

Connections



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It's time for a "Mathematics Education" version of Project NExT!

Barbara J. Reys, University of Missouri
AMTE President

Early career AMTE members are the future of our organization. They are also likely to influence opportunities for quality K-12 mathematics teaching and learning in the U.S. for years to come.

What processes and programs are in place to support early career mathematics teacher educators?

What role should AMTE play in fostering the development of early career mathematics teacher educators?

A study group of the National Conference on Doctoral Programs in Mathematics Education (Reys et al, 2008) expressed urgency for the development of activities and programs to support faculty new to mathematics education higher education positions.

"Given the shortage of doctorates in mathematics education, it is critical to retain those prepared to enter this profession. Likewise, it is critical to develop programs that support those doing the work of mathematics education (research, service, teaching) regardless of their academic training." (p. 174)

The AMTE Board recognized the importance of mentorship of early career professionals in 2008 by establishing a standing committee on *Mentoring*. The Committee is charged with developing and overseeing strategies for supporting new members of the mathematics teacher education community. They also advise the Board on ways to

engage new mathematics teacher educators and advanced doctoral students in the work of AMTE. I believe it is time to take the "next" step by extending current AMTE efforts to establishing a program modeled after *Project NExT* to support early career mathematics teacher educators.

Project NExT

AMTE members are likely familiar with the MAA sponsored *Project NExT* (New Experiences in Teaching) which provides a professional development program for new Ph.D.s in the mathematical sciences. In fact, several AMTE members (Tim Hendrix, Michael Gilbert, Cheryl McAllister, Angela Hodge, Angela Bowzer) have participated in the program and AMTE has sponsored a Project NExT Fellow for the past 8 years (since 2002). Initiated in 1994, *Project NExT* has served over 1000 early career faculty – all with appointments in Departments of Mathematics and the vast majority with PhDs in mathematics. By all accounts, *Project NExT* has served the mathematics community well. However, *Project NExT* Fellows must be employed by Departments of Mathematics and therefore the program is not designed for nor does it admit mathematics teacher educators who work in Departments or Schools of Education.

Centers for Learning and Teaching

Another example of an early career development program in mathematics education

(Continued on page 7)

AMTE'S 2010 Annual Conference

The Association of
Mathematics Teacher Educators
<http://www.amte.net>

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The Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) Fourteenth Annual Conference Irvine, CA January 28 – 30, 2010

Conference Information and Highlighted Sessions

The Fourteenth Annual Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Irvine, California from Thursday, January 28 through Saturday, January 30, 2010. Conference sessions begin on Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. The conference will conclude at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday. **The conference registration deadline is December 4, 2009.**

The Thursday General Session from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. will be led by Henry Kepner, William McCallum, and Glenda Lappan. The focus of this session will be the common core state standards. The presenters will provide an update on the driving forces behind and a status of these standards along with a discussion of implications for children and mathematics education. An afternoon break will be provided on Thursday, but dinner Thursday evening is on your own.

Conference sessions will begin on Friday at 8:00 a.m. Highlights include a presentation by this year's Award Winner for Service to Mathematics Teacher Education, Francis (Skip) Fennell, and last year's Early Career Award Winner, John Lannin. Beginning at 5:00 p.m., the Judith Jacobs Lecture will be given by James Hiebert from the University of Delaware; the title of his presentation is "Building Knowledge for Helping Teachers Learn to Teach: An Alternative Path for Teacher Education." Friday's continental breakfast, lunch, and dinner are included with the registration fee along with morning and afternoon breaks.

Conference sessions will begin on Saturday at 8:00 a.m. Continental breakfast and lunch are included with the registration fee. The AMTE Business Meeting will be held during lunch. The Closing Session will be presented by Sharon Feiman-Nemser from Brandeis University; the title of her presentation is "Thinking about Teacher Learning."

