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**Proceedings of the Second
Annual Meeting of the
Georgia Association of
Mathematics Teacher
Educators**

October 15, 2008
Rock Eagle, Georgia

Georgia Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (GAMTE)

GAMTE 2008 Officers

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Joy Black, West Georgia College
Don Brown, Macon State College
Deborah Gober, Columbus State University
Linda Nash, Clayton State University
Marvin Smith, Kennesaw University
David Stinson, Georgia 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 on 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).

Letter from the President

Welcome to the second Annual Conference of the Georgia Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators! Isn't it nice to reconvene in this wonderful weather surrounded by the beautiful colors of fall at Rock Eagle? It's good to be here with all of you. I am revitalized whenever I spend time with Georgia's mathematics teacher educators. I am amazed all over again at what impressive people you are and at your tremendous commitment to mathematics education in Georgia.

We are fortunate to have a thought-provoking program again this year. Conference Coordinator Sharon Taylor and her committee reviewed the proposals and have put together a nice mix of research and practice-oriented sessions with presenters from seven different institutions. Presenters include experienced, well-respected researchers, as well as some researchers newer to the field. Thank you to Sharon Taylor and Susie Lanier of Georgia Southern for their hard work on this exciting conference program.

Examine the proceedings you hold in your hands. We may be the only state-level AMTE affiliate that publishes proceedings from our conference. Thank you to Proceedings Editor Lynn Hart of Georgia State and her committee (Joy Black, West Georgia College; Don Brown, Macon State College; Deborah Gober, Columbus State University; Linda Nash, Clayton State University; Marvin Smith, Kennesaw University; David Stinson, Georgia State University) for reviewing the papers and preparing those selected for publication.

Skip Fennell's April 2008 message in the *NCTM News Bulletin* discusses *validation* and makes the point that our work as teachers is validated by our long-term impact on our former students. I have recently received unexpected validation about the work we do because I have created a FaceBook page at the urging of one of my (yes, younger) colleagues in English. I happened on a few former students from Stone Mountain High School and many from Kennesaw State University. I have found (or been found by) more students as those networks have grown. Reconnecting with those former students has been unexpectedly rewarding and validating. Does any work other than teaching provide such an opportunity to impact the lives of young people?

Whether or not you receive the appreciation you deserve daily, your validation is all around us in the changes we have collaborated on in mathematics education in Georgia: rigorous, evidence-based teacher preparation; more mathematics understanding for teachers at all levels; and a rigorous, world class K-12 curriculum.

I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to serve you as GAMTE president. It has been an honor and a pleasure! You will be in good hands under the leadership of Cindy Henning, Blanche Pressley, and Linda Crawford, and our newly elected officers Nikita Patterson, Don Brown, and Debbie Gober.

Thank you for all you do for mathematics education!



Lynn Stallings

Table of Contents

Page Number

Becoming Critical Mathematics Pedagogues: A Journey	1
David W. Stinson Carla R. Bidwell Ginny C. Powell Mary M. Thurman Georgia State University	
Virtual vs. Concrete Manipulatives in Mathematics Teacher Education: A Call for Research.....	15
Annita W. Hunt Clayton State University	
Actively Engaging Pre-service Teachers in Geometry and Measurement	19
Kadian Callahan Kennesaw State University	
The PAAPS Strategy for Teaching Mathematics Content.....	27
Gregory K. Harrell Valdosta State University	
Preservice Teachers' Disposition Self-Appraisals: Is There a Connection to Mathematics Instructional Practices?.....	35
Shonda Lemons-Smith Georgia State University	