Proceedings of the Third Annual Meeting of the Georgia Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators

> October 14, 2009 Rock Eagle, Georgia

# Georgia Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (GAMTE)

### **GAMTE 2009 Officers**

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Mary Garner (co-chair), Kennesaw State University Deborah Gober (co-chair), Columbus State University Linda Crawford, Augusta State University Jill Drake, University of West Georgia Shonda Lemons-Smith, Georgia State University Elice Martin, Valdosta State University

#### **Purposes and Goals of GAMTE**

The purpose of GAMTE is to encourage and facilitate the improvement of mathematics teacher education across the state of Georgia. The goals of the organization are to: facilitate communication and collaboration among mathematics teacher educators between and within all educational levels; coordinate activities and work collaboratively with other associations, organizations, and governmental (national, state, and local) units to strengthen the mathematical, pedagogical, and clinical preparation of mathematics teachers at all levels (P-college); facilitate collaboration among mathematics teacher educators who are members of different academic units, such as departments of mathematics and departments of education; promote leadership among mathematics teacher educators in the broader mathematics education community; encourage research related to mathematics teacher education, especially which identifies factors that contribute to improving the preparation and professional development of mathematics teachers at all levels; encourage and organize programs and meetings focusing in issues related to the preparation and professional development of mathematics teachers; and foster the incorporation of appropriate technology into teacher education programs and professional development opportunities in mathematics at all levels (P - college).

### A Letter from the President

The third annual conference of the Georgia Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators promises to be an excellent showcase of the collaborative work and ongoing scholarship of professionals from across our state. This year, our conference committee has assembled presentations by mathematics educators that represent ten different institutions and provide a wide range of original research projects and innovative pedagogical approaches for the preparation of mathematics teachers at all levels. The enclosed proceedings represent a small sample of the breadth of work of our membership over the last year.

This annual conference and proceedings is not the work of one solitary person. It is the result of many hours of work shared by a large collection of individuals. It is a testament to the fundamental strength of GAMTE: the collaborative nature of our members. Across the state, we are all facing the challenges of budgetary constraints, implementing and supporting a new K-12 curriculum, and responding to the professional development needs of our peers and students. This often results in all of us wearing multiple hats...as teachers, administrators, professional development instructors, graduate student mentors, curriculum developers, grant coordinators, and more. So it is often difficult to volunteer for one more project or to work on that external committee. But because so many of our members generously gave their time, we've been able to continue our work with GAMTE and have another opportunity to join together at Rock Eagle. Thank you to all who made this possible.

As we enter our fourth year as an organization, we will be fortunate to look to our newest leaders. Sharon Taylor, who has graciously organized our conference again this year, will step into the role of President-Elect with the rousing endorsement of our membership. She will be joined by Dianna Spence, as secretary, and Mary Garner as a Member-At-Large. We all look forward to their leadership and are grateful to the service Linda Crawford and Blanche Presley provided over the last two years.

Cindy Henning

# Table of Contents

Page Number

Analysis of Achievement for Understanding Geometry	
1	
Linda Nash, Clayton State	
University Annita Hunt, Clayton	
State University Denise Huddlestun,	
Metro RESA	
Kelli Nipper, Clayton State University	
Changes in Both Types of Knowledge as a Result of Pro 11 Joy W. Black, University of West Georgia	ofessional Development
Authentic Discovery Projects in Statistics	

Robb Sinn, North Georgia College & State University