2010 AMTE Annual Conference Dates to Remember:

Regular Registration Deadline: December 4, 2009

Deadline for Hotel Reservations: December 4, 2009

Conference Dates: January 28-30, 2010

Comments, questions, and submissions for AMTE *Connections* should be directed to:
Libby Knott, AMTE *Connections* Editor, Department of Mathematics, Washington State University,
P.O. Box 3113, Pullman, WA 99164-3113 lknott@wsu.edu

AMTE Annual Conference (cont'd)

Other meetings during the conference will include an opportunity for AMTE committees to meet during lunch on Friday and an opportunity for members of AMTE affiliates to meet during breakfast on Saturday.

The preliminary program link is on the AMTE website. The program information will be updated over the next few weeks and a final program will be posted by early January. Information about traveling to Irvine, CA and the Hyatt Regency Hotel is on the AMTE website.

Preconference sessions are being held during the morning on Thursday, January 28. A list of those is on page 5 of this Newsletter, and more detailed information about each session and how to register is on the [AMTE website](#).

We have a limited block of reduced-price rooms available at \$159/night (single or double occupancy) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. We encourage you to reserve your room soon either online via the AMTE website or by calling the toll-free number below. Be sure to mention the AMTE Conference when you call. **Make your hotel room reservation by Friday, December 4, 2009** to get our special conference rate. Please be aware that the conference block may be sold out by this date. Once the room block is full, the hotel will accept reservations at the hotel's prevailing rate and only on a space-available basis.

Hyatt Regency Irvine
17900 Jamboree Blvd.
Irvine, CA 92614
949-975-1234
Reservations (toll-free): 1-800-233-1234 (mention AMTE)

We look forward to seeing you in January in sunny and warm California!

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE AMTE MENTORING COMMITTEE

If you are a new faculty member (or soon to be one), we want to invite you to join us at the AMTE 2010 conference. When you register, please identify that you are interested in connecting with the AMTE mentoring committee. The mentoring committee is looking forward to interacting with new mathematics educators at the conference as well as at a social hour on Friday. We hope to see you there!

Mary Enderson
mcenders@mtsu.edu

Don't forget to register for the AMTE Annual Conference in Irvine, CA, January 28-30th.

The regular registration deadline and the hotel registration deadline is December 4th.

Common Core State Standards Initiative

Common Core State Standards Initiative: How will it impact AMTE members?

The opening session of the AMTE Annual Conference will focus on the Common Core Standards Initiative (CCSI) sponsored by the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). A Panel consisting of Bill McCallum (Chair of the Writing Team), Glenda Lappan and Hank Kepner will provide an overview of the initiative and discuss its implications for AMTE members. Provided here is a brief overview of the work. The AMTE Board urges members to become informed about the initiative and to contribute by providing feedback.

Governors and state commissioners of education from 48 states (all but Alaska and Texas) have committed to a state-led process to develop a common core of state standards in English-language arts and mathematics for grades K-12. The first step, nearly complete as of December 1, 2009, is the articulation of “college- and career-readiness standards” in both subject areas. The current draft is available at: <http://www.CoreStandards.org/Standards/index.htm>. These standards outline what students are expected to know and be able to do upon graduation from high school to ensure readiness for entry-level, credit-bearing, academic college courses and workforce training programs. Current work is underway to develop K-12 (grade-by-grade) standards in both subject areas. The intention is to establish uniformity across state standards and to benchmark them to standards in high performing countries. The NGA

and CCSSO are coordinating the process to construct the common core standards and have created several committees and work teams to develop and validate the work. The projected deadline for completion of the initial document is late January (about the time of the Annual AMTE Conference). For current information, see:

<http://www.corestandards.org/>

AMTE Members currently involved in the work:

Feedback Group:

Hyman Bass
Hank Kepner

Validation Committee:

Jere Confrey
Alfinio Flores
Jeremy Kilpatrick
Scott Eddins

K-12 Standards Work Team:

Deborah Ball
Sybilla Beckman
Marta Civil
Doug Clements
Wade Ellis
Skip Fennell
Brad Findell
Barbara Reys
Pat Thompson

CALL for MANUSCRIPTS

**This is a call for manuscripts for the Special Equity Issue of the Journal of Mathematics Teacher Education (JMTE). For full details of the call, see the link on the [AMTE website](#).
Deadline for submission of manuscripts is June 1, 2010.**

AMTE Preconference Sessions Thursday morning, January 28th, 2010

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The following Preconference Sessions will be held on Thursday morning, January 28, 2010, at the 2010 AMTE Annual Conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Irvine, California. Each session requires pre-registration; information is below. **No onsite registration will be available.** Please contact the organizers for more information.

