SPRING 2015 MEETING INFORMATION

The 2015 KSMAA meeting will be held at Fort Scott Community College in Ft. Scott, KS. The tentative dates for the meeting are March 27-28, 2015. More information and a call for contributed papers will be forthcoming. As information becomes available it will be posted on the section webpage at http://sections.maa.org/kansas/. The 10th Kansas Collegiate Math Competition will be held in conjunction with the meeting. Schools are invited to send up to three teams, consisting of 2 or 3 undergraduate students. For more information, visit http://pittstate.edu/department/math/competition.

2014 KSMAA TEACHING AWARD

Congratulations to Estela Gavosto on receiving the 2014 MAA Kansas Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching. Dr. Gavosto is an Associate Professor of Mathematics at the University of Kansas. As a recipient of a section teaching award, Prof. Gavosto becomes a nominee for the national Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2015 MAA KANSAS SECTION AWARDS

Nominations for the 2015 MAA Section Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics are now being accepted. The Kansas Section Selection Committee will determine the recipient of the award from those nominated. The awardee will be honored at the Spring 2015 meeting of the Section and will be widely recognized and acknowledged within the Section. The awardee will also be the official Section nominee for the MAA Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics. There will be at most three national awardees, each of whom will be honored at the national MAA meeting with a certificate and check for $1000.

A special session at that meeting is devoted to talks by the awardees on aspects of their teaching.

Anyone may make a nomination, but nominations from chairs or MAA liaisons in departments of mathematical sciences are especially solicited. An outline of the nomination process can be found on the (continued on next page)
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2015 MAA KANSAS SECTION AWARDS
(CONTINUED)

web site http://www.maa.org/awards/teachingawards.htm

We urge you to submit a nomination for the MAA Kansas Section Award if you have someone eligible and qualified in your department. Even if not selected this year, it is an honor for someone to have been nominated, and your candidate can likely be nominated again in a future year. Your department will receive recognition for its commitment to excellence in teaching, and the work done in preparing a nomination folder for your candidate is a tribute in itself. Self-nomination is not permitted. (application form on next page)

PICTURES FROM THE 2014 KSMAA SECTION MEETING

Invited speaker, Dr. Ron Wasserstein, Executive Director of the American Statistical Association

Invited speaker, Dr. Stephen Kennedy, Carleton College, MAA Senior Acquisitions Editor

At the Friday evening presentation.

Student competition. Photo courtesy of Qiang Shi.

Business meeting. Photo courtesy of Qiang Shi.

More pictures can be found on the KSMAA website.
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2015 MAA KANSAS SECTION AWARDS (CONTINUED)

Eligibility

College or university teachers who currently teach a mathematical science at least halftime during the academic year in a public or private college or university (from two-year college teaching through teaching at the Ph.D. level) in the United States or Canada. Those on approved leave (sabbatical or other) during the academic year in which they are nominated qualify if they fulfilled the requirements in the previous year.

More than seven years experience in teaching a mathematical science.

Membership in the Mathematical Association of America.

Guidelines for Nomination

Nominees should

- Be widely recognized as extraordinarily successful in their teaching*
- Have teaching effectiveness that can be documented
- Have had influence in their teaching beyond their own institution**
- Foster curiosity and generate excitement about mathematics in their students.

* "teaching" is to be interpreted in its broadest sense, not necessarily limited to classroom teaching. It may include activities such as preparing students for mathematical competitions at the college level such as the Putnam Prize Competition or the Mathematical Contest in Modeling, attracting students to become majors in a mathematical science or to become Ph.D. candidates, working with pre-service or in-service teachers, etc.

** "influence beyond..." can take many forms, including demonstrated lasting impact on alumni, influence on the profession through curricular revisions in college mathematics teaching with wide-ranging impact, influential publications or innovative books concerned with the teaching of college mathematics, etc.

Nominations must be submitted on the enclosed "Nomination Form." Please follow the instructions on that form precisely to assure uniformity in the selection process.

