# The California Mathematics Council, Community Colleges 

41st Annual Fall Conference


Download the Monterey 2013 conference app:

1) On your iPad or "smart phone," download the "Guidebook" app.
2) Once you have Guidebook, then search for "CMC3 2013."
3) Have fun building your schedule!!

## December 13-14, 2013

the Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa, Monterey, CA
www.cmc3.org





## The Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa (Friday events)



The Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa (Saturday events)


Welcome to the $41^{\text {st }}$ Annual Fall Conference! The event organizers are people just like you from various community college mathematics departments across Northern California. We are always looking for more eager volunteers with new ideas. Please consider getting involved with $\mathrm{CMC}^{3}$ by contacting a board member any time. Enjoy the conference.

## CMC ${ }^{3}$ Board and Conference Committee

| President: | Susanna Gunther | Business Liaison: | Randy Rosenberger |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Past-President: | Barbara Illowsky | Newsletter Editor: | Jay Lehmann |
| Pres.-Elect (Conf. Chair): | Mark Harbison | Secretary: | Greg Daubenmire |
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| Hotel Liaison: | Rob Knight | Articulation Breakfast: | Steve Blasberg |
| A/V co-chair: | Larry Green | CMC Liaison: | Jenny Freidenreich |
| A/V co-chair: | Steve Blasberg | Foundation President: | Debbie Van Sickle |
| Membership Chair: | Joe Conrad | Foundation Member: | Bic Ha Dovan |
| Web Page Manager: | Larry Green | Foundation Member: | Hsiao Wang |

## Special THANKS to ...

## In-kind Donations:

* Sacramento City College [ printing \& envelope sealing ]
* AMATYC [ tote bags ]
* the Harbison family [ envelope stuffing]
*Pearson Higher Ed. [ Friday "Game Night"]
and all of our Door Prize \& Foundation Donors.

Thanks to our Exhibitors
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Pacific Crest Publishing
Rice Univ. Connexions

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Cengage
xyz Textbooks
Hawkes
Wiley
Kendall Hunt

| CMC ${ }^{3}$ Presidents |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1973-1974 | James Curl | Modesto Junior College |
| 1974-1977 | Raymond Wuco | San Joaquin Delta College |
| 1978-1980 | Brandon Wheeler | Sacramento City College |
| 1980-1981 | Hal Andersen | Santa Rosa Junior College |
| 1982-1983 | Art Dull | Diablo Valley College |
| 1984-1985 | Pat Boyle | Santa Rosa Junior College |
| 1986-1987 | Shirley Trembley | Bakersfield College |
| 1988-1989 | Wade Ellis, Jr. | West Valley College |
| 1990-1991 | Denny Burzynski | West Valley College |
| 1992-1993 | Barry Wood | Santa Rosa Junior College |
| 1994-1995 | Debra Landre | San Joaquin Delta College |
| 1996-1997 | Chris Burditt | Napa Valley College |
| 1998-1999 | Michael Eurgubian | Santa Rosa Junior College |
| 2000-2001 | Lois Yamakoshi | Los Medanos College |
| 2002-2003 | Randy Taylor | Las Positas College |
| 2004-2005 | Rick Hough | Skyline College |
| 2006-2007 | Rob Knight | Evergreen Valley College |
| 2008-2009 | Larry Green | Lake Tahoe Community College |
| 2010-2011 | Barbara Illowsky | De Anza College |
| 2012-2013 | Susanna Gunther | Solano College |
| 2014-2015 | Mark Harbison | Sacramento City College |

# $\mathrm{CMC}^{3}$ President's Award Recipients (selected by the CMC ${ }^{3}$ President) 

Barry Wood
Chris Barker
Noelle Eckley
Barbara Illowsky
Zwi Reznik
Sandi Nieto
Randy Taylor
Mark Harbison
Jim Spencer
Robert Knight
Larry Green
Michael Eurgubian

Santa Rosa Junior College
De Anza College
Lassen College
De Anza College
Fresno City College
Santa Rosa Junior College
Las Positas College
Sacramento City College
Santa Rosa Junior College
Evergreen Valley College
Lake Tahoe Community College
Santa Rosa Junior College

# CMC ${ }^{3}$ Distinguished Service Award Recipients (selected by the $\mathrm{CMC}^{3}$ board) 

" Wade Ellis, Jr.
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Ray Wuco
Frank Denney
Brandon Wheeler
Patrick Boyle
Arthur Dull
Hal Andersen
Sister Clarice Sparkman
James Curl
Guy De Primo
Allen Utterback
Barry Wood
Denny Burzynski
Chris Burditt
Wei Jen Harrison
Marilyn McBride
Michael Eurgubian
Lois Yamakoshi
Debra Landre
Dave Johnson
Chris Barker
Rick Hough
Jim Spencer
Randy Taylor
Cynthia Speed
Rob Knight

