



Virginia Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges

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

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<b>VMATYC Executive Board 2019-2021</b>	
<b>Wes Crumpler, TCC</b> President	<b>Bruce Wahl, NVCC</b> Past-President
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<b>Xavier Retnam, CVCC</b> Recording Secretary	<b>Michael Filsinger, TNCC</b> Membership Secretary
<b>Christy Lowery-Carter, SVCC</b> Vice President, Central Region	<b>Jason Lachniet, VHCC</b> Vice President, Western Region
<b>Matthew Westerhoff, NVCC</b> Vice President, Northern Region	<b>Cheryl Brindle, LFCC</b> Affiliate Delegate to AMATYC
<b>Libby Watts, CCD</b> Webmaster	<b>Ashley Pratt, DSLCC</b> Newsletter Editor

## **Notes from the President**

Wes Crumpler

[rcrumpler@tcc.edu](mailto:rcrumpler@tcc.edu)



Dear VMATYC members and newsletter readers!

Wow! It is hard to believe it has been almost a year since we transitioned to remote learning. Hopefully, things will begin to settle soon, and we can get back into the classroom. Though we never expected it to last this long, we have persevered through the challenges and remained steadfast in our pursuit to provide students with a quality education.

We are making plans for our biannual VMATYC Conference hosted this year at Virginia Western Community College in October. Fingers crossed that we have the conference in person. Our spring regional conferences will be held remotely in late March or early April. The regional conferences are free, and you don't need to be a member to attend. Details of each conference are in the newsletter. There is also information regarding the AMATYC conference this past fall as well as the one coming this fall in Phoenix.

This is an election year for the VMATYC Executive Board positions. Voting will be at the beginning of the fall semester. Details are in the newsletter. You must be a member to vote. If you are not a member, please go to the VMATYC website, [www.vmatyc.org](http://www.vmatyc.org), to update your membership. As a member you can attend two conferences each year and connect with other educators across the state. Please take advantage of the many opportunities to be a part of this great organization.

The pilot colleges for the Mathematics for Direct Enrollment (MDE) courses completed their first semester in the fall. I taught one section of MDE 61 and overall, the class did okay. There were regular changes each week to adjust to student needs. Many of the non-pilot colleges will begin their MDE courses this fall. Requests have been made to create a module in the Mathematics Peer Group site in Canvas for the MDE courses. Suggestions to include in the module are a syllabus and other course information as well as supplements. If you have any of the above materials to share, please email them to me and I will add them to the Canvas site.

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 26, 2021**

Vice President Jason Lachniet

[jlachniet@vhcc.edu](mailto:jlachniet@vhcc.edu)

The Western Region spring meeting will take place on Friday, March 26 at 1:00 pm via Zoom. For more information or to propose a talk, contact Jason Lachniet at [jlachniet@vhcc.edu](mailto:jlachniet@vhcc.edu). A registration link and further information will be posted on the VMATYC website soon.

## **Northern & Eastern Region Spring Meeting – April 10, 2021**

Vice President Matthew Westerhoff

[mwesterhoff@nvcc.edu](mailto:mwesterhoff@nvcc.edu)

The Northern & Eastern regions will be holding a joint conference scheduled for Saturday, April 10. The conference is being sponsored in part by Hawkes Learning with more information coming soon.

## **Central Region Spring Meeting -- March 26, 2021**

Vice President Christy Lowery-Carter

[christy.carter@southside.edu](mailto:christy.carter@southside.edu)

The central region of VMATYC will host their spring regional meeting on Friday, March 26th at 9:00 AM via Zoom. Christy Lowery-Carter will create a Zoom link and share it with the contact person at each of the community colleges in the region to share with adjunct and full-time faculty members at the end of February. Please join us as we explore more about direct enrollment and online teaching and learning.

## **2021 VMATYC Conference Information**

Theresa Thomas

[thomast@brcc.edu](mailto:thomast@brcc.edu)

**Where:** VWCC Roanoke, VA

**When:** 12 noon, Friday, 10/22/2021 – 12 noon, Saturday, 10/23/2021

**Lodging and Friday night banquet:** [VMATYC Fall Conference - Holiday Inn Tanglewood Roanoke](#), Roanoke, VA \$96+tax/night. Block is open. Use the link or call directly 540-774-4400 and ask for the VAM block to book your room. It is set up for both nights so be careful if you only need one night's lodging instead of 2. Banquet speaker: Dr. David Urso, Academic Dean BRCC and CEO of [Dynamic Consulting](#).



**Dr. David Urso**

**Registration will be coming late summer or early fall 2021**

## 2020 AMATYC Conference Report

Cheryl Brindle

[cbrindle@lfcc.edu](mailto:cbrindle@lfcc.edu)



The 2020 AMATYC conference was held virtually on three consecutive Fridays last November. There were three Keynote speakers.

Dr. Janet Zadina, founder and CEO of Brian Research and Instruction, addressed faculty anxiety, stress, and trauma. She talked about how to recover, renew, and rewire as techniques on reducing stress for faculty.

