

Minutes of Fall 2002 MATYCONN Meeting

Middlesex Community College

October 25, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m. by President Robert Lynott.

1. Welcome

Bob welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Approval of meeting minutes.

The May 10, 2002 minutes were approved. Elaine Dinto noted that the minutes of the meeting are on the Matyconn website.

3. Treasurer's Report

Jill reported that among the expenditures were expenses for filing the corporate annual reports for 6 years (through 2002). Also, one of the Math Contest winners didn't receive a check and a new one was issued. Walter Woodland, a past winner from Gateway has not cashed his check. The current balance is \$ 7142.10. Kathy Bavelas made a motion to approve the minutes. Passed.

4. AMATYC Business

Steve Krevisky represented Jack Keating of AMATYC, as Jack was unable attend the meeting. Steve noted that the AMATYC meeting will be held in Phoenix in several weeks. The members will vote on a couple of motions. Steve will do a presentation on his visit to South Africa while attending the International Conference on Teaching Statistics this past summer. He mentioned that Kunle was also there. The next AMATYC meeting, one year from now, will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah. Delegates should share any concerns with Steve to be addressed at the meeting. We should also do the paperwork for the \$ 200 affiliate grant.

5. Newsletter/ Website Updates

Bonnie and Elaine are encouraging people to let them know what is going on at the members' colleges for inclusion in the newsletter. The website has been updated with conferences and so on. Also, members are to check the website for corrections. If you wish to be a campus representative, please let Elaine know.

6. Membership Update

Cora reported that there are 65 current members. An update letter was mailed early in October and Jill has received membership applications from several new members. Bob mentioned that we should do something to address the adjunct faculty, and encourage them to join. Bonnie also mentioned that we might have a promotion such as "Bring One, Get One Free," whereby a current member might receive free membership dues for a year for encouraging a person to join, or receive some other incentive – free meeting fees and dinner, for example.

7. Math Contest

Steve K. reported that the 13th Annual Contest would be held in April 2003. The date was set for Saturday, April 12, 2003 after discussion with the members. Steve asked the membership to help recruit students on their own campus. He also asked for help in writing contest problems. He would like to form a Problems Committee. If anyone is interested, please contact Steve. The contest is 20 questions worth 40 points. The time allowed to complete the test is 2 hours. Each participant should have completed math coursework through Intermediate Algebra. Steve also noted if the scores were reported early enough, we would be able to honor the top winners at the Spring Matyconn meeting. Steve noted that each campus sends \$ 50.00 to Jill to participate. These funds become part of the pool for system prizes. Each winner would receive \$ 200.00, and if possible local prizes should be awarded through the PTK or the College Foundation, or other sources.

8. Minority Scholarships

Four scholarships of \$ 250.00 each were approved. They will be awarded starting in the spring of 2003. Names of applicants should be forwarded to Slav, Chair and other committee members to review applicants. Other applicants who have been recommended may receive honorary mention.

- Bob asked what were the criteria for choosing the participants, and how would this pool be reduced to four.
- Kathy B. wanted to raise the bar for Q.P.A. to 3.0 and set some level of minimum math requirements – perhaps Pre-calculus or College Algebra.
- Miguel suggested that this be put on the website – “**Minority Scholarships Coming Soon**”
- Bob's job to notify Slav, and then Slav to send out notice of criteria and applications to different colleges so that applicants can be chosen.

- Miguel said that the By-laws would have to be changed regarding “What is minority?”
- Bonnie suggested perhaps 4 different types of scholarships with different criteria.
- Miguel thought that the applicants should have 6 credits beyond Intermediate Algebra, with a Q.P.A of 3.0 in math, and overall Q.P.A. of 2.5 as minimum requirements
- Peter W. agreed that the applicants should have a minimum number of credits.
- Steve K. suggested an active functioning committee headed by Slav. Joe volunteered.
- Elaine recommended connecting the Minority Scholarship with the Math Contest.

9. Math Issues

Miguel said there was an approved schedule of meetings of the Math Issues Committee – 3 meetings for fall and 3 for spring. The next meeting will focus on Intermediate Algebra. He will meet with Phil Cocchiola regarding common course numbering, and how it will continue to evolve.

He spoke of a new feature – honor the fact that “we love math so much” to share new ideas and technology. There will be a larger meeting in the spring to exchange pedagogical and mathematical ideas. The meetings are as follows: November at Central Connecticut, December at Central Connecticut, February at Gateway, March at Central Connecticut, and April at Gateway.

Miguel said the committee discussed the Certification of Teachers and the Alternate Route to Certification.

10. By-Laws

We will remove the stipulation that the President needs to come from the “Executive Committee.”

- Elaine mentioned that we might do an e-mail vote. The by-laws will be put onto the web site. We will look at the By-laws in general
- The executive committee will meet in January to discuss the above.
- Miguel thought members of the Executive Committee should e-mail comments to Bob L.
- Kathy suggested that a candidate must be a member for 1 or 2 years. She also mentioned that if we remove the criteria now, we might not have new criteria in place before the next vote.
- Jill suggested that we set a deadline for the above.
- Miguel said to postpone vote until the spring meeting since this is a by-law change. He also mentioned that electronic balloting should also be part of any By-laws change.
- Steve – if we send to 65 members, we can mail
- Steve made a motion to table the By-laws amendment. Kathy seconded.

11. Math Issues Committee/Reform Math

The Math Issues Committee will discuss Reform Math – how to choose books, which methods of delivery are most effective.”

- Bob voted to bring this up at the Matyconn meeting. Also said “good idea for a conference?” Might bring in speaker, have a workshop. Need ideas for an early spring conference that Matyconn will host.
- Miguel – we should have a statement for the Math Issues Committee and Matyconn to collaborate.
- Sandy mentioned that we need real data to speak on these issues, and need people with expertise to present new and innovative ideas.
- Steve made a motion to co-host Math Issues and Matyconn for the spring meeting.
- Steve – NEMAYTC will be *Cooking up a Conference* at Johnson & Wales in March 2003. (Steve passed out a leaflet on this).

12. Nominating Committee:

- Joe Karnowski (Norwalk), Kathy Bavelas (Manchester), Elaine Dinto (Naugatuck Valley)

13. Other Business

- Kathy B. voiced concerns about the 2-year proposal to the Board of Trustees, Department of Higher Education. In March, transfer program was to appear at UConn. She talked to several state legislators. This task force has yet to be convened. Very few elementary school teachers have sufficient math skills.
- To help address the critical shortage of mathematics teachers in the state, and in accordance with the position of AMATYC, Elaine made a motion, seconded by Steve, that MATYCONN support the involvement of community colleges in teacher education mathematics courses and related programs. Motion passed.

14. Future Meeting

- Peter Wursthorn offered Capital Community College for the Spring 2003 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cora Preibis, Membership Chair, for Barbara Paskov, Secretary