

**FTYCMA**  
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**FLORIDA TWO-YEAR COLLEGE MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATIONS**  
**SPRING 2008**



**Volume 3.1415926535897932384626433832795028**

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**Letter from the President**

The torch has officially been passed to a new President, and I hope that the flame of that torch does not flicker or diminish from Byron's steady hand, but instead sparks newfound interest and participation in the organization. I am very excited about the projects that have already been discussed for the upcoming year and am looking forward to the possibility of even more innovative proposals from the membership.

One of my goals as President of FTYCMA is to increase membership **and** participation in the organization. I have asked our new Membership Committee Chair, Ryan Kasha of Valencia CC, to collaborate with the Newsletter Editor, Rick Pal, and myself in constructing an updated list of Department Chairs/Deans at all 28 of the Florida Community Colleges including contact persons at each of the sites for multi-campus colleges. We will then make a concerted effort to personally contact each liaison with the intent of informing them of current FTYCMA activities and the importance of participation in the only statewide representative group promoting change, scholarship, and mathematics in community colleges.

A fine example of one of these activities is *Mathematics in the Sun VI* scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008, in Tarpon Springs. More details concerning the Fall Retreat can be found in a separate article in the newsletter, but the emphasis will be on developing specific objectives (learning outcomes) for several of the highest enrollment mathematics courses offered in the first two years of college and subsequently defining *College Readiness*. Both of these initiatives have stemmed from discussions taking place at the 2007 Fall Retreat and the 2008 Joint Meetings of FTYCMA and the Florida MAA section, and have included Matthew Bouck of the Office of Articulation (FDOE).

I would also like to acknowledge the other new FTYCMA officers elected at the Business Meeting in Lakeland. In addition to Ryan Kasha as Membership Committee Chair, we are fortunate to welcome Janette Campbell of Palm Beach CC as Secretary and Rick Pal of Valencia CC as President-Elect. Speaking from personal experience, I know that all college mathematics educators are already kept quite busy trying to balance school and personal lives, so the willingness of those who volunteer to serve as officers can never be shown enough gratitude. I look forward to developing a great working relationship with my cabinet, and I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Retreat (October 3 & 4, 2008) in Tarpon Springs, the AMATYC conference (November 20-23, 2008) in Washington D.C., and at the FTYCMA Annual Business Meeting (February 20 & 21, 2009) at FGCU in Fort Myers.



Professor Don Ransford  
President of FTYCMA

FTYCMA has a new web site address:

<http://mcc1.mccfl.edu/ftycma/default.htm>

To register online for the sixth annual FTYCMA retreat visit the web site :

<http://mcc1.mccfl.edu/ftycma/html/events.htm>

**Famous Math Quote**

*"Natures great book is written in Mathematics. -Galileo Galilei*

To remove your name from our mailing list, please indicate via email to Professor  
Pal at [drpal100@hotmail.com](mailto:drpal100@hotmail.com).

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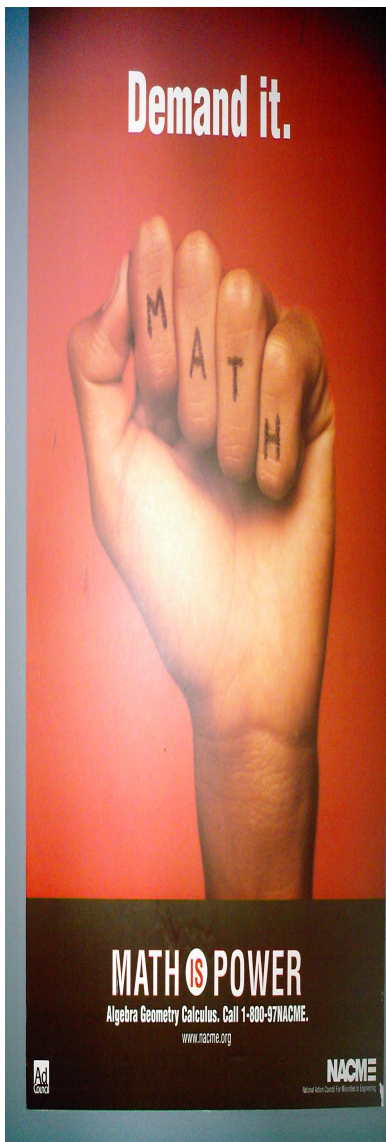
## Editor's Notes

