



# The Iowa Academy of Science

University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614

Phone 319/273-2021

19 May 1981

A. M. Fink  
Department of Mathematics  
Iowa State University  
Ames, IA 50011

Dear Mr. Fink:

In response to your letter of 11 May, first I wish to apologize for what was obviously an ill-considered remark in my previous letter, which you properly took exception to.

I didn't realize until your letter arrived that you met with our Board last fall. (I failed to identify you at that time, since Arnold Adelberg did most of the talking.) I also was not aware that you prepared this year's MAA program (at least that is what I read into your letter). There was no way that I would know that. All my correspondence was with Adelberg and I assumed he was in charge of program plans. It was an excellent program and you are to be commended for it.

My erroneous assumption that there was going to be a joint meeting of the MAA section and the Academy's math section was based on correspondence I'd had with Adelberg and J. B. Sheeler (the IAS math section chair) and was based as much on what was not said as what was said. It's the old story of "lack of communication."

The Finance Committee of the Academy met last Saturday to consider the budget for 1981-82 and, among other things, discussed registration fees for the annual meeting, noting that the net cost of the meeting was about \$5.55 above the registration fee per registrant. Fred Lott of UNI, one of your MAA members and a long-time IAS member has been on that committee for years and is knowledgeable about the MAA/IAS situation. He made a suggestion that appealed to the Finance Committee, to the effect that groups such as MAA that would like to meet jointly with the Academy be encouraged to do so by allowing for a "member" rate if an individual is a member of one organization or the other, and then splitting the registration fee 50/50 between the Academy and the other organization.

This motion was passed and has been sent on to our Board of Directors for consideration. Obviously such an arrangement would have to appeal to the cooperating organization, but it has several mutual advantages. Such a policy, if approved by the Board, would extend to any and all organizations that would find some advantage to meeting with the Academy while maintaining their autonomy. 50% of the registration fee for 50 people would, at \$8.00 each (the rate being suggested for 1982) amount to \$200 for the cooperating organization, and the other 50% would compensate the Academy for the expense of planning, arrangements, and printing.

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It would be helpful to know of your own reaction to this idea and the reaction of your colleagues.

I feel that the Academy has much to gain by encouraging groups such as MAA to meet with us and to be part of the scientific voice in Iowa. I trust that other organizations would feel that the Academy has something to offer too.

Let me know what you think. We're open to discussion; the door is not closed by any means.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert W. Hanson", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert W. Hanson  
Executive Director

dm

cc: J. B. Sheeler