

Information for KYMAA 2021 Elections

Chair-Elect:

Term: 2 years as Chair-Elect, then 2 years as Chair (2021-2025)

Duties:

The Chair-Elect shall have primary responsibility for the program of the Annual Meeting of the Section.

The Chair shall preside at each meeting of the Section and of the Executive Committee of the Section. The Chair shall notify the members of the Executive Committee of all meetings of the Executive Committee. In consultation with the Executive Committee, the Chair shall appoint all committees of the Section, except the Executive Committee, and shall be an ex-officio member of each committee unless otherwise directed by the membership of the Section at an official meeting of the Section.

Nominees:

Elizabeth Donovan:

Elizabeth Donovan is an Associate Professor of Mathematics at Murray State University. She received her PhD from Northeastern University in 2009 where she was formally trained as a graph theorist. Beth's passion lies in helping grow the next generation of mathematicians: she is the advisor for the Murray State Student Chapter of AWM, actively engages students in undergraduate research projects, and is chair of Murray State's Math Day Committee that brings over 200 high school students to campus each year. She is also a Project NExT Fellow (Silver '12), recipient of a Center for Undergraduate Teaching in Mathematics Minigrant, and an active member of KYMAA since moving to Kentucky in 2015. She enjoys organizing events that bring people together in mathematical settings - a key aspect of the Chair-Elect role for KYMAA. Outside of math, Beth enjoys gardening, hiking, and building large LEGO sets. She's looking forward to traveling again and seeing new sites when it becomes safe to do so.

Homer White:

Homer White received his PhD in Mathematics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, working on the algorithmic complexity of trajectories of points in measurable dynamical systems. He has taught at small liberal arts colleges throughout his career, first at Pikeville College and then at Georgetown, where he currently serves as Department Chair. His research branched out into the history of mathematics, especially from Latin and Sanskrit sources. In teaching he has a special focus on probability/statistics. He developed the data science program at Georgetown and has written several instruction-oriented packages for the R programming language, along with the online textbook Beginning Computer Science with R (<https://homerhanumat.github.io/r-notes>).

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Secretary:

Term: 3 years (2021-2024)

Duties:

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of official meetings of the Section and of meetings of the Executive Committee, maintain custody of non-financial records of the Section, such as correspondence and conference programs, execute the official correspondence of the Section, and assist the Treasurer with conference preparations. Annually, the Secretary shall receive all nominations for any section awards, distribute these nominations to the appropriate award committee, send the section winner's nomination to the appropriate national office, and prepare the Section Annual Report for the national Committee on Sections.

Nominees:

Robert Riehemann:

Bob Riehemann received his PhD in Mathematics at UK, under Carl Lee, in Combinatorial Game theory. He is also ABD in Physics from the University of Cincinnati. His research interests include geometry, games, particle physics and he is a regular attendee at Strings and Particles in Ohio, Cincinnati and Kentucky (SPOCK). He held a conference at Thomas More with speakers from Harvard, Cal-Tech and Virginia Tech. He was chair of Mathematics and Physics for several years at TMU. Teaching the usual diverse course load, he has added game theory, quantum mechanics, and even a course in General Relativity and Gravitational Waves. Once he studied Stochastic Processes and wrote a review of Lawrence (Craig) Evans' book, An Introduction to Stochastic Differential Equations for MAA, <https://www.maa.org/press/maa-reviews/an-introduction-to-stochastic-differential-equations>.

He worked in quality control as a mathematician and technical director for a multinational corporation for twelve years, constructing a system that functioned over several continents for over 30,000 users. Consequently he is familiar with paper work and, some say, the real world." This should be noted by the ethereal amongst you.

He began life as a percussionist at the College Conservatory of Music at UC and was a professional musician until he learned that mathematics and physics was easier. Family, a little unprofessional jazz piano, social protesting, and the reading of classic literature fills spare hours.

Bob believes that the scientific education of the Commonwealth population - in particular, its political representatives - can and should be improved.

Student Chapters Coordinator:

Term: 3 years (2021-2024)

Duties:

The Student Chapter Coordinator shall plan and implement student activities for the annual meeting of the Section, and shall encourage the participation of students in their institution's student chapters. The Student Chapter Coordinator shall encourage participation in the Putnam Examination in Kentucky and report the results of the examination to the Annual Meeting of the Section.

