

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MAA SECTIONS
Year Ending June 30, 1995
(Deadline for returning this report: July 1, 1995)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Section:

Iowa Section

Name, address and electronic address of Section Secretary preparing this Report:

Steven D. Nimmo
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Name, address and electronic address of the Section Representative who is to receive travel subsidy for the Burlington Meeting, August 6, 1995:

Greg Dotseth
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University of Northern Iowa
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MEETINGS INFORMATION

For each regular Section meeting held during the year please give:

	Fall	Spring
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Date(s)		April 21, 22, 1995
Location(s)		University of Northern Iowa
Total Attendance		76

How many of these were students?

22

How was participation by type of institution?

(Good? Fair? Poor?)

Spring

PhD_Fair_ 4-Yr_Good_ 2-Yr_Good_ HS_Poor_ Industry_Poor_

Fall

PhD_____ 4-Yr_____ 2-Yr_____ HS_____ Industry_____

Fall Spring

Did you have a meeting or session
for MAA Department Representatives?

NO

If so, what did you do there?

Did you have a meeting or session
specifically for Department Chairs?

NO

If so, what did you do there?

Did you have a luncheon or banquet?

NO. But the IMATYC did have. We meet jointly with them.

Did you have any other activities,
such as tours, concerts, etc.?

NO

If so, what?

Did you sell space to vendors at your
meeting(s)?

YES

If so, how much did you charge?

We typically charge vendors \$25 to display books at our meeting.

How many vendors participated
in your meeting(s) this year?

TWO

Did you have an MAA book sale?

YES

What is your meeting(s) registration fee?

\$5

How many invited addresses
were given at your meeting(s)?

THREE

How many contributed papers?

20 by faculty

How many student papers?

14

How many panel discussions?

NONE

Did you have a Workshop or
Short Course at your meeting(s)?

NO

If so, what was the fee?

The topics?

The presenters?

Were your meetings successful? What activities would you recommend to other Sections to make their meetings successful?

We felt that the meeting was very successful this year. We were very pleased at the increase in student papers. We would still like to see more participation from the University of Iowa.

SUMMER ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Did your Section sponsor a Summer Short Course or Workshop?

NO

If so, what was the fee?

Location?

Duration?

Presenters?

What was (is) the topic(s)?

STUDENT CHAPTER ACTIVITY INFORMATION

What activities or services does your Section provide for student chapters?

Nothing specific for the student chapters. We did have some films at the meetings that were aimed at the student attenders.

In what ways, if any, are student chapters included in your section meetings?

Student papers are strongly encouraged. We have seen great growth in student involvement over the past several years.

Any comments about how the student chapters are working?

OTHER INFORMATION

How many newsletters did your Section publish this year?

TWO

Does your section offer recognition to Putnam exam teams within the Section, or to AHSME, AIME, or Mathematical Olympiad winners? If so, what do you do to recognize these students?

This past year, an anonymous donor has established a fund to support a mathematics competition. A trophy (a Klein bottle) has been made and is kept by the winning institution. The winners of this competition were announced at the meeting

Does your Section offer recognition to student presenters of papers at Section meetings? If so, what does your Section do?

We recognize the best papers at each concurrent session.

Did your Section make any awards this year, such as the Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics, or Distinguished Service Awards? If so, describe. Do you have any comments about how these processes are working?

YES. We gave the Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics Award to Elgin Johnston of Iowa State University. We also recognized 25+ year members of the MAA.

What do you feel was your Section's most successful event, or the most successful aspect of your Section's work this year?

The meeting itself was one of the most successful ones that we have ever had.

What Public Awareness Activities has the Section performed (or plans to perform)? (e.g., Any special efforts during Mathematics Awareness Week?)

Nothing special

Please tell us about anything your Section did that was new. Explain at any length you'd like to.

Nothing new took place

Each Fall, an issue of FOCUS is designated as "FOCUS on Sections" and contains a few paragraphs about the activities of each Section. For example, see last December's issue. Please write below what you would like included in this special issue of FOCUS this year.

This year we held our annual section meeting at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Iowa on April 21st and 22nd. We had a total of 14 student papers presented on Friday. At the business meeting on Saturday we elected Jim Freeman of Cornell College as the chair-elect. We announced Elgin Johnston as the winner of the Distinguished College and University Teaching Award for the section. We also recognized a team from Iowa State University as the first winner of the Iowa MAA Mathematics Competition. This year's competition was organized by Charlie Frohman who also arranged for a traveling trophy - a blown glass Klein bottle atop a wooden base. Financial support for the competition has been provided by an anonymous donor.

National MAA Program Committees and the Program Committees of other MAA Sections are always looking for good speakers and topics. We would like to provide to these groups a list of the best Section presentations. Who were the best speakers in your Section this year, where are they from, and what were their topics?

I wouldn't say that any talk was truly exceptional but there were several good talks.

Ruth Berger - An Implementation of the D5 Check Digit Scheme

Al Hibbard - Exploring Abstract Algebra with Mathematica

The MAA Committee on Sections is charged with providing aid, leadership, and other forms of help to the Sections. What can we do to help you? What services would you like to see us provide?

I do not have any additional suggestions.

What do you feel your Section most needs help or advice on, from the MAA Committee on Sections, from the officers of other MAA Sections, or from the MAA's national office?

First year officers need the help. In our section, we elect a new section chair each year. That person needs the help as to what the job entails.

The Committee on Sections is working with the MAA's national headquarters on providing appropriate electronic services for MAA Sections; for example, there is now a portion of the MAA gopher devoted to information for and about MAA Sections. What electronic services does your Section now use or provide for its members? Do you have comments or recommendations for us as we develop such services at the national level?

None other than I think that this is a great service to have for our members.