

**Report on the Twenty-nine MAA Sections for 2002 – 2003**  
**Committee on Sections**

This report is based on the annual reports of the MAA Sections. The Committee on Sections thanks the section secretaries and secretary-treasurers for submitting their section reports.

Every section held a spring meeting in 2002-2003, and nine sections (EPADEL, Indiana, MD-DC, New Jersey, North Central, Northeastern, Ohio, Seaway, and Southern California-Nevada) held both a fall and a spring meeting.

Regular registration meeting fees ranged from \$0 to \$35; sections with two meetings charged the same fee at both meetings. The distribution of regular fees charged by the sections is shown below.

<b>FEE (\$\$)</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>
0	1
5	2
8	1
10	5
12	3
15	4
20	7
25	4
30	1
35	1

Many sections charged different fees for students, nonmembers, and others.

Total attendance at the section meetings was over 5500 this year. An estimate of the percent of MAA members attending a section meeting (calculated by dividing total meeting attendance by MAA members in the section) yielded a range of 7% through 62%.

All section meetings included invited speakers, and most sections held contributed paper sessions and student paper sessions as well. Twenty-four section meetings featured at least one workshop or mini-course; fees ranged from \$0 to \$20. Twelve meetings of section liaisons and twelve meetings of department chairpersons took place during section meetings. A banquet, luncheon, or other social event was held at every section meeting.

There were MAA book sales at all but one section meeting. Exhibitors at book sales were charged between \$0 and \$225; two sections had different fees for different amounts of space needed by an exhibitor.

Sixteen sections sponsored a student competition either for high school or college students. These included problem, puzzle, poster, and paper competitions. Nine sections recognized students for high achievement in the Putnam exam, nine sections gave AMC recognition, and four sections gave MMC recognition.

Twenty-six sections gave a teaching award this year. Ten sections gave a service award.

Several sections had local meetings throughout their regions in addition to a spring meeting.

Sections communicate with their members through newsletters, email, web sites, and section liaisons. Two sections do not have a newsletter, and the other sections published between one and three newsletters during the year. All sections have web sites.

Nineteen sections have Section NExT programs.

Several sections (EPADEL, North Central, Ohio) sponsored summer workshops. Indiana, Texas, and Wisconsin sponsored fall section NExT workshops.

### **Selected Highlights**

Allegheny Mountain gives an award for mentoring as well as awards for service and teaching.

Allegheny Mountain had a student breakout session on REU's at the spring meeting with "huge success".

Allegheny Mountain offered the option of online registration for the spring meeting for the first time.

Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware (EPADEL) offers free registration to full-time faculty members who are attending their first section meeting.

EPADEL has an annual student paper competition with a \$200 award for the best paper.

Illinois sold MAA merchandise as well as MAA books at the spring meeting.

Illinois involved students at the spring meeting as presenters and participants in a mathematics competition, and there was a pizza party for students.

Indiana held the Friendly Mathematics Competition at the spring meeting. Thirty-nine teams of three students participated.

Iowa held the Iowa Collegiate Mathematics Competition with 28 competing teams as part of the section's spring meeting.

Kentucky invited the recipient of the section's Distinguished College or University Teaching Award to present at the spring meeting for the first time, and the section plans to continue this practice.

Louisiana-Mississippi held a special art exhibit "Geometrical Sculptures in Wood" by John McMath of Mississippi College at the spring meeting.

Maryland-District of Columbia-Virginia does not charge section NExT members registration fees for meetings.

Maryland-District of Columbia-Virginia is providing financial support to the winner of the section's undergraduate poster competition for travel to MathFest in Boulder.

Metropolitan New York maintains a Mathematical Speakers Bureau with the goal of educating the greater community on mathematical issues. Most talks are given to junior high and high school students.

Missouri held a continental breakfast and a pizza lunch for team members and faculty sponsors who participated in the Missouri MAA Collegiate Mathematics Competition. For the first time, there was an unofficial team from another section.

Michigan contributed to the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Prize Competition (MMPC). The first exam was taken by about 15,000 high school students, the second exam was taken by about 1000 invited high school students, and the top 100 students were honored at an awards banquet.

Michigan sponsors teams of students to participate in the American Regions Math League competition (ARML). Also, the section sponsors the High School Visiting Lecturer Program.

Nebraska-North Dakota is the only section that did not charge a registration fee for a section meeting.

New Jersey held lunch discussion tables as part of the meetings. A discussion leader sat at each table. Topics included Computers in Linear Algebra and Multivariable Calculus, BIG SIGMAA (Business, Industry and Government), Statistics Education, Department Chair Issues, Undergraduate Research, MAA Liaisons, Assessment in Undergraduate Mathematics, Politics of Remediation, and Professional Development for Middle School Teachers.

North Central is planning a list of speakers to talk at the high school and undergraduate levels in the region.

Northeastern sponsored four April dinner meetings, each at a different location within the section boundaries. A different person presented at each meeting.

Northern California, Nevada, and Hawaii included the activities of student chapters in the section newsletter.

Ohio treated the section NExT members to a Thursday evening banquet and two one-hour invited speakers on Friday morning before the regular section meeting.

Oklahoma-Arkansas's spring meeting included two workshops, one for faculty and another for students.

Pacific Northwest had a coffee social for Section NExT and six discussion topics: tenure concerns, classroom conundrums, what should students learn in calculus, math modeling, family issues, and what's NExT.

Northern California, Nevada, and Hawaii purchased books at the spring meeting's MAA book sale as gifts for the student workers at the meeting.

Rocky Mountain's joint meeting with the Service Academies Undergraduate Mathematics Conference included an outstanding variety of talks by and for undergraduates.

Seaway supported Section NExT fellows by paying their meeting registration and meals at the spring section meeting. The national grant reimbursed fellows for travel expenses and lodging.

Seaway included graduate students in section NExT activities.

Southeastern held a joint spring meeting with the Southeastern Atlantic Section of SIAM that included graduate student presentations, a Math Jeopardy competition for student teams, and a poster competition for undergraduates.

Southeastern had dinners with speakers in each of its five states in addition to the section annual meeting in the spring.

Southern California and Nevada donated \$100 to the local MAA Student Chapter or mathematics club in recognition of the students' volunteer work at the annual meeting.

Texas held special events for students at the section meeting: a one-hour Student Forum with a speaker, student presentations with t-shirts for all and prizes for best talks, a student pizza party with puzzle competition and prizes, and a breakfast for students and MAA student chapter advisors.

Wisconsin gives the Wisconsin Section Award for Distinguished High School Teaching each year. The local organizing committee at the institution hosting the Spring Meeting determines the process and chooses up to four awardees.

Wisconsin sponsors a NExT workshop each fall. At the section meeting in the spring, there is a special NExT luncheon.