

# *Sinclair Mathnet*

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## FROM THE CHAIR



In June of last year, when I reviewed all of the department's accomplishments, including awards won, grant proposals won or completed and other projects completed, I thought to myself, "This is great, but what will we do for an encore in '02-'03?" But as I look at the many good things that have happened this year, I think that we have lived up to the standard we set for ourselves.

First let me mention that we have added three new full time faculty members, Ed Gallo, Earl King and Moez Ben-Azzouz. As well, we have added a record number of seventeen new part time faculty members. They are Dennis Allen, Frank Belpulsi, Sandeep Chellapilla, Nancy Christolear, Rod Darrah, Tony DeThomas, Don Dreesbach, Miriam Fallahi, Kurt Hanaway, Vel Hux, Orly Leiva, John Ndefru, George Orr, Teri Piatt, Eric Roberts, Lillian Saeger and Dave Wolodkiewicz. Welcome to each of you and thanks to you and all faculty members for enabling us to teach a record number of 3227 FTE'S, a 3% increase over last year and the second most of any department in the college (the Developmental Department is first). This is 8.85% of the total college FTE count, an increase from 8.65% last year.

Also, again this year a number of faculty members and students have received special recognition. Congratulations to Adolph Harris who received the Spring Quarter Student Services Award from the Student Services Division. Our other Harris, Susan, is the college's nominee for the Ohio Association of

Two Year Colleges Faculty Member of the Year award, and part-time faculty member John Sparks is the college's nominee for the same organization's Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year award. Dean Aukerman won our department's Part-time Faculty Member of the Year award, and two Sinclair students, Melissa Nies and Sandra Venable, were named to first and second place on the All Ohio Academic Team and were also named to the USA Today All National Academic Team. They are both math majors! Another student, Avram Meyerowitz, not only won our Fall Quarter Problem of the Week Competition, but also won both rounds of our local American Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges (AMATYC) Student Mathematics League competition. *(Continued on page 5.)*



**Adolph Harris displays his Spring Quarter Student Services Award from the Student Services Division.**



### Faculty Feature - Byung Hahn

He's been talking about it for years, but Byung Hahn is finally going to do it. After 47 years of teaching, including 23 at Sinclair, he has decided that this is the year to retire.

Mr. Hahn has spent his entire adult life teaching mathematics. His first teaching experience occurred in Korea, where he taught for 18 years in both high school and college environments. When asked about the differences in educational systems between Korea and the United States, he says, "There are entrance exams, even to get into elementary school. And there is no such thing as a free education." Everyone must pay to go to school.

After moving to the United States, Mr. Hahn felt he needed to pursue another masters degree in mathematics to be able to secure a teaching position in the United States. He took one year

of graduate studies at Cornell University, completed a Masters of Science in Mathematics at East Tennessee State University, and was a teaching assistant for all three of those years. From 1976 through 1980, Mr. Hahn was a full-time lecturer in Mathematics at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Before being offered a position at Sinclair, Mr. Hahn says that he identified community colleges within a 500-mile radius of Charlotte. He sent out about 400 applications during his job search. Sinclair was the first to call for an interview, and the rest is history!

In addition to the MS degree from Tennessee, Mr. Hahn also has a Masters of Science in Mathematics from Korea University in Seoul and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Pyong-Yang University in Pyong-Yang, North Korea.

Mr. Hahn was born in 1930 in (united) Korea. Due to political unrest, Mr. Hahn did not feel secure in Korea, and moved with his family to the United States in 1962. He became a US citizen in 1981.

Mr. Hahn's wife, Agnes, retired two months ago from the VA Medical Center. She was an operating room nurse for 40 years. Mr. Hahn also has three children, and two grandchildren. His son Henry lives in Atlanta, Georgia, with his wife and two children, where he works as a CPA for CNN. His son Young, who also resides in Atlanta, is COO of a Cintas plant. A third son, Karl, lives here in Dayton, and is employed as a social worker.





