Minutes of Business Meeting
Mathematical Association of America
Maryland-District of Columbia-Virginia Section
Spring Sectional Meeting
Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA
Saturday, April 12, 2003

The meeting was called to order by Chair David Carothers at 1:30 p.m.

- **1. Minutes of Fall 2002 Meeting:** The minutes of the Fall 2002 Business Meeting were distributed by Secretary Christopher Barat. The minutes were read and approved with no corrections being made.
- **2. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Robb Koether distributed copies of his report to attendees. As of 4/12/03, the general account balance was \$9808.32, the balance of the Milcetich Fund was \$2004.04, and the balance in the Project NExT Fund was \$1147.14. Robb reported that a total of 132 individuals (including 41 undergraduate and high-school students and 2 graduate students) had registered for the Fall Meeting; 102 of these individuals had pre-registered, and the remaining 30 individuals had registered on-site. Pre-registration receipts totaled \$1902.70. In addition, the Section received \$100 in vendor fees from Duxbury/Thomson Learning, the only publisher to have a vendor table at the Meeting.

Dan Kalman asked how the fund balances have been faring on an annual basis. Robb answered that, while he could only speak definitively about the one year in which he has been Treasurer, the fund levels have been "holding steady" for the most part.

3. Governor's Report: Betty Mayfield wished all attendees a Happy Mathematics Awareness Month. She reminded attendees of several Summer workshop programs of interest to MAA members: PREP (Professional Enhancement Programs) and PMET (Preparing Mathematicians to Educate Teachers). Brochures describing these programs were available at the registration table during the Meeting. Also, the annual Summer MathFEST is being held from July 31 to August 2 in Boulder, CO. Betty further noted that SAUM (Supporting Assessment in Undergraduate Mathematics) will soon be sending representatives to the various MAA Sections to hold workshops on conducting assessment activities, and that grant money is currently available from the MAA for supporting undergraduate mathematics conferences. She closed by asking attendees to sign get-well cards (available at the registration table) for Section member George Mackiw of Loyola College, who is presently recovering from cancer surgery.

- **4. Project NExT Report:** Stephanie Cawthorne reported that Project NeXT had sponsored a successful panel after the Friday-night banquet on "Education of and Career Opportunities for Nontraditional Mathematics Majors" and had also held a Saturday panel on preparing to apply for tenure. She recognized those Fellows who were graduating this Spring.
- **5. Elections:** Dave Carothers presented the following slate of nominations to fill Section offices, provided by the Nominations and Elections Committee:

Program Chair (vice-chair 1 year, 2-year term): Bud Brown, Virginia Tech Secretary (3-year term): Will Traves, U.S. Naval Academy

Newsletter Editor (2-year term): Fozia Qazi, St. Mary's College of Maryland Student Activities Coordinator (3-year term): Kimber Tysdal, Hood College Liaisons Coordinator (3-year term): Mary Kay Abbey, Montgomery College Webmaster (completion of remaining 2 years of term): Laura Spielman, Virginia Tech At-large Director (Section NeXT) (1-year term): Stephanie Cawthorne, Marymount

At-large Director (1-year term): Denny Gulick, University of Maryland, College Park

No additional nominations were made, and the slate was approved unanimously. Retiring officers (Will Traves [Newsletter Editor], Chris Barat, Kathleen Shannon, and Dave Carothers) were recognized and presented with gifts of MAA books.

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- **6. Sites of Future Meetings:** Dave Carothers introduced Lee May (Salisbury University) as the incoming Section Chair. Lee proceeded to inform the attendees that the Fall 2003 Meeting will be held on November 7-8, 2003, at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. This Meeting will feature a Friday-afternoon workshop on undergraduate research led by Joseph Gallian, who will also serve as the Friday-night banquet speaker. The Spring 2004 Meeting will be at Salisbury University, most likely during the month of April.
- **7. Awards Meeting:** In a special meeting held prior to the Business Meeting, the Section distributed the following awards and recognitions:
- a. Rebecca Berg of Bowie State University received the Section's Distinguished Teaching Award. She received a cash prize and a plaque from Bud Brown.
- b. Jon Scott recognized the Section student teams that had participated in and received

"Meritorious" ratings in the MCM Mathematical Modeling contest. Two teams represented Maggie Walker Governor's School, while the remaining three teams represented James Madison University, the University of Richmond, and the University of Virginia. One team from the Governor's School and the team from James Madison presented their results at the Meeting. (continued)

## **7.** (continued)

c. All students who participated in the undergraduate poster contest at the Meeting were recognized and presented with MAA books by Kathleen Shannon. In addition, the following students won cash prizes:

Research: 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Lyle Walden, Mike Dempsey, and Carla Owen, Randolph-Macon

College

"The Stuntman Problem"

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Namrata Verma, New Horizons Governor's School (Hampton)

"The Effect of a Potential Gradient on the Range of the Equilibrium

Parameter in the Fitzhugh-Nagumo Equations"

1<sup>st</sup> place: Mihaela Guberovic, Virginia Military Institute

"Continuous Approximation Methods for Noisy Data"

Exposition: 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Alex Reczkowski, Hampden-Sydney College

"The Golden Music of Iannis Xenakis"

2<sup>nd</sup> place: **Jennifer Webb, Hood College** 

"The Mathematician Who Sold His Soul to the Devil: Gerbert"

1<sup>st</sup> place: **Danielle Boyd, Morgan State University** 

"The Hex Game: Calculus, Combinatorics, and Topology in Play"

Mihaela Guberovic was invited to present her research at MathFEST with the financial support of the Section.

**8. Other Business:** A motion to send letters of thanks to appropriate officials at Norfolk State University was unanimously approved.

Jon Scott reminded attendees that all MAA members should have received a ballot in the mail so that they can vote in the national MAA elections. Members can also vote on-line at the MAA Web site.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Submitted by:

Christopher E. Barat Secretary, MD-DC-VA Section