

MAA MD-VA-DC General Membership Meeting
Virginia State University
Virginia State University, VA
EB 120
April 29, 2023

Meeting called to order at 11:11AM.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2022

Minutes approved at 11:16AM contingent upon minor changes to typographical errors.

II. REPORT OF THE TREASURER: PHILLIP POPLIN

Treasurer Phillip Poplin reported that accounts are “generally health right now” and referred members to the newsletter for a hard copy of much of his report and the financial figures. Treasurer Poplin indicated that all financial statements and records were current as March 30, 2023.

Dan Kalman inquired about the “distance/spread between the local maximum and local minimum across a time frame,” and a brief discussion supported by a graph containing the trend of account balances ensued.

Treasurer Poplin then briefly discussed expenditures required for section meetings (highlighting increased food and catering costs) and outlined registration numbers for the current meeting. A brief discussion of the historical trend of attendance to section meetings followed, whereupon Treasurer Poplin noted that we “appear to be trending back to pre-Covid numbers.”

Treasurer Poplin was then asked about the PayPal fee used to cover/facilitate online registrations and payments, which some noted seemed a little high. Treasurer Poplin noted that it seemed to be inline with other online payment options and highlighted its value as price for convenience and efficiency of collecting fees. Edray Goins then noted that the MAA hopes to have a solution to this problem that will work for all sections.¹

III. REPORT OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MAA CONGRESS: MAGGIE RAHMOELLER

Representative to the MAA Congress Maggie Rahmoeller was introduced and noted that she was “still excited to be here” and representing the section. Representative Rahmoeller briefly discussed the 2022 MathFest (which was her first MathFest as the section’s representative to the MAA Congress) and the 2023 MathFest. Regarding the 2023 MathFest, Representative Rahmoeller indicated upcoming registration deadlines for contributed talks and poster sessions. Additionally, Representative Rahmoeller briefly discussed the MAA’s statement in response to the site selection of Tampa, FL, where the MAA elected to use the site as a way to highlight the MAA’s core values² as opposed to cowering

¹Edray Goins seemed to indicate that the MAA was in discussions to begin using Fonteva to help facilitate online registration and payment transactions.

²Community, Inclusivity, Communication, and Teaching and Learning

in response to the political climate of the moment in Florida.

Representative Rahmoeller then took a moment to promote the exploration of the MAA’s website, emphasizing the wealth of curriculum resources available to members.

Representative Rahmoeller then asked the general membership for input regarding issues that they (the general membership) would like to see Representative Rahmoeller bring back to National in August. Some of the areas of concern mentioned included:

- The aforementioned issue/cost of PayPal fees
- The (seemingly growing) trend of locations now charging fees for the use of their spaces for/during section meetings. In particular, the general membership was interested in knowing whether this (i) is/was a National trend, (ii) is/was the MAA aware, (iii) is this a reason for concern, and (iv) whether National has suggestions for how to deal with this.
- Some minor issues with online registration for MathFest.

On a positive note, Dina Yagodich asked Representative Rahmoeller to relay to national how “how great the speaker series is and to encourage others to use it,” noting that “We have two of them this week and it is great.”³

Lastly, Representative Rahmoeller made note of changes that will be coming in the upcoming year, alerting everyone to upcoming changes to the bylaws. At the moment, Representative Rahmoeller was unaware of the exact nature of the changes, but Edray Goins was (again) available with some insider information and noted that the changes would largely be about “voting and timeline for officer roles, with the MAA trying to unify and put/get all sections on the same page.”

IV. REPORT OF THE NEW FACULTY COORDINATOR: JILLE TYSSE

There was no report from the New Faculty Coordinator as they were involved with Radical Dash at the time.

V. REPORT OF THE PROGRAM CHAIR: DINA YAGODICH

Program Chair Dina Yagodich briefly mentioned elections (indicating to the membership that they effectively just voted for Vice Program Chair).⁴ Dina then announced locations and dates for the fall 2023⁵ and spring 2024⁶ section meetings.

³There has (seemingly) been an increased emphasis on the speaker series in the section of late and it has been met with near universal praise by those who have been aware of it and used it.

⁴At the time of the meeting there had been some ongoing maneuverings related to the roles of Program Chair and Vice Program Chair that were intended to resynchronize everything after Covid. The issue was related to Ryan Shifler having been elected to serve a second term (beginning in 2022–2023) as program chair, with Dina Yagodich in the role of Vice Program Chair; but it appeared that one is not supposed to serve two consecutive terms as program chair. As such, Dina Yagodich served as Vice Program Chair in the fall of 2022 and then took over as Program Chair in the spring of 2023. Dina will then serve as Program Chair in 2023–2024, with Blain Patterson stepping in as Vice Program Chair.

⁵Stevenson University, October 13 and 14

⁶James Madison University, April 26–27

Dina then finished with a general announcement, noting that everything was going smoothly this week and thanking everyone for their help.

VI. REPORT OF THE SECTION CHAIR: KATHRYN LINEHAN

Section Chair Kathryn Linehan began by noting that her term was ending and that Jason Rosenhouse was Section Chair Elect but he would be taking a visiting position out of the section in the 2023–2024 academic year. Dave Taylor graciously agreed to step in and serve as Section Chair in 2023–2024 and 2024–2025.⁷

Section Chair Linehan expressed her thanks to the members for providing her the opportunity to serve as Chair.

VII. REPORT OF THE AWARDS COMMITTEE, REPRESENTED BY TOM WEARS

Secretary Tom Wears announced that Jennifer Bergner of Salisbury University as the recipient of the section’s John M. Smith Teaching Award and announced members who were being recognized/celebrating their 25th or 50th years as members of the MAA .

VIII. POTENTIAL REPORTS FROM OTHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

a. There were no additional reports. Section Chair Linehan took a moment to again express thanks and gratitude to all outgoing executive officers and announced the incoming officers.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION:

There were no items of new business or essential open discussion, but the close of the meeting was met with an unusual bit of parliamentary procedure: Dan Kalman moved that in Bud’s absence someone make Bud’s proposal requesting that a letter be sent to Virginia State University expressing thanks for their service as host. Dave Taylor responded by moving that Dan make Bud’s proposal. Taking liberties with Dave’s proposal, Dan then announced that “I am Bud” and motioned that a letter be sent to Virginia State University thanking them for volunteering to serve as host site and commending them on a well run meeting, making note to extend thanks to Mohammad Tabanjeh for his work as local site coordinator.⁸

X. Meeting adjourned at 11:53AM.

⁷This will be Dave’s second term as chair and led to some interesting trivia questions as to whether there has previously been anyone who has served two terms as Section Chair.

⁸The author of the minutes is not able to accurately capture the truly delightful nature of the tongue-in-check exchange, but is always appreciative of levity.