

Minutes of Spring 2001 MATYCONN Meeting
Gateway Community College
May 4, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by President Miguel Garcia.

1. **Welcome.** Miguel welcomed all to Gateway Community College. Miguel complimented Elaine Dinto on her work developing and maintaining the MATYCONN Website.
2. **Approval of Fall Meeting Minutes.** The meeting minutes (which were not distributed but available to all on the MATYCONN website) of November 17, 2000 were approved.
3. **MATYCONN Webmaster position.** Steve Krevisky discussed the necessity to create a new position to maintain and update the MATYCONN website. This will require amending of the constitution by the executive committee to include the position. Miguel suggested that an interim position be created while going through the formal process. Motion made, seconded, passed.
4. **MATYCONN Representation on CT Leadership Council.** Barbara Paskov spoke to the need to insure representation on this council. The body agreed that this representation is important and should continue. Current members are Miguel Garcia, Barbara Paskov, and Kathy Bavelas.
5. **Newsletter.** 1.) Bonnie Simon solicited information from all for inclusion in the newsletter and reiterated the need for conveying information to herself and/or Elaine Dinto. 2.) Stories, articles, and news items can be emailed to Bonnie S. and Elaine D. anytime from the MATYCONN site (there is a "contact us" icon). 3.) Bob Lynott noted that the spring newsletter is probably the best ever due to the work of Bonnie and Elaine. Alice Grandgeorge suggested that flowers be sent to Bonnie in recognition of her work. Kathy Bavelas seconded. 4.) Steve Krevisky commented that a newsletter of this quality is important to have at least once a year. 5.) Bonnie said that due to being in an electronic age they plan to keep the webpage updated with information but only publish a printed document once per year. 6.) Steve K. asked that in the fall an AMATYC update be included. Elaine encouraged all to look at the website and give comments and feedback to her.
6. **Minority Scholarships.** Slav was not present at the meeting and Miguel announced that he was not aware of any applications. Miguel requested authority to make decisions if scholarship requests were submitted. Miguel proposed to Bob Lynott (incoming president) that the executive committee create a budget to present to the body with a line item for scholarships, contest winners, etc. Steve K. suggested that the executive committee might meet in June to make plans for this.
7. **CSU – CC 2002 Conference.** Elaine Dinto announced that on April 13, 2002 the Math Basic Skills Council of CT (formerly the CSU Basic Skills Council) will hold a joint conference with ATOMIC for teachers of grades 7 –12 and college. The intent of the conference is to provide a forum for discussions between high school and college educators. She questioned whether MATYCONN would want to provide any monetary support. Kathy Bavelas reported that ATOMIC decided to provide up to \$500 support and suggested that the body might be willing to provide a donation of up to \$50. A motion was made and passed to support this. Marion Egan commented whether it might be good to increase the costs of MATYCONN as a means to raise more money. Schools might cover this from professional development funds. Miguel noted that this might be something for the executive committee to discuss.
8. **MATYCONN Campus Representatives.** Elaine Dinto said she needs to update the web contact list and wanted to verify whether people want to continue as reps. Miguel questioned whether all campuses have representatives. Bob Lynott indicated his plan to attend math department meetings at all CCs in the future and to extend an invite for people to join and attend MATYCONN meetings.
9. **AMATYC News.** Jack Keating, Northeast Region Vice-President, announced that he hopes all will take advantage of the resources AMATYC offers. He passed out various items to all and announced that students can join the math league. The Fall AMATYC Conference will be in Toronto and information regarding the conference will be in the upcoming issue of the AMATYC News. Many grant opportunities are available through AMATYC, many with emphasis on teacher education. Steve Krevisky expressed appreciation for Jack K. attending the meeting and the sharing of information.

