

Or e-mail to

sjensen@pima.edu

YOU Can Help to Strengthen ArizMATYC

Are all of your colleagues ArizMATYC members? If not, encourage them to join now. Ask them to send their name, college, contact information, and \$10 to

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

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

Mark your calendar and plan now to attend:

36th Annual AMATYC
National Conference
November 11 — 14, 2008
Boston, MA

ArizMATYC Campus Reports — October 2, 2009

NAU: Mathematics enrollment is up 21%. It is up 52% in statistics and 50% in upper division courses. NAU is developing hybrid courses in which lectures are given to about 100 students but they are then broken up into sections of 25 students for breakouts that focus on working problems and getting individual help. NAU is using ALEKS for placement. NAU is doing more on-line but is getting out of interactive television, which has freed up a room which is being used as a 'resource room' typically staffed by a graduate student to provide tutoring. NAU is also developing the NAUteach program to help undergraduates pursue a secondary teaching certification in science or math. NAU is also using an online textbook for its calculus courses.

ASU: The various campuses are gaining greater autonomy. An applied math degree is being offered at some campuses, and the department is moving to TI-84 graphing calculators. ASU is moving to ALEKS for placement. ASU has also experienced growth in not only enrollment and math enrollment but also in the number of math majors. This year there are 473 math majors (up from 250 three years ago.) Last year nearly 100 degrees in math were awarded, more than ever before. Because of budget issues there are no new faculty positions, and some math classes have grown to as many as 75 students. The large class size is a serious concern among ASU faculty. ASU will be hosting the National Association of Math Circles conference March 13-16.

UA: Business math now has 225 students. The University will be doing more online classes. The University has decided to use ALEKS for placement.

Arizona Western College: Has received a number of grants through the CCRA (college cost reduction act). One grant for \$3.5 million has been used to build a new science building, and the math department has access to four smartboard equipped classrooms. These smartboards also have 'moby' units which allow students sitting at their desks to interact with the board immediately without having to move. AWC is applying for another grant to build another new building for math. Sections in math are closing very fast. Supplemental instructors (TAs) attend class and then serve as a personal tutor for the students in the class, so they can tutor in the same style as the instructor has been teaching and consult with the instructor as needed. AWC also has a new president and people in other administrative positions have been changed from acting to permanent. The department has hired three new math instructors. AWC will host the spring 2011 ArizMATYC meeting.

Central Arizona College: Has experienced 35% growth in math since the fall and 77% in three years. CAC has hired one new full time instructor and 14 new adjuncts this fall (including several online instructors.) CAC faculty also got a 2% raise this year. It is difficult to find instructors who live in Pinal county but with online classes this is less of a problem and CAC is also drawing from instructors who reside in Maricopa and Pima counties. CAC is setting up technology to allow mathematics lectures to be delivered by I-POD. By agreement with ASU, students who complete their AGECE and transfer from CAC to ASU will have their tuition capped even if ASU subsequently raises tuition on other students.

Cochise College: Is building a new learning complex at the Sierra Vista Campus. CC has a new president. Has also hired one new math faculty. A grant funded the new math faculty member specifically for high school

continued

Campus Reports, continued

outreach. The math department is now completing a 5 year cycle for program review.

Chandler-Gilbert College: Has one new classroom building and has hired one new faculty member in math. CGC requires a common final and stipulates that any student who does not get at least 60% on the common final cannot receive a grade higher than a D.

Coconino Community College: Is preparing for an accreditation visit in 2011. Recently lost the Vice President of Student Affairs, with no immediate plans to hire a replacement. Need one additional math faculty to focus on developmental math. Last year CCC was unsuccessful in filling the position due to a thin pool of applicants and hired an adjunct on a temporary one year contract but intends to re-advertise the position in November or December (with the successful hire to begin in Fall 2010.) Piloting the use of My Math Lab to begin in beginning algebra and work on up through the other classes. NPC also started a classroom assistant class (MATH HELP 911 for developmental math) and will be expanding it (MATH HELP 411 for college algebra level math). The idea is to put two assistants in the room with the instructor. CCC will gain more classrooms for math/science instruction. One smartboard is out of action. The math department is resisting a move to combine developmental math with other developmental programs and has implemented a program review for developmental math.

