

Virginia
Mathematical
Association of
Two-Year
Colleges

NEWSLETTER

VMATYC Visions

... for the New Millennium

October 2005

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VMATYC Visions is an official publication of the Virginia Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges and is published by Claude S. Moore. Questions and comments should be addressed to Dr. Claude S. Moore, Editor, Coastal Carolina Community College, 444 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville, NC 28546. Articles and other items for publication should be sent electronically, in Word format, to the Editor at csmoore@dcc.vccs.edu.

VMATYC President Discusses 2006 Conference
Linda Taylor

April 1-2, 2005, may seem like a long-time ago for those who have nothing to remember, but some fond memories and exciting classroom suggestions are very vivid in the minds of those who attended the 19th annual VMATYC conference that was held on that weekend. It proved to be a very invigorating professional development time for the over 115 attendees. The conference team at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, did a great job in helping develop an interesting program and made each of us feel welcome and at home at their campus. For those of you who attended your first VMATYC conference last spring, I certainly hope you found it worthwhile and won't let it be your last. It is an "excellent prize for the price."

Congratulations to those who were elected to the 2005-2007 Executive Board. I think the VMATYC members from across the state are well represented as we have board members from all four VMATYC regions besides the regional Vice-Presidents.

As we look to what the 2005-2006 school year holds for us, I certainly hope you will remember what was to occur in September—renew your VMATYC membership. You may have renewed for this year as you registered for the conference last spring—if so, many thanks!!!. But if you did not and forgot to do it with all the flurry at the beginning of a semester, make sure you send in your \$10 for membership now. Membership applications along with lots of other information about VMATYC can be found on our website: www.virginia.matyc.org.

Each of you should be receiving news about the upcoming fall conference for your region. Details on the dates, agendas, and more are elsewhere in the newsletter. Let me encourage you to consider assisting your regional vice-president by volunteering to help on the program for your conference.

(See "VMATYC President..." on page 4.)

REMEMBERING 2005 AND ANTICIPATING 2006 CONFERENCE

Hi, everybody!

I'm Sarah Martin, the new President-Elect of VMATYC. Since some of you (understandably) have expressed disappointment that the candidates in our last election didn't submit information about themselves, I'll tell you something about me now. Better late than never? I've been teaching math at VWCC in Roanoke since 1992, where I am also Program Head for Developmental Math. During the '90's I served a couple of terms as Central Region Vice President of VMATYC and then was President of VADE (Virginia Association for Developmental Education) for awhile. When Richard Watkins heard me say that I missed being on the VMATYC Board, he immediately helped me remedy that situation. So here I am, after a hard fought election against my opponent the empty set.

Some other information you might be interested in (or not) is that I'm a Presbyterian (USA) minister and a former pastoral counselor. (I left teaching after four years at TCC, Virginia Beach campus, to go to seminary.) So if anyone in VMATYC needs to be married, buried, or counseled, ... (just kidding). I also absolutely love cats. A year ago this past summer my almost eighteen year old cat Whiskers died suddenly, and I am now the mother of two one-year old kitties named Grace and Hope. Grace is purring in my ear as I write this. Okay, enough about me.

(See "Remembering..." on page 4.)

A Call for Presenters will be mailed soon. Also check the VMATYC web site <http://virginia.matyc.org> for an online form and a form to download. In advance, thank you for your help and support.

The Glenn Fox Mathematics and Computer Science Scholarship Judy Williams

The Glenn Fox VMATYC Scholarship has been awarded to Valerie Stevens, a student at Southwest Virginia Community College, planning to major in mathematics to become a high school teacher. Valerie wrote in her cover letter "I believe teaching a subject that I enjoy so much to others would be an incredibly fulfilling career." Her faculty sponsor is Bill Fiess, nominating his second recipient in two years.

Thank you to the Scholarship Committee, led by outgoing VMATYC Past President Richard Watkins of Tidewater CC. He was assisted in the selection process by Kevin Chouinard of Northern Virginia CC, P.S. Gadiyaram of Southside Virginia CC, Jim Newsom of Tidewater CC, and Ray Templin of Southwest Virginia CC.

We wish Valerie and Brittany Childress of Southwest CC, identified in April as a scholarship recipient and sponsored by Jerry Thornhill, success in their studies this academic year. Each young lady will receive \$350 per semester for tuition and textbook reimbursement as she enrolls at her community college in at least six credit hours including one transfer level mathematics course. We look forward to meeting these future teachers at the Spring Conference.