Hello colleagues,

We had an excellent Fall retreat in 2007 at CFCC and an excellent joint meeting with FL-MAA at Florida Southern College in February, 2008. The upcoming Fall 2008 retreat will be held at Saint Petersburg College in Tarpon Springs, and next year's joint meeting with FL-MAA will be held in Ft. Myers and hosted by Florida Gulf Coast University in February, 2009. Our individual membership dues are now \$10 per year and a lifetime membership is \$150. Our website URL has changed from [www.ftycma.org](http://www.ftycma.org) to [www.http://mcc1.mccfl.edu/ftycma/default.htm](http://www.http://mcc1.mccfl.edu/ftycma/default.htm). Please note that change, and save it to your favorites. This year's AMATYC annual conference is in Washington DC on November 20-23, 2008. I would personally like to thank our past president Byron Dyce and our incoming president Don Ransford for all their hard work and contributions towards FTYCMA. I wish them the very best. Please also note the new slate of officers and board members and I thank them in advance for their contributions.

From the Editor: Rick Pal

The 2009 FL-MAA Joint Annual Meetings will be hosted by Florida Gulf Coast University on February 20th and 21st, 2009. Along with plenary speakers, there will be the annual business meetings, awards banquet, invited speakers, workshops, and presentations. Please look forward to an official call for papers in the October issue of the newsletter. Please visit the website for more details at [http://mcc1.mccfl.edu/fl\\_maa/](http://mcc1.mccfl.edu/fl_maa/)



**Mr. Matt Bouck,**  
Deputy Director Office of Articulation,  
Florida Department of Education



**FTYCMA President Don Ransford**  
Presenting Award to Past President  
**Byron Dyce**



**Deepankar Rick Pal**  
FTYCMA President-Elect



Former FTYCMA Presidents Guesna Dohrman, Moana Karsteter, Mike Mears, and Deputy Director Mr. Matt Bouck, Byron Dyce, And FTYCMA Treasurer Michael Jamison

To remove your name from our mailing list, please indicate via email to Professor Pal at [drpal100@hotmail.com](mailto:drpal100@hotmail.com).



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## Sixth Annual FTYCMA FALL Retreat St. Petersburg College at Tarpon Springs October 3rd & 4th , 2008

Direction to the Tarpon Springs campus can be found at this link  
[http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/campus/to\\_ts.htm](http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/campus/to_ts.htm)

### *“Math in the Sun VI: Defining Undergraduate Mathematics Competencies”*



FTYCMA's sixth Fall Retreat has been scheduled for October 3 & 4, 2008, and is returning to the Tarpon Springs campus of St. Petersburg College. The theme of the Retreat will focus on defining *Mathematical College Readiness* and refining the intended outcomes for mathematics courses offered in the first two years at community colleges in Florida. The aim is to involve persons from any organization that would have vested interests in the topic such as the Office of Articulation, the Statewide Course Numbering System Mathematics Committee, the Florida MAA, and FDEA with an ultimate goal of submitting the final product to the FDOE for approval. Specific details concerning scheduled working groups and special guests should be available at the FTYCMA website by the end of May.

Beth Goodbread of the host institution has already made many of the site arrangements for the Retreat. The schedule of events will include a FTYCMA officer's meeting on the morning of October 3<sup>rd</sup> at a location to be determined with the actual Retreat beginning at 1:00 p.m. on the Tarpon Springs campus. (LUNCH WILL NOT BE PROVIDED ON OCTOBER 3.) Activities for day 1 at the College will end at 6:00 p.m. followed by an informal gathering at Beth's home which will include poolside wine, cheese, and hors d'oeuvres.

Day 2 will begin at 8:30 a.m. on October 4 with a continental breakfast. Activities will be scheduled from 9:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and will include a lite-fare lunch at noon.

Prices for the Retreat are \$25 in advance for FTYCMA members, \$30 in advance for non-members, and \$40 at the door for all participants not pre-registered. This price covers costs for the registration process, the wine and cheese party, the continental breakfast, and the Saturday lunch. Registration forms and information concerning special lodging rates will be available at the FTYCMA website by the end of May.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please indicate via email to Professor  
Pal at [drpal100@hotmail.com](mailto:drpal100@hotmail.com).

