



VISIONS
Spring 2020

Virginia Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges

The newsletter of the Virginia Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges

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VMATYC Executive Board 2019-2021	
Wes Crumpler, TCC President	Bruce Wahl, NVCC Past-President
Theresa Thomas, BRCC President-Elect	Sherry Vaughan, TNCC Treasurer
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Matthew Westerhoff, NVCC Vice President, Northern Region	Jason Lachniet, WCC Vice President, Western Region
Libby Watts, TCC Webmaster	Cheryl Brindle, LFCC Affiliate Delegate to AMATYC
Matthew Watts, TCC Newsletter Editor	

Notes from the President

Wes Crumpler

rcrumpler@tcc.edu



Dear VMATYC members and newsletter readers!

I hope everyone's spring semester is off to a great start. With the Direct Enrollment Pilot beginning in fall 2020 and all the changes involved, the eight pilot colleges are working hard to get ready. Training for the Direct Enrollment classes is in February and I look forward to that as I prepare for my fall classes. The curriculum for the new MDE (Math for Direct Enrollment) courses is developed and the pilot colleges are working to finish up including scheduling as registration is right around the corner. I'm sure there will be many challenges ahead and adjustments to be made along the way. My hope is that this new development will improve student success.

Please take time to read your VMATYC newsletter. There is information regarding the VMATYC and AMATYC conferences this past fall as well as the four upcoming VMATYC spring regional conferences, the VCCS STEM Peer Group Conference and AMATYC Conference this fall. The regional conferences are free, and you don't need to be a member to attend. Many memberships ended on December 31 and if yours did, then you should have received an email from the Membership Secretary, Michael Filsinger. If so, you can renew your membership on the website, www.vmatyc.org. As a member, you get to attend a great conference each year and connect and collaborate with other educators across the state. Please take advantage of the opportunities to get involved in this great organization.

Information regarding the Glenn Fox Scholarship is also available below. If you have students eligible for the scholarship, please make them aware of this opportunity. This is a great way to connect students with VMATYC.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with comments, concerns, or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Wes Crumpler

Spring Regional Meetings

Western Region Spring Meeting – March 27, 2020

Vice President Jason Lachniet

jlachniet@wcc.vccs.edu

The Spring Western Regional Meeting will be held at Wytheville Community College's Summit Center location in Marion on Friday, March 27, 2020. Registration will open at 11:30 and the meeting and program will begin at 12:00. The meeting typically runs until about 3:00. Lunch will be provided and there is no cost to attend.

An online registration form is available at vmatyc.org under the VMATYC Regions tab. If you are interested in giving a presentation or leading a discussion, or have any questions about the meeting, please contact Jason Lachniet at jlachniet@wcc.vccs.edu.

Northern Region Spring Meeting – April 4, 2020

Vice President Matthew Westerhoff

mwesterhoff@nvcc.edu

The spring 2020 VMATYC Northern Regional meeting will take place at Piedmont Virginia Community College on April 4, 2020.

Central Region Spring Meeting -- March 27, 2020

Vice President Christy Lowery-Carter

christy.carter@southside.edu

The central region spring meeting will be held on Friday, March 27 from 9:00-1:00 on the John H. Daniel Campus of Southside Virginia Community College in room 55. Lunch will follow the meeting. We are looking forward to a great exchange of instructional ideas.

Eastern Region Spring Meeting – March 28, 2020

Vice President Brian Burns

burnsb@tncc.edu

The Eastern Region spring meeting is Saturday March 28th at John Tyler Downtown Campus. If you would like to make a presentation, please contact Dr. Brian Burns at burnsb@tncc.edu.

2019 VMATYC Conference Report

Wes Crumpler

rcrumpler@tcc.edu

The 2019 VMATYC Fall Conference was at John Tyler Community College in Midlothian, VA on November 1 – 2. There were around 95 people that attended and 30 vibrant presentations from vendors and faculty across the state. The presentations included Direct Enrollment updates, technology, pedagogy, workshops and more as we *Drive Math Education into the Future*. The conference began Friday afternoon at 1PM with three sets of concurrent sessions. After the sessions, we had dinner including our keynote speaker, Dr. John Adam. Dr. Adam is a Mathematics Professor/University Professor at Old Dominion University and his talk was titled *Patterns in Nature: A Treasure Trove for the Mathematically Curious*. It is amazing how the many beautiful things that occur in nature can be justified by mathematics.

