



WHY IT IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO USE ACCOMMODATIONS AT OUR CONFERENCE HOTEL

No question about it: when attending an AMATYC conference everyone has the right to take accommodations at the hotel of his or her choice. But there are important reasons favoring your use of the “official” conference hotel, the **Riviera Hotel and Casino**. Please, seriously consider the content of this message before making your 2009 arrangements.

In order to assure adequate guest room and meeting room space in the hotel of our choice, AMATYC contracts with the hotel about six years prior to the conference. Estimates must be made at that time regarding the number of guest rooms and amount of meeting space needed, as well as approximate number of people who will attend food functions.

In turn, AMATYC is in a strong position to negotiate prices and concessions with the hotel. In view of AMATYC’s successful conference history, we obtain attractive room rates for attendees. Also, we work to have the rental fees for meeting space at our annual conferences waived by the hotel if we meet certain benchmarks. Furthermore, we are usually able to negotiate a “discount” on the food and beverages ordered for the conference.

The goal by obtaining these “savings” is to keep our conference registration fee as low as possible for our attendees. If we are unable to obtain these concessions from the hotel, we would need to increase the registration fee for each attendee.

Many organizations have implemented a tiered registration meaning the members who stay at the official hotel have a lower registration fee than those that choose to take other accommodations. While AMATYC has no current plans to put into practice such a process, it is an option which will need to be considered in the future if the organization pays large attrition fees when our room block guarantee is not met.

Here is what you can do to help maintain our cost and benefits structure and to assure availability of accommodations at our official hotel:

(1) Reserve your room at the official hotel (**Riviera**) well before the announced cut-off date, and in the manner described in the conference information material. It is easy to cancel if your travel plans change.

(2) Remember that a slightly lower room rate elsewhere may be a false economy in the long run, as well as an unnecessary inconvenience during the conference. These rooms will be further from the conference, may lack certain amenities, or may not be in the best locales. Additionally you may have difficulty canceling your reservation if necessary.

(3) In making your hotel reservation, always be sure to identify yourself as an AMATYC attendee. This will assure you are getting the discounted conference rate, and AMATYC receiving credit for your stay.

Many thanks for your understanding and cooperation. If you have questions, please contact Keven Dockter, AMATYC Incoming Conference Coordinator, at keven.dockter@anokaramsey.edu.