

## The 2002 AMATYC Outer Banks Summer Institute “Developmental Mathematics Using a Function Approach”

The resort area of the Outer Banks of North Carolina was the home for the fourth annual AMATYC Outer Banks Summer Institute held June 9 - 14, 2002 at the Army Field Research Facility (FRF) in Duck, NC.

The “Developmental Mathematics Using a Function Approach” topic attracted 35 math teachers from seventeen states and Ontario, Canada. Developmental algebra using a function approach was taught by Debbie Crocker (Appalachian State University) and Institute Director, Ed Laughbaum (The Ohio State University). The Institute is a cooperative effort between AMATYC and the Teachers Teaching with Technology College Short Course Program <[www.math.ohio-state.edu/~shortcourse/](http://www.math.ohio-state.edu/~shortcourse/)> based at The Ohio State University.

The Field Research Facility and Army Pier <<http://www.frf.usace.army.mil>> where the Summer Institute is held, provides ample opportunities for teachers to learn more about a function approach because of the wealth of data relationships found there. That is, in teaching algebra from a function approach, we start with function relationships in numeric form. The FRF collects data and we also used the CBL2™ <[education.ti.com](http://education.ti.com)> and the Vernier Sensors <[www.vernier.com](http://www.vernier.com)> in the classroom. Analysis of function behaviors continues as we look at the graphic and symbolic representations. The function approach continues by using functions and function behaviors to teach the traditional algebra curriculum.

For information on the 2003 AMATYC Outer Banks Summer Institute, tentatively scheduled for June 8 – 13, please contact Ed Laughbaum <[www.math.ohio-state.edu/~elaughba](http://www.math.ohio-state.edu/~elaughba)>, Director of the Institute.



Bill Berkemier, FRF Director, does his usual great job of introducing us to the functionality of the FRF.



The sun set, as we took an evening cruise on the Crystal Dawn. No one aboard thought of the sun as being a teaching tool until later.

For more information on using the function approach to developmental algebra, please see the implementation document. Please note that it is about 2 days of materials at the Institute. Applying the function approach to more traditional developmental algebra topics follows in the institute.