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**Florida Two Year College Mathematics Association**



*Math in the Sun VI:*

***Defining Undergraduate Mathematics Competencies***

October 3 & 4, 2008

St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs, Florida

Schedule of Events

Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 12:00 – 12:45 PM  
 Greeting Area

12:45-1:00 PM	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Welcome</b>  <i>Don Ransford, President, Florida Two Year College Mathematics Association</i>  <i>Donna Saye, AMATYC Southeast Regional V.P.</i>                  Fine Arts Auditorium                  Leepa-Rattner Museum Building FA-132</p>		
1:00-2:00 PM	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rationale for the Retreat</b>  <i>Matthew Bouck, Office of Articulation (FDOE)</i>  <i>Dr. Heath Martin (UCF), Math Committee, Statewide Course Numbering System</i>                  Fine Arts Auditorium                  Leepa-Rattner Museum Building FA-132</p>		
2:00-2:15 PM	<b>Break</b>		
2:15-3:30 PM	<b>Course Competency Work Sessions</b>		
	MAC 1105 Room TBA	MAC 1140 Room TBA	STA 2023 Room TBA
3:30-3:45 PM	<b>Break</b>		
3:45 – 5:00 PM	<i>Course Competency Work Sessions</i>		
	MAC 1105 Room TBA	MGF 1106/1107 Room TBA	MAC 2233 Room TBA
5:00-5:15 PM	<b>Break</b>		
5:15-5:45 PM	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Discussion of Findings and Game Plan for Saturday</b>                  Fine Arts Auditorium                  Leepa-Rattner Museum Building FA-132</p>		
6:15 – 7:45	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Poolside Party at Beth Goodbread's Home</b>                  Wine, Cheese, and Hors d'Oeuvres</p>		

# Florida Two Year College Mathematics Association



*Math in the Sun VI:*

## *Defining Undergraduate Mathematics Competencies*

October 3 & 4, 2008  
St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs, Florida

Schedule of Events

Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>

	Fine Arts Auditorium		
8:30-9:15 AM	Welcome and Continental Breakfast Atrium, Fine Arts Building		
9:15 -9:30 AM	Plans for Today's Sessions		
9:30-10:45 AM	<i>Course Competency Work Sessions</i>		
	MAC 1105 Room TBA	MAC 1140 Room TBA	STA 2023 Room TBA
10:45-11:00 AM	Break		
11:00 AM-12:15 PM	<i>Course Competency Work Sessions</i>		
	MAC 1105 Room TBA	MGF 1106/1107 Room TBA	MAC 2233 Room TBA
12:15-1:15 PM	Lunch Room TBA		
1:15 – 2:15 PM	AMATYC Traveling Workshop: <i>The Right Stuff</i> Rob Kimball, Project Director, <i>The Right Stuff – Appropriate Mathematics for All (NSF – CCLI)</i>		
2:15 – 2:30 PM	Break		
2:30 - 3:45 PM	Discussion of Findings and Defining <i>College Readiness</i> Fine Arts Auditorium		

### FTYCMA Membership Campaign

Florida Two Year College Mathematics Association (FTYCMA) is an organization designed primarily for the community college and university professors of the freshman and sophomore level mathematics course work.

FTYCMA's Mission is to be 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 curricula,
- IV. To further mathematics-related experiences of students in two-year colleges,
- V. To promote the professional welfare and development of our members.

FTYCMA has a direct and significant influence on the mathematics curriculum in Florida. It is important that FTYCMA continues to have a voice in the mathematics curriculum in Florida. Math faculties are the ones that teach math and should have a direct influence in this process. An easy step you can take is to have an active membership in FTYCMA, which is an affiliated member chapter of, American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC). By being a member in FTYCMA, you are also representing AMATYC. FTYCMA organizes retreats, conferences, and participates with the MAA annual conference. FTYCMA keeps you in the loop regarding changes in our discipline and changes in the teaching and learning of mathematics in Florida and nationwide. Consider making a difference and become an active member in FTYCMA. We become stronger one member at a time. We are as strong as our membership.