Nominees:

Joshua Qualls:

Dr. Joshua Qualls is currently an Assistant Professor of Mathematical Physics at Morehead State University where he teaches a variety of physics and mathematics courses. He earned undergraduate degrees in mathematics and physics at Centre College, and he earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in physics from the University of Kentucky with work concentrating on conformal field theory and high energy theoretical physics. His current work is in the mathematics of quantum computing and quantum games, although his interests range across geometry, algebra, and complexity. This would be his first leadership position in KYMAA, although he has previous experience with the Mathematical Association of America, the American Association of Physics Teachers, the Kentucky Academy of Science and the Kentucky Association of Physics Teachers. He has experience with several Kentucky colleges and universities and fostering student engagement and participation across a variety of extracurricular organizations and activities (both as student and faculty). Additionally, he has firsthand experience with the Putnam examination and is eager to encourage future participation amongst Kentucky students.

erica Whitaker:

erica j. Whitaker is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Kentucky, which she joined in Fall 2014. She is an active MAA member just completing a term as Student Chapters Coordinator, in which she was excited to help make plans that were later cancelled due to the pandemic. She is currently serving on the MAA CRAFTY committee (Curriculum Renewal across the first two years). Previously she has served on the nominating committee for the KYMAA, and also the CONSTUM committee for the Ohio MAA (their committee for student involvement). At UK she serves as the Director of Service Courses for the math department, which involves supporting faculty and graduate students who teach the 100- and 200- level classes. She received her Ph.D. from The Ohio State University in 2011; previous teaching includes Otterbein University, Wittenberg University, and Louisiana State University. She lives in Morehead with her husband John and their new pandemic pet Catastrophe the Cat.

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Treasurer:

Term: 2 remaining years of current term (2021-2023)

Duties:

The Treasurer shall maintain custody of the financial records of the section, including conference registrations and fees, prepare registration-related materials for distribution at the annual meeting, receive the allowance provided by the Mathematical Association of America, provide safekeeping of all monies of the Section, maintain proper and accurate books of account of Section monies, and pay all bills of the Section from Section monies. Checks drawn on Section monies shall bear the signature of the Treasurer. Annually, the Treasurer shall prepare the Section Financial Report for the financial office of the national MAA. The Chair of the section shall also be a signatory on all section accounts.

Nominees:

Maeve McCarthy:

Maeve McCarthy is a Professor of Mathematics and Assistant Dean at Murray State University. She received her PhD in 1997 from Rice University in Computational and Applied Mathematics and has worked in differential equations and mathematical biology for many years. She served as Executive Director of the Association for Women in Mathematics (2008-11) and is now a Fellow of AWM. After participating in Project NExT as a Silver Dot (1998), she served on the Editorial Board of Focus and a number of MAA Committees, including a term as Chair of the MAA Committee on Invited Paper Sessions. She is excited about the opportunity to serve KY MAA as Treasurer.

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Newsletter Editor:

Term: 1 remaining year of current term (2021-2022)

Duties:

The Newsletter Editor shall assemble information of interest and importance to the Section membership, and shall publish this information in coordination with the Webmaster. The Newsletter Editor shall notify the members of all regular meetings and special meetings of the Section.

Nominees:

Axel Brandt:

Axel's mathematical training as a graph theorist began in the M.S. program at Miami University (Ohio), continued in the Ph.D. program at the University of Colorado Denver, and culminated in a Teaching Postdoctoral Fellowship at Davidson College. Along the way, he developed a passion for engaging K-12 students with advanced mathematical concepts in fun and approachable ways, which he continues in his current position at Northern Kentucky University. Axel received a minigrant from the Center for Undergraduate Research in Mathematics to research with students and is currently a co-PI on an NSF IUSE grant exploring the impacts of a mathematics summer bridge program for incoming STEM students.

Axel enjoys staying active and has trained for marathons and an IronMan triathlon. Since welcoming a daughter this past summer he has enjoyed family walks and hikes, and is looking forward to being able to pull out the jogging stroller this summer.

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AMC Coordinator (Appointed):

Term: 3 years (2021-2024)

Duties:

The State AMC Director shall work with the Director of the American Mathematics Competitions to promote participation in the American Mathematical Competitions in the state of Kentucky. In addition, the State AMC Director shall arrange for public recognition of Kentucky's 10/12 competition winners each year.

Nominees:

Justin Trulen:

Dr. Justin Trulen graduated with a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee in 2016. His field of study is in Harmonic Analysis and Partial Differential Equations. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Kentucky Wesleyan College. He was a project NExT fellow (Blue '17). He organized the Kentucky Wesleyan Math Club in the spring 2017 and is currently the adviser. Since arriving at Kentucky Wesleyan College he has organized students to take the Putnam Exam since 2017. Dr. Trulen consistently invites students to do research. His students have worked on topics ranging from population dynamics, games theory, mathematical pedagogy to currently p-adic valuations of sequences and learning programming language.