

## Meritorious Service Awards

### April Ström

*Chandler-Gilbert Community College*

The Southwestern Section's Meritorious Service Awardee is April Ström. For over 20 years she has enthusiastically taught math to community college students. She is currently at Chandler-Gilbert Community College in Chandler, AZ.

For the MAA she is active in two of its special interest groups—MKT and RUME. She has served on various committees—COMET, Committee on Sessions of Contributed Papers and JMM/MAA Invited Address Committee. She worked on the *MAA Instructional Practices Guide*, and is currently Vice President for the MAA. This is only a portion of what she has done! She is also currently the Southwest Vice President of AMATYC, and was the president of ArizMATYC and the founding chair of AMATYC's Research Committee.

The MAA Southwestern Section meets in Arizona every other year, and has its spring conference with ArizMATYC. Every year April helps make this joint conference a success.

April Ström is an important force in bringing together these two organizations in the mathematics community—MAA and AMATYC. She realizes we have similar goals, and more can be achieved by working together. We all need to thank her for all the work she is doing.

### Response

I am truly honored to have been selected for this award! I would like to express my gratitude to the MAA Southwest Section for this nomination. I consider myself blessed to get the opportunity to serve our students, colleagues, and community through the work with the MAA, AMATYC, and ArizMATYC. What a fun and rewarding journey it has been! I could not have charted out a more fulfilling career than teaching community college students. They continue to amaze me by their perseverance, hard work, and determination in changing their life trajectory towards a college degree. This award is for them! I look forward to future opportunities to continue serving the MAA for the betterment of our students!

### Biographical Sketch

Dr. April Ström has taught mathematics at the community college level for over 23 years. In addition to serving as the MAA Vice President, she is also currently a member of the U.S. National Commission on Mathematics Instruction and serves as the AMATYC Southwest Vice President. April has served as PI and Co-PI on various NSF-funded projects focused on both research in mathematics education and professional development of K–14 instructors. April co-lead the writing of the Classroom Practices chapter of the *MAA Instructional Practices Guide* and served on the steering committee for the AMATYC IMPACT guide. She received her PhD in curriculum & instruction (emphasis in mathematics education) from Arizona State University, and holds MA and BA degrees in mathematics from Texas Tech University.