

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science Newsletter



An In-House Publication for Faculty and Staff in Georgia Southern's Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

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Editor: Mary Margaret Hoy

November 1996

Announcements

Faculty, students, and interested public are invited to attend the GSAMS Seminar (Innovations in Undergraduate Mathematics Education in Georgia) on Thursday, October 31, 3:30 - 4:30 PM in Herty Room 1113. The topic of discussion is "Innovations in the First Two Years of Mathematics at the University of Georgia, Columbus State University, and Georgia Tech." Participating sites include Coastal Georgia Community College, Columbus State University, Georgia College, Georgia State University, Georgia Southern University, Georgia Tech, North Georgia College, University of Georgia, and Valdosta State University.

Special thanks to **Martha Abell** and the MAA chapter for making the sheet-signs for the Sallie Zetterower Fall Carnival. They looked great!

Thanks very much to everyone who submitted potential Math Tournament problems. Don't forget the very important date of February 22, 1997, for the GSU Mathematics Tournament. We hope that date is on your calendar!

Professional Activities

Rosalie Abraham and **Joy Darley** presented "Word Problems - No Problem," a hands-on and fun approach to solving word problems on mixture, motion and work, at the Georgia Mathematics Conference at Rock Eagle. It was well-received by a mixed audience consisting of K through college instructors but was targeted to high school teachers.

Ellen Fischer, **Wendy Habegger**, **Patricia Hale**, **Susan McKinnon** and **Janet O'Brien** attended the 37th Annual Georgia Mathematics

Conference at Rock Eagle Center in Eatonton, GA, held October 16-19, 1996.

Rose Mae Bogan spoke at the Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics annual meeting on October 18, 1996, on the topic "Teaching Study Skills in Order to Improve Success in Mathematics."

Don Brown, **Carol Nessmith**, **Pam Watkins** and **Lisa Yocco** presented "Integrating Math Study Skills into the Classroom," a one and a half hour workshop, on October 18, 1996, at the Georgia Mathematics Conference at Rock Eagle.

Jane Cason attended the Georgia Mathematics Conference at Rock Eagle and presented "Promote Success in the Math Classroom; Enhance Learning with the TI-82" on October 17, 1996. She also helped and participated in the Annual Fun Run / Walk. "Been

Teachers Teaching with Technology (T³) Regional Meeting

Sharon Taylor has persuaded Texas Instruments to agree to hold a Teachers Teaching with Technology (T³) regional meeting here on campus on May 2-3, 1997. This conference should draw anywhere from 300 - 600 teachers from this region. She has already started recruiting speakers and there will be a keynote address on Saturday morning, May 3, 1997.

Anyone interested in giving a presentation will be welcome to do so. Also, Sharon will be needing quite a few people who will be

willing to volunteer their time as the time of the conference gets closer. Anybody that would be willing to help out, please let her know. There are several committees that will need to be set up and people to work on them.

This will be an excellent opportunity for GSU to show off its facilities and interest in technology to a large number of teachers. If anybody has any questions, would like to volunteer, or just find out more about the conference, call or e-mail Sharon.

there, done that and have a T-shirt.”

John Davenport gave a talk entitled “Clouds, Trees, and Other Fractals” on October 22, 1996, at the planetarium. The talk was open to the general public.

John Davenport and **Lila Roberts** will be presenting an hour talk, “Constructing Projects for Linear Algebra: Issues and Examples,” at the International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics in Reno, Nevada.

Cindy Gonzalez presented “Teaching Introductory Calculus via GSAMS Using the TI-92 Calculator” at the 37th Annual Georgia Mathematics Conference at Rock Eagle Center in Eatonton, GA, on October 17, 1996.

Wendy Habegger and **Mary Margaret Hoy** are the new newsletter editors for the Statesboro

chapter of the American Association of University Women. The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science was the most well-represented group at the first meeting of this organization.

Patricia Hale participated in Georgia Southern’s College of Education P-16 Discussion Session on Saturday, October 12.

Mary Margaret Hoy presented “Introducing Calculus Using a Holistic Approach with the TI-82” at the 37th Annual Georgia Mathematics Conference at Rock Eagle Center in Eatonton, GA, on October 18, 1996.