10. **Math Contest Update.** Steve passed out a memo listing the contest winners and also a copy of a memo of support for the contest to CC Presidents from Chancellor Herzog. The following were the winners:

Steve asked the body which of the following to do regarding prizes: - prizes for the 4 top scorers
- prizes for the top 5 scorers

Tied for first place with scores of 40 out of 40	
Eun Sun Herbst	-- Middlesex
Anthony Gentile	-- Norwalk
Mark Tufanov	-- Gateway
Walter Woodland	-- Gateway
Honorable Mention with scores of 39 out of 40	
Mark Flores	Three Rivers

Discussion included: Miguel commenting that Gateway gives \$150 for their top prize so MATYCONN needs to do at least that. He also expressed the need to get monies from local businesses to support the contest. \$50 had been received from 7 of the 9 colleges participating. K. Bavelas made a motion that MATYCONN donate up to \$500 and the monies be split among the top 4 winners, and the top 5 all get plaques. Motion passed.

Miguel noted that having a tie-breaking activity might be something to consider. Steve K. solicited any comments/ideas for the contest and also commented that Kate McLaughlin had gotten money from Northeast Utilities in the past for the contest. Steve also indicated he would like help with the contest.

Miguel concurred that there are reasons for businesses to get involved in MATYCONN.

11. **Membership Chair.** Elaine Dinto indicated that Cora Preibus had agreed to be membership chair. The membership directory now resides in a database.
12. **Math Issues.** 1.) Kathy Bavelas commented on the system to system articulation with UCONN: Diff Eq is in the process; PreCalc, Calc I, Calc II, Calc III are articulated, although it is important that students contact David Gross at UCONN regarding Calc II. 2.) Kathy B. announced that two more campuses are needed for the CAMPY (CT Association for Mathematically Precocious Youths) day scheduled for May 17, 2002. The day will consist of 6 campuses hosting grade 5-8 students and conducting 2 ½ hour inquiry based workshops. 3.) Kathy also addressed the issue of the intermediate algebra prerequisite for transfer courses to CSU. Kathy stated that Karen Grosz was surprised at this; although the CC's have known about this for 3 years and have been working with CSU. Tim Craine, CCSU, was present to address the issue. Tim provided all a FAQ sheet and was looking for feedback. Tim commented that one of the large problems is that many colleagues such as counselors, etc., are math phobic. The FAQs are to help all understand the issues and the facts. Tim stated that the K. Grosz memo contained errors. To help accommodate all, the Mathematics Basic Skills Committee (MBSCC) of CT passed a motion at their April 27, 2001 meeting. The motion consists of the following:

- (1) To recommend that the intermediate algebra prerequisite take effect fall 2001 and apply to courses taken fall 2001 and after.
- (2) Exceptions will be made only with approval of the mathematics department chair at each CSU campus. It is recommended that only students that have made substantial progress toward completion of a planned program be granted exemptions.
- (3) The policy takes full effect for courses taken fall 2002 and subsequently.

Tim implored all to talk with counselors and others at the various campuses and also indicated that the CSU vice-presidents support this.

Steve K. commented on the importance of having a mechanism to consider case by case basis, e.g. at Middlesex this sometimes requires students to take an additional course. Miguel commented that the motion is good because it allows the process to continue. Discussion began on the prerequisite issue itself but was recognized that the appropriate place for it would be Math Issues or MBSCC meetings.

13. **Treasurer's Report.** Due to Kunle not present yet, Kathy Bavelas moved to postpone the treasurer's report to executive committee meeting. Passed.
14. **Election of Officers for 2001-2002.** Miguel thanked the body for the opportunity to serve MATYCONN and acknowledged the work of the executive committee. The following slate was presented, moved to accept, and passed.

President:	Bob Lynott
Vice-President:	Alice Burstein
Secretary:	Barbara Paskov
Treasurer:	Jill Zimmerman
Membership Chair:	Cora Preibis
Math Contest Coordinator:	Steve Krevisky
Minority Scholarship Chair	Slav Sharapov
Newsletter Editor:	Bonnie Simon
Newsletter Editor (and Webmaster):	Elaine Dinto

Bob Lynott thanked Miguel and Steve K. for their work on the conference. Bob also donned his "math garb" and comically and sincerely welcomed speaker Herb Gross and thanked him for all he has done for two year teachers of mathematics.

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Paskov