



Spring 2017



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## Dates of Interest

October 6-7, 2017  
**FTYCMA Fall Retreat**  
State College of Florida  
Bradenton, FL

November 9-12, 2017  
**43rd AMATYC Annual Conference**  
San Diego, CA

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## Change to FTYCMA Fiscal Year

The FTYCMA board is considering a proposal to change the FTYCMA fiscal year from the academic year (July 1—June 30) to the calendar year (Jan 1—Dec 31). Therefore, when someone registers for the Fall Retreat and includes the one-year membership, their membership is good for the following calendar year.

This constitutes a change to the Bylaws and as such must be brought before the entire organization. The membership will vote on this motion during the next business meeting set for May 20th at Florida Atlantic University at Boca Raton, FL.



Project ACCESS, sponsored by AMATYC, is a mentoring and professional development initiative for two-year college mathematics faculty. The project's goal is to provide experiences that will help new faculty become more effective teachers and active members of the broader mathematical community. If the upcoming academic year will be the first, second or third year of a faculty member's first full-time, renewable position at any community college, he or she may apply to Project ACCESS.

In addition to attending 2 consecutive AMATYC national meetings, participants, or fellows, will network with each other and distinguished mathematics educators, and develop, implement and evaluate a project at their home institution. Fellows also receive membership in AMATYC for the duration of the project.

The cost is shared between the participant's home institution and AMATYC. AMATYC will fund the registration, four nights of lodging and select meals for the two conferences.



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## Coming Up...



### Mathematics in the Sun XV—Fall Retreat 2017

October 6 & 7, 2017

State College of Florida  
Bradenton, FL

This year's theme is to be announced. Please refer to the website <http://scfl.scf.edu/ftycma/html/events.html> for more details.



### AMATYC Annual Conference

San Diego, CA

November 9-12, 2017

Make plans now to attend the 43rd Annual AMATYC Conference in San Diego, CA, November 9–12, 2017. In addition to Thursday's keynote address and Saturday's breakfast presentation, the program includes two outstanding featured speakers, two themed sessions, and a symposium plus workshops. The RMETYC Committee will

sponsor the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning symposium followed by a workshop, "Embarking on Inquiry in Your Classroom", on Friday. A second workshop, "Moving from Reflective Teaching to Classroom Inquiry", is scheduled on Saturday. The Statistics Committee will sponsor Data Science and the Introductory Statistics Course. Sources of real data that can be used in an introductory statistics course will be shared, methods of data cleaning and graphical methods for visualizing data will be discussed, and participants will learn about the ASA DataFest student competition. The second themed session, "Engaging Future Teachers with Concepts of Rational Numbers", will focus on understanding representations, concepts, and algorithms of fractions and other rational numbers. Teacher Preparation Committee members will share classroom ideas, activities, and research that can be used in courses for prospective teachers. Visit the AMATYC website [amatyc.org](http://amatyc.org) or our events page <http://scfl.scf.edu/ftycma/html/events.html> for more details.



### FTYCMA Business Meeting

Boca Raton, FL

The next business meeting of FTYCMA will be held at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, FL on May 20th. Members are encouraged to attend.

## New Lifetime Members

Allen Angel — Retired from Monroe Community College, NY

Janet Samuels — State College of Florida, Manatee and Sarasota

Sandra Seifert — Florida SouthWestern State College

Anna Wasilewska — State College of Florida, Manatee and Sarasota

Rebecca Williams — State College of Florida, Manatee and Sarasota

Terry Zamar — Florida SouthWestern State College

# Highlights from the Joint Meeting of MAA/FTYCMA



The State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota, recently hosted the 2017 Joint Meetings of the Florida Section of the Mathematical Association of America and the Florida Two-Year College Mathematics Association on February 17-18, 2017. This year marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Florida Section of the MAA, with a record 250 in attendance at the meetings. Dr. Tim Chartier, Vice President of the MAA and Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at Davidson College, gave the opening talk titled “March Mathness,” discussing mathematical methods for ranking college teams. Dr. Ken Ono, the Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Mathematics at Emory University, delivered an evening talk about the film *The Man Who Knew Infinity* which covered the life of famous mathematician Ramanujan. Ono served as an Associate Producer on the film, and the conference featured a Saturday screening of the film. Other highlights included two performances of *By The Numbers*, a series of short plays commissioned by the SCF theatre and math departments and inspired by the names of famous theorems, as well as a reception at the SCF Fine Art Gallery for the exhibit “Richard Anuszkiewicz: Inward Eye,” emphasizing the relationship of math to the fine arts by featuring geometric prints alongside the poetry of William Blake.





# Scholarships and Awards

## AMATYC Scholarship

The AMATYC scholarship nomination is now open and due to the FTYCMA President, Altay Ozgener by September 8, 2017. All members of FTYCMA who have never been to an AMATYC conference are eligible to be nominated. The winner will be responsible for their own travel and accommodations and must be able to represent FTYCMA as a delegate.

## AMATYC President’s Award

FTYCMA is being invited to nominate a student for the AMATYC President’s Award of \$1000. The nominating institution must have an AMATYC member in good standing. The eligible student must be a mathematics or mathematics education major. The deadline is October 1, 2017. See the AMATYC.org under About Us tab website for more details.



# AMATYC 2018



The site visit for the 2018 AMATYC conference in Orlando, FL, is scheduled for August 1, 2017 at the Coronado Springs facility. Keven Doktor will be presiding over this event.