Eastern Arizona College: No changes in personnel college-wide, with the exception of hiring one instructor as a replacement.

Glendale Community College: This past year hired one new developmental instructor. Between booming enrollment and pending retirements, need to hire 10 new math instructors to comply with the college's stipulation that 90% of daytime classes be taught by full time instructors, but due to budget constraints the department is expecting to hire a smaller number, perhaps 3-4 new instructors for next year. Also now doing live online tutoring.

Mesa Community College: New president and vice presidents are emphasizing marketing. Enrollment is up 25% campus wide and 35% in math. Has implemented mandatory ALEKS placement. The math department has implemented hybrid classes which feature four days in the classroom and one day of lab. MCC has implemented service learning credit which allows more tutoring for people in intermediate algebra. In the summer, the chiller plant, which provides air conditioning went out, so summer courses were taught with the full benefit of the warmth that the sun provides to the valley in July. Still a lot of construction on campus. MCC is also experiencing some IT issues. There are not enough computer ports available to allow effective online tutoring, but the college is working on addressing the issue. MCC also received a Title III grant to combine developmental math and English.

Mojave Community College: Their bond failed last year but they have been forging ahead with construction anyway. The unemployment rate in the county is 17%. After the old administration promoted themselves (the president to chancellor and the campus deans to campus presidents), the new administration has restored the old titles and removed the accoutrements of the previous titles. With a title III grant the college has hired two new tutors for developmental mathematics. Instructors are also giving 'supplemental

continued

Campus Reports, continued

instruction,' specifically two hours in a tutoring room. Changed COMPASS scores for entry into intermediate algebra, which has caused enrollment to boom in the course. The effect on the pass rate will not be known until next year.

Northland Pioneer College: Accreditation team will visit in three weeks. Enrollment is up but not as much as other colleges because of a reduction in the number of classes being taught. The budget line for adjunct faculty in particular has been cut. The definition of a full class has been increased from 10 to 15 (which since many classes are capped at 20 because of small room sizes, leaves relatively little wiggle room) and some classes with as many as nine students have been canceled rather than prorated. One new faculty was hired for Chemistry, meaning that all the math instructors are now back to being available to teach only math. The math department has had some success with the audio/smartboard format in which smartboards are linked between multiple campuses. The math department is moving from TI-83 graphing calculators to a mixture of TI-84's and TI-89's. Bill Wimmer, a longtime adjunct, passed away this year after a battle with cancer.

Pima Community College: Is preparing for an accreditation visit in fall of 2010. Enrollment is up by 12% college wide. Construction ongoing at all six campuses, particularly in renovating and building student service centers with an eye towards uniformity. PCC hired two new math instructors and will hire two more next year. There have been a number of administrative changes in the past six months and some vacancies and positions have been eliminated. Faculty received a 4% raise this year. Book buyers have been officially banned from campus. Many instructors are using Math XL. In the assessment area, students must now create a portfolio which can be used to assess learning. Using that assessment method has led PCC math faculty over the past year to conclude that fractions were an area of weakness, and the delivery and curriculum is being adjusted accordingly. PCC Northwest Campus will host the Fall 2010 math ATF in early to mid-October.

Scottsdale Community College: Replaced a higher-salaried vice president with a lower-salaried assistant. One room in the science lecture building has been made available for use by math. The math department hired one new faculty member, and is proud to announce that the new faculty member is a former graduate of SCC who went on to earn an advanced degree in math. Developmental algebra now has an online component and can be taught in a computer lab. A M-W / T-Th schedule with Friday meetings has now been implemented across the college. SCC has applied to the National Science Foundation for a grant to develop learning communities with local middle schools. SCC will host the spring ArizMATYC meeting (a joint meeting with MAA) on April 9-10, 2010. Teri Glaess, long-time faculty member and member of ArizMATYC, passed away this year after a battle with breast cancer. Anyone whose life was enriched by Teri is encouraged to make a donation to breast cancer research.

