

Minutes of Business Meeting  
Mathematical Association of America  
Maryland-District of Columbia-Virginia Section  
Spring Sectional Meeting  
St. Mary's College of Maryland, St. Mary's City, MD  
April 12-13, 2002

The meeting was called to order by Chair David Carothers at 2:45 p.m.

**1. Minutes of Fall 2001 Meeting:** The minutes of the Fall 2001 Business Meeting were distributed by Secretary Christopher Barat. The minutes were read and approved with no corrections being made.

**2. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bonita Saunders noted that this meeting marked her last meeting as Treasurer. She displayed an overhead of the Treasurer's Report, dated February 22, 2002. As of 2/22/02, not taking into account vendors' fees, the general account balance was \$10,060.82, the balance of the Milcetch Fund was \$2021.00, and the balance in the Project NExT Fund was \$1910.04. Asked where the funds for the Distinguished Teaching Award were located, Bonita replied that they were counted as part of the general account balance. In response to a question from Jon Scott, Bonita further clarified that the 2/22/02 report did not take into accounts the Section's share of the proceeds from the Fall Meeting book sale.

Bonita reported that a total of 131 individuals (including 20 undergraduate students and 13 graduate students) had registered for the Spring Meeting; 114 individuals (including 15 undergraduates and 12 graduate students) had pre-registered, and 17 individuals (including 5 undergraduates and 1 graduate student) had registered on-site. Total income from registration fees amounted to \$2473 (\$2189 from pre-registrants, \$284 from on-site registrants). One vendor (Texas Instruments) was present at the Meeting.

In recognition of her outstanding service as Section Treasurer, Dave Carothers gave Bonita the gift of an MAA book.

**3. Governor's Report:** Betty Mayfield reminded attendees of the upcoming MathFEST in Burlington, VT, August 1-3, and gave a brief sketch of planned activities. She further announced that the MAA was sponsoring 7 "PREP" faculty development workshops during the Summer. Fliers describing MathFEST and the "PREP" workshops were available at the Business Meeting and had also been placed on the registration table.

**4. Bylaws Changes:** Dave Carothers noted that the Section's Executive Committee had proposed several changes in the Section Bylaws and displayed the proposed changes on overheads. The primary results of these changes would be to add several officers (Student Activities Coordinator, Liaisons Coordinator, Webmaster, two At-Large Directors, and a Vice Program Chair [starting in odd numbered years]) to the Executive Committee and to establish policies and procedures governing lengths of terms for these offices. A further change regarding the position of Newsletter Editor was included: this officer will now be responsible for sending a preliminary newsletter before each Section Meeting and working with the Webmaster to distribute the final Meeting program once it is established. The changes were unanimously approved by the attendees.

**5. Project NExT/Section NExT:** Stephanie Cawthorne reported that the Section NeXT Fellows had held a Friday-afternoon workshop on teaching portfolios, helmed by faculty from the U.S. Naval Academy. Saturday activities included a "swap session" wherein faculty exchanged ideas. Stephanie encouraged new faculty members to join Project NExT.

**6. Section Officer Election** Dave Carothers and Betty Mayfield announced the names of Section members who had been nominated to fill several Section offices:

Chair: Lee May, Salisbury State University  
Treasurer: Robb Koether, Hampden-Sydney College

No other names were placed in nomination, and both candidates were elected by acclamation. Lee will serve two years as Chair-Elect before becoming Chair. Robb will become Treasurer effective immediately.

Dave and Betty also presented the names of current holders of the offices affected by the impending bylaws changes:

Liaisons Coordinator: Mary Kay Abbey, Montgomery College

Student Activities Coordinator: Kathleen Shannon, Salisbury State University

Webmaster: Laura Spielman, Virginia Tech

At-Large Officer: Stephanie Cawthorne, Marymount University

Dan Kalman moved that these individuals be "officially" elected to their current offices, subject to the impending bylaws changes. This motion was carried by acclamation.

**7. John Smith Distinguished Teaching Award:** Bud Brown presented the Distinguished Teaching Award to Robert Lewand of Goucher College.

[View List of Present/Past Teaching Award Winners](#)

He also mentioned that the Selection Committee is currently in need of a non-academic individual to replace the outgoing Bonita Saunders and asked for assistance from the attendees.

**8. 25- and 50- Year Members:** Betty Mayfield read the names of all those Section members who are celebrating 25 years of membership and 50 years of membership. The only such individual present to accept a certificate was Dan Kalman of American University.

**9. Awards for Student Paper Competition:** Bob Grafton and Dave Carothers announced the winners of the awards for contributed student papers:

3rd place (tie):

Daniilo Machado, Charles Johnson and Patrick Rault, College of William and Mary, "Multiplicative Generation of Integral Matrices via Elementary Bidiagonal Matrices"

Mary R. Lee, James Madison University, "Asymptotic Analysis of an Inward Point Load Acting on a Half Space: A Nonlinearly Elastic Near-Load Model"

2nd place:

Kelly Dickson, James Madison University, "The Modified Picard Method for Singular Problems"

1st place: J. Brandon Coates, Hampden-Sydney College, "CWatsets and Two-Dimensional Cell Complexes"

The Section awarded cash prizes to the top three finishers and will also provide financial support for the first-place finisher to present his paper at this Summer's MathFEST. Other student participants received books as gifts.

**10. COMAP Achievement Recognition:** Jon Scott lauded the outstanding performances of modeling teams from the Governor's School in the COMAP Modeling Competitions. In the Interdisciplinary category, Andrew Carroll, Victoria Chiou, and Jessamyn Liu received one of two "Outstanding" ratings for their report "Where's The Scrub? Aye there's the Rub Environmental Management of the Florida Scrub Lizard." In the Mathematics Modeling competition, Lyric Doshi, Philip Kidd, and Joseph Gonzalez received one of 10 "Outstanding" ratings for their report, "A Dry Solution -- A Study in Fountain Control." Philip O'Brien, Margaret Olson, and Art Vilassakdanont received "Meritorious" recognition for "No Shows, No Seats, No Dice Airline Overbooking and Future Cost Repercussions," and Jonathan Charlesworth, Garrett Urban, and Jeb Ware received the same rating for "Optimal Airline Booking Strategies Under Various Demand Situations." All of these teams presented their work at the Meeting. Jon also noted that a James Madison University team received a "Meritorious" rating, but was not present at the meeting. The students on the JMU team were Steve Penny, Patrick Robenold, and Jason Calhoun. The team of Nic Creehan, Beth Reid, and Joe Woody from Virginia Tech received an "Honorable Mention" rating in the Mathematics competition but were also not present at the Meeting.

Dave Carothers announced that the representative from Texas Instruments had donated a TI-89 calculator for a drawing among the modeling participants. The winner of the drawing was Philip Kidd.

**11. Future Meetings:** Dave announced that the Fall 2002 Section Meeting will be held at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD, on November 1 and 2, 2002. The Spring 2003 Section Meeting will be held in April 2003 (dates as yet unknown) at Hampton

University.

**12. Other Business:** Dipa Choudhury of Loyola College won a drawing for a Derive 5 software package, donated by Texas Instruments. TI also made a number of TI Applications CDs and download cables available to attendees.

Howard Penn moved that letters of thanks be sent to appropriate officials at St. Mary's College; the motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Dan Kalman asked that Bob Grafton be given a special round of applause in recognition of his last meeting as Program Chair.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Christopher E. Barat

Secretary, MD-DC-VA Section