On Saturday morning, we had three additional sets of concurrent sessions ending around 12PM. This was followed by our annual business meeting where a box lunch was provided. One of the main topics discussed at the meeting was the Direct Enrollment statement. Changes to the statement were suggested at one of the sessions as well as at the meeting. So, it was decided that the board would make the corrections and then disseminate the statement to all math faculty for suggestions prior to being sent to the VCCS College Presidents and the Chancellor. [Link to photos courtesy of Victoria Vetrano](#)

I would like to thank John Tyler Community College for hosting the conference and a special thanks to Marian Swift, the JTCC campus host, and her colleagues for all their help to make the conference a success.



Wes Crumpler and the Vetrano family

2019 AMATYC Conference Report

Cheryl Brindle

cbrindle@lfcc.edu

The 2019 AMATYC conference was held at the Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee. Even though the temperatures outside were brisk, we were able to stay warm inside with a variety of insightful and fun sessions, lighthearted IGNITE sessions and vendor exhibits. I was even able to snatch one of the coveted cow tee shirts. Once the sessions were finished each evening we continued the networking by going out to eat with different groups of conference attendees. One night we ate at the famous Mader's Restaurant, known for its classic German cuisine, Bavarian decor & traditionally attired wait staff. I took some time off from the sessions and found a Christkindlmarkt (German Christmas market) within walking distance of the convention center. I was able to purchase a few Christmas ornaments and get into the holiday spirit.

I was able to spend some time getting to know Ashley Pratt from Dabney S. Lancaster Community College. Ashley is in the current cohort of Project ACCESS (Advancing Community College Careers: Education, Scholarship, and Service sponsored through AMATYC). If you are in the Central region, be sure to attend Ashley's presentation at the spring regional meeting.

Find out more about Project ACCESS at <https://amatyc.site-ym.com/page/ACCESS>

My focus for the conference was on Precalculus and Statistics, but I also attended several sessions devoted to Developmental Math. I found out that the DevEd Math issues we are facing here in Virginia are similar to those across the United States and that we are all trying to come up with new and innovative ways to help students succeed.

The conference highlight for me was the first IGNITE (Enlighten us, but make it quick) session entitled "These Are a Few of my Favorite Graphs." Yes, we got to sing along. Here are two great resources that everyone might be interested in for graphs.

- <https://www.statista.com/chartoftheday/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/graphsintheworld/>

The representatives at the Delegate assembly approved several position statements. One was entitled, "Distance Education in College Mathematics in the First Two Years." The second was entitled, "Mathematics for Liberal Arts." [Link to the minutes](#)



Left to right: Wes Crumpler, Cheryl Brindle, Michael Filsinger, and John Gallo

2020 AMATYC Conference Information

Cheryl Brindle

cbrindle@lfcc.edu



The 2020 AMATYC Conference will be November 12-15 in Spokane, Washington. Visit [the conference site](#) for more details. This is a great professional development opportunity.

2020 VCCS STEM Conference Report

Wes Crumpler

rcrumpler@tcc.edu

The bi-annual STEM Peer Group Conference is hosted by the VCCS. Currently, the VCCS is working to finalize a location and date for the conference. The plan is for the conference to be on Friday and Saturday in Mid-October. We should hear from Nancy Harris soon with those details as well as information on presentation proposals, registration and hotel reservations.

Treasurer's Report

Sherry Vaughan

vaughans@tncc.edu

As of January 22, 2020, VMATYC has total assets of \$44,812.20

\$23,334.51 in checking

\$9,389.27 in savings

\$12,088.42 in the Scholarship Fund.

Membership Report

Michael Filsinger

filsingerm@tncc.edu

As of January 22, 2020 VMATYC has 41 members. The database is currently being updated, so distribution by region is incomplete at this time.

Glenn Fox VMATYC Mathematics and Computer Science Scholarship Report

Bruce Wahl

bwahl@nvcc.edu

As you work with students during this spring 2020 semester, keep your eyes open for a student who would be an eligible recipient of the VMATYC Fox Scholarship. The recipient of the scholarship receives \$500 each semester for one academic year. The \$500 is distributed directly to the student, as opposed to other scholarships that are sent directly to the school, to be used to support them on their educational journey.

In order to be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must:

1. Intend to major in mathematics, computer science, or mathematics education and demonstrate potential for success in any of these areas.
2. Demonstrate ability, determination, and motivation necessary for successful academic performance.
3. Have completed at least 12 semester hours of college-level courses, including 3 hours of transfer mathematics at a Virginia community college, by the end of the spring semester with a GPA of 3.2 or higher.
4. Continue for two semesters (fall-spring of the award year) at a Virginia community college and enroll in at least 6 semester hours of college-level courses, including a transfer-level mathematics course, for each semester the scholarship is received.