John Urschel talked about meeting students where they are and reminding us that “Personal Always Wins.” He presented three tips for making instruction personal for the students.

1. Keep students active and engaged.
2. Technology can be your friend – use it.
3. Hold students accountable. Students need clear structure and guidance to succeed.



The third Keynote address was given by Dr. David Rettinger. Dr. Rettinger is a Professor of Psychological Science at the University of Mary Washington. His talk was entitled, “Wen Good Students Make Bad Decisions: The Psychology of Why Students Cheat.” Academic misconduct is an important topic for all of us to consider. Cheating can be the gateway for later honesty issues in life. Dr. Rettinger discussed three fundamental reasons students cheat.

1. They need to. They don’t think they can get the grade they want.
2. They can. They don’t think they will get caught, it is easy to get the answers, or the consequences are not substantial.
3. It doesn’t matter. The subject is not important to the student. The student simply needs a passing grade.

Dr. Rettinger suggested one easy way to reduce cheating. Include an Honesty Statement as the first question on a test. “I promise not to cheat on this test.” This pledge will not eliminate all cheating, but it could discourage academic dishonesty for some students.

There is a free webinar sponsored by Almy Education on “Writing Non-Googleable Problems” that might be interesting: <https://courses.almyeducation.com/Writing-Non-Googleable-Problems>

During the Annual Meeting, the delegates voted on two position statements. These were:

[Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Mathematics](#)

[Professional Development for Faculty Teaching Developmental Mathematics](#)

You can access all of the position statements here: [AMATYC Position Statements](#)

**2021 AMATYC Conference Information**

Cheryl Brindle  
[cbrindle@lfcc.edu](mailto:cbrindle@lfcc.edu)



The 2021 AMATYC Conference will be held in Phoenix, Arizona from October 28-31. The theme is: Fired Up for Math. Check here for more details as they become available: [AMATYC 2021 Conference](#)

**Treasurer’s Report**

Sherry Vaughan  
[vaughans@tncc.edu](mailto:vaughans@tncc.edu)

As of January 22, 2021, VMATYC has total assets of \$44,301.52

\$23,313.17 in checking  
\$9,390.22 in savings  
\$11,598.13 in the Scholarship Fund.

**Membership Report**

Michael Filsinger  
[filsingerm@tncc.edu](mailto:filsingerm@tncc.edu)

VMATYC has 59 current members as of 1/22/2021. These are distributed as follows:

Region	Number of Members
Central	6
Eastern	19
Northern	25
Western	9
Total	59

This represents an increase of eight members from our last executive meeting. Most of this increase occurred in the lead up to the October 2020 General Meeting.

## **Glenn Fox VMATYC Mathematics and Computer Science Scholarship Report**

Bruce Wahl

[bwahl@nvcc.edu](mailto:bwahl@nvcc.edu)

VMATYC is happy to announce that we have awarded the Glenn Fox memorial Mathematics and Computer Science Scholarship to Hannah Lam from Blue Ridge Community College. Hannah was sponsored by VMATYC member Theresa Thomas. Hannah stood out for her academic record and her commitment to a career in computer science.

Homeschooled all her life, Hannah is a high school senior doing concurrent enrollment at Blue Ridge Community College. She plans to complete an Associate of Science degree (Computer Science Specialization) from BRCC in May of 2022 and then transfer to James Madison University at the junior level to obtain a B.S. in computer science. After graduation in May 2024, she would like to continue her technical career in private industry or consulting. She spends her spare time babysitting her nieces, volunteering with her church, and participating in outdoor activities such as skiing, soccer, and volleyball. Hannah has received \$500 for the Spring 2021 semester.

VMATYC would like you to keep two things in mind. The first is that we are able to support students through this scholarship due to your generous donations. In the past, we have had many individual donations and we have had donations at a faculty member retirement or in memory of faculty member who has passed away. The second is that we depend on you to nominate your students for this scholarship. Start looking today for worthy candidates that you can nominate starting soon! The Fox Scholarship fund relies on donations from generous members like you. Donations are made through the VMATYC website at <http://vmatyc.org/fox-scholarship/donate/>.



**Hannah Lam (Blue Ridge CC)**

## **Election of VMATYC Officers**

Bruce Wahl

[bwahl@nvcc.edu](mailto:bwahl@nvcc.edu)

The election of the 2021- 2023 Executive Board will take place at the beginning of the Fall 2021 Semester. Within the last couple of years, we have moved our annual statewide conference and VMATYC General Business Meeting to the Fall Semester, so we will conduct the elections in the Fall Semester as well. All current members as of the beginning of the fall semester will be eligible to vote and will receive a ballot. We are looking for candidates to fill positions.

The elected positions are:

- President-Elect
- Central Region Vice President
- Eastern Region Vice President
- Northern Region Vice President
- Western Region Vice President
- Treasurer
- Membership Secretary
- Recording Secretary
- Webmaster
- AMATYC Affiliate Delegate.



