



Virginia Mathematical
Association of
Two-Year Colleges

Let Us Meet in the
Beautiful City of Richmond,
VA at J. Sargeant Reynolds
CC
April 1-2, 2005
for the
19th Annual VMATYC
Conference.



NEWSLETTER
October, 2005
VMATYC Visions
... for the New Millennium



**Cheer for
and attend
the VMATYC
Conference.**



Registration information for the
Spring Conference is available online at

Return to [Newsletter homepage](#).

NOTE TO MEMBERS: If you did not receive notification of the Newsletter via email,
send your current email address (or mailing address if no email) to the Editor.

*Please address suggestions/inquiries to Dr. Claude S. Moore, Editor
at <mailto:cmoore@dcc.vccs.edu> or phone (434) 797-8463*

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Newsletter in Rich Text Format (.rtf) (11 pages, 259 Kb)

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To download it, right click [download](#) and left click on "Save Target As."

[Recognitions & Requests](#) – Judy Williams

According to the 2004 Conference evaluations, more than 90% of the attendees (76 representing 20 of 23 community colleges) gave excellent or very good ratings ... and made ...requests for topics and presentations at future conferences.

Spring Conference – Linda Taylor

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Developmental Math & Commonwealth Courses – Richard Watkins

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VMATYC Membership Report – Karen Overman

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Central Region - Joan Tarpley-Robinson

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Eastern Region – Roberta Barlok

The VMATYC Eastern Regional Conference will be held this fall.

Northern Region – Kevin Chouinard

The VMATYC Fall Regional meeting will be held at Blue Ridge Community College on October 30, 2004. Click [here](#) to see the flyer with more information.

Western Region – Will Galliher

The VMATYC Fall Regional meeting will take place on October 22, 2004 at the Higher Education Center on the campus of Virginia Highlands Community College in Abingdon, Virginia.

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The VMATYC Listserv is for use by members of VMATYC and selected guests from AMATYC. When posting messages to the VMATYC listserv, email to vmatycls@listserv.vccs.edu .

[AMATYC Conference](#) – Claude Moore

Attending an AMATYC conference is a tremendous professional and personal experience. Read about a "Unique Conference Schedule" developed for conference attendees - November 18-21.

[Important Dates](#)

Upcoming conferences dates for VMATYC and AMATYC.

[2003-2005 Executive Board Plus](#)

VMATYC Officers and Other Board Members, and Some Others who work closely with the Board.

Recognitions and Requests

by Judy Williams, President

As mathematics and computer science faculty in the VCCS, give yourselves a pat on the back. You take your professional development opportunities seriously when 76 of you representing 20 of 23 community colleges devote two days to meeting with your peers in Abingdon. More than 90% of the attendees gave excellent or very good ratings to experiencing personal renewal, hearing about updates and innovations, and enhancing professional effectiveness as a result of attending the VMATYC Conference April 2-3 hosted by Virginia Highlands Community College. Perhaps those of us who did attend can be recognized on our campuses now by the “renewed energy for the classroom” cited as a conference highlight on one of the evaluation forms.

You made several requests for topics and presentations at future conferences. The Conference Team, headed by President-Elect Linda Taylor, is trying to honor those requests in planning for the 2005 conference, April 1-2, at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College in Richmond. You can read more about those conference plans in other articles in this newsletter. Between now and April, there is a lot of work to be done. Get involved with one of our Special Interest Groups; read about their work and contact the chairs listed in the newsletter. Note that a group now exists for Distance Education and Online Learning with Chris Allgyer as Chair. Communicate with all of us via the listserv; just remember that a click of the “reply” button responds to the whole listserv so you should be sure you have a public, instead of private, message. Another highlight cited on the evaluation forms was being able to communicate with the VCCS. We can keep each other up-to-date on various issues through the listserv. If you have a “hot topic” that can’t wait for Spring, send a message now.

There are several requests that your Executive Board has for you. Renew your membership for the year if you haven’t done so already; when we can show a list of almost 200 people who have invested in their professional organization, we demonstrate the authority to speak for our peers. Attend your regional Fall Conference; this is one of the last “free” things in life – it may actually include a free lunch. Bring a colleague with you to the Fall and the Spring Conferences; just imagine the growth possibilities if “each one brings one.”