Professor Ryan Kasha  
FTYCMA Membership Committee Chair

[membership@ftycma.org](mailto:membership@ftycma.org)

[rkasha@atlas.valenciac.edu](mailto:rkasha@atlas.valenciac.edu)

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## AMATYC, 34th AMATYC Annual Conference Washington, DC, November 20-23, 2008

For more information please visit  
<http://www.amatyc.org/Events/conferences/2008DC/index.html>  
<http://clab.cecil.edu/amatyc/>

### Conference Chairs

<b>Conference Coordinator</b> Margie Hobbs <a href="mailto:mjhobbs@olemiss.edu">mjhobbs@olemiss.edu</a>	<b>Local Events Coordinator</b> Keven Docktor <a href="mailto:kdockte@inverhills.mnscu.edu">kdockte@inverhills.mnscu.edu</a> Pat Roux <a href="mailto:pbroux@dcc.edu">pbroux@dcc.edu</a>	<b>Program Coordinator</b> Wanda Garner <a href="mailto:wagarner@cabrillo.edu">wagarner@cabrillo.edu</a>	<b>Presider Chair</b> Bob Malena <a href="mailto:bmalena@ccac.edu">bmalena@ccac.edu</a>	<b>Exhibits Chair</b> Jay Martin <a href="mailto:jemartin@waketech.edu">jemartin@waketech.edu</a>	<b>Advertising Chair</b> Gwen Turbeville <a href="mailto:gturbeville@reynolds.edu">gturbeville@reynolds.edu</a>
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8:30pm-10:00pm, Thursday, November 1, 2008

### 2008 AMATYC Conference Registration Rates:

AMATYC Member	Discount Registration	\$320	AMATYC Non-member (Registration <b>does not</b> include a one-year membership)	Discount Registration	\$420
	Regular (after 9/30/07)	\$360		Regular (after 9/30/08)	\$460
	Single Day, Discount	\$125		Single Day, Discount	\$150
	Single Day, Regular	\$145		Single Day, Regular (after 9/30/08)	\$170

**Discount registration deadline: Sunday, September 30, 2008**

### Need a Roommate for the Conference?

AMATYC will offer a roommate service at the 2008 Annual Conference in Minneapolis. Please fill out the [Roommate Network](#)

Questions: contact the AMATYC Office (901.333.4643) or [amatyc@amatyc.org](mailto:amatyc@amatyc.org)  
<http://clab.cecil.edu/amatyc/>

Conference program can be found at <http://www.amatyc.org/Events/conferences/2008/conf-program.htm>

All other enquires please visit AMATYC web site at <http://www.amatyc.org/>

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AMATYC Project ACCESS is a mentoring and professional development initiative for two-year college mathematics faculty sponsored by the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC). The goal of the project is to facilitate current and continued professional growth for a cadre of two-year college mathematics faculty who will become the leaders of their profession. Participating Fellows will gain knowledge of the culture and mission of the two-year college and its students, acquire familiarity with the scholarship of teaching, commit to continued growth in mathematics, and participate actively in professional communities.

Fellows will attend two consecutive AMATYC national meetings where they will participate in a specially developed conference workshops as well as regular AMATYC conference activities. In the intervening year, Fellows are encouraged to attend an AMATYC Affiliate meeting, an MAA Section meeting or an NCTM Regional meeting near their home institution. For the duration of the project, an electronic network will link AMATYC Project ACCESS Fellows with each other and with a group of distinguished mathematics educators. The development, implementation, and evaluation of a project will be a component of each Fellow's professional development experience.

Project ACCESS has been in existence since 2004. A fourth group of Fellows was selected in summer 2007 and participated in ACCESS workshops at the AMATYC conference November 2007 in Minneapolis. A fifth group of Fellows will be selected for the 2008-2009 academic year.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Mathematics faculty for whom the 2008-09 academic year will be the first, second or third year of a full-time renewable position at a two-year college are invited to apply for the next AMATYC Project ACCESS cycle. Fellows will be selected on the basis of breadth of interests, motivation for participation, plans for implementing Project ACCESS goals, interest in leadership and degree of institutional support. Twenty-four Fellows will be selected.