Mr. Hahn has enjoyed various committees and projects over the years, including the full-time search committee, and textbook selection committees, and says he has especially enjoyed his work with the colloquium program. When asked what he will miss about Sinclair after retirement, he says that he will miss his co-workers, especially the math faculty. He says that he has had “many, many good students,” and that he really likes the students here, and also adds that he will miss his office where he has been for almost 23 years.

After retirement, Mr. Hahn intends to continue with his swimming, walking and jogging. He plans to read many history books, including topics in math, American history and world history. Mr. Hahn also intends to write a book on his personal history.

We wish you the best in retirement, Byung Hahn!

Susan Harris ■



## Part-Time Math Faculty!

Do you feel like a nomad, wandering the halls, dragging all your worldly possessions with you? The Math Lab (room 1315) has created a small space just for you. We have a computer station, printer, locking cabinet drawer, and a small table with chair reserved for your use. When building 16 is too far away, and you just need a little space to sit down and take care of some class chores, come hang your hat in the Math Lab! (Monday-Thursday 8 am to 8 pm, Friday 8 am to 4 pm, Saturday 9 am to 3 pm)

## REMINDERS

- Please do not forget to return texts that you will not be using in the summer or fall to the department office so that we may have them available for others who will need them.
- Remember that classes should meet for all of the scheduled time. If you have to miss class please get a substitute from the sub list and let the Office know. If you can't find anyone contact the Office for help.
- Summer Quarter is only ten weeks long. Be sure to revise your syllabus to make certain that you cover all of the material.
- When giving outside-of-class graded assignments, be sure students understand what resources they are allowed to use and what they aren't, and take steps to insure that the credit you give is for work that they have done. When working in the Math Help Room please be sure you are not helping students with graded assignments.



## Part-time Faculty Member of the Year

Dean Aukerman was presented with the Mathematics Part-time Faculty Member of the Year Award at the department colloquium on May 9. He has been with the Sinclair Mathematics Department for 29 years, and is retired from Trotwood-Madison High School after having taught there for 31 years. While at Trotwood-Madison, he also acted as advisor of the Chess Club, and coached the Auk-Hawks basketball team.

Dean has two degrees in mathematics. His Bachelor of Science was earned from Otterbein College, and he has a Masters in Mathematics Education from Wright State University.

The list of classes that Dean has taught while at Sinclair is long and varied. It includes all of the algebra courses, Calculus I, Statistics, and some of the technical math classes, among others. He says that his favorite classes to teach are College Algebra and Technical Math, and adds, "Both cover a wide range of topics with real life applications. But I try to make each quarter class my favorite."

Dean lives in Lewisburg with his wife, Sharon. Sharon is a graduate of the Miami Valley School of Nursing, and works as a nurse at Miami Valley

Hospital. Both of Dean's children followed in his footsteps to become a teacher. His daughter Jena teaches English, and his son Chad teaches mathematics.

When asked about interests, Dean says, "playing golf, chasing golf balls, finding my own golf ball, investing in the stock market on-line, drawing cartoon characters, and just having fun." He also mentioned some of his future plans, which include "playing electric guitar, taking golf lessons, returning his son's new golf clubs to him (maybe), and to keep teaching part-time at Sinclair." I hope that Dean continues to find time to teach between all of his golf outings!

Congratulations on your award, Dean!

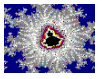
Susan Harris ■



## Scholarship Winners

Twelve students were awarded a Maurice Jacobs Memorial Book Fund Scholarship this year. Several of the winners were present to receive a certificate of recognition at the Spring Quarter Colloquium.

Pictured (left to right) are Nancy Scott, Melissa Nies, Kristopher Warner, Casy Richardson, Elise Davis, Sandra Venable, and Alexander Teplitsky.



(Continued from page 1.) In addition, he placed fourth individually in the Midwest Region. Speaking of the AMATYC competition, there were 126 participations in the two rounds held this year. This is 67 more participations than we have ever had in the *three* rounds of competition in any of the previous four years that we have participated in this national event! (The competition was reduced from three rounds per year to two this year by the national organization.) Thanks to David Stott and Ed Gallo for helping to administer this competition.