VMATYC chose to award two scholarships for the 2005-2006 year because in 2003 there were no qualified applicants. (For 2004-2005 the recipient was Ashley O'Quinn of Southwest Virginia CC sponsored by Bill Fiess.) The Executive Board recommends changing the deadline for future scholarship applications to May, with notification of the recipient by August 1. This would provide most applicants with at least two semesters of college work on which the committee could base their selection. It also allows the recipient to begin using the award immediately in the Fall semester. Another advantage is that the scholarship can be emphasized at the Spring Conference to remind members to nominate their students.

The Scholarship Committee meets via email during the summer. Before the next scholarship is given, we would like to construct a selection rubric in which all the qualifications are quantified to help make the selection process more objective. If you are interested in representing your region on this committee, please contact the current chair, VMATYC Past President Judy Williams of Tidewater CC at jwilliams@tcc.edu.

AMATYC CONFERENCE REGISTRATION REIMBURSEMENT

Linda Taylor

For the second year, VMATYC offered to reimburse the 2005 AMATYC Conference registration fee for two members who were interested in selecting a topic to investigate at the national conference and sharing what was learned in a presentation at the spring 2006 VMATYC conference. Only one proposal about the teaching of Statistics was received and the Executive Board decided to award the money to Judy Williams, Tidewater Community College. Congratulations to Judy, and we can all look forward to an enlightening presentation from her at our spring conference.

The Board still thinks this is a good way to encourage attendance at the national conference as well as promote speakers for our own conference. We are planning to extend the offer again for the 2007 AMATYC Conference in Cincinnati. With the conference closer to home and advance notice of the potential funding, hopefully more people will apply next year.

("Remembering..." continued from page 2)

Last spring we had a wonderful conference at JSRCC, thanks to Linda Taylor (now VMATYC President), the conference planning committee at JSRCC, and great presenters. Based on the conference evaluations, many of you agree. Our keynote speaker, Dr. John Berglund, received high marks, and most of the conference sessions were rated excellent or very good. As usual the highlight of the conference was the opportunity to interact with colleagues, and to share information, ideas, and concerns. As one participant wrote, "I will go back to class with renewed enthusiasm."

Our 20th annual conference is scheduled for March 31 – April 1, 2006, at Germanna Community College (near Fredericksburg). The theme is "**Going the Distance with Mathematics.**" Yvette Hester is the site coordinator, and she has already organized the GCC faculty into planning subcommittees, chaired by Dan Ross, Mike Shirazi, Delois McCormick, Jay Nyzowyj, and David Fama.

An information letter about the conference along with a presenter application form will be sent to all VCCS math faculty later in the semester. Please consider making a presentation, conducting a workshop, or chairing a roundtable discussion. An idea you take for granted might be just the inspiration a colleague needs! If you are doing research (perhaps for an advanced degree), please consider sharing your findings.

So prepare yourself (and, if necessary, your professional development budget) for another great conference this spring at Germanna. For more information, or to volunteer to help, contact Sarah Martin, smartin@vw.vccs.edu, 540-857-7223, or any member of the conference committee.

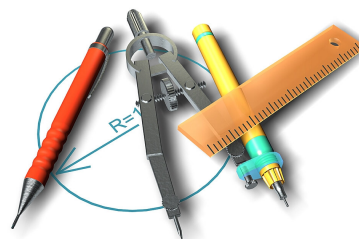
("VMATYC President..." continued from page 2)

Recall that VMATYC is a state affiliate of AMATYC, American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges. The national conference for AMATYC is to be held in San Diego, CA, November 9-13, 2005. Registration can still be made if you act soon. I also encourage each to renew and/or join AMATYC. There are many benefits of being a member of a national organization in your professional field. Check out the website at www.amatyc.org to learn more about this wonderful organization.

Plans are well underway for the Spring 2006 Conference, to be held at Germanna Community College. More information and dates for this conference will be also be found elsewhere in the newsletter. Make plans now to join your colleagues at the 20th annual conference of YOUR organization.

Many thanks to each of you who volunteer to be a campus contact person for VMATYC. This allows VMATYC to distribute to and gather information from each of the 23 VCCS colleges and in many cases, from individual campuses of a college. Another way to share information is through the VMATYC listserv. If you are not receiving e-mails on different topics through the listserv, contact Claude Moore at csmoore@dcc.vccs.edu to have your name added to the list.