San Joaquin Delta College
Chabot College
West Valley College
Sacramento City College
Santa Rosa Junior College
Diablo Valley College
Santa Rosa Junior College
San Jose City College
Modesto Junior College
City College of San Francisco
Cabrillo College
Santa Rosa Junior College
West Valley College
Napa Valley College
American River College
Skyline College
Santa Rosa Junior College
Los Medanos College
San Joaquin Delta College
Diablo Valley College
De Anza College
Skyline College
Santa Rosa Junior College
Las Positas College
Mendocino College

## Evergreen Valley College



Rob Knight is a full-time tenured Mathematics/Statistics professor at Evergreen Valley College. He served as President of CMC $^{3}$ from 2006 to 2007 and has served on the Board of CMC $^{3}$ for over a decade. Rob received the President's Award from $\mathrm{CMC}^{3}$ in 2010.

Within the past four years, Rob has been designed, developed and self-funded a free educational software program, MyMathText, and the soon to be released, MyClassText, and created their educational software parent company, MYTEXT SOFTWARE, along with his wife, Marianne. In the past year, it is conservatively estimated that Rob has saved his students over $\$ 100,000$ collectively using MyMathText to replace costly textbooks.

Prior to becoming a Mathematics/Statistics professor, Rob was a high school mathematics teacher and received his Master of Science Degree in Mathematics from Adelphi University through a grant from the National Science Foundation. Rob left high school teaching to attend Podiatric Medical School in San Francisco and did his surgical residency in Los Angeles. After 20 years of surgical practice, Rob retired from medicine and reentered teaching on the community college level. Today, Rob teaches at several colleges and universities while continuing to development his educational platform.

The California Mathematics Council Community Colleges Foundation annually provides several dozen scholarships to honor our mathematics and science students. We need your financial help. We rely on your generosity and donations to fund the Scholarship Program.

Please consider making a donation to our $\mathrm{CMC}^{3}$ Foundation Scholarship Fund. Contributions are tax-deductible, as provided by law. Our tax ID \# is 94-3227552.

Please donate either in-person at the Foundation table or mail your donation to
Rebecca Fouquette, CMC $^{3}$ Treasurer De Anza College 21250 Stevens Creek blvd. Cupertino, CA 95014

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM - FRIDAY

1:30-5:00 pm $\quad$| "Learning to Learn Algebra" event |
| :---: |
| (limited space. rsvp Wade@pcrest.com) | Windjammer I+II

| 4:30-6:30 pm | Registration | Terrace |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $7: 00-8: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ | Dessert Reception | Pebble Ballroom |
| 8:00-9:00 pm | IGNITE by the Board | Pebble Ballroom |

## Five-Minute Speedy Presentations by a great variety of speakers on a great variety of topics.

Student Math Competitions
Estimation Run
Common Core Competencies
$\mathrm{CMC}^{3}$ Foundation
Normal Numbers \& Good Teaching
Math Clubs \& Activities for Students in Math
New Pathways: Statway, Path2Stats, \& PreStats
Math Organizations
Basic Skills
Basic Skills Handbook - Chancellor's Office

Student Math Competitions
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Normal Numbers \& Good Teaching
Math Clubs \& Activities for Students in Math
New Pathways: Statway, Path2Stats, \& PreStats
Math Organizations
Basic Skills Handbook - Chancellor's Office

Steve Blasberg Jay Lehmann Greg Daubenmire

Debbie Van Sickle Joe Conrad Larry Green
Jenny Freidenreich Dean Gooch
Susanna Gunther
Barbara Illowsky

West Valley College College of San Mateo Las Positas College

Sacramento City College Solano College
Lake Tahoe Community College Diablo Valley College
Santa Rosa Junior College
Solano College
De Anza College

The "Ignite" motto: Enlighten us, but make it quick!

9:00-11:55 pm 5th annual Pearson Education Game Night Monterey Ballroom This event is open to everyone. The Pearson math \& stats team invites you to an evening of games, hors d'oeuvres, and drinks at CMC ! Join our team and our authors for food, conversation, and fun.

