

Math Department & Thomas Scott Awards

1. The Mathematics Department Award and the Thomas Scott Award are \$500 scholarships for study toward the baccalaureate.

2. ELIBIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

For either award candidates must be in their final year of study at Community College of Philadelphia and have demonstrated outstanding competence in mathematics, and have completed (or will complete) a minimum of Calculus II. Applicants must be of high personal and academic standards and have been accepted to (or applied for acceptance to) a baccalaureate institution for study leading to a degree in mathematics or a mathematics-related field.

In addition candidates for the Thomas Scott Award must be graduating students at Community College of Philadelphia whereas applicants for the Math Department Award must have completed at least 36 credit hours at CCP by January 2012.

An individual student may win at most one of the awards.

3. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

- a. Consideration of academic excellence and achievement in terms of the overall grade point average and/or evidence of consistent improvement and currently distinguished performance, especially in mathematics or mathematics related course work.
- b. Motivation to complete the baccalaureate degree in mathematics or a field related to mathematics.

4. APPLICATION PROCESS

- a. Applicants must truthfully complete and send or bring the applications to:
Department of Mathematics
Community College of Philadelphia
1700 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130
- b. Applicants must also personally ask two CCP instructors including at least one math instructor to submit letters of recommendation on the accompanying form.
- c. The application and letters of recommendation are due by **February 3, 2012**.
- d. Applicants must be prepared to answer the following questions if called for an interview with the Awards Committee.
 - (1) Which courses have you found most interesting and challenging? Explain.
 - (2) Explain what most motivates you to study mathematics and why. Discuss.
 - (3) Describe an experience that influenced your ideas and attitudes while you were a student at CCP.
(It does not necessarily have to relate to your chosen field of study.)

REMEMBERING TOM SCOTT

Thomas R. Scott was a professor of mathematics at Community College of Philadelphia from its founding in 1965 until his sudden death in February 1981 from a heart attack.

Tom was a graduate of Prospect Park High School in Delaware County, and received a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Swarthmore College and a Master of Science in Mathematics at Penn.

After serving as a chemistry teacher at Upper Darby High School, Tom jumped at the opportunity to join the faculty at the embryonic Community College situated at the site of the former Snellenberg's Department Store at 11th and Market Streets.

Although he loved chemistry and physics, teaching mathematics was his genuine calling, and it freed him of the tedious chores of preparing demonstrations and laboratory experiments.

Tom had very high standards for his classes, but balanced this with a peaceful heart and a tolerance for students who lacked the skills and motivation to achieve a high level of success.

Tom's dedication to teaching mathematics was legendary. As recalled by his colleague, Maurice Sampson of the Marketing and Management Department, Tom once faced the prospect of missing calculus class because the Market Street Subway car taking him from his Swarthmore home to 11th and Market became disabled just east of 30th Street. He walked to the front of the train, and after knocking on the operator's door, offered \$5 to be allowed to get off and walk the subway tracks back to 30th Street. He was then able to hail a cab to take him to school, arriving less than ten minutes late.

Although his standards were high, and his approach professional, he had a genuine, warm sense of humor. As reported by Diana Snyder who was then a student, but later would become his colleague, one early April Friday, Professor Scott showed up on time for his afternoon calculus class only to find the room empty. After checking his watch, and the calendar in his briefcase, he was ready to depart, puzzled by the disappearance of his students.

The class, waiting in a small adjoining room, then surprised him with the cry "April Fool", and although taken aback, Tom couldn't help but laugh that he had given his students precisely the kind of response they sought.

Tom was a robust man. Although he suffered from arthritis in the last decade of this life, he maintained a high level of physical fitness. In all but the dead of winter, he would run one mile each day at Swarthmore College before coming to teach.

It was with shocking suddenness that College faculty learned on February 9, 1981 of his fatal heart attack. Although the faculty and administration were engaged in difficult collective bargaining and the mathematics department was embroiled in a bitter philosophical and professional dispute, the loss of Tom Scott was felt by the entire community. All mathematics classes were cancelled for his funeral, and most faculty and many students attended these services.

Tom Scott's legacy is the scholarship fund established by his will, providing for a \$500 grant for an outstanding mathematics student to pursue a baccalaureate degree each year, but more importantly, his legacy is in the minds, hearts, and souls of those students, colleagues, and administrators touched by his life.

-by Jim Diskin, Mathematics

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA
1700 SPRING GARDEN STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19130

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT AWARD & THOMAS R. SCOTT AWARD APPLICATION
(filing deadline, February 3, 2012)

1. Which award(s) are you applying for?

- Mathematics Department Award only
 Mathematics Department Award and also Thomas R. Scott Award
 (Candidates for the Thomas R. Scott Award must be graduating from CCP)

2. Name _____
Last First MI

3. Address _____

City State Zip

4. Phone (____) _____ 5. E-mail _____

6. Student ID J _____ 7. Expected CCP Graduation Date _____

8. CCP Curriculum or Curricula _____

9. Expected Baccalaureate Institution _____

10. Expected Baccalaureate Major _____

11. Have you tutored in the CCP Learning Lab? _____ If so, how many semesters? _____
 Which courses have you tutored? _____

12. In which clubs or other extra-curricular if any have you participated in at CCP? _____

13. Please list any jobs, family obligations, or other commitments you have. _____

14. At what schools have you studied calculus? _____

15. Please list any courses you are taking this (Spring 2012) semester and the instructors.

school department course number instructor

17. Please list all CCP math courses above Math 162 which you passed in previous semesters

CCP math course instructor

18. Please ask two CCP instructors including at least one of the above CCP math instructors to fill out and return the attached recommendation form. Please record the names of the instructors here.

I declare that the information completed in this form is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature

Date

TO THE FACULTY MEMBER:

This student is applying for the Mathematics Faculty Award and/or the Thomas R. Scott Award. We are interested in a candid appraisal of his/her intellectual motivation, mathematical aptitude, and/or the quality of academic progress in mastery of mathematical concepts and applications.

This form must be returned by **February 3, 2012** to the following address:

**Department of Mathematics
Community College of Philadelphia
1700 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130**

Name of Applicant _____ Student ID J _____

Name of Faculty _____ Department _____

Course	Semester	Year	Final Grade	Compared with other students to whom I ever taught this course, this student was in the top:										
				100%	15%	10%	7%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	other	

Please comment on the quality and nature of the applicant's work. Whatever you can add to evidence the degree of motivation, originality, achievement, and creativity is especially helpful. (Please use the reverse side of this sheet if additional space is needed.)

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This student is applying for the Mathematics Faculty Award and/or the Thomas R. Scott Award. We are interested in a candid appraisal of his/her intellectual motivation, mathematical aptitude, and/or the quality of academic progress in mastery of mathematical concepts and applications.

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