I look forward to serving as your President for the next two years, and certainly realize there are big shoes for me to fill from the excellent leadership of VMATYC over the past number of years. But I certainly hope that you will share with me and/or the entire Executive Board any concerns, questions, or ideas you have that will help us make VMATYC an even better organization.



Some tools of the trade – teaching mathematics!

AMATYC Nominations Committee
Judy Williams and Claude Moore

Two VMATYC members, Claude Moore and Judy Williams, were honored to represent you and other AMATYC members from the Mid-Atlantic Region on the 2003-2005 AMATYC Nominations Committee. We served from November 2003 through May 2005 to prepare a slate of candidates to present to the AMATYC Executive Board. The committee's recommendations were used in the creation of the Ballot which AMATYC members cast in September.

We were led by AMATYC Past President Phil Mahler of Middlesex CC in Massachusetts. In three one-hour sessions in Orlando in November 2004, we sat around a conference table discussing how to find the best-qualified people for each job. Our goal was to ensure that no matter which of the two people nominated for each position on the final ballot was elected, AMATYC is the winner.

Our discussions, of course, were confidential, and we continued discussing qualifications of candidates for each office via email for months. Even though this was a great responsibility, we enjoyed conferring with my colleagues from around the country. In San Diego the process will begin anew with another group of volunteers selected and organized to recommend the slate for 2007.

The results of the 2005 election will be announced in San Diego. Best wishes to our own Chris Allgyer of Mountain Empire CC who is willing to serve as Mid-Atlantic Region Vice President. Our VMATYC Affiliate has been honored to have his name on the ballot. Perhaps he will be able to follow all the way to President on the path laid out by Susan Wood of J. Sargeant Reynolds CC.

Northern Regional VMATYC Meeting
Kevin Chouinard

The Fall 2005 meeting of the Northern Region of VMATYC will be held from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM on Saturday, November 5, 2005. The meeting will be held on the Manassas campus of Northern Virginia Community College. A tentative list of speakers currently includes Jon Hexter, Thomas Johnson, Jon Wilkin, and Judy Williams. A light lunch will be provided. Please come and join us for a great meeting! *See the program flyer on page 9.*

Central Regional VMATYC Meeting

For information concerning the Fall 2005 meeting of the Central Region of VMATYC, please contact Joan Tarpley-Robinson at Danville Community College jtarpoley-robinso@dcc.vccs.edu.

Western Regional VMATYC Meeting

For information concerning the Fall 2005 meeting of the Western Region of VMATYC, please contact Will Galliher at Mountain Empire wgalliher@me.vccs.edu.

Purpose and Guidelines for Use of VMATYC Listserv

Claude Moore, Listserv Administrator

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. To subscribe send an email to that effect indicating your email address to be used to Claude Moore at csmoore@dcc.vccs.edu

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>

VMATYC Eastern Regional Conference
Roberta Barlok

The VMATYC Eastern Regional Conference, hosted by the Virginia Beach Campus of Tidewater Community College will be held on October 21, 2005. Thirty to forty mathematics professionals are expected to attend. There are six scheduled presenters. All indications are that this year's conference will be an enriching and informative experience. A brief synopsis of the presentations follows.

George Derise
TNCC

Bicentennial of the Birth of Sir William Rowan

This year is the 100th anniversary of Einstein's famous miracle year; but also the bicentennial of the birth of Sir William Rowan Hamilton. This lecture will introduce Hamilton's quaternions, an algebra with 3 imaginaries and a more advanced Clifford algebra with n 1's and m imaginaries. A nice topic for a History of Math and/or Abstract Algebra course as now taught in the VCCS.

Sally Harrell
Kristine Ortwine
TCC, Portsmouth
TCC, VA Beach

An Approach for Making Supplemental Instruction More Effective, Inside and Out of the Classroom

Joe Joyner
TCC, Norfolk

TBA

Mike Kirby
TCC, VA Beach

Round Table Discussion

Student retention rates.

Judy Williams
TCC, VB

Exploring Statistical Reasoning and Probability for Teachers of Preservice Elementary Teachers

Judy will share some information from this, the most recent AMAYTC Summer Institute.

Amanda Roach
Addison-Wesley

TBA

Where is that answer?