7:30 am Estimation Walk/Run
8:15-10:00 am
8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Registration
Exhibits open
meet by the Front Desk
Mark Thomas Foyer
Oak Tree room

## First Session: 9:00-10:00 am

## Michael Eurgubian

Santa Rosa Junior College

MEurgubian@santarosa.edu

Spyglass I<br>(General Interest)

## What Are We Doing? Part Two

In 2011, through visitations and communication, I engaged in a purely objective study of mathematics departments across the California Community College system, encompassing the mathematics teaching environments of each school, student and instructor demographics, delivery systems, curriculum, equivalencies, campus layout, book selection, academic standards, student preparation and success, on-line classes and homework, student services related to mathematics, and matriculation.

This talk is an update, having now included most of the colleges that I did not visit, and especially noting that a great deal has changed in less than two years.

Karl Ting
$\begin{array}{ll} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Spyglass II } \\ \text { (Developmental Ed.) }\end{array}\end{array}$

## The Tai Chi of Basic Mathematics

Basic skills students fall into two categories:

1) students who are anxious and thus fear their lack of understanding of math, or
2) students who think they should not be in a basic skills class and rush through all their work.

In either case, it leads to their lack of success.
The talk will incorporate techniques of Singapore mathematics to model the four basic operations of arithmetic, leading to the development of problems solving skills, and eventually algebraic abstraction of the modeling of application problems.

## Diana Herrington

California Teacher Advisory Council

## Big Sur II+III

(Panels/Issues)

## The Impact of Common Core and the Community Colleges

The Common Core standards at the high school will bring a different student to the college classroom.
This presentation will be an overview of what the CCSS is and the implications for Community College Math classrooms. Examples will be given for class work, projects and the different assessments that students will be working with.

## John Jacob

College of Marin
John.Jacob@marin.edu

## Cypress II+III

(PreCalculus and Above)

## Classroom Mathematics Experiments for Precalculus-Level Courses

The speaker will guide the participating(!) audience through these three mathematics experiments that use his specially designed "lab" equipment.
(1) The gradient of a plane and its relation to the two slope numbers $m_{1}$ and $m_{2}$.
(2) Tools that can be used with a topographic map to determine the location of possible obstructions to straight-line visibility.
(3) Mapping certain curves and regions in the plane onto the cone.

# First Session: 9:00-10:00 am, continued 

# Eric Schulz 

Walla Walla Community College

Windjammer I+II
(Potpourri)

## Sticky Precalculus

Do your students have difficulty understanding and remembering mathematical concepts from precalculus? If so, it is time to use interactive visualizations. When students experience an interactive figure, they become engaged in the mathematics and build an understanding of concepts that stick with them for years to come. Well-crafted interactive visualizations break through the barriers imposed by static materials. Ideas, interactive figures, and techniques designed for dynamic teaching and student explorations in precalculus will be shared in the presentation.

## James Sullivan

Sierra College

Windjammer III+IV
(Statistics)

## Case Study: Instructor-Created Instructional Materials

This presentation reveals one instructor's approach to developing instructor-created materials for an Elementary Statistics course, including text book, study guides, and video lessons, using widely available software.

The complete progression from initial design elements to the final production process will be highlighted. Using these instructor-created materials in an online course has resulted in an $88 \%$ success rate.

Participants will learn what is involved in creating instructional materials should they choose to pursue this approach in their own courses.

Reminders:

Mark Thomas Foyer
9:30 am-1:00 pm
Student Posters on Display

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other users on the new Instructor Exchange at www.instructorexchange.com

# John Martin 

Santa Rosa Junior College
JMartin@santarosa.edu

Spyglass I<br>(General Interest)

## Blaise Pascal and His Mystic Hexagram

Inventor, mathematician, physicist and theological writer Blaise Pascal has been called by many, "the greatest might-have-been in the history of mathematics." In this talk, we will examine his life and times and consider one of his most impressive discoveries.

## Stefan Baratto

Clackamas Community College (Oregon City, OR)

## Spyglass II

(Developmental Ed.)

# Content in Context: Teaching Students with Real-World Applications 

Motivating students who ask, "When will I ever use this?" can be a challenge. Move beyond using applications to motivate topics; use them to teach content. We explore what to look for in applications, how to find them, and how to use them to teach new topics, maintaining student interest and increasing learning and knowledge retention. Explore problem-solving strategies so students can achieve critical thinking.

Each application is chosen for its relevance to students' lives and the world around them. Participants will take applications back to their own classrooms to answer, "Here, this is where you will use this!"

## Martin Flashman

Humboldt State University

flashman@humboldt.edu

Cypress II+III<br>(PreCalculus and Above)

## Using Mapping Diagrams to Understand Functions

Mapping diagrams (dynagraphs) provide a valuable alternative to graphs for visualizing functions. Core function concepts can be more easily understood using these diagrams. I will introduce the concepts and illustrate examples of composition and inverses for linear, quadratic, and trigonometric functions.