As President, I have a couple more recognitions to make. Congratulations to the scholarship winner, Ashley O’Quinn, and her sponsor, Bill Fiess, of Southwest Community College. Get an update on the scholarship process from Past-President Richard Watkins in his article in the newsletter. Thanks again to J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College for sharing grant money from the Calculus Consortium for Higher Education. This money provided the Teacher Education

Workshop at Abingdon and the three AMATYC registrations for the conference in Orlando. Find out who received this money in the newsletter article. Also concerning the AMATYC registrations, we got a “great idea” from AMATYC President Judy Ackerman who sent a message in response to our listserv announcement saying “a wonderful opportunity for VMATYC members and good for AMATYC.” We all look forward to the presentations by the registration recipients at the Spring conference, especially since teacher education was one of the areas listed for future topics on the evaluation form.

I would like to be able to recognize each one of you for the wonderful job you do. Keep up the good work and I look forward to seeing you at a conference in the next few months.

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SPRING CONFERENCE PLANNING HAS BEGUN

by Linda Taylor, President-Elect

The 19th Annual VMATYC Spring Conference that is also the VCCS-sponsored Peer Group meeting for mathematics and computer science faculty will be held April 1-2, 2005. It will be in Richmond at the J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, Parham Road Campus. The theme will be “Capitalize on Mathematics” as we enjoy the spring time weekend in our state’s capital. Arrangements are now being made with the hotel for a Friday evening of socialization, banquet, guest speaker, and fun math time. Saturday will be filled with sessions and workshops in various areas of mathematics and computer science as well as a chance to visit the various vendor booths to see the latest in technology and/or textbooks. Various administrative personnel from VCCS will be invited to the conference for a two-way dialogue of the latest events in VCCS that would be impacting faculty in the mathematics/computer science programs. Also on the invitation list will be various government representatives, so we can show them the good job mathematics and computer science faculty do at the community college level and share with them our concerns.

The conference committee consists of Linda Taylor, President-Elect and Conference Chairperson, Ann Loving, Gwen Turbeville, and Randy Pittman, faculty members from JSRCC who will be the on-site coordination team, and Roberta Barlok, Eastern VP.

There will be a more detailed information letter about the conference along with a presenter application form sent to all VCCS math and computer science faculty later in the semester. Each faculty member needs to seriously consider making a presentation, conducting a workshop, chairing a roundtable discussion, sharing classroom tips, etc. Something that you take for granted might be just the “magic” your colleagues need to enhance their teaching experience, or just to expand their own personal knowledge. If you are working on, or have recently completed, personal research or a dissertation for an advanced degree, the conference would be a great time to share it with others. As always, the success of the conference will be determined by the presentations and workshops. The VMATYC Conference is always a very inexpensive conference, in a large part because the great presentations on the program are done by volunteers such as yourself. Please do your part in making it another successful conference.

We all have busy lives and lots of demands on our time, but mark your calendars NOW for April 1-2, 2005 so you don’t miss the fun experience of the 19th Annual VMATYC Spring Conference. For more information, inquiries, or volunteering to participate, contact Linda Taylor,

ltaylor@nvcc.edu, 703-878-5620, or any member of the conference committee.

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Developmental Mathematics and the VCCS Commonwealth Courses by Richard Watkins, Past President

As some of you know, the VCCS is in the process of developing courses that could be used statewide as on-line or hybrid courses. This spring the VCCS and some mathematics faculty, who attended the May Symposium, decided to try something different for mathematics. We are going to develop modules that can be used in multiple ways. The modules may be used as part of or as a supplement to multiple courses.

We are going to begin with the topic of functions and graphs. We plan to develop modules for equations and graphs, and modules for inverse, exponential, and log functions will be developed later. Richard Watkins (TCC), Dr. Marcia Tharp (TCC), Tony Brown (TCC), and Jackie Victory (JSRCC) received a VCCS LearnigWare grant to work on this project. Also, Karl Hutchings helped develop the basic idea.

