

**MD-DC-VA Section of MAA
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Johns Hopkins University, MD
November 4, 2016**

Attending: Jennifer Bergner, Ethan Duckworth, John Hamman, Brian Heinold, Minah Oh, Edwin O'Shea, Phillip Poplin, Karin Saoub, Amy Shell-Gellasch, David Taylor, Gwyn Whieldon.

John Hamman called the meeting to order. Introductions of new and current officers.

Treasurer's Report. Phillip Poplin reported on Brian Lins' behalf, reading from back of report in Fall 2016 newsletter. Phillip is responsible for running the registration table tomorrow in Brian's absence and will give a check to the catering at JHU for meeting's meals. Pre-registrations numbers are around 120 but an exact figure is not at hand.

Program Chair's Update. Minah Oh reports that all local arrangements are in place, with room monitors and session hosts confirmed.

Plans for Upcoming Meetings. John Hamman reports that the Spring 2017 meeting will be hosted at Frostburg State University on April 28-29, 2017.

Christopher Newport University has expressed a strong interest in hosting the Fall 2017 meeting. John proposes November 3-4, 2017 for that meeting; dates and arrangements yet to be confirmed with Christopher Newport University.

The suitability of panels at the section meetings. At last Spring's meeting, the panel sessions were received very positively by the membership. There was a consensus among the officers that these panel sessions and related themed sessions should continue to be supported at future meetings. A number of potential themes arose for future meetings, including panels and sessions that focus on undergraduate research and career prospects for soon-to-be graduates. Another proposal is to strengthen connections with AWM.

Upcoming open executive positions. John Hamman asked for the organization of a committee to encourage nominations for upcoming open officer positions. These include the following positions: At-Large, Newsletter, Treasurer. David Taylor will lead this committee, to informally seek members who would be interested in being nominated for these open offices.

Merging of Awards Committees. At the Spring general meeting the motion "to merge the teaching and service awards committees," was passed by the general membership. John Hamman and David Taylor have agreed to make a first attempt at re-writing relevant section bylaws to reflect this change.

Governor’s Informal Report. Jennifer Bergner reports on a proposed change on MAA governance (and relevant bylaws) on the national level. Under these proposed changes, the Board of Governors (BOG) would no longer be an executive board but would become more of a congress, or advisory board, with a smaller executive board, or “board of directors” making more of the every day decisions. Jennifer recommends (not necessarily endorses) reading the very informative piece “Changing Times, Changing Bylaws,” by MAA Vice-President Matt Boelkins in the October/November issue of *MAA Focus*. A long discussion followed on the MAA’s identity and mission and the consequences – positive and negative – of these proposed changes in governance.

Graduate student talks and judges. In recent times at the Fall meetings, there have been talks by soon-to-be and recent PhDs who are thinking of going on the job market, with mentorship offered to these speakers by section members who are faculty. There is the potential that a mentor is at a department with an open faculty position in the same job cycle that the speaker will be an applicant to. In response, a motion was proposed, that if an officer is from a currently-hiring department then they will not act as a mentor for the graduate student talks, if only to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest. The motion was carried.

Proposed technology expenditures to support Math Jeopardy. Motion “to consult general membership on the purchase of “game show buzzers” to facilitate Student Math Jeopardy” was proposed and passed.

Meeting is officially adjourned.

Submitted by: Edwin O’Shea, Secretary, MD-DC-VA Section