

# MCATA Conference 2006

## Message from the Conference Chair

Jasper Park Lodge provided a beautiful setting for Conference 2006: Pathways to Understanding. It was a long trip for most who attended, but we received very positive feedback about the venue.

Dr Anne Watson (Oxford University, UK) led Thursday's leadership symposium. Participants engaged in many mathematical activities that both challenged conventional ways of thinking and allowed them to experience how their own examples can be used to open up new levels of understanding and new possibilities for investigation. Anne invented a new verb when she announced that "I can see you've all been Tom Kierened," a nice tribute to Alberta's mathematical community.

Professor John Mason from the Open University in the United Kingdom officially kicked off the conference with a thought-provoking talk about how we might direct attention in the mathematics classroom. Rumour has it he was up a good part of the night incorporating new ideas into his talk to address common concerns that he became aware of through many conversations during the week prior to the conference. Even with a crowd of over 300, he was able to stimulate thought-provoking conversations about mathematics.

John and Anne have generously provided copies of all of their talks, and they are available on the MCATA website at [www.mathteachers.ab.ca](http://www.mathteachers.ab.ca).

We hosted 63 sessions on Friday and Saturday, and we received a great deal of positive feedback on their quality. We offer a huge thank you to the speakers who shared so much of their passion, time, and energy in presenting their ideas and engaging in the meaningful conversation that emerged from them.

Dr Edward Burger's after-dinner talk was both inspiring and entertaining. I have heard his reminder to ask, "What will they remember 20 years from now?" repeated several times since the conference. For those who are interested, his "Top Ten Life Lessons" are also posted on the MCATA website.

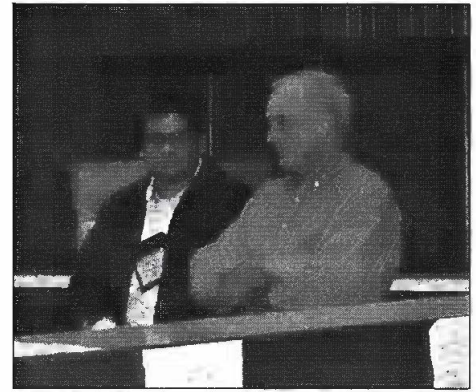
On behalf of MCATA, I would like to extend congratulations to Nicole Patrie, this year's Dr Arthur Jorgensen Chair Award winner, and to Gerald Krabbe, the 2006 Mathematics Educator of the Year. Also, a big thank you to this year's Friends of MCATA, Geri Lorway and Len Bonifacio.

On behalf of the conference committee, I would like once again to thank the speakers, displayers, and participants who came together to share their common interest in mathematics education at the 2006 conference.

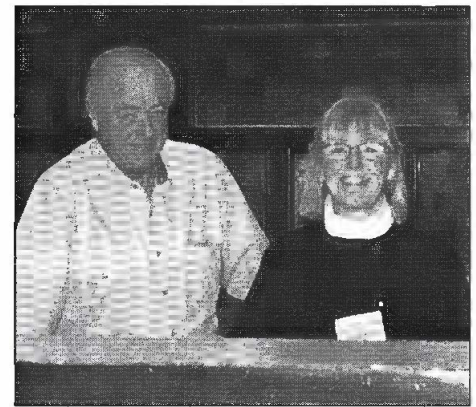
*Martina Metz*



*Convention Committee—Susan Ludwig, Daryl Chichak, Martina Metz, Sharon Gach, Donna Chanasyk (missing: Chenoa Marcotte, Rebecca Steel, Pat Chichak, Geri Lorway, Lisa Hauk-Meeker*



*Registration Desk—  
(above) Indy Lagu, Dave Jeary;  
(below) Dave Jeary, Anne MacQuarrie*