Technological tools will make the presentation more dynamic.

## Jeffrey Saikali

San Diego Miramar College newtonian_calculus@yahoo.ca (not "com")
Windjammer I+II
(Potpourri)

## Improving Learning by Understanding the Psychology of Human Memory

Cognition refers to mental processes that include perception, attention, knowledge, language, problem-solving, reasoning, and decision-making; but the component of cognition that dominates all of the aforementioned is memory. Common understandings in the general public about the workings of human memory may tend to be based on assumption rather than supported by science.

This presentation will provide an examination of current research on memory and a closely related important topic, forgetting. We will look at what cognitive psychologists have discovered about these, how students can improve their capacities to remember and use what they have studied, how they can study more effectively, and how they can get more out of lectures so that they forget less.

For example, one research study demonstrated that students who simply attended course lectures retained only $5 \%$ of what they saw/heard, whereas retention was much higher when additional methods were employed.

A PDF of the presentation's contents plus advice (from this author and some highly successful students) to students on better course-preparation, studying, and retention will be available electronically to all attendees.

## Pearson Authors at $\mathrm{CMC}^{3}$


"Sticky Precalculus"
Eric Schulz
Walla Walla Community College
Saturday, 9:00AM-10:00AM
Windjammer I+II

"Simulation and Randomization Techniques in Introductory Statistics"
Michael Sullivan
Joliet Junior College
Saturday, 10:30AM-| I:30AM
Windjammer III+IV

"45 Boredom Busters"
David Ellenbogen
The Community College of Vermont
Saturday, 2:30PM-3:30PM
Spyglass I

## Join Pearson for Game Night!

Friday, December I3, 2013
Monterey Ballroom
9:00pm-|2:00MIDNIGHT
www.pearsonhighered.com/math

## Pat McKeague

Cuesta College

Big Sur II + III
(Panels/Issues)

## What's Up with MOOCs?

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are a recent addition to the options available in higher education. Where did they come from, what is it like to teach one, do we need to be concerned about them?

These topics, and more, from someone who has created and taught his own MOOCs.

## Michael Sullivan III

Joliet Junior College

SullyStats@gmail.com

Windjammer III+IV
(Statistics)

## Simulation and Randomization Techniques in Introductory Statistics

Statistical computing has made it possible to teach inferential topics typically relegated to higher level courses in an introductory course. Simulation methods allow for students to develop conceptual understanding of complicated topics such as a $P$-value with relative ease.

Bootstrapping and randomization techniques use the power of the computer to construct confidence intervals or approximate P -values. These methods provide a powerful and enlightening introduction to traditional inferential techniques.

This session will focus on both tactile and computer generated simulations to introduce re-sampling methods and randomization techniques.


## Luncheon: 11:45 am - 12:45 pm

| $11: 45 \mathrm{am}-12: 45 \mathrm{pm}$ | Buffet (tickets required) Regency Grand Ballroom |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| (Note: each person is allowed one meal plate and one dessert plate.) |  |

12:30-12:45 pm Students Discuss their Posters Mark Thomas Foyer

## General Session: 1:00-2:15 pm

1:00-1:15 pm
1:15-2:15 pm


Poster awards, $\mathrm{CMC}^{3}$ awards Regency Grand
Keynote
Brian Conrey
American Institute of Mathematics

## - Primes and Zeros:

a Million Dollar Mystery -

Just over 150 years ago, Bernhard Riemann proposed a hypothesis that would explain a great regularity in the occurrence of prime numbers. But to this day we have been unable to prove Riemann's Hypothesis. In this talk we will give some of the colorful history and anecdotes that surround this most important unsolved problem in all of mathematics.

## 2:00-5:30 pm <br> Exhibits open

Oak Tree Room

## Third Session: 2:30-3:30 pm

## David Ellenbogen

The Community College of Vermont

PianoMath@gmail.com

## Spyglass I

(General Interest)

## 45 Boredom Busters

The average course meets 45 times. Can each class contain something special? This session provides material for courses ranging from basic math through calculus. Attention-grabbers include anecdotes, activities, jokes, puzzles, and cartoons guaranteed to enrich the classroom experience. Attendees will leave with material for immediate classroom use.

Joe Vasta<br>Cuesta College

> JVasta@cuesta.edu

Spyglass II<br>(Developmental Ed.)

## Math-to-Math Resuscitation: Ideas to Bring Your Class Back to Life

What do irrational numbers have to do with the Fibonacci sequence? What do logarithms have to do with a counting problem? What do exponents have to do with ripping paper? What does the Chain Rule have to do with breaking into a house? How can probability show you that being polite helps you win the game? How can bugs be effective calculus teachers? How can you use topology to turn your shirt inside out while handcuffed?