Other department events of note this year include the pilot sections of Dev 108 that were taught by Tony Ponder and Bob Allison and designed by Susan Harris and her task force in the Fall; the departmental in-class diagnostic test and data analysis program that has been developed and administered by Len Ruth and the Final Exam Committee; the joint workshop with the Developmental Department put on by Ed Gallo, Barb Adams and their task force; and the proposal for expansion of the Math Help Room that has gained administrative approval. Visits to the Math Lab increased by over 14% this year, visits to the Math Help Room increased by over 37%, and the Math 101 success rate for Fall and Winter Quarters rose

from 45.7% to 50.0%. Eight faculty members traveled to ten professional conferences, and we completed our department review in which we submitted three important proposals:

1. that students enrolled in their first quarter here no longer be permitted to take math courses without demonstrating satisfaction of the required prerequisite,
2. that prerequisites and placement test scores have a two year limit, and
3. that students receiving a grade of D in the prerequisite be automatically purged if they are registered for the subsequent course.

I would also like to extend my appreciation and congratulations to Professor Byung Hahn who will be retiring after 23 years of outstanding service to the department. Beside doing such an excellent job teaching many of our calculus and differential equations sections, he has offered tremendous service to the department by administering the departmental colloquia since its inception, serving on numerous text selection committees, helping to administer our Math 102 final exam program and serving the community as an interpreter and Chairman of the Board for the Dayton Area Korean American Association. (Continued on page 6.)



AMATYC Student Mathematics League Sinclair top cumulative winners for 2002-2003: Avram Meyerowitz (1<sup>st</sup> place \$50 prize), Elise Davis (4<sup>th</sup> place), and Hwa Pyong Ko (2<sup>nd</sup> place). Not pictured are Linh Luu (3<sup>rd</sup> place) and David Burns (5<sup>th</sup> place).



AMATYC Student Mathematics League Sinclair top finishers – Round II: Avram Meyerowitz (1<sup>st</sup> place \$50 prize), Ryan Smith and Mark Kipling (tied for 4<sup>th</sup> place) and Hwa Pyong Ko (2<sup>nd</sup> place \$25 prize). Not pictured is Erica Trimbach (3<sup>rd</sup> place).



(Continued from page 5.) Thank you, Mr. Hahn, for your friendship and all of your service to the department. May you have a blessed, active and happy retirement.

Of course we will also be losing a good friend and outstanding college leader this year as Dr. Ned Sifferlen takes his leave after 38 years of service to Sinclair. I will not attempt to catalog Ned's list of achievements and contributions, but I would simply like to thank him for creating a working environment where, in spite of the daily frustrations and difficulties that we all face, we still have the sense of a family atmosphere in which colleagues care about and enjoy one another and in which doing a good job for our students is of utmost importance to everyone. Ned, best wishes to you also for a blessed, active and happy retirement.

And finally, I would like to congratulate and offer my best wishes for success to our President-elect Dr. Steve Johnson. His will be a difficult task, but he enters the position with an impressive background in community college administration and an in-depth knowledge of Sinclair and all of its strengths and weaknesses. I hope that we will all rally around and support this new leader as he undertakes the challenge of guiding this complex institution, which is so vital to us, our students and our community.

Al Giambrone ■



First Team All-Ohio Winners Sandra Venable and Melissa Nies are both mathematics majors who plan to continue their education to become math teachers.

## Harvey's Joke Corner

Advice for those with short tempers:  
"Countdown" before blasting off.

A successful handicapper is called the  
"Wizard of Odds."

What the wealthy overweight  
Englishman had - pounds to spare.

Retiring faculty member: Harvey, do  
you have a net worth in the  
high five figures?

Harvey: Yes, but two of  
them follow the decimal  
point.



Tom Wilson talked about his teaching experience last year at a sixth form college in Manchester, England, at the Spring Quarter Department Colloquium.