Yavapai Community College: Enrollment is way up. Salaries are frozen because of budget cuts but the math department filled one new position this year. The homegrown email server has been replaced by Banner, which has made email run more smoothly and with less of a spam problem. MY MATH TEST is replacing COMPASS for placement. Because YCC is a small college and it is difficult to make a full lecture of either class, YCC has hit on a novel idea in placing Calculus I and survey calculus (brief calc) in the same class. The survey calculus class is three credit hours so they are dismissed for one hour per week during which topics in Calculus I that are not generally covered in survey calc such as derivatives of trigonometric functions are discussed.

ArizMATYC Business Meeting
Coconino Community College — October 2, 2009

Present: Ken Hurley, Ana Jiménez, April Ström, Laura Watkins, Dan Russow, David Dudley, Howard Speier, Kathryn Kozak, Anne Dudley, Di Dwan, Dave Graser, Eli Blake

The minutes of the last meeting in February 2009 were approved as posted online.

The historian, David Dudley, reported that there was nothing new to report.

The webmaster reported that he posted a link to the April 2010 meeting two days ago. In the spring there will be a joint meeting together with MAA. This means that there will be a combination of proposals. There was a discussion about how to collect money for the meeting. We would prefer that whoever hosts the meeting collect the money and give it to the treasurer. ArizMATYC will get money for people who are registered with ArizMATYC.

Membership report: none.

Newsletter: Deadline is December 31 for the newsletter but items should be sent as soon as feasible to avoid overloading the newsletter editor at the last moment. The newsletter editor is Sue Jensen from Pima Community College.

Treasurer: The Treasurer reported that our expenditures were in line with what we have collected from new memberships. Everyone is paying \$10 to ArizMATYC and the vendors paid for the food, but ArizMATYC is a go-between (i.e. the vendors pay ArizMATYC and ArizMATYC pays for the food) because of budgeting restrictions on vendors officially paying for events on campus. Math League: \$500 to be divided between 1st, 2nd, 3rd place finishers.

The issue of online voting was discussed. A proposal to give \$100 to the AMATYC hospitality room this year was posted online. The vote was 43-1 in favor. A second vote was conducted because so few people had voted the first time, and this time the vote was 52-3 in favor. Because of the difficulty in bringing the same question up every year for a vote, a motion was made and seconded to always donate \$100 to the hospitality room automatically every year unless a subsequent motion were made to change that in any particular year. The motion was approved unanimously by acclamation.

Membership in ArizMATYC was discussed. More members increases our voting power at the convention. The date by which memberships must be in is very unclear however and varies year by year. Anne said she may just send an updated list every month to be sure that we have everyone who is a member represented and also to nudge them into clarifying the deadline date.

continued

ArizMATYC Business Meeting Minutes, continued

The idea of a summer institute sponsored by ArizMATYC and hosted by a local college was discussed. Because it is hot in most parts of Arizona in the summer, the representatives of the colleges from less hot areas (YCC, CCC and NPC) agreed to inquire whether their institutions might be interested in hosting such an institute, to be held yearly (maybe for about three years.) Topics could include ethnomathematics, technology and astronomy and mathematics. Usually the deadline to register for institutes is in April so we would need a plan by the spring meeting if we were going to put one together for this summer or even if we wanted to begin working for one in summer 2011.

Four delegates are going to Las Vegas for this year's AMATYC convention: David Dudley, Ana Jimenez, Ken Hurley, Jennifer Jamison.

December 7 is the deadline to nominate someone for the Math Excellence award.

The deadline for mini-grants from AMATYC is November 1.

The \$500 that had been approved last year to help Coconino Community College prepare and publicize this meeting was not spent and was returned back to the treasury. A motion was made to appropriate up to \$500 each on the spring meeting in Scottsdale (co-hosted with MAA) and the fall meeting in Tucson to advertise and possibly pay for speakers or other expenses associated with a drive to increase participation and attendance.

Eli Blake, Secretary