We hope to create a module that will fit with any text as a supplement or could be used as the core component of an online-course. I also see it as being very valuable as review for topics that students could use before taking a placement test or as they see topics they need to review.

We intend for each module to be self-contained and accessible through the Internet or from a CD-ROM. We are planning to get permission to use existing material whenever possible. To this end, the VCCS has already negotiated rights to use anything from the Annenberg Math Series (Against All Odds, Algebra in Simplest Terms and For All Practical Purposes). These may be used freely by anyone in our system.

We will report on our progress at the Spring Meeting. Anyone wishing to participate in the project is urged to contact me, Richard Watkins, rwatkins@tcc.edu.

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Membership Report Fall 2004

by Karen Overman, Membership
Secretary

VMATYC membership consists of persons interested in promoting and improving mathematics and computer science education within the colleges of the VCCS. One does not have to be a VCCS faculty member to belong to VMATYC. Also, students are invited to become members.

Currently the total membership is 76 with each region as follows: Central, 10; Eastern, 26; Northern, 24; and Western, 16. Our membership numbers are lower than normal because all year memberships expire on September 1st. A membership drive is under way and former members and non members should be on the lookout for a membership application in the mail. Membership is only \$10 and if you don't receive an application in the mail, it will also be available on the VMATYC website. As people renew their memberships or become new members, they will be mailed a membership card and a welcome letter.

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Nominations for VMATYC Office

by Richard Watkins, Past-President

This spring will be the time for our VMATYC membership to elect colleagues to serve as officers. During the fall, the nominating committee will be looking for members willing to run for one of the posts. The jobs are varied and have a term of two years. All require attending VMATYC Board meetings (4 each year). We have begun holding the meetings using video conferencing so that no one has to travel very far. Other duties are listed below for the specific offices:

Affiliate Delegate to the AMATYC Meeting – attend the Annual AMATYC Meeting and report to the Board and the membership at the VMATYC meeting.

President-Elect – primary duty is to help coordinate the Annual VMATYC Conferences with the local community college. Then in two years you will become the President – official contact with AMATYC and voting delegate to AMATYC, run VMATYC Board meetings and General Business Meeting at VMATYC Conference. Then, in your last 2 years of your 6-year commitment, you become Past-President and chair the Scholarship Committee and the Nominations Committee. While this is a long commitment, I can say that it is enjoyable and there are always many members to help you.

Membership Secretary – keeps records of membership, sends membership cards and renewal reminders

Recording Secretary – keeps minutes of all Board and General Business Meetings

Treasurer – collects and disperses money for the VMATYC. Works closely with the Membership Secretary

Regional Vice-Presidents (Central, Eastern, Northern, and Western) – Your primary job is to coordinate the Fall Regional Meeting and keep the state organization informed about local concerns.

Please let me know if you are willing to run for any of these positions or if you have anyone you would recommend for one of these positions. (We always get permission before putting someone on the ballot.) Richard Watkins rwatkins@tcc.edu

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Central Region

by Joan Tarpley-Robinson, Regional VP

The Fall meeting of the Central Region will be held at the Patrick Henry Community College on October 29, 2004, 3:30-6:30 p.m. Presenters are needed and should contact Joan Tarpley-Robinson jtarpoley-robinso@dcc.vccs.edu for more information.

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Eastern Region
by Roberta Barlok, Regional VP

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Northern Region Fall 2004 Meeting

by Kevin Chouinard, Regional VP

The VMATYC Fall Regional meeting will be held at Blue Ridge Community College on October 30, 2004. Registration will be from 9:00-10:00 a.m. with the program schedule for 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Refreshments and a light lunch will be served. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the program and food FREE of charge. Please pass on the details of the conference to anyone at your school who might be interested, especially our adjunct faculty, students, or anyone else interested in mathematics or computer science education. Click [here](#) to see the flyer with more information. Presenters and core meeting facilitators are needed. Please contact your campus VMATYC representative or Kevin Chouinard at kchouinard@nvcc.edu or (703) 450-2618.