The AMATYC Teacher Preparation Summer Institute
*Exploring Statistical Reasoning and Probability for
Teachers of Pre-service Elementary Teachers*
July 11-13, 2005
Judy Williams

Although Tidewater CC has no specific mathematics course for pre-service teachers, I know these prospective teachers are in my statistics classes, my liberal arts classes, my college algebra classes and my developmental classes. This was my reason for taking five days from a hectic summer schedule (whoever told me to teach four different courses should be signed up for serious counseling – oops, I picked my own schedule) to trek to Grand Rapids, MI, for the AMATYC Summer Institute.

Trek is an appropriate word for the journey. A plane scheduled to leave Norfolk at 6:00 a.m. for arrival in Grand Rapids at 10:30 to allow for a nap before the workshop at 3:00 p.m. was cancelled. “No problem,” the lady at the counter said, “we already have you on a 6:15 flight to Atlanta and you will be in Grand Rapids at 1:30.” I’m glad I brought a novel for the three hour rest in Atlanta; reading was so much better than napping. I got the random body search leaving Norfolk and again when I left Grand Rapids. I know that this is not an impossible outcome for the chance experiment of passing through airport security, but really, how likely is it? To happen to ME?

The only taxi at Gerald Ford International Airport had a wonderful driver/tour guide who wanted me to know that Grand Rapids prides itself on not depending on the auto industry for its economic livelihood. There are numerous medical facilities and educational institutions in western Michigan’s largest city located on the Grand River. Amway got its start here, too.

Although 75% of the streets in town were being replaced, traveling from the hotel to the campus of Grand Rapids Community College was a pleasant 20 minute walk. Each day as one street opened and another closed, I found myself planning my route using the concepts of city geometry rather than the Euclidean idea of a straight line.

Our conference leader was Dave Coffey, Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Grand Valley State University, where math education courses are taught within the math department. Dave was able to give us insights into the mathematics that K-6 teachers need to comprehend in order to be effective classroom mathematics teachers. He insists that teachers should impart the process of mathematics (how the subject works) rather than emphasize the product (how to do the problem). He compared a math teacher to the reading teacher who instructs his students about the fundamentals of letters and words and how they work together in any story rather than throwing a book at the class and saying “Read it” or just reading story after story until they “get it.”

Two activities stand out for me. First, we collected data from the 16 class members about our favorite type of restaurant. With our partner, we created a bar graph. Then Dave said to cut out the bars and tape them together to make a stacked bar graph. I was not impressed with this until he said to join the ends. I had an instant pie graph! Dave also handed us 100 beads on a string. When circled up they fit into a paper plate, so we could make a pie graph with the percentages for each sector without using a protractor. I also think this “percent circle” would be a useful tool for tactile or visual learners to perceive why “per cent” means “out of one hundred”.

Affiliate Delegate Report
Chris Allgyer, MECC callgyer@me.vccs.edu

I hope that many of you will be attending the AMATYC Annual Conference in San Diego, November 10-13. One of my duties as affiliate delegate is to vote on AMATYC Position Papers. A topic of current interest is dual enrollment. A draft of the statement is provided below.

I will welcome any comments or suggestions regarding this paper. The delegates will meet in a forum to discuss and possibly make revisions before the paper is presented to the Delegate Assembly for approval. Other VMATYC members who will be voting at the Delegate Assembly are Linda Taylor ltaylor@nvcc.edu, VMATYC President, and our two appointed State Delegates, Judy Williams jwilliams@tcc.edu, and Susan Fleming wcflems@wcc.vccs.edu.

Affiliate Delegate Report
Draft (Statement as of 11/18/04)

Position Statement of the

**AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF
TWO-YEAR COLLEGES**

Guidelines for Dual Enrollment in Mathematics

Dual enrollment programs are programs in which a high school student enrolls in a postsecondary institution and may earn credit in both sectors simultaneously (*Beyond Crossroads*, chapter 8, lines 10-20).

The mathematics faculty at the two-year college should set the standards for and participate in faculty selection, course content and prerequisites, assessments, and evaluation for mathematics courses in the dual enrollment program.

High school students should receive college credit in mathematics for established college level courses if they complete those courses with a grade of C or better. College level mathematics courses are defined as those courses articulated with a four-year institution.

