



Executive Board:

PRESIDENT

Calvin Briggs
Lawson State
Community College
cbriggs@lawsonstate.edu

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Paige Feibelman
Southern Union
Community College
pfeibelman@suscc.edu

SECRETARY

Robert Vilardi
Troy University Montgomery
rvilardi@troy.edu

TREASURER

Lisa Nix
Shelton State
Community College
lisa.nix@sheltonstate.edu

PUBLICATIONS

Shawanda Thomas
Lawson State
Community College
stthomas@lawsonstate.edu

WEBMASTER

Tina Evans
Shelton State
Community College
tevens@sheltonstate.edu

LIAISON TO ACTM

Lisa Nix
Shelton State
Community College
lisa.nix@sheltonstate.edu

PAST-PRESIDENT

Jim Gleason
University of Alabama
jgleason@as.ua.edu



This Issue

AMATYC Conference Ignites **P.1**

2013 AlaMATYC Conference **P.2**

STEM Policy **P.3**

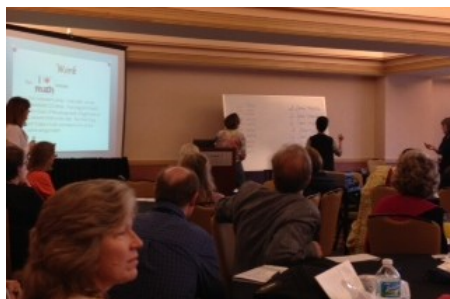
Webinar Series Available **P.4**

Website: www.ala.matyc.org

AMATYC CONFERENCE IGNITES

The Southeastern region hosted a spectacular event in Jacksonville, Florida from November 8-10, 2012. The conference was sure to ignite your passion for teaching mathematics. The AlaMATYC Executive Board is well on its way to planning a SUPER fantastic event on March 8, 2013 at Southern Union Community College. Save the Date!!

The AMATYC conference had everything a math instructor could hope for: engaging instructional workshops, passionate IGNITE participants, innovative infusions of technology, and unique math handouts. Did I mention the free stuff? The AMATYC conferences always seem to create a delicate balance of learning and fun which is nice.



AMATYC Conference Session:
"Fun Projects to Liven Up the Classroom" by Aletta Speegle

On Saturday night, AMATYC hosted the first ever IGNITE Event which was intriguing and exciting. It was as though you were watching 21 conference sessions at one time, all unique and informative in some way. Jacksonville, Florida was a great site to host the conference. Perhaps, one wouldn't expect the scenic view downtown, right next to the St. Johns River and the Main Street Bridge. Truly spectacular! See you next year in Anaheim, California.



AlaMATYC Members represented at the conference:
Calvin Briggs, Paige Feibelman, and Shawanda Thomas

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Rob Farinelli



Rob Farinelli is Past-President of AMATYC. He has served as Middle-Atlantic VP, President-Elect, and President for the organization. Currently, Rob is a Professor of Mathematics at the College of Southern Maryland. Previously, he was a professor and academic dean at the Community College of Allegheny County.

PANELISTS

Dr. Mark Heinrich



Dr. Mark Heinrich was the unanimous choice by the nine-member State Board of Education to become the next chancellor of the Alabama Community College System on September 21, 2012. Dr. Heinrich's higher education career spans more than 30 years, during which he's held leadership roles in academic, student service and technical/vocational areas. During that time, he served as an instructor, department chair, division dean, dean of instruction, academic vice president, associate provost, provost, and most recently, as president of Shelton State Community College.

2013 AlaMATYC Conference

March 8, 2013

Southern Union State
Community College



Transitions: Ensuring Student Success

2013 AlaMATYC Conference

Make plans now to attend an unforgettable 2013 AlaMATYC conference. Share best practices, technology enhancements, and instructional strategies with education professionals from across the nation.

PANEL DISCUSSION!!

Prepare for an enriching panel discussion with Alabama's most influential education leaders. The panel discussion planned for the closing session will include honored guests Dr. Mark Heinrich, Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System, Dr. Tommy Bice, State Superintendent of Alabama State Department of Education, Dr. Charles Nash,

Vice Chancellor of The University of Alabama System, and other distinguished guests. Join in on the conversation.



CALL 4 PRESENTERS!!!

We know many of you are doing great things in the classroom and this is your opportunity to share. Perhaps you would like to facilitate a round table discussion. Visit the AlaMATYC website at www.ala.matyc.org for more information on submitting a presentation proposal.