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Western Region Fall 2004 Meeting

by Will Galliher, Regional VP

The VMATYC Fall Regional meeting will take place on October 22, 2004 at the Higher Education Center on the campus of Virginia Highlands Community College in Abingdon, Virginia. Sign-in will be from 11:30-12:00 noon. Lunch will be served from 12:00-1:00 p.m. Our speaker will be Dr. Holcomb from Emory & Henry College in Emory, Virginia. At the conclusion of Dr. Holcomb's presentation, we will have our break-out sessions. At this time, only a couple of people have either suggested topics for break-out or volunteered to be in charge of a break-out session. Therefore, I would like to urge anyone who has a suggestion for a break-out topic to please contact me as soon as possible. I must also have an approximate head count for lunch. Please pass this e-mail on to any and all math and computer science instructors at your campus (full-time and adjunct). Just point out the free lunch so we can increase our attendance. For more information, please contact Will Galliher at or 276.523.2400, ext. 230.

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Glenn Fox VMATYC Mathematics and Computer Science Scholarship

by Richard Watkins, Past-President

Ashley O'Quinn of Southwest Virginia Community College is this year's winner of the Glenn Fox VMATYC Mathematics and Computer Science Scholarship. Ashley plans to become a High School Mathematics teacher. She is one of a growing number of highly qualified students who elected to start their college career at a community college straight out of high school.

This year we will again be taking applications at the end of the fall semester for next year's scholarship. In addition, we plan to offer a second scholarship with applications accepted after the spring semester. This will permit those who need an extra semester of course work to apply.

We also made one other change that may affect eligibility. Students who attended a community college and then took at least two years off before returning may choose to have their earlier grades ignored. (They may still be considered if the student wishes.) This will permit students, who did

poorly when they first entered, left college, and then returned, to count only their recent grades.

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VMATYC Special Interest Groups

Fall 2004

by Judy Williams, President

VMATYC encourages its members to be involved in at least one of the following groups in order to carry out the organization's purpose of furthering mathematics, mathematics education, and computer science by providing a forum for the exchange of ideas:

Placement/Assessment

Chair:

Discuss and inform members about issues involving placement into mathematics and computer science courses and assessment of students in those courses.

Developmental

Chair: Sarah Martin smartin@vw.vccs.edu and

Richard Watkins <mailto:rwatkins@tcc.edu>

Discuss and inform members about issues involving developmental mathematics courses.

Technology

Chair: Claude Moore cmoore@dcc.vccs.edu

Discuss and inform members about issues involving the use of technology in mathematics and computer science courses. This group will also oversee the VMATYC web page and listserv by enlisting qualified individuals as webmaster and administrator.

Computer Science

Chair: Vaden Fitton vfitton@nvcc.edu

Maintain contact with Computer Science faculty and promote participation in professional development activities.

Distance Education and Online Learning

Chair: Chris Allgyer callgyer@me.vccs.edu

Discuss and inform members about issues involving courses offered via computer and the internet.

See below for a list of responsibilities of the group and duties of the chair.

I. Responsibilities of each group

- Meet at the Spring Conference
- Select a chair
- Communicate with members of the group (and VMATYC members when appropriate) between conferences
- Plan for a budget of \$50 per year
- Encourage members of the group to present a talk at the Fall and Spring conferences

II. Duties of the Chair

- Plan an agenda and convene a meeting at the Spring Conference
- Foster communication with members of the group between conferences
- Manage the budget; (reimbursement from Treasurer with receipt)
- Maintain contact with the Executive Board Liaison before and after the Board meetings in September, January, and April
- Submit an article for each issue of the VMATYC Newsletter in September and January

III. Duties of the Executive Board Liaison

- Attend the group meeting at the Spring Conference
- Prior to each Board meeting, contact the chair about any items for discussion or report
- After the Board meeting, report to the chair any relevant information or needed actions by the group
- Inform the chair of Newsletter deadlines set by the Board.

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AMATYC Conference

by Claude Moore, Editor

I strongly encourage you to attend the AMATYC Conference in Orlando, FL, November 18-21, 2004. Attending an AMATYC conference is a tremendous professional and personal experience. Whether you are able to attend the conference, please visit the AMATYC website at http://www.amatyc.org/Orlando/AMATYC_2004_Orlando.html The information about the 2004 conference is quoted from the AMATYC webpage http://www.amatyc.org/Orlando/AMATYC_2004_Orlando.html

Unique Conference Schedule

AMATYC's annual conference always provides a variety of excellent professional development opportunities for its participants. But, this year's conference location provides a unique opportunity for attendees and their families to visit one or more of the most popular entertainment attractions in the United States. To take advantage of this opportunity, the conference schedule will be very different from our traditional pattern.