*Displays*



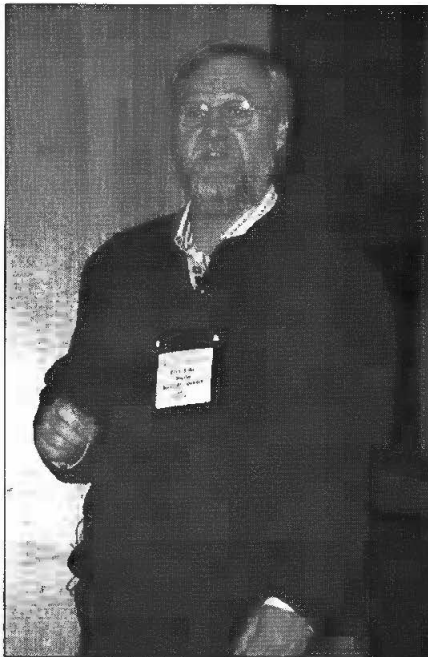
*Conference Chair Martina Metz*



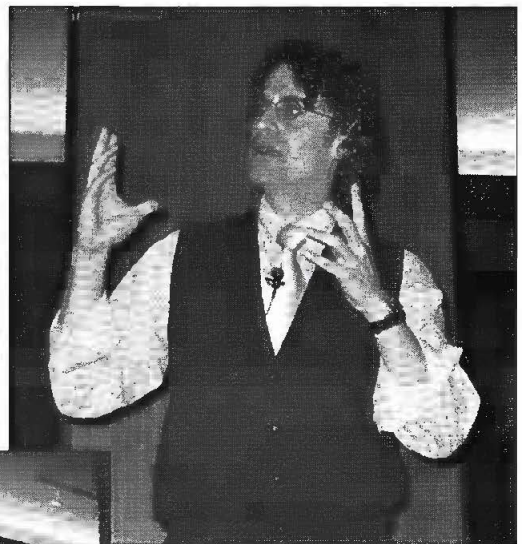
*Door prizes—  
Janis Kristjansson,  
Martina Metz*







*Keynote Speaker  
John Mason*



*Keynote Speaker  
Edward Burger*



*Dr Arthur  
Jorgensen Chair  
Award for 2006  
Nicole Patrie  
(presented by  
Sharon Gach)*

*2006 Alberta Mathematics  
Educator Award Recipient  
Gerald Krabbe (right)  
receives the award from  
Len Bonifacio*



*Friends of  
MCATA 2006  
Leonard  
Bonifacio  
(missing:  
Geri Lorway)*







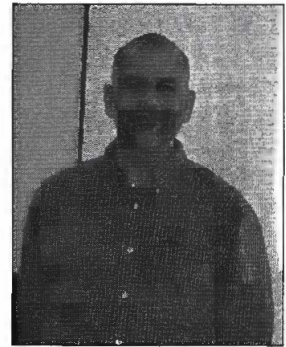
*Anne Watson*



*Rae-Ann McMullen*



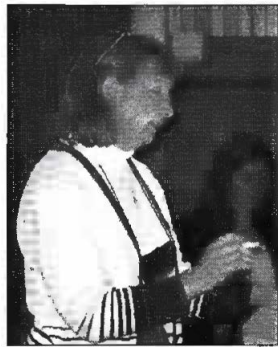
*Dana Newby*



*Glen Reesor*



*Rosalind Carson*



*Chris Zarski*



*Katherine Willson*



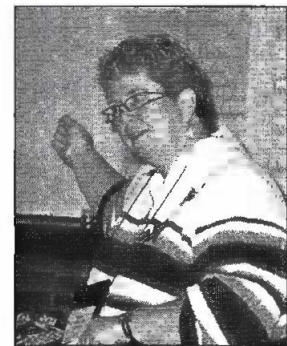
*Marie Hauk*



*Wayne Mar*



*Karen Smith & Kip Rodgers*



*Greta Millenaar*



*Susan Ludwig & Carolyn Martin*



*Irene Meglis*



*Florence Glanfield & Deanna Shostak*