**COST:** There is no fee for participation in AMATYC Project ACCESS itself. Funding will be provided by AMATYC for  
Conference Registration (Washington, D. C. and Las Vegas, NV conferences)  
AMATYC Project ACCESS workshops (Washington, D. C. and Las Vegas, NV conferences)  
Several meals (Washington, D. C. and Las Vegas, NV conferences)  
Airfare (up to \$450) for the Washington, D. C. conference  
Two nights' lodging (double occupancy) for the Washington, D.C. conference  
AMATYC membership for the 2008 and 2009

We estimate that the total institutional commitment will be approximately \$1,500 spread over two fiscal years. Assurances of institutional support and eligibility are of critical importance in the acceptance process.

**TO APPLY: The application deadline for Cohort 5 is May 1, 2008.** More information about AMATYC Project ACCESS, including a sample program, can be found at: <http://www.access.amatyc.org/>.

**Project Coordinator for AMATYC Project ACCESS:**

Karen Gaines, St. Louis Community College, [KGaines@stlcc.edu](mailto:KGaines@stlcc.edu).





**Benefits of the life membership include:**

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

Current cost of a lifetime membership is \$150.

Current cost of an annual membership is \$10.

**Keep updated at**

<http://mcc1.mccfl.edu/ftycma/default.htm>

**FTYCMA Membership Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

College \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phones \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mail completed form and

\$10 (annual) or \$150 (life membership) payment to:

(Please circle or underline which membership)



**Michael Jamieson,**  
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**Professor Ryan Kasha**  
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Please make checks payable to FTYCMA.

We are not accepting credit card payments at this time.



## Faculty Spotlight

Recipient of the FTYCMA Teaching Excellence Award for 2008, Steven Grosteffon is a pioneer in Distance learning and online Education at SFCC. A lifetime member of FTYCMA and current member of AMATYC, Steven is highly involved in his department. He's an avid Cyclist belonging to the Chattanooga Bicycle Club and has completed the 3-states-3 mountains challenge. A lifetime Member of FTYCMA and Current member of AMATYC. Steven is highly involved in math curriculum innovation and development.



**email Address:** [steve.grosteffon@sfcc.edu](mailto:steve.grosteffon@sfcc.edu)



**Faculty Name:** Professor Steven Grosteffon  
**Institution:** Santa Fe Community College  
**City:** Gainesville, Florida

*If you wish to have your faculty member from your community college spotlighted please contact Professor Pal at [drpal100@hotmail.com](mailto:drpal100@hotmail.com)*

## We would like to welcome New Board Members:

L to R: Professor Ryan Kasha in charge of FTYCMA Membership Committee, and Professor Janette Campbell FTYCMA Secretary. You may reach Professor Kasha at 407-582-1475 or [rkasha@atlas.valenciac.edu](mailto:rkasha@atlas.valenciac.edu) and you may reach Professor Campbell at 561-868-3168 or [campbejh@pbcc.edu](mailto:campbejh@pbcc.edu)



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## FTYCMA Rewards Outstanding Teaching and Service

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 CC)



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)

Each award recipient is recognized at the spring meeting with a plaque and a cash award of \$100; and since the next spring meeting will be in 2009 (an odd-numbered year), it is time to consider a nominee for the Outstanding Service Award.

If you would like to nominate a member of FTYCMA for the Outstanding Service Award, and you are currently a member, then forward the recommended person's name along with supporting documentation to D. Rick Pal at [drpal50@hotmail.com](mailto:drpal50@hotmail.com).





## What is *College Algebra*?

By Don Ransford

At the 2008 Joint Meetings of the Florida Section of MAA and FTYCMA, a series of three successive sessions presented background and promoted discussion on the topic of curricula in first-year college-level mathematics courses. Steven Blumsack of FSU led a session on mathematics courses for liberal arts and elementary education majors followed by Matthew Bouck's history and proposed goals of the Statewide Course Numbering System from the perspective of the Office of Articulation (FDOE). The third session was led by Laurice Garrett, JoAnn Lewin, and myself all from Edison College, and was a follow-up to a discussion that had occurred at the 2007 FTYCMA Fall Retreat which raised the issue of the College Algebra course having to try and serve multiple purposes. Changes in purpose were a result of various non-STEM programs requiring the course that has now led to increased enrollments of students in College Algebra at community colleges who are taking the course as a terminal course. This goes against the original intent of the SCNS Mathematics Committee who had in the late 1990's restructured Florida's mathematics courses in the first two years and recommended one College Algebra course for students on the calculus track.