Thursday will begin with "early bird" sessions and workshops at 7:30 am. Throughout the conference, sessions will end after fifty minutes rather than the traditional one-hour. This shift will allow more presentations than normal to be held on Thursday and Saturday. You will want to plan to arrive Wednesday evening to take full advantage of the conference.

Rather than ending the day with regional meetings and the traditional evening event, Friday will begin with regional meetings featuring continental breakfasts and a chance to network with colleagues. Scheduled activities will end for the day shortly after 2:00 pm, leaving the rest of the day and evening for you to network and enjoy Orlando's many

attractions. It is possible to walk to SeaWorld from the hotel, but there are many other recreational options also available.

Consider coming a day or two early or staying after the conference to take full advantage of the entertainment venues. But, in case your professional and personal commitments do not allow early arrival or late departure, the AMATYC Board made the decision to alter the normal conference schedule to provide you with the best of both worlds, high quality professional development and a chance to visit Mickey Mouse.

Purpose and Guidelines for Use of VMATYC Listserv

Claude Moore, Listserv Administrator

PURPOSE

The VMATYC Listserv is for use by members of VMATYC and selected guests from AMATYC such as the President, the Mid-Atlantic VP, etc. Others may be included at the direction of the VMATYC President. All subscriptions and unsubscriptions to the Listserv will be by the Listserv Administrator. Each person who subscribes will receive information about how to unsubscribe.

The Listserv is a quick and easy way for members to communicate with all others on the Listserv by sending an email to the Listserv. Keep in mind that all messages posted on the Listserv will go to all members of the Listserv (about 200 persons). It may be used for information of importance to VMATYC members.

Any questions concerning the VMATYC Listserv should be directed to Claude S. Moore at Danville Community College, cmoore@dcc.vccs.edu or (434) 797-8463.

GUIDELINES

VMATYC Mission Statement: "The Virginia Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges works to enhance the mathematical and computer science education of our students by providing opportunities for professional development, a network for communication, and a conduit for influencing educational policy."

In keeping with the VMATYC Mission Statement and the professionalism of mathematics educators, the following guidelines for the use of the VMATYC listserv were approved at the VMATYC Executive Board meeting on April 20, 2001.

The listserv is to be used for Math, Computer Science, and Education Issues such as:

1. Course content
2. Textbooks
3. Teaching strategies
4. Good ideas for classroom
5. Full-time math/computer science positions in VCCS - announcements only, not

recruitment.

Keep in mind the following when using the listserv:

1. Messages should be short - the listserv will not accept message longer than 4000 characters.
2. Do not use attachments - the listserv does not handle attachments very well.
3. No political announcements - whether inside or outside of the VMATYC.
4. No commercial announcements.

Brief Instructions for Use of VMATYC Listserv

The address for the VMATYC listserv is vmatycls@listserv.vccs.edu The guidelines for use of the listserv may be found at <http://virginia.matyc.org/listservguidelines.htm>

Some messages posted to the Listserv may get "Bounced" back. As the Listserv owner, I receive a message indicating the nature of the difficulty, such as "BOUNCE vmatycls@listserv.vccs.edu: Non-member submission from...." Also, I receive a "Bounce" whenever an attachment is too long (> 4,000 characters).

FREE! To subscribe to or unsubscribe from the VMATYC Listserv, send an email to that effect to Claude Moore at cmoore@dcc.vccs.edu

NOTE: When I receive a "Bounce," I reply to the sender and make suggestions appropriate for the particular situation. Please keep attachments short. If you have a long attachment, you may setup a web page with that attachment and use the Listserv to supply the proper link to that page. You may send the document to me to be posted on the website and place a notice on the listserv.