PRECONFERENCE SESSIONS

Technology Workshop

Developing teachers' mathematics TPACK: Showcasing exemplary technology tools and their uses in mathematics education.

Standards for Elementary Mathematics Specialist (EMS) Teacher Preparation/Certification

Overview of the Standards for EMS teacher preparation/certification including how to use the recommendations to advocate for EMS.

NCTM's NCATE Program Reviewer Training Workshop

Learn how to be an NCTM-prepared NCATE reviewer.

Preparing to Teach Mathematics with Technology [PTMT]: Engaging Practices and Materials for Technology-Using Mathematics Teacher Educators

Engage in using NSF-sponsored teacher education materials to prepare middle and secondary mathematics teachers to effectively use technology.

Using Video and Student Work Focused on Children's Thinking to Help Professional Developers Support Elementary School Teachers in Transforming Their Teaching

Draw upon video and written student artifacts to support professional developers working with elementary school teachers

The Mathematical Preparation of Teachers: Developing the Knowledge Base for Teacher Educators

Discuss how to develop a strong, cohesive, and scientifically reliable body of professional knowledge about what mathematical preparation is needed of teachers and of teacher-educators.

Developing Preservice and Beginning Teachers' Use of Formative Assessment in the Secondary Classroom

Learn how to use networked technology to help pre-service and beginning teachers develop their use of ongoing, classroom-level assessment.

***Choose from
SEVEN AMTE
Preconference
sessions!
But you MUST
register in
advance!
No on-site
registration.***

AMTE Affiliate News

News from the Pennsylvania Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (PAMTE)

Pennsylvania Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (PAMTE)

PAMTE was involved with several events at the 58th Annual PCTM Meeting held in Pittsburgh November 4-6, 2009. On November 4, there was a program free to PAMTE members that included two roundtable discussion sessions and an informal joint reception with PCSM, sponsored by Texas Instruments. This event provided an opportunity for PAMTE members to socialize, network, and discuss issues pertinent to them, as well as plan new initiatives for the organization as a whole. PAMTE also helped to sponsor the second annual Pre-Service Teacher Day as part of the PCTM conference on November 5.

The overall goals of the day's events were to help pre-service teachers understand the importance of professional organizations and attending conferences for continued professional development, make them feel welcomed as beginning professionals in math education, as well as engage them as much as possible in the learn/reflect process. Four undergraduate student presentations were

also conducted, sponsored by PAMTE. Nina Girard and Mike Long, co-chairs of PCTM's Math Education Student Recruitment committee reported that there were a total of 116 pre-service teachers from 13 universities who attended Pre-Service Teacher Day.

Plans are beginning for PAMTE's 4th Annual Symposium to be held at Shippensburg University on May 13-14, 2010. Several featured speakers are being invited. Opportunities for sharing sessions and roundtable discussions will also be part of the program. For more information on the symposium, please contact PAMTE President Nina Girard at nina@pitt.edu.

Some other initiatives being undertaken by PAMTE include the organization of a Writer's Cooperative for members, as well as an Online Subscribed Group which will provide a clearinghouse of resources being shared among members. If you would like more information on joining or becoming involved with PAMTE, please contact Membership Chair Jane Wilburne at jmw41@psu.edu

Editor's note: All AMTE affiliates are invited to share reports from their activities in this quarterly Newsletter.

Information about the eighteen current AMTE Affiliate activity as well as current contact information and connections to their websites is available at the [AMTE](#) website.

