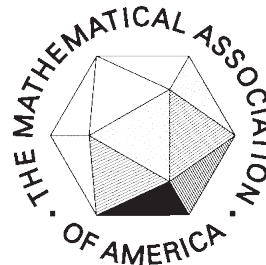


Norman Richert, Editor  
Michigan Section–MAA Newsletter  
Mathematical Reviews  
University of Michigan  
P.O. Box 8604  
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8604

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**Michigan Section – MAA**

**NEWSLETTER**

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**Volume 29, Number 1**

**December 2002**

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**ICM 2002 in Beijing**

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**IN THIS ISSUE:**  
*Reflections on a Transition from Graduate School*

**Mathematical Association of America**  
**Michigan Section Newsletter**  
**Volume 29, Number 1**

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**Editor:** Norman Richert, Mathematical Reviews, P.O. Box 8604, Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8604; 734-996-5254; fax 734-996-2916, [nrichert@ams.org](mailto:nrichert@ams.org)

**Advertising Manager:** Matthew Boelkins, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI 49401-9403; 616-895-3384; fax 616-895-3120, [boelkinsm@gvsu.edu](mailto:boelkinsm@gvsu.edu)

### Abbreviations

C = College	MTU = Michigan Technological U
CC = Community College	NMU = Northern Michigan U
CMU = Central Michigan U	OU = Oakland U
EMU = Eastern Michigan U	SHU = Siena Heights U
FSU = Ferris State U	SVSU = Saginaw Valley State U
GVSU = Grand Valley State U	U = University
KU = Kettering U	UDM = U of Detroit Mercy
LSSU = Lake Superior State U	UM = U of Michigan
LTU = Lawrence Technological U	WMU = Western Michigan U
MSU = Michigan State U	WSU = Wayne State U

## Calendar of Events

January 11, 2003	MMPC Grading Day, Delta C Planetarium
January 15–18, 2003	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, Baltimore
February 15, 2003	MI Undergraduate Conference, UM–Dearborn
March 8, 2003	MMPC Awards Banquet, Bay Valley Resort
April 10–12, 2003	NCTM Annual Meeting, San Antonio
May 2–3, 2003	Michigan Section Meeting, SVSU, Saginaw
July 31–August 2, 2003	MAA MathFest, Boulder
October 2003	MichMATYC Fall Conference, Lansing CC
November 13–16, 2003	AMATYC Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City
January 7–10, 2004	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix
April 22–24, 2004	NCTM Annual Meeting, Philadelphia
April or May, 2004	Michigan Section Meeting, OU, Rochester
August 12–14, 2004	MAA MathFest, Providence
November 18–21, 2004	AMATYC Annual Meeting, Orlando
April 7–9, 2005	NCTM Annual Meeting, Anaheim
April or May, 2005	Michigan Section Meeting, Alma C, Alma
August 4–6, 2005	MAA MathFest, Albuquerque
November 10–13, 2005	AMATYC Annual Meeting, San Diego
April or May, 2006	Michigan Section Meeting, Calvin C, Gr. Rapids
January 5–8, 2005	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, Atlanta
January 12–15, 2006	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, San Antonio
January 4–7, 2007	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, New Orleans

### The Web has all the information

Detailed information about most of the events shown above can be obtained from the relevant organizations' Web sites, such as [www.maa.org](http://www.maa.org) (with links for all the sections), [www.nctm.org](http://www.nctm.org), [www.mictm.org](http://www.mictm.org), and [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org).

### On the Cover

The International Congress of Mathematicians was held in Beijing in the Summer of 2002. Many Michigan mathematicians were in attendance. This photo of the opening ceremonies, attended by China's President Jiang Zemin, was taken by **Ruth Favro** (LTU).

## Chairperson's Report

It's a tradition in the Michigan Section! Over the years the Michigan Section has benefited from the efforts of the many wonderful volunteers dedicated to the mission of the Section. At this time, I would like to personally highlight the efforts of some of these people. Others, whom I should spotlight but happen to omit at this time, I will include in the Spring Newsletter.

First, I would like to thank **Ruth Favro** (LTU), Past Chair, for service as Chair and in many other capacities over a long period of time.

**Mike Merscher** (LTU) and the other members of the Local Arrangements Committee did a superb job at last May's meeting at Lawrence Technological University.

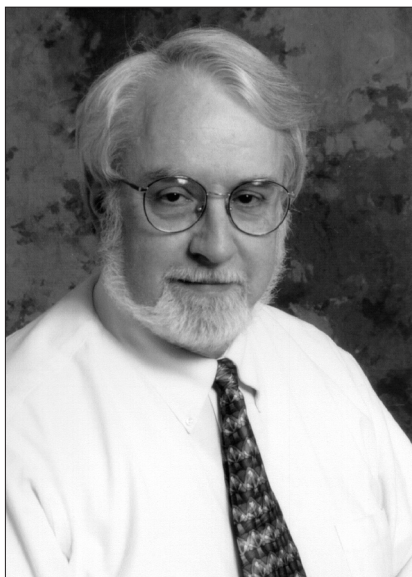
Next, I would like to thank **Jerry Grossman** (OU) for his five years as editor of the Newsletter and his continuing service as Section Governor. Feedback from those who receive newsletters from Sections across the country indicates that the Michigan Section Newsletter is highly regarded. **Norm Richert** (Mathematical Reviews) has now taken over as Editor.

**Jim Ham** (Delta C) has finished his term as Two-year College Vice Chair. Jim gave me good advice as I planned last May's meeting. We welcome **Scott Barnett** (Henry Ford CC) as the new Two-year College Vice Chair.

Thanks go to **Bob Messer** for his outstanding service as Director of MMPC. **David Redman** (Delta C) has now taken over as MMPC Director. David is increasing the use of a Web site for MMPC.

Thanks go to Ad Manager **Matthew Boelkins** (GVSU), Public Information Officer **Bob Xeras** (SHU retired), Webmaster **Earl Fife** (Calvin C), and Secretary/Treasurer **Margret Höft** (UM-Dearborn).

**Steve Schlicker** (GVSU), the new Four-year Vice Chair and Chair of the Program Committee, will guide the development of the program for the annual meeting to be held at SVSU next May 2 and 3. **Tom Zerger** (SVSU) is the Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee. Other members of the committee are **Rose Novey**, **Tyler Haynes**, **Bing Liu**, and **John Mooningham**.



Finally, I would like to briefly spotlight a topic that was explored in our Section meeting last May. For a variety of reasons, **Quantitative Literacy (QL)** has become an important focus for us as mathematics professionals. In this context, we make decisions that will have a major impact on the role we play in the society of the future. It is in the area of QL where we meet the public. I plan to have more to say about QL at a later time.

**John Mooningham, Chair**

## Annual Meeting in May

The next joint meeting of the Michigan Section MAA and MichMATYC will be held on May 2–3, 2003 at Saginaw Valley State University. We are planning an exciting program with a variety of talks and workshops