Claude S. Moore

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Upcoming Conferences, Institutes, and Workshops

<u>VMATYC</u> Spring Conferences		
Date	Location	On-Site Coordinator
April 1-2, 2005	JSRCC	Ann Loving, JSRCC - aloving@jsr.vccs.edu
2006	GCC	Yvette Hester - yhester@gcc.vccs.edu
2007	Eastern	?
2008	PVCC	Jon Hexter - jhexter@pvcc.edu
2009	Central	?
2010	Western	?

AMATYC Fall Conferences

Year	Date	Location
2004	November 18-21	Orlando, Florida
2005	November 10-13	San Diego, California
2006	November 2-5	Cincinnati, Ohio
2007	November 15-18	New Orleans, Louisiana
2008	November 20-23	Washington, DC

AMATYC 2005 Summer Institutes & Other Workshops

For more information, see Conferences & Workshops on the AMATYC website at
www.amatyc.org

Registration information for the Spring Conference is available online at
 (This will be available in January Newsletter.)

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2003-2005 Executive Board Members of VMATYC Plus Others

President: Judy Williams, TCC jwilliams@tcc.edu	Past President: Richard Watkins, TCC rwatkins@tcc.edu
President-Elect: Linda Taylor, NVCC ltaylor@nvcc.edu	Membership Secretary: Karen Overman, TCC koverman@tcc.edu
Recording Secretary: N.V. Fitton, NVCC vfitton@nvcc.edu	Treasurer: Ann Loving, JSRCC aloving@jsr.vccs.edu
Central VP: Joan Tarpley-Robinson, DCC jtarpoley-robinso@dcc.vccs.edu	Eastern VP: Roberta Barlok, TCC rbarlok@tcc.edu
Northern VP: Kevin Chouinard, NVCC kchouinard@nvcc.edu	Western VP: Will Galliher, MECC wgalliher@me.vccs.edu
Affiliate Delegate: Richard Gill, TCC rgill@tcc.edu	
<i>*Non-voting participants at VMATYC Board Meetings</i>	
*Claude S. Moore, Newsletter Editor, DCC cmoore@dcc.vccs.edu	
*Ann Loving, 2005 Site Coordinator, JSRCC - aloving@jsr.vccs.edu 19th Annual VMATYC Conference, April 1-2, 2005	

VMATYC State Delegates to AMATYC (appointed by AMATYC)	
*Susan Fleming, WCC wcflems@wcc.vccs.edu	*Claude Moore, DCC - cmoore@dcc.vccs.edu
AMATYC Officers Affiliated with VMATYC	
AMATYC Past, Past President: Susan S. Wood, JSRCC swood@jsr.vccs.edu	
AMATYC President: Judy Ackerman, MCCC judy.ackerman@montgomerycollege.edu	
AMATYC Mid-Atlantic VP: Rob Farinelli, CC of Allegheny Co. rfarinelli@ccac.edu	

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VMATYC

Virginia Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges

Northern Region Fall 2004 Meeting

- **Date:** October 30, 2004
- **Time:** 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (Registration 9:00 - 10:00 AM)
- **Place:** Blue Ridge Community College
(at the Plecker Center on the Weyers Cave Campus)
- **Cost:** NONE

All members are encouraged to attend and to bring non-member faculty – full-time and adjunct – and others interested in mathematics to this annual meeting.

Refreshments and a light lunch will be served.

For more information or to register (it's still free!), please get in touch with your campus VMATYC representative or Kevin Chouinard at kchouinard@nvcc.edu or (703) 450-2618. Registering will help with the lunch count. Thanks!

Directions: [From the BRCC website.](#)

The Weyers Cave Campus is located halfway between Harrisonburg and Staunton on Interstate 81. Take Exit 235 off Interstate 81. Turn west at the top of the exit ramp (Route 256). In a very short distance, Route 256 terminates onto U. S. Route 11. Turn left (south) on U.S. Route 11. BRCC Weyers Cave Campus is about a half-mile on the left.

Important: Presenters are needed! Please volunteer to share with your colleagues by presenting at a 50 minute concurrent session. Core meeting facilitators are also needed.

To present or facilitate, contact Kevin Chouinard at kchouinard@nvcc.edu

Thanks!

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