How can a person give an hour-long talk over so many topics and more?

Marie Bruley
Merced College

## Community College Math Faculty Engagement in Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) Assessment

Little is known about California community college math faculty engagement in SLO assessment.
In this presentation, the results of a mixed-methods exploratory study designed to examine the nature of community college math faculty engagement in the student learning outcomes assessment cycle will be discussed.

Charles S. Barnett

Las Positas College
CJBarnett2@comcast.net

Cypress II+III
(PreCalculus and Above)

## Neither Div nor Curl nor Both Constitute the Derivative

The Div and Curl operators are derivative-like but are only aspects of the derivative of a map from 3-space to 3-space. The derivative of such a given map is a linear map from 3-space to 3-space. By employing the Frechet difference quotient at the outset, we can construct that derivative without use of the heavy machinery of advanced analysis. The process, results, and properties parallel those of the one-dimensional case.

## Riki Kucheck

Orange Coast College
rkucheck@yahoo.com

Windjammer I+II
(Potpourri)

## Top 10 Technology Resources for the Mathematics Classroom

This session will explore a collection of math-related technology resources including interactive demos, clever videos, textbook websites, APPs, and online homework. You should be able to go back to campus and begin immediately incorporating these materials into your math courses.

## Monica Dabos

College of the Canyons

> MonicaDabos@gmail.com

## Windjammer III+IV <br> (Statistics)

## "What is R-squared, again? The amount of variation on.... that..."

The definition of R -squared is recited by many students in exams as a mantra that is not understood. When this lack of understanding is added to fixed rules like "Close to ' 1 ' = Good model" and "Close to ' 0 ' = Bad model", then students leave statistics classrooms with a set of tools that lack practical application and therefore cannot be utilized effectively in different scenarios.

In this workshop we will start by developing conceptual understanding of the standard deviation, which in turn will help decode the mysteries of the R -squared definition and reveal its importance in decision-making.

## Fourth Session: 4:00-5:00 pm

Dave Sobecki
Miami University Hamilton

## Removing the Dev Math Roadblock

Answer this question honestly: is your beginning algebra course really pre-pre-pre calculus? The traditional developmental math curriculum was designed to prepare students for precalc/college algebra, but many non-STEM students will never take those classes. Let's talk about developing an alternate pathway for those students.


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The American Mathematics Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) will hold their next annual conference in Nashville, TN on November 13-16, 2014.


## NOTES



## Fourth Session: 4:00-5:00 pm, continued

## Teresa Sutcliffe

Los Angeles Valley College

SutcliTV@lavc.edu

Spyglass II
(Developmental Ed.)

## Flip the Switch!

Many students do not know how to study math. That is why they fail miserably. In the flip-the-switch approach, the students "attend class at home and do homework in class."

With this approach, several light switches turn on for both instructor and students resulting in a more-successful math class.

## Michael Hoffman

Cañada College

Big Sur II+III<br>(Panels/Issues)

## Math Jam! Building Community and Improving Math Placement at Cañada College

While many students from underrepresented groups enter the California Community College system with a high level of interest in STEM fields, the majority of them drop out or change majors even before taking transfer-level courses.

To facilitate the transition of these students into transfer-level STEM courses, we developed an intensive math placement test review program called Math Jam. This free program involves students taking the placement test before and after one or two weeks of intense work on core math skills. An analysis of student academic performance in subsequent semesters show significantly higher success and retention rates among Math Jam participants compared to non-participants. Since the implementation of Math Jam, enrollments in STEM courses have increased significantly, with a higher rate of increase among minority students.

Data will be presented along with information related to developing and maintaining a program like this on other campuses.

## Kevin Brewer

Solano College

## What Do Hypothesis Tests Teach Us About the Truth of Hypotheses? Answer: Nothing

The goal of the presentation is to shed light upon the notion of statistical inference in the context of hypothesis tests by viewing such tests in their historical context. According to Neyman-Pearson statistics, the theory of statistics which is (supposed to be) the theoretical basis for most current statistics textbooks, one does not 'infer' anything at all about the truth or falsity of a hypothesis at the conclusion of a hypothesis test.

Only when the work of Neyman and Pearson is set against the school of Bayesian statistics and also against the work of R. A. Fisher can we understand why and how they arrived at a view which will surely strike many as counter-intuitive. Accordingly, I present a brief overview of Bayesianism, the work of Fisher and finally that of Neyman and Pearson. With these in place, I conclude by taking a fresh look at what most textbook writers say about hypothesis tests.

## Mark Your Calendar!