President's Message (continued from page 1)

RSaT—The *Research, Service and Teaching Project*—is a 3-year NSF-funded project aimed at supporting early career mathematics educators.

is represented by the NSF Centers for Learning and Teaching (CLT) program. The program, which awarded 18 grants from 2000-2005 focused on the development of infrastructure to prepare more doctorates in mathematics education. Many of the CLTs facilitated a unique collaboration of institutions working together to strengthen doctoral programs in mathematics education and increase the number of graduates with doctorates in mathematics education. CLT doctoral graduates have taken positions across the USA in a variety of different settings, from community colleges to four-year institutions to doctoral granting institutions.

As they assume academic positions, there is a need for continued opportunities to network with other early-career and senior faculty, engage in research and scholarly writing, and grow professionally. The need for continued support was anticipated by the NSF CLT Blue Ribbon Panel that noted, "Making it easy for [graduates] to remain connected to like-minded colleagues is likely to pay important dividends for the productivity of STEM research in the years to come." (p. 9)

A New Initiative - RSaT

NSF recently funded a new project aimed at supporting early career mathematics educators – the *Research, Service and Teaching (RSaT) Project*. The 3-year RSaT Project (Robert Reys, PI) will organize and host an induction program for recent doctoral graduates in mathematics education that are early in their faculty positions in either mathematics departments or colleges of education. The program is an 18-month experience that networks new doctorates in mathematics education and focuses on three themes (research, teaching, leadership development). More information about this new project is available at

<http://matheddb.missouri.edu/rsat>

Next Step for AMTE

I propose that, with the help of the AMTE

Mentoring Committee and the initial support provided by NSF for the *RSaT* Project, AMTE consider taking responsibility for establishing an ongoing program designed to support early career mathematics teacher educators. As with *Project NExT*, this type of program takes time and energy to establish. It will require some continuing financial support. In this regard, *Project NExT* provides an established model to build upon. Its link to an established professional organization (MAA) is critical as it provides for institutionalization of the program, unlike NSF grants that have a fixed time-frame.

The AMTE Board and the Mentoring Committee will be considering the role of AMTE in establishing and maintaining a quality early career induction program for mathematics teacher educators. If this effort is to be successfully spearheaded by AMTE, it will require "people power" as well as acquiring corporate and professional organization contributions. I encourage you to contact me if you have ideas or would like to help in this work. You can also send suggestions to me or Mary Enderson (Chair of the AMTE Mentoring Committee). I look forward to hearing from you.

Barbara Reys, President, AMTE; reysb@missouri.edu

Mary Enderson, Chair, AMTE Mentoring Committee; mcenders@mtsu.edu

National Science Foundation. (2007). *Building on the CLT Program*. A White Paper Presented to the Education and Human Resources Directorate/ Division for Research in Learning, National Science Foundation, August 3, 2007.

Reys, B. J., Lloyd, G. M., Marrongelle, K., & Winsor, M. (2008). Induction of doctoral graduates in mathematics education into the profession. In J. Dossey & R. Reys (Eds.), *U.S. Doctorates in Mathematics Education: Developing Stewards of the Discipline* (CBMS Issues in Mathematics Education, Vol. 15, pp. 169-176). Washington, DC: American Mathematical Society/Mathematical Association of America.

Dates to Remember

Online at
<http://amte.net>

**Membership/
Renewal Forms**

Position Papers

Position Listings

Resources

**Forum for
Members**

**Other
Opportunities**

2009

December 4

AMTE Annual Conference Registration Deadline

December 4

AMTE Annual Conference Hotel Registration Deadline

2010

January 13-16

AMS-MAA-SIAM Joint Math Meeting, San Francisco, CA

January 28-30

AMTE Annual Conference, Irvine, California

April 21-24

NCTM Annual Meeting and Exposition, San Diego, CA

April 30-May 4

AERA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO

May 13-14

PAMTE 4th Annual Symposium, Shippensburg, PA

October 7-8

NCTM Regional Meeting, Denver, CO

October 14-15

NCTM Regional Meeting, Baltimore, MD

October 28-29

NCTM Regional Meeting, New Orleans, LA

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