The 2026 Annual Meeting of the Illinois Section of the MAA
Friday, March 27

Time					
10:00 - 4:30	**Registration**	**Student Union Ballroom Lounge**			
11:00 - 12:30	**Preconference Workshop and Lunch**	**Room 223**	Math Circle Magic for All Lauren Keough		
12:45 - 1:00	**Welcome**	**Room 224**			
1:00 - 1:50	**Opening Plenary**	**Room 224**	Should You Teach Calculus Concepts to Students with Minimal Math Skills? That's a Question! **Paul Sirvatka**		
2:00 - 2:20	**Coffee Break**				

	Room 222	Room 223	Room 224	Room 225	Room 226
2:30 - 2:50	ISBE Statewide Update: The Illinois Comprehensive Numeracy Plan **Maggie Alibaikzadeh, Aimee Sutton**	Polynomials as Logic Gates: Solving Constraint Satisfaction Problems with Gröbner Bases **Sepehr Akbari***	Using WeBWorK as a Framework to Build a Fully OER Course **Weihua Li**, Francieska Boyko, Elizabeth Davis-Berg, Daniel Jordan, Chris Shaw, Arlie Sims, Eunju Sohn	Symbolic Logistic Regression for Interval-Valued Predictors: A Simulation Study and Application to Health Data **Soad Abdullah(+)**	Student Partial Meanings for Quotient Groups **Brooke Randazzo**, Rachel Rupnow
3:00 - 3:20	Isomorphisms onto a Limited Lattice Structure for Graph Embedding **Devin Gloeckner***	Enumeration of Subgroups of the Stair-step P-group **Minh Phan***, Andrew Sward	Accessibility for the Working Mathematician **Julius Ross**	Recruiting and Preparing Future Math (and Science) Teachers Through our NOYCE Program **Melanie Pivarski**	Aiming at the Wrong Target: Rethinking the Teaching of Logarithms in Precalculus **Jeremy F. Alm**, Laura Corey
3:30 - 3:50	A Structural Correspondence Between Strongly Regular Graphs and Relation Algebras **Eli Atkins(+)**	Quantifying the Court: A Statistical Analysis of Performance Metrics in NCAA National Collegiate Men's Volleyball **Luke Pekol***		Domination in Zero-Divisor Graphs of Commutative Rings **Joe Stickles**, Sarah Anderson, Michael Axtell, Brenda Kroschel	Sophie Germain: A Mathematician's Final Years **Brenia Smith***
4:00 - 4:20	An almost-always measure of the failure of unique factorization **Enrique Treviño**	Quantifying the Court: Predictive Modeling for NCAA National Collegiate Men's Volleyball Rankings **Zach Pekol***	What's next for ISMAA? Upcoming Challenges and Opportunities **Keven Hansen**	Graph Planarity Algorithms: Where Paths Cross **Msanaa Bosland***	When The Chalk Dust Settles….Who's Writing the Lesson Plan? **Paula R. Stickles**
4:30 - 4:50		Data-Driven NCAA Volleyball: Exploring Performance Metrics and Ranking Models through Linear Algebra **Tony Kochev***		Abstracting Algebra: The Life of Emmy Noether **Markus Jesse***	

Time					
4:50 - 5:00	**Break**				
5:00 - 5:45	**Business Meeting**	**Room 225**			
5:00 - 6:15	**Student Puzzle Session**	**Room 223**			
6:00 - 7:00	**Reception with cash bar**				
6:30 - 7:30	**Student Pizza Party**	**Room 223**			
7:00 - 7:45	**Banquet & Awards**	**Room 224**			
7:45 - 8:35	**Plenary Talk**	**Room 224**	My Two Word Teaching Philosophy **Lauren Keough**		

* = undergraduate student

(+) = graduate student

All times listed are in Central Time.

The 2026 Annual Meeting of the Illinois Section of the MAA
Saturday, March 28

8:00 - 12:00	**Registration**	**Student Union Ballroom Lounge**			
8:30 - 9:20	**Plenary Talk**	**Room 224**	AI, vectors, and a billion-dollar industry Hei-Chi Chan		
9:30 - 9:50	**Coffee Break**				
	Room 222	**Room 223**	**Room 224**	**Room 225**	**Room 226**
10:00 - 10:20	Meeting the Vision of the Illinois Comprehensive Numeracy Plan in Elementary Education Teacher Preparation **Todd D. Oberg**	Section NExT Round Table discussion (10-10:50) **Hosted by Christina Jamroz**	Career Panel for Undergraduate Students: Preparing for Careers in Mathematical Sciences	Group Theory of Garments **Hita Bharwad***	What Norms of Mathematical Definitions Can Students Take Away from Instruction? **Kaihua Liu(+), Rachel Rupnow**, Kristen Vroom, Seth Ricarte(+)
10:30 - 10:50				On the Expansion of $(1-\zeta_p)^n$ **Hoang Trieu***	Analyzing the Impact of Alternate Assessment in Mathematics Courses **Amanda Harsy, Adam Schultze, Michael Smith,** Brittany Stephenson
11:00 - 11:20	COVID-19 Prediction Trends and Public Health Policy Impact Using Machine Learning **James Kwabena Odum(+)**	Modeling a Seasonal Flu Epidemic with Targeted Mitigation Measures **Katie Brill***	Higgs Bundles and the Magic of Matrices **Andrew Burley(+)**	Gcd-Graphs over Matrix Rings **Dung Nguyen***	Workload Management for Faculty (and Others) **Angela Antonou**
11:30 - 11:50	Balancing Covariates in Randomized Experiments via Discrepancy Theory **Prem Magar***	Generating a Heterogeneous Finite Element Model for Elastography **Anna Jung***	Cyclotomic factors of rational necklace functions **Tung T. Nguyen**	Hyperbolic Angular Momentum **Jackson Lewis(+)**	
12:00 - 1:00pm	**Closing, Awards, and Plenary Talk**	**Room 224**	Newton's Method: Complex Numerics and Complex Dynamics **Paul Blanchard**		

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