RESPONSE FROM 2005 CONFERENCE
MTH 151 ROUNDTABLE
Delois R. McCormick

Everyone at the MTH 151 Roundtable meeting felt that the computer concepts unit is no longer needed. We would like for VMATYC's Executive Council to find out what the process is for requesting a revision of the course content on the VCCS's master list of courses. In the meantime we would like to suggest that something about making this change be sent out on the listserv or be included in the newsletter so that colleges not represented at our meeting would have an opportunity to give input and would have a heads up about a possible change. One item that needs to be addressed is whether another topic should be included to replace the computer unit. Bruce Wahl suggested that Consumer Math be included, and the group seemed okay with that suggestion. However, there might be other suggestions out there. Let me know if you need anything else from me at this point. [You may contact Delois at Germanna CC via email at dmccormick@gcc.vccs.edu or phone 540-891-3037.



VMATYC

Virginia Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges

Northern Region Fall 2005 Meeting

- Date: November 5, 2005
- Time: 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM (Registration 9:00 – 9:30 AM)
- Place: Northern Virginia Community College – Manassas Campus

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

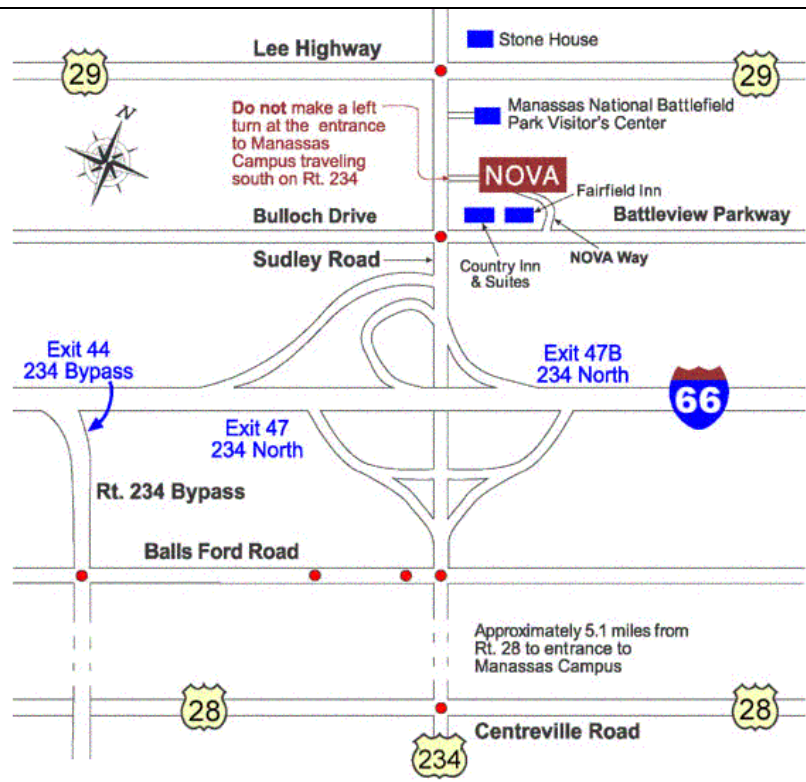
Refreshments and a light lunch will be served.

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

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!

The [location](#) of the Manassas Campus is shown at right. If you do not have an NVCC pass, please park in the event lot.

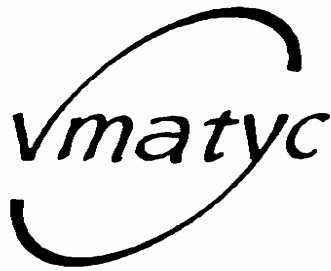


Upcoming Conferences, Institutes, and Workshops

<u>VMATYC</u> Spring Conferences		
Date	Location	On-Site Coordinator
April 1-2, 2005	JSRCC	Ann Loving, JSRCC - aloving@jsr.vccs.edu
Mar 31-Apr 1, 2006	GCC	Yvette Hester - yhester@gcc.vccs.edu
2007	TNCC	Cathy Hoffmaster - HoffmasterC@tncc.edu
April 3-4, 2008	PVCC	Jon Hexter - jhexter@pvcc.edu
2009	Central	?
2010	Western	?

