

# TexMATYC News

Texas Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges

SPRING  
2023

## President's Message



Hello TexMATYC members!

I hope that each of you have had a relaxing break and are ready for the Spring Semester. I certainly have enjoyed the past year with face to face classes at our local campuses. I have been impressed with students working hard to do well in my courses. There are some students that I worry about and encourage to ask questions and attend tutoring to help. I attended a session, "Normalizing Help-Seeking Behaviors in Math students presented by Meredith Sides from NOSS at AMATYC in Toronto in hopes of finding additional strategies to motivate students to advocate for themselves as well as see me as a partner in that process. When attendees were asked what types of changes they had made to encourage students to come in for help, many mentioned changing "office hours" to "Student Tutoring Hours" but with limited success. The research that was presented showing a student list of ten barriers to seeking help all related to the instructor of the course. I was reminded once again that I need to look at myself and review my policies, reactions and welcoming of students each semester. I encourage each of you to converse with colleagues to develop these strategies as well as share what you are doing that works in your classrooms.

### Barriers to students seeking help (Lammers, 2016)

1. Professor's personality
2. Office hours
3. Time issues
4. Professor doesn't care about student
5. Professor's approachability
6. Intimidation
7. Laziness
8. Professor doesn't reiterate to visit him/her
9. Class difficulty
10. Going won't help
11. (Honorable mention): don't want to feel stupid and don't know what to ask

Attending conferences such as AMATYC and TexMATYC/TCCTA provide opportunities for self-reflection and renewal of energy for me each semester. I encourage you to attend TexMATYC (TCCTA) in Houston from March 2-4, 2023. There will be several opportunities to share as well as learn. Collin College is also providing a one-day faculty development conference, Partnering for Student Success on March 24, 2023. I am excited that the AMATYC Southwest Affiliate is also having a Regional Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas this summer. AMATYC will be in Omaha in November of 2023! I hope to see many of you at these conferences in 2023.

Temple College has also been involved in training and planning as part of the Rural Pathways Initiative. We are exploring our certificate programs as well as our community partnerships with



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many new companies building in our area. It has been a time of great change within our college and community. Although we are facing some unknowns which is a little scary, we are hopeful for the opportunities available to our students.

I believe that change is inevitable. I encourage you to embrace change and see it as an opportunity for growth.

*Prudence (Prudie) York-Hammons*

TexMATYC President

## TexMATYC Website

Our TexMATYC website is looking for an update. The preparation and investigation process for our new look is in the works and we need you!

Please send any insights, thoughts, or ideas that you have concerning the website via email to [TexMATYC@gmail.com](mailto:TexMATYC@gmail.com).



**Texas Mathematical Association  
of Two-Year Colleges**

## TexMATYC Members & Recruiting

As the Texas affiliate organization of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC), TexMATYC is local and ready to assist you!

- Encourage development of effective mathematics programs
- Afford a state forum for the interchange of ideas
- Further develop and improve the mathematics education and mathematics-related experiences of students in two-year colleges
- Promote the professional welfare and development of its members
- Provide the opportunity to study and keep abreast of new trends in mathematics
- Promote professional cooperation and communication between teachers and administrators for the realization of sound educational achievements
- Promote support for and involvement in AMATYC

TexMATYC Membership is \$10 per year or become a lifetime member for \$150. Join now and encourage your colleagues to join as well.

Visit [www.texmatyc.org](http://www.texmatyc.org) and click "Join Now"



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## TexMATYC Immediate Past President



Time to share a little information about some great conferences coming your way this year!

### TexMATYC Conference (TCCTA)

We are excited for the upcoming TexMATYC conference happening March 2-4 at the Westin Galleria and Westin Oaks Houston at the Galleria. We have a wonderful agenda of presenters and are excited to once again offer an AMATYC Traveling Workshop on Saturday, March 4.



Karen Gaines

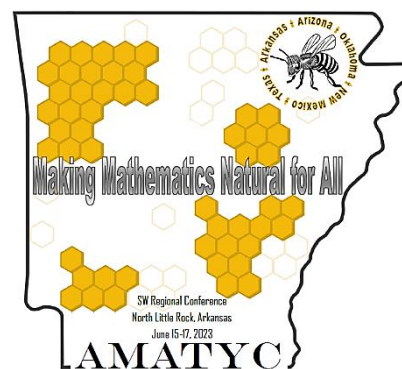


Scot Pruyn

Karen Gaines who is the current online community coordinator, in charge of the AMATYC website, and a member of the IMPACT Team along with Scot Pruyn from Clackamas Community College in Oregon City will share strategies on ways to encourage diverse learners to take ownership through classroom engagement. Plan to join us in Houston!

### AMATYC Southwest Regional Conference

Save the date to join us June 15-17 at the University of Arkansas at Pulaski County Technical College for the AMATYC Southwest Regional Conference.



Our conference theme is Making Mathematics Natural for All and will feature keynote speakers, Mr. Frank Savina and Dr. Linda Griffith. Mr. Savina will speak to "Expanding Our Equity Lens to Support Students in Aligned Math Pathways" and Dr. Griffith will share ideas to "Keep the Lines of Communication Open".