Please email the completed nomination form to

Professor Andrew Bennett
Chair, Awards Selection Committee
bennett@math.ksu.edu

no later than February 1, 2015.

Nominations for someone from another Section should be sent to the Secretary of the nominee’s Section.

The KSMAA Selection Committee will select the Kansas Section awardee soon after the February 1 deadline. After the selection is made, the nominator and awardee will be encouraged to complete and submit a full nomination packet (see http://www.maa.org/awards/teachingawards.htm) in time for consideration for the national award.

We look forward to your participation in this exciting MAA venture of taking substantive action to honor extraordinarily successful teaching. We want to see such teaching recognized at all post-secondary school levels. We depend on you to help us identify those who merit such recognition.
Mathematical Association of America

Awards for

Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics

Nomination Form

PLEASE TYPE

Nominee's Name (First name first): _________________________________________________

College or University Affiliation: _________________________________________________

College or University Address: _________________________________________________

City: _____________________________________ State: ____________ Zip: ____________

Nominee's email address: _______________________________

Is the nominee a current member of the Mathematical Association of America? __________

Nominee's number of years teaching experience in a mathematical science: __________

Has the nominee taught at least half time in a mathematical science during the current academic
year or during the previous year if on approved leave or sabbatical? __________

In the space below, please briefly describe the unusual personal and professional qualities of the
nominee that contribute to his or her extraordinary teaching success.

Name of nominator (First name first): _______________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________

Telephone: ______________________ Email: ________________________________________

Signature: ______________________ Date ____________________
KANSAS SECTION HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHT by Tim Flood, PSU, KSMAA Historian

As reported in the Spring issue of this newsletter, Elaine L. Tatham’s Kansas Section of the Mathematical Association of America 65 Years (1915-1980) originally published in February 1980 is available on the KSMAA Section History webpage http://sections.maa.org/kansas/kshist.html. Elaine’s detailed history of the early years of the section makes for interesting reading, particularly as the MAA prepares to celebrate its centennial in 2015.

An interesting fact about the Kansas Section is that it actually predates the founding of the MAA. As Elaine wrote, “A movement was initiated during the spring of 1915 for the improvement of the teaching of collegiate mathematics. The first meeting of The Kansas Association of Teachers of Collegiate Mathematics was held November 12, 1915, at the Topeka High School Building.” This group is the predecessor of the Kansas Section and represented Kansas at the organizational meeting for the MAA. The founding of the MAA was recorded by W. D. Cairns, the secretary of the newly formed Association in the January 1916 issue of The American Mathematical Monthly. He wrote, “In accordance with the call for an organization meeting of a new national mathematical association, signed by four hundred and fifty persons representing every state in the Union, the District of Columbia, and Canada, such a meeting was held at Columbus, Ohio, on Thursday, December 30, 1915, in room 101 of Page Hall, on the Campus of Ohio State University. The meeting extended through two sessions, the latter being held on Friday morning, December 31, at which time the constitution was finally adopted.” Thus, the Kansas Section, or at least our predecessor, is about a month and a half older than the Association itself.

The official MAA Centennial Celebration will occur at the MAA MathFest, Washington, DC, August 5-8, 2015. More information about the history of the Association is available at http://www.maa.org/about-maa/maa-history.

FROM THE MATHEMATICAL MONTHLY

Members of the Kansas Section of the Mathematical Association of America, in session at Lawrence, Kansas, March 18, 1916.
KSMAA Newsletter

The KSMAA Newsletter is published twice a year; once early in the year and then again in the fall. A link to each newsletter will be sent out via email by the MAA. The newsletters are also archived on the section webpage. (NOTE: the section webpage has recently moved to a server maintained by the MAA. The new address is http://sections.maa.org/kansas)

The newsletter can also be a forum for sharing news or disseminating information to other mathematics departments across the state. If your department has any news to be included in the KSMAA newsletter, please send it to KSMAA Public Information Coordinator:

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