<u>AMATYC</u> Fall Conferences		
Year	Date	Location
2002	November 14-17	Phoenix, Arizona
2003	November 13-16	Salt Lake City, Utah
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

<u>AMATYC</u> 2006 Summer Institutes
<p><i>Dates were unavailable at time of publication.</i></p> <p>For more information, see Meetings & Workshops on the AMATYC website at www.amatyc.org</p>



2005-2007 Executive Board Members of VMATYC

President: Linda Taylor, NVCC
ltaylor@nvcc.edu

President-Elect: Sarah Maring, VWCC
smartin@vw.vccs.edu

Recording Secretary: John Gallo, TCC
tcgallo@tcc.edu

Central VP: Joan Tarypley-Robinson, DCC
jtarypley-robinso@dcc.vccs.edu

Northern VP: Kevin Chouinard, NVCC
kchouinard@nvcc.edu

Past President: Judy Williams, TCC
jwilliams@tcc.edu

Membership Secretary: Susan Fleming, WCC
wflems@wcc.vccs.edu

Treasurer: Ann Loving, JSR
aloving@jsr.vccs.edu

Eastern VP: Roberta Barlok, TCC
rbarlok@tcc.edu

Western VP: Will Galliher, MECC
wgalliher@me.vccs.edu

Affiliate Delegate: Chris Allgyer, MECC
callgyer@me.vccs.edu

Others Affiliated with VMATYC

State Delegate (Appointed): Susan Fleming, WCC
wflems@wcc.vccs.edu

State Delegate (Appointed): Judy Williams, TCC
jwilliams@tcc.edu

Claude S. Moore, Newsletter Editor, Coastal Carolina CC csmoore@dcc.vccs.edu

Yvette Hester, 2006 Site Coordinator, GCC - yhester@gcc.vccs.edu

20th Annual VMATYC Conference, March 31-April 1, 2006

AMATYC Officers Affiliated with VMATYC

AMATYC President: Judy Ackerman, Montgomery College jackerma@mc.cc.md.us

AMATYC Past-Past President: Susan S. Wood, VCCS swood@vccs.edu

AMATYC Mid-Atlantic VP: Rob Farinelli, College of Southern Maryland rfarinelli@csmd.edu

We are your peer group!! Why don't you join us?

What is VMATYC?

The Virginia Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges, a nonprofit educational organization, is the only Virginia organization devoted exclusively to mathematics and computer science education in the two-year colleges. VMATYC has nearly 200 members across the state and is one of 44 affiliates of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges.

What is the Mission of VMATYC?

Recognizing the vital importance of the first two years of collegiate mathematical education to the future of our students and the welfare of our state, VMATYC was formed in 1987 and is committed to the following:

- ◆ To positively impact the preparation of scientifically and technologically literate citizens.
- ◆ To provide a network for communication between individuals interested in mathematics and computer science education in the two-year colleges.
- ◆ To lead the development and implementation of curricular, pedagogical, assessment and professional standards for mathematics and computer science in the first two years of college.
- ◆ To assist in the preparation and continuing professional development of a quality mathematics and computer science faculty.

Who Should Become a Member?

- ◆ Mathematics and computer science faculty at the two-year colleges and other institutions of higher education.
- ◆ College students interested in mathematics or computer science and associated careers.
- ◆ Anyone wishing to have an impact on mathematics or computer science education in the two-year colleges would benefit from membership.

Why Should You Become a Member?

- ◆ To associate with mathematics and computer science colleagues across the state.
- ◆ To affect the development of mathematics and computer science curricula that provide for the maximum development of Virginia citizens.
- ◆ To participate in professional development activities at regional and statewide annual conferences that provide outstanding speakers, informative sessions, and workshops on technology and other topics of current interest.
- ◆ To participate in the important mathematics issues at the national level.



Virginia Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges
2004 – 2005

Membership Application

Name: _____

Preferred mailing address: College___ Home___

Position: Full-time faculty___ Adjunct faculty___ Administrator___ Student___ Other___

VMATYC RENEWAL? YES ___ NO ___

Are you a current member of AMATYC? Yes___ No___

College Name: _____ Campus: _____

College Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Work Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Membership Fee: Regular \$10 Student \$2	\$
Contribution to VMATYC Scholarship Fund (voluntary)	\$
Total Enclosed	\$

Mail to: Ann Loving, VMATYC Treasurer
J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, DTC
P. O. Box 85622
Richmond, VA 23285-5622

Make checks payable to VMATYC (Federal ID 54-1394373)

Susan Fleming, VMATYC Membership Secretary
Wytheville Community College
1000 East Main St.
Wytheville, VA 24382