The presenters proposed three possible solutions: create a basic or elementary modeling course for non-calculus students to meet the needs of non-STEM programs, develop separate terminal and pre-calculus college-level algebra courses, or revise the existing college algebra course objectives to be better aligned with recommendations made by AMATYC and MAA/CUPM (CRAFTY) placing a greater emphasis on modeling, problem solving, and interpretation of data and graphs thereby creating a course appropriate for all students regardless of their professional track.

It was the general consensus of the group in attendance to work with the SCNS in better defining the course objectives of the course as it currently exists, and to then meet with representatives at the state level of the various programs that are requiring students to take college algebra to determine if the course is truly meeting their needs or if their students might be better served by another existing course. We plan to begin this process by refining the college algebra course at the 2008 Fall Retreat mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter.

In the meantime, if you are not satisfied with the results in college algebra at your institution, I would recommend that you look into the possibility of hosting a Traveling Workshop called *The Right Stuff* sponsored by AMATYC and funded by a grant from the NSF. The Traveling Workshops are tailored to meet the needs of the faculty teaching college algebra courses. These workshops may focus on appropriate content, the use of technology, assessment strategies, the use of alternatives to lecture as well as other ways to improve the students' achievement in and attitudes toward mathematics. The guiding principles to be used in designing the Traveling Workshops are found in the [\*Beyond Crossroads: Implementing Mathematics Standards in the First Two Years of Colleges\*](#) document and the Mathematical Association of America's CRAFTY document "[College Algebra Guidelines](#)" endorsed by the Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics (CUPM). The [application for and further details about hosting](#) an NSF-supported Traveling Workshop to help your college algebra faculty are available at [www.therightstuff.amatyc.org](http://www.therightstuff.amatyc.org).

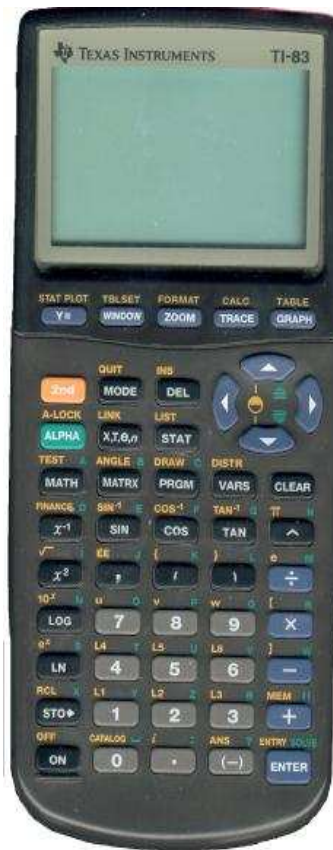




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## How to Upgrade an Old TI-83/84 Operating System so you can have a programmed file such as the Polynomial Root Finder and Simultaneous Equation Solver

By Deepankar Rick Pal



1. Download the required file from <http://education.ti.com/educationportal/downloadcenter/SoftwareDetail.do?website=US&tabId=1&appId=206> the file that you need to download is called: Polynomial Root Finder and Simultaneous Equation Solver Version 2.0, the one that is compatible with your calculator, and save it to your desktop

2. Download the 18MB TI-Connect from Texas Instruments website and install it as would any other software. Close the program once it has completed its installation.

3. Once done, connect your Graphing Calculator to your computer using the provided USB cable. Better hope you did not lose it. Once plugged in, Windows will automatically detect its presence and install the relevant drivers. Click "Allow" or "OK" to any dialog boxes you encounter.

4. Navigate to the desktop to get the file that you downloaded on step 1. Right click the file and select "Send to TI device".

5. The "Send to TI device" program will appear. Let it complete its searching of your Graphing calculator. Once done, click the "Send to Device" button. The rest of the steps provided should be quite straightforward. Your Graphing Calculator will reboot after it upgrades so do not be alarmed.