Session proposals are accepted through February 15. Consider submitting a proposal for either a 50 or 25-minute presentation. Topics may include strategies for student success, online and remote teaching and learning, equity and inclusive teaching practices, history of mathematics, applied math, technology in the classroom, and many more!

<https://sites.google.com/amatyc.org/southwest-regional-conf-2023/home>

Sonia Petch

TexMATYC Immediate Past President



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## Partnering 4 Student Success

In this inaugural conference, faculty will learn how to support student success in developmental and first-year courses. Session topics include teaching and classroom strategies, college reading and writing, and developmental mathematics.



Keynote speaker Flower Darby, instructional designer, and author

Collin College Inaugural Conference  
Friday, March 24 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Collin College Frisco Campus, Conference Center  
9700 Wade Blvd., Frisco, TX

For more information about the event and to register



[https://epay.collin.edu/C20053\\_ustores/web/store\\_main.jsp?STOREID=39&clearPreview=true\]%20%20](https://epay.collin.edu/C20053_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=39&clearPreview=true]%20%20)

## What is THECB?

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is a partner, resource, and advocate to Texas higher education institutions.



*We work in partnership with the legislature, businesses, and other key stakeholders to ensure our state's higher education goals are aligned with our state's economic and talent needs.*

*We are a steward to the state's strategic plan for higher education, Building a Talent Strong Texas.*

*And we help Texas students and families access the tools they need to choose a postsecondary pathway while connecting them to financial resources to support them on that pathway.*

*We also help ensure transitions – from high school to postsecondary, between postsecondary institutions, and from postsecondary into the workforce – are efficient.*

Ready to learn more visit <https://www.highered.texas.gov>





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## AMATYC Student Research League



Congratulations to the regional & grand prize winners from Midland College in Midland, TX!

Photo from left to right,  
Jael Ornelas, A. J.  
Montanez, Jamie Kneisley  
(faculty mentor) and  
Parker Tew



The Student Research League (SRL) is a partnership between two-year college students and Faculty Mentors who are seeking STEM knowledge through an AMATYC approved research program. An AMATYC Faculty Mentor(s) sponsor a team of one to three mathematics students from their college to participate in addressing a designed research STEM Challenge Problem.

Registration is ongoing, all registrations (including applicable fees) must be received by March 15, 2023!

A grand prize for the qualified individual/team of a \$1000 scholarship per team member up to a maximum of \$3000.

## myAMATYC Updated!



Visit the myAMATYC website soon

A bold new look and exciting new features, still providing great content with the various libraries filled with resources. Provides a space for AMATYC ANets (previously committees) and other groups to share ideas with each other and join in discussions.

In addition, the site is the home of AMATYC's three standards documents (Crossroads, Beyond Crossroads, and IMPACT). Starting this year, users will find proposed changes (for membership approval) to the documents and ultimately the approved changes as they become available.

The bold new look is intended to provide an easier method of navigating the site and finding exactly what members are looking for. Check out the new look and share your knowledge with colleagues and enjoy the benefits of your colleagues sharing with you!

Go to <https://my.amatyc.org/home> to start collaborating today!

Questions, contact Karen Gaines, Online Community Coordinator, [occ@amatyc.org](mailto:occ@amatyc.org)



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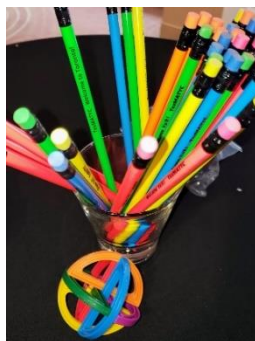
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## AMATYC 2022 Conference Recap

Texans attending the SW Regional Lunch, group picture.



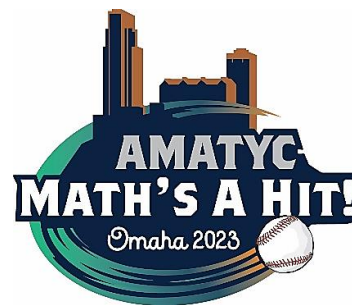
TexMATYC promo items for the  
AMATYC hospitality room



Unable to attend in person, learn about all the fun, interesting presentations and what you missed via the AMATYC 2022 Toronto Conference Proceedings website...

<https://amatyc.org/page/2022ConfProc>

## AMATYC 2023 Conference



**49<sup>th</sup> AMATYC Annual Conference**

**Omaha, Nebraska**

**November 9-12, 2023**

Call for Presenters and Presiders has started! Presentation proposals deadline is February 15, 2023.

To submit your application to present or preside visit  
<https://amatyc.org/page/2023ProposalCall>

## AMATYC Spotlight



A mentoring and professional development initiative for two-year college 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. To learn more visit <https://amatyc.org/page/ACCESS>



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## Ready to Share?

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Do you or your college have something in the works and would like to share? A new event or perhaps something you are doing in your mathematics classroom?

Send an article for the next issue of the TexMATYC Newsletter!

Articles are submitted via email to [TexMATYC@gmail.com](mailto:TexMATYC@gmail.com).

## Comments or Suggestions

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Please email any comments or suggestions for the newsletter via email to [TexMATYC@gmail.com](mailto:TexMATYC@gmail.com).

## TexMATYC Executive Board

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Prudence York-Hammons, President, Temple College  
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