Anyone who wants to be of service, please contact Penny Morris with your name and email. The local organization usually does give-aways and FTYCMA may be asked to provide a give-away to promote the Orlando meeting.

Please come out and support FTYCMA in Orlando, 2018!

## Theatrical Review



### By The Numbers

Reviewed by: **Dennis Runde, Mathematics Professor, State College of Florida, Manatee and Sarasota**

A series of short plays, known as “By the Numbers,” were performed Feb. 17-18 in conjunction with the annual joint meetings of the Florida Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) and the Florida Two Year College Mathematics Association (FTYCMA) at State College of Florida, Bradenton. The plays were directed by SCF professor, Dean Anthony, and performed by SCF theater students.

The plays were written by four award-winning professional theatre artists based in New York: Lynne Halliday, James Hindman, Arlene Hutton, and Craig Pospisil. Their writing was inspired by famous mathematical topics. By reading about mathematics and talking to mathematicians, the playwrights created this series of dark, funny and heartfelt universes that attendees raved about throughout the conference.

In Act 1, the order of operations is given a humorous twist in *Return of the Sohcahtoans*. A triangular relationship is the focus of *The Mathematics of Love*. *Point of Intersection* tracks the sinusoidal paths of two strangers who eventually fall in love. *The Incompleteness Theorem*, explores the sometimes difficult relationships of mathematicians. And the four color theorem takes on theological proportions in *The Fourth Color*.

In Act 2, the audience is introduced to Fibonacci, the detective, in *The Big Shell*. Computer match-making is taken to a new level in *The Transcendence of Pi*. Game theory, competition, and motivation are addressed in *The Ballot Problem*. *The Probability of Zero* delves into probability as expressed by baseball parents. And the show wraps up beautifully with *Lullaby for Mathematicians*.

If you are interested in having your school produce these mathematical plays, please contact Mathematics Professor *Joni Burnette Pirnot* at State College of Florida, [pirnotj@scf.edu](mailto:pirnotj@scf.edu).



## *Teaching Excellence and Outstanding Services Awards*

In even numbered years, FTYCMA presents a **Teaching Excellence Award** to one of its members who has at least 5 years of teaching experience, has exhibited outstanding teaching ability, and has created or adapted innovative teaching methods or materials. (Special consideration is given by the committee to those who have shared such practices with colleagues.)

The list of past honorees is:

1994 Bill Jordan (Seminole CC)  
 1996 Frank Ward (Indian River CC)  
 1998 Lou Cleveland (Chipola College)  
 2000 Bill Palow (Miami-Dade College)  
 2002 Martha Goshaw (Seminole CC)  
 2004 John Salak (Tallahassee CC)  
 2006 Dennis Runde (Manatee CC)  
 2008 Steven Grosteffon (Santa Fe College)  
 2010 Debbie Garrison (Valencia College)  
 2012 Don Ransford (Edison State College)  
 2014 Sandy Cohen (St. Petersburg College)  
 2016 Joni Pirnot (State College of Florida)

In odd numbered years, FTYCMA presents an **Outstanding Service Award** to one of its members who has made an exemplary contribution to the teaching profession through length of service, advocacy of mathematics education, and contributions both to the success of FTYCMA and to the progress of others in the field.

The list of past honorees is:

1993 Mike Mears (Manatee CC)  
 1995 Joan Golliday (Santa Fe CC)  
 1997 Moana Karsteter (Tallahassee CC)  
 1999 Glenn Smith (Santa Fe CC)  
 2001 Guesna Dohrman (Tallahassee CC)  
 2003 Carl Hensley (Indian River CC)  
 2005 Cliff Morris (Valencia CC)  
 2007 Norma Agras (Miami-Dade College)  
 2009 Janette Campbell (Palm Beach SC)  
 2011 Byron Dyce (Santa Fe College)  
 2013 Deepankar Rick Pal (Valencia College)  
 2015 Bill Hemme (St. Petersburg College)  
 2017 Mike Keller (Indian River State College)

*Congratulations!*

**Mike Keller**

**Outstanding Service Award 2017**

Mike is a Professor of Mathematics at Indian River State College. He was recognized at the spring meeting with a plaque and a cash award of \$100.

Nominations are now open for Teaching Excellence Award for 2018. If you would like to nominate a member of FTYCMA for the Teaching Excellence Award, and you are currently a member, forward the recommended person's name along with supporting documentation to Altay Özgener at [ozgenea@scf.edu](mailto:ozgenea@scf.edu).

### FTYCMA Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

College \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phones \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of AMATYC \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Mail completed form and  
 \$15 (annual) or \$225 (life membership) payment to:  
 (Please circle or underline which membership)

**Ryan Kasha, FTYCMA Treasurer**  
**Valencia College**  
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**rkasha@valenciacollege.edu**

Please make checks payable to FTYCMA.

We are not accepting credit card payments at this time.

### The Florida Two-Year College Mathematics Association

is a non-profit, education association with the expressed purpose:

- I. to encourage the development of effective mathematics programs;
- II. to afford a statewide forum for the sharing of ideas;
- III. to further develop and improve the mathematics education and mathematics-related experiences of students in the first two years of college;
- IV. to promote the professional welfare and development of its members.

### Benefits of Membership include:

- ★ Reduced admission to retreat
- ★ Opportunities for service
- ★ Opportunities to contribute to curriculum discussions that could lead to political action.

### Benefits of the life membership include:

- ★ A certificate of lifetime membership
- ★ A laminated wallet-sized membership card
- ★ A FTYCMA lapel pin
- ★ A reserved position in the honor roll of life members

