



# The Iowa Academy of Science

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Jim,  
What do you think about this?  
P.S. I would appreciate the list of  
former nominating committees

Dear Arnold:

You beat me to the punch with your letter, which arrived this morning. It meant a lot to me personally to have you and your two MAA colleagues present at the Board meeting on Saturday, and I hope the rest of the Board came away with a better understanding of the MAA situation, but that seems a bit dubious, as you implied in your letter.

I feel terrible about the turn of events, and setting up a separate MAA meeting at Coe at the same time as the Academy meeting isn't going to solve any problems, nor is it going to be easy. It may even be out of the question, considering the Board's action, viz.: "that efforts be made to incorporate the meetings of interested non-IAS groups in our annual meeting and that usual registration fees be charged."

It isn't hard to understand why the Board is concerned about non-IAS groups competing for the interest of IAS members at our annual meeting. We put a lot of effort into it (and a lot of money). Most Academy members do not limit themselves to their own narrow section interests.

When a college invites the Academy to hold its annual meeting on their campus it is tacitly understood that the local arrangements committee will not assign space to non-IAS groups until the space needs of the Academy are met. It is always difficult to fit the Academy program into the available facilities. Final room assignments are not made until middle February; the local arrangements committee is supposed to send me a complete list of available spaces before Christmas. I do some juggling with the assignments in late January.

Therefore, it won't be possible, if the usual understandings prevail, to assign MAA any space until about February 15. We will certainly try, but I don't think it would be proper for MAA to approach anyone at Coe for space without going through me, at any time, just as a matter of courtesy and consideration.

As I've pointed out before, the Academy can't force anyone to pay registration fees. If MAA people do eventually have a meeting scheduled at Coe at the same time as the Academy meeting, and individuals feel strongly that they shouldn't pay IAS registration fees, so be it. Even so, I would like to offer at least this much - the inclusion of a general statement about the MAA meeting in the Academy program - it's time and place, but not the details. That's up to you. I would have to have the copy by 2/15 at the latest.

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Would you be willing to send me a copy of the marked list we sent out, showing which of our math section people are MAA members? I would appreciate being able to identify the other 47 non-MAA Academy people with math interest, so that we can determine whether their needs are going to be met or whether we need to strive for an Academy math section.

If you have a separate MAA meeting at Coe on April 24-25, will you be charging an MAA registration fee? Will you expect IAS members who attend your meeting to pay your registration fee in addition to their IAS fee?

Thanks for the comments about my ideas of affiliate status and/or reimbursement. I think they have possibilities, but Saturday wasn't the time to discuss them, apparently. Some of the Board members probably appeared a bit impatient because our agenda was long and (at least in the view of some) had many more weighty matters than the registration fee matter. This is the first time that the Board ever spent any time on this topic and I guess some members resented having both AAPT and MAA come in with proposals that almost sounded like ultimatums (ultimata?).

I can't get away from the fact that somebody has to pay the bills. I'm enclosing a copy of my letter to Roger Hanson. It contains some information on that matter that I hope you'll read.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Hanson  
Executive Director

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cc: Don Huffman  
Frank Starr  
Ben Graham