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If you have any questions about these positions, please contact Bruce Wahl.

The Executive Board appoints the Newsletter Editor. The VMATYC Board has appointed Ashley Pratt from Dabney S. Lancaster CC as our new editor. She is working with Matthew Watts on this edition. Please thank Ashley when you see her! The other two members who fill out the board will be Wes Crumpler from Tidewater CC who will transition to Past President and Theresa Thomas from Blue Ridge CC who will transition to President. We could not maintain the high quality of the regional and statewide conferences without great leadership. Take this opportunity to get involved.

## **2020 VMATYC Business Meeting Report**

Wes Crumpler

[rcrumpler@tcc.edu](mailto:rcrumpler@tcc.edu)

As you know, due to COVID, we were unable to have our biannual VCCS STEM Peer Group Meeting last October. However, we did have our VMATYC Business Meeting via Zoom. Two important items on the agenda pertained to membership. We approved a change in the membership year from January 1 – December 31 to August 1 – July 31. Those who updated their membership during the 2020 calendar year will remain members through July 31, 2021. To go along with our current \$25 annual membership, we also approved a \$40 two-year membership that will begin August 1, 2021. On behalf of the VMATYC Executive Board, I would like to thank all of those that were able to attend and participate.

## **A Note from the Editors**

Ashley Pratt [apratt@dslcc.edu](mailto:apratt@dslcc.edu)

Matthew Watts [matthew.watts@rrcc.edu](mailto:matthew.watts@rrcc.edu)

You may recall that the last newsletter that Matthew had moved to Colorado and would no longer be the newsletter editor. Since then, Ashley volunteered to take over and this issue makes that passing of the torch official. Ashley Pratt teaches mathematics at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College. She is currently in her third year as a full-time faculty member, but for the previous 4 years she taught Dual Enrollment for DSLCC at James River High School. She is currently a member of Cohort 16 of AMATYC's Project ACCESS, a program for new faculty in two-year colleges. She is interested in educational technology and how it can be used to support active learning in mathematics, as well as how to help students experience mathematics in a positive way. She also enjoys cooking (especially southern food), swimming, and spoiling her two cats.



## VMATYC Campus Contacts

To help facilitate communication, the following people have agreed to be the local contact for VMATYC at their school/campus. Please contact Ashley Pratt at [apratt@dslcc.edu](mailto:apratt@dslcc.edu) if there are any corrections to this list.

### **Western Region:**

Mountain Empire – Frank Wright [fwright@me.vccs.edu](mailto:fwright@me.vccs.edu)  
New River – Ellen Oliver [eliver@nr.edu](mailto:eliver@nr.edu)  
Southwest Virginia – Lisa Henley [Lisa.Henley@sw.edu](mailto:Lisa.Henley@sw.edu)  
Virginia Highlands – Jason Lachniet [jlachniet@vhcc.edu](mailto:jlachniet@vhcc.edu)  
Wytheville – Susan Evans [sevans@wcc.vccs.edu](mailto:sevans@wcc.vccs.edu)

### **Northern Region:**

Blue Ridge – Theresa Thomas [thomast@brcc.edu](mailto:thomast@brcc.edu)  
Germanna – Carrie Hibbs [chibbs@germanna.edu](mailto:chibbs@germanna.edu)  
Lord Fairfax – Frank Borleske [fborleske@lfcc.edu](mailto:fborleske@lfcc.edu)  
NOVA Alexandria – Bruce Wahl [bwahl@nvcc.edu](mailto:bwahl@nvcc.edu)  
NOVA Annandale – Terry Krize [tkrize@nvcc.edu](mailto:tkrize@nvcc.edu)  
NOVA Loudoun – Michael Wallace [mwallace@nvcc.edu](mailto:mwallace@nvcc.edu)  
NOVA Manassas – Shakil Shrestha [sshrestha@nvcc.edu](mailto:sshrestha@nvcc.edu)  
NOVA Woodbridge – Camisha Parker [cparker@nvcc.edu](mailto:cparker@nvcc.edu)  
Piedmont – Diane Valade [dvalade@pvcc.edu](mailto:dvalade@pvcc.edu)

### **Central region:**

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

### **Eastern Region:**

Eastern Shore – Bob Rhea [rrhea@es.vccs.edu](mailto:rrhea@es.vccs.edu)  
John Tyler – Ken Williams [kwilliams@jtcc.edu](mailto:kwilliams@jtcc.edu)  
Rappahannock – Robert Parker [rparker@rappahannock.edu](mailto:rparker@rappahannock.edu)  
Reynolds – Ann Loving [aloving@reynolds.edu](mailto:aloving@reynolds.edu)  
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Tidewater Norfolk – Dick Gill [rgill@tcc.edu](mailto:rgill@tcc.edu)  
Tidewater Portsmouth – Adam Becker [abecker@tcc.edu](mailto:abecker@tcc.edu)  
Tidewater Virginia Beach – Mike Kirby [mkirby@tcc.edu](mailto:mkirby@tcc.edu)

