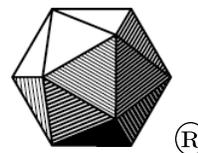


Winter 2014 Newsletter



KYMAA Annual Meeting Registration Deadline Friday

The 2014 Kentucky Section of the MAA is Friday and Saturday, March 28-29, 2014 at Murray State University. The deadline for early registration is Friday, March 14, 2014. Registration and hotel information may be found at

<http://sections.maa.org/kentucky/meetings/indexMeetings.shtml>.

Discount from the MAA Store.

The MAA Store is giving the Kentucky Section a 35% discount off book purchases at the MAA Store. Simply use the discount code KYSP2014 when making an online purchase. This code is valid from Sunday, March 23 - Saturday, April 5, 2014. It cannot be combined with any other offers or discounts. (If purchasing online, customers will have to pay shipping.)

Spring Meeting Invited Speakers

Francis Edward Su is the Benediktsson-Karwa Professor of Mathematics at Harvey Mudd College. He received his B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Texas at Austin, and his Ph.D. from Harvard University. His research is in geometric and topological combinatorics, motivated by applications in the social sciences. He has held visiting appointments at Cornell University, MSRI, and Caltech.



Su also has a passion for teaching and popularizing mathematics. He received the 2001 Hasse Prize for expository writing, and the 2004 Alder Award and the 2013 Haimo Award for distinguished teaching. He authors the popular Math Fun Facts website and iPhone app.

Barbara Faires has been active in the MAA since joining the faculty at Westminster College and beginning the student puzzle session for the Allegheny Mountain Section. She received her undergraduate degree from East Carolina University in mathematics and business and her Ph.D. from Kent State University. Her publications include papers on vector measures and Banach space theory in Transactions and Proceedings of the AMS. She has held visiting positions at Carnegie Mellon and Westminster College, Oxford, UK and taught in the early PA Governor's School for the Sciences.



Faires has received the Section's Meritorious Service and Distinguished Teaching Awards and was an initial coordinator of Section NExT. At Westminster she has chaired the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, served as Vice President for Academic Affairs, and received both the Henderson Lecture and Distinguished Faculty Awards.

Gail Mackin is professor of mathematics at Northern Kentucky University. She received her B.S. from Keene State College in mathematics and physics and her Ph.D. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University. Her research is in mathematical modeling for several disciplines including continuum mechanics, geology and ecology. She has held visiting positions at Carnegie Mellon and Westminster College, Oxford, UK and taught in the early PA Governor's School for the Sciences.



Mackin received the 2013 KYMAA Section's Distinguished Teaching Award. At NKU she has served as interim chair for the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and received a grant from the Center for Integrative Natural Science and Mathematics (CINSAM).

Future Meetings

The next MathFest will be in Portland, Oregon, 6-9 August 2014. The MAA Centennial meeting will be MathFest 2015 in Washington, DC. Two upcoming MathFests will be nearby: 2016 in Columbus, OH (where the first summer meeting was held) and 2019 in Cincinnati.

The next JMM will be in San Antonio, 10-13 January 2015. There will be no short course offered at the beginning of that meeting. The effort placed on organizing the course seems to be too much given the number of participants. Other methods for professional development will be explored by the Committee on Meetings and Professional Development.

News from the Board of Governors Meeting at JMM

The MAA Board of Governors met at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Baltimore.

Again, a primary concern is the MAAs budget situation. MAA net assets are stable, but operating budget deficits continue. The deficit for 2013 was not as high as expected, but that is mostly due to having not yet implemented programs that were expected to help lower deficits in the long term. Jim Daniels, the MAA Treasurer, expects that deficits will be eliminated in the not too distant future.

An aggressive membership marketing campaign has begun and, so far, has resulted in 209 new members. The campaign will be extended to try to recapture and reinstate lapsed members. In the future, more international members will be targeted. The Kentucky Section has 28 new members, but 24 of those are NKU student members. The others are from: Strayer (1), Georgetown (2), and no school listed (1). Most commonly governors reported that their memberships in the MAA began by being urged by faculty members (when they were undergraduate or graduate students) or by department chairs or colleagues (after they were in a teaching position).

2015 membership benefits and dues will not change from 2014. Although a slight increase in dues would have been reasonable, it was decided to leave the dues at the present levels to be better able to determine the impact of last years changes in membership structure.

A significant amount of time was devoted to consideration of drafts of portions of the Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics (CUPM) Guide to Majors in the Mathematical Sciences. It is expected that the CUPM report will be voted on by CUPM at MathFest in August and by the MAA Board of Governors at the JMM in January 2015. The

Guide will include an overview of the undergraduate mathematics major, reports on courses that are part of the undergraduate mathematics major, and reports on various aspects of that undergraduate mathematics major (e.g., the place of undergraduate research in the major). It appears that the various reports in the Guide will not be too definite but will suggest expectations for what is taught in each course for majors.

The American Statistical Association (ASA) is also completing a revision of expectations for the undergraduate statistics major.

The Board of Governors approved a joint statement with the ASA that describes Qualifications for Teaching an Introductory Statistics Course. That document will be posted on the Section website. The minimal qualifications are the equivalent of:

1. Two statistical courses including content knowledge of data collection methods, study design and statistical inference, and
2. Experience with data analysis beyond material taught in the introductory class.

The Board of Governors participated in an exercise that explored the possibility of changes in MAA governance. The MAA is operated by the staff (29 plus those who operate the American Mathematical Competitions) and governed by the Executive Council (10) and the Board of Governors (52). The Board of Governors is (probably necessarily) large, and the exercise explored how effective the board was at governing the Association.

The MAA recognized Pi Mu Epsilon on its centennial.

This is the last meeting of the Board of Governors in my term as governor.

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