The application is available online at <http://vmatyc.org/fox-scholarship/>. Applicants complete the online application and upload the required documents:

1. An unofficial transcript
2. At least two letters of recommendation
 - a. A letter from your sponsoring faculty member (must be a current VMATYC member)
 - b. A letter from another member of your community college, or from a member of the community (not a family member)

COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKETS are due no later than June 5, 2020. A committee composed of the VMATYC past president and a representative from each region will review the applications and award the scholarship by June 15, 2020. If you have any questions feel free to contact Bruce Wahl at bwahl@nvcc.edu.



Left to right: Theresa Thomas, Glenn Fox Scholarship recipient Jedidiah Keplinger, Bruce Wahl, and Wes Crumpler

VCCS Response to the VMATYC Direct Enrollment Statement

Bruce Wahl

bwahl@nvcc.edu

On November 21, 2019, I emailed the [VMATYC Direct Enrollment Statement](#) to each of the VCCS College Presidents, four members of the staff of the VCCS and the Chair of the VCCS State Board. My email text to each person was:

The Virginia Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges (VMATYC) Executive Board and members are concerned about the implementation of the direct enrollment pilot project, set to begin in fall 2020. Over the summer, members of the Executive Board drafted a statement expressing this concern. At our recent statewide meeting at John Tyler Community College, the members of VMATYC learned more about the pilot project in two talks, and discussed revisions to the VMATYC statement. After additional editing, it was sent to all mathematics faculty members in the Commonwealth for comment and revision. You will find the final version attached. Please note that we are not asking the VCCS to abandon this project. We are asking for communication, data sharing, and inclusion in making the decisions we consider to be among the most important choices that affect our students. I welcome your response.

Sincerely,

Bruce Wahl

In response to this email with the attachment, I heard back from 7 college presidents and Chancellor DuBois. The responses, in general, were underwhelming. Several presidents referred me to other people. A couple of presidents supported our requests for more communication, data, and inclusion. One president fully supported our request of a one-year delay. Finally, in his letter, Dr. DuBois dismissed all of our requests.

I am disappointed in our leadership. I hope you, the math professors of the commonwealth, are talking to your deans, vice presidents, presidents, and anyone else in power about direct enrollment. As of today, the colleges that are not in the pilot program have no say in any of the decisions. From what I have heard, those colleges that are in the pilot program are progressing with their plans—as they must if they will be ready to teach new classes with even more underprepared students than we see now.

VMATYC Campus Contacts

In order to help facilitate communication, the following people have agreed to be the local contact for VMATYC at their school/campus. Please contact Matthew Watts at mwatts@tcc.edu if there are any corrections to this list.

Western Region:

Mountain Empire – Frank Wright fwright@me.vccs.edu
New River – Ellen Oliver eliver@nr.edu
Southwest Virginia – Lisa Henley Lisa.Henley@sw.edu
Virginia Highlands – Pansy Waycaster ewaycaster@vhcc.edu
Wytheville – Susan Evans sevans@vcc.vccs.edu

Northern Region:

Blue Ridge – TJ Crow crowt@brcc.edu
Germanna – Carrie Hibbs chibbs@germanna.edu
Lord Fairfax – Frank Borleske fborleske@lfcc.edu
NOVA Alexandria – Bruce Wahl bwahl@nvcc.edu
NOVA Annandale – Terry Krize tkrize@nvcc.edu
NOVA Loudoun – Michael Wallace mwallace@nvcc.edu
NOVA Manassas – Shakil Shrestha sshrestha@nvcc.edu
NOVA Woodbridge – Camisha Parker cparker@nvcc.edu
Piedmont – Diane Valade dvalade@pvcc.edu

Central region:

Central VA – Alison Moore moorea@cvcc.vccs.edu
Dabney S. Lancaster – Richard Watkins rwatkins@dslcc.edu
Danville – Mary Motley mmotley@dcc.vccs.edu
Patrick Henry – Chris Wikstrom cwikstrom@patrickhenry.edu
Southside VA – Christy Lowery-Carter christy.carter@southside.edu
Virginia Western – Cristin Barrett cbarrett@virginiawestern.edu

Eastern Region:

Eastern Shore – Bob Rhea rrhea@es.vccs.edu
John Tyler – Ken Williams kwilliams@jtcc.edu
Rappahannock – Robert Parker rparker@rappahannock.edu
Reynolds – Ann Loving aloving@reynolds.edu
Thomas Nelson – Brian Burns burnsb@tncc.edu
Tidewater Chesapeake – David French dfrench@tcc.edu
Tidewater Norfolk – Dick Gill rgill@tcc.edu
Tidewater Portsmouth – Adam Becker abecker@tcc.edu
Tidewater Virginia Beach – Mike Kirby mkirby@tcc.edu

