

Archived Information

American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges

AMATYC REGIONAL CONFERENCES AND SUMMER INSTITUTES ON K-8 TEACHER PREPARATION

Goal: IMPROVING TEACHER KNOWLEDGE

Summary:

AMATYC implemented a major, 3-year initiative on K-8 Teacher Preparation via NSF/ATE grant 0101683. Four Regional Conferences were held in 2002, as well as two five day Summer Institutes, and a third such institute will be held in 2003. The workshops featured teams of educators. Team Work on Action Plans was included in each conference.

Purpose:

Educate a cadre of two-year college educators about the recruiting and mathematical preparation of future K-8 teachers.

Accomplishments/Results:

Four Regional Conferences were held: Atlanta, GA February 2002, Orange, CA March 2002, Arlington, VA April 2002, El Paso, TX May 2002

Each conference was attended by teams of college educators representing two/four yr colleges, administration and faculty, teams of area colleges, interdisciplinary teams from individual colleges, and college/public school teams.

Each conference contained the following elements of content:

- A National Awareness presentation presented by a variety of national figures in Teacher Preparation.
- A presentation on Standards nationally, online courses and technology in Teacher Preparation, and partnerships in teacher preparation between two and four year colleges.
- A two hour block of instruction on content in mathematics for teacher prep, including technology instruction, deeper insights in mathematical theory, and connections in mathematics.

Team Work on Action Plans was included in each conference. Teams are reporting back to grant personnel on progress within their plan.

Two five-day Summer Institutes were held in summer 2002, and another is planned for July, 2003. Thirty participants from across the country were selected for each institute based on criteria created by the grant Steering Committee. The Summer Institute featured an in-depth focus on the mathematical content and technology appropriate for courses aimed at preservice K-8 teachers. Appropriate use of technology was addressed along with evaluation of student work. The Institutes conclude with participants designing an Action Plan to take back and implement at their home institution. A data base of progress on these Action Plans will be maintained by grant personnel.

Plans for the next 12 months:

Hold the July 2003 Institute. Maintain the above-mentioned data base. Consider ways to institutionalize the Summer Institute.