Conference Fees Waived

Due to inclement weather last year, the 2012 AlaMATYC conference had to end abruptly. As a result, any conference fees paid on last year will be credited to the 2013 AlaMATYC Conference fee. However, membership fees have not been waived.

Membership fee \$ 10.00

For more information, visit our website at ala.matyc.org or contact Lisa Nix, AlaMATYC Treasurer.
E-mail: lisa.nix@sheltonstate.edu



NEW! NEW! NEW! Student Poster Session

Are your students doing research at your institution? The AlaMATYC conference will be a great way for your students to gain invaluable experience presenting research.

Interested in your students participating? For more information, contact the coordinator for the event, Robert Vilardi.

E-mail: rvilardi@troy.edu

Tentative Conference Schedule

8:00-8:50	Registration/Continental Breakfast
8:55-9:00	Acknowledgements Calvin Briggs, AlaMATYC President
9:00-9:10	Welcome Southern Union Community College, President
9:10 - 9:15	Introduction of Keynote Speaker Jim Gleason, Immediate Past-President AlaMATYC
9:15-10:20	Keynote Address: Rob Farinelli <i>"The State of Mathematics in 2013"</i> Classroom Building 104
10:30-11:20	Breakout I
11:30-12:20	Lunch/Business Meeting
12:20-12:50	Networking Break
1:00-1:50	Breakout II
2:00-3:30	Panel Discussion



St. Johns River, Jacksonville, Florida (2012 AMATYC Conference)



Project ACCESS is a mentoring and professional

development initiative for two-year 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.

Mathematics faculty in their first, second, or third year of a full-time renewable position are invited

to apply for the next Project ACCESS cycle. Fellows will attend two consecutive as well as regular conference activities. Fellows will be selected on the basis of breadth of interests, motivation for participation, plans for implementing project goals, interest in leadership and degree of institutional support.

Deadline: May 1st

For more information, go to <http://www.access.amatyc.org/>.

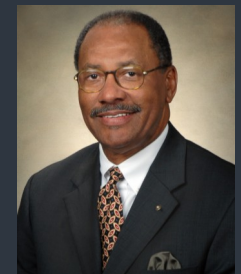
PANELISTS

Dr. Tommy Bice



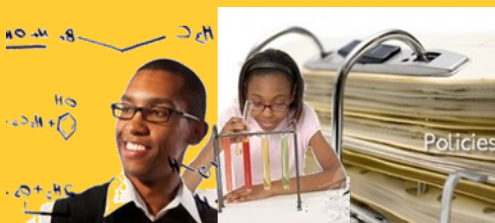
Dr. Tommy Bice was appointed Alabama's State Superintendent of Education on November 10, 2011. Prior to his appointment, Dr. Bice was Alabama's Deputy State Superintendent of Education for Instructional Services; Superintendent of the Alexander City School System, high school principal, career tech director, alternative school teacher/director, special education/residential school director, and early childhood teacher/parent trainer.

Dr. Charles Nash



Charles Ray Nash is Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs of The University of Alabama System. As the senior academic officer in the System, Charles serves as chief liaison to academic, institutional research, and planning officials at the University of Alabama, the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the University of Alabama in Huntsville. He advises the Chancellor on all academic policy matters and provides primary leadership in program planning, development, and review.

STEM POLICY



Diversifying STEM Programs at Community Colleges by Calvin Briggs

Executive Summary

The ability of the United States to compete in a global economy has a direct correlation with its ability to significantly diversify the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce throughout the country.

As a result, institutions of higher education must engage in STEM policy alignment with local, state, and federal agencies. According to the Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering (CEOSE), a part of the framework needed to improve American competitiveness in STEM would involve broader participation in STEM. Considering the growing minority population and the aging STEM workforce in the U.S., the need to recruit and retain underrepresented minorities in STEM is vital to the prosperity and security of the United States. As community colleges compete for the necessary resources to assist in diversifying their STEM programs, they must also heed the increasingly litigious policy environment that governs funding and recruitment of underrepresented minorities throughout the nation's institutions of higher learning.

Community College Interest

As community colleges strive to diversify their STEM programs, they must also ensure that institutional policy is in alignment with state and federal law governing funding and recruitment of underrepresented minorities. It is therefore essential for community college administrators and legal counsel to understand the ramifications of state and federal legal decisions relative to the formation of campus diversity in STEM. Campus administrators and legal leaders must establish admission and program policy that increases diversity and is legally sustainable.

Research has shown that diversity enhances academic and social development of students and faculty, particularly in STEM, and plays a vital role by increasing basic knowledge and generating a well-trained workforce on which industry and government depend. This desire to diversify the Community College System in Alabama has long been held by the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education. In a 1993-1994 Annual Report, Chancellor Fred Gainous of the Department of Postsecondary Education states, "[it is] the Board's desire that all two-year colleges be culturally and ethnically diverse; and the

Board’s belief that every individual is entitled to fair and equitable employment opportunities.” This statement demonstrates Postsecondary Education’s commitment to diversity and their systems need to implement related policies.

Legal framework

The manner in which academic institutions proceed on the development of institutional policy that seeks to diversify campus programs (based on race and ethnicity) must comport to the well-established legal framework comprised of the Equal Protection Clause (U.S. Constitution, 14th Amendment) and Title VI (42 U.S.C. § 2000d) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Two key concepts of this legal framework have emerged from the Supreme Court’s interpretation of acceptable practices of participation based on race or ethnic origins, “compelling interest” and “narrowly tailored.” The applicable policy rationale must withstand “strict scrutiny” of these two concepts. The Supreme Court states in *Adarand v. Peña*, “More than good motives should be required when government seeks to allocate its resources by way of an explicit racial classification system.” By ensuring that programs are narrowly tailored to achieve compelling interests protects community colleges against legal challenges and supports its desire to increase academic growth. In that regard it is important for academic administrators to become familiar with the legal language of the primary laws governing admissions litigation. Although community colleges admit students via an open admissions policy, many enjoy a number of federally funded programs that are governed by the Office of Management and Budget, a federal regulator agency. Therefore it is important for community colleges to, not only understand the primary laws and policies governing these programs, but to include diversity as a central goal for the college.

Recommendations

According to then Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Stephanie J. Monroe, “strict scrutiny” was interpreted as “racial classifications narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling governmental interest.” Monroe went on to provide two instances where this could occur 1) to remedy the effects of intentional discrimination; note race can be an eligible criterion 2) race to achieve diversity: a. race may be used as a factor among many b. each student must receive individualized consideration. In addition, genuine good-faith consideration of workable race-neutral alternatives must be employed by the institution. Educational institutions must pose the questions: 1) Does the policy in question contradict the Equal Protection Clause or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act? 2) Can the policy in question withstand “strict scrutiny” of the courts? 3) Will the policy contradict federal or state law and regulations, or applicable local education agency board policies?

Pursuant to the guidance provided by Monroe, it would be advisable to include the need for diversity as a fundamental component of academic growth and development; citing this as a key goal of the college. Alabama community colleges should also incorporate the use of diversity in their vision statements, utilizing it in the context of academic and social growth. The incorporation of diversity into the mission statement makes clear the importance of establishing a culturally and ethnically diverse teaching and learning environment with a profound emphasis in STEM; further aligning community college’s academic, funding and policy goals.

Finally, we should not negate the possibility of supplementing many of our STEM enrichment programs by way of tuition. Understanding that the mission of community colleges is to provide accessible and quality academics programs and workforce development, community colleges must also garner support from its primary stakeholder, the community.



AMATYC 39th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Location

Anaheim, California

Date

October 31—November 3, 2013

Conference Theme

Math: There’s No End to the Fun!!

PROPOSALS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED



Q: Do you need some additional professional development?

A: The AMATYC website has a wealth of information, including webinars and video presentations. The 2012 Jacksonville Conference proceedings are now available. For more info, go to www.amatyc.org.

AMATYC Webinar Series Available

Here are just a few interesting webinar series available on AMATYC’s website (www.amatyc.org):

Title	Presenter
<i>Intriguing Tidbits from Probability Theory</i>	James Tanton
<i>Interesting Atypical Calculus Problems</i>	Bob Cappetta
<i>Online Classes & Proctored Testing: Let’s Make it Work</i>	Behnaz Rouhani
<i>Issues in Implementing Reform in Developmental and Gateway Mathematics</i>	Uri Treisman/Jack Rotman
<i>Using Angle Measure to Foster Connections in Trigonometry</i>	Kevin Moore
<i>Flipping the College Classroom</i>	Robert Talbert
<i>Making Calculus Come Alive using Dynamic Visualization (with 3D features!)</i>	Paul Seeburger
<i>What can I do with Wolfram Alpha</i>	Bruce Yoshiwara
<i>Mathematics of Video Games: Generating Mathematics Problems from Real-World Design</i>	Ian Schreiber