Yingkang Hu’s article “Convex Polynomial and Spline Approximation in L_p , $0 < p < \infty$,” by R. A. DeVore, Y. K. Hu and D. Leviatan, has been published in the international journal *Constructive Approximation*, Vol. 12, 1996.

Yingkang Hu’s article “On Positive and Coperative Polynomial and Spline Approximation in $L_p[-1, 1]$, $0 < p < \infty$,” by Y. K. Hu, K. A. Kopotun and X. M. Yu, in *Journal of Approximation Theory*, Vol. 86, 1996.

Anne Pierce will present a paper at the National Decision Science Institute meeting in Orlando held November 24-26. She is also a discussant at the meeting.

Mary Sikes will be attending the Second National Conference on Research in Developmental Education in Charlotte, NC, on October 25 and 26, 1996.

Jimmy Solomon has been appointed to another three-year term on the MAA Committee on Professional Development for 1997-2000.

Jimmy Solomon made a presentation entitled “What are the Expectations of Junior Faculty in the Areas of Teaching, Research and Service” at Mathfest in Seattle as part of his participation in project NeXT.

Arthur Sparks attended a meeting of the Regents’ Academic Advisory Committee Chairs held October 10, 1996, at the Board of Regents Central Office in Atlanta. Arthur is the Chair of the Regents’ Academic Committee on Mathematical Subjects (ACMS).

Arthur Sparks represented the Department at the GSU Fall Open House (i.e. Fall Visitation Day) held Saturday, October 19, 1996, in the Russell University Union. Prospective students attend these events to find out more about Georgia Southern and its programs.

Arthur Sparks has received an Equipment Grant valued at \$11,970 from Texas Instruments. The equipment includes Graph Link and CBL software, TI-83 graphing calculators, and Viewscreens (TI-82 and TI-83).

Arthur Sparks has agreed to serve on the InGEAR Advisory Board. InGEAR (Integrating Gender Equity and Reform) is a project funded by the National Science Foundation.

Debbye Stapleton attended the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Chapter of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences at Myrtle Beach, SC, held October 2-5. She and Richard Stapleton presented a paper entitled "Randomly Selecting Participants to Lead Case Method Discussions: Problems and Pitfalls in Performance Evaluation." They won Best Paper in the Educational Innovation Track.

Lisa Yocco presented "TI-82 Activities for Algebra and Trigonometry" at the Georgia Mathematics Conference at Rock Eagle on October 17, 1996.

A Note from the Editor

Please send any comments or suggestions regarding the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science Newsletter to Mary Margaret Hoy, Georgia Southern University, P.O. Box 8121, Statesboro, GA 30460, or send a message by e-mail to mmhoy@gsvms2.cc.gasou.edu.

MAA Student Chapter News

Submitted by **Martha Abell**

1996-97 Officers:
 Dawn Laning, President
 Afif McGlamry, Vice-President
 Genefer Graham, Secretary
 Cindy Drake, Treasurer
 Steven Jarrell, Publicity


As a service project, several members made two signs to advertise the Sallie Zetterower Fall Carnival. The group also made up problems for the GSU Math Tournament. **Lisa Norton** has joined **Martha Abell** and **Jim Braselton** in serving as a chapter advisor. If you are interested in giving a short presentation at one of our meetings this year, then please let one of us know.

Campus Committees


The Post-Tenure Review Committee has been very busy. The draft of the document is near completion and will be presented to the Faculty Senate for consideration as soon as it is ready. Please share your comments or concerns about post-tenure review with **Pam Watkins**.





Personal News

Donna Saye's youngest daughter Emily (8th grade) tried out for the competitive cheerleading team at William James. Out of 40 girls who tried out, 16 were chosen, and she was one of them! The Sayes were very excited. Some folks know that Emily is extremely shy and doesn't speak to many people at all, and Donna is hoping that this will help her open up!



November Birthdays



	John Davenport	01	
	Joyce Strozso	03	
	Earl Lavender	09	
	Kelly Futch	13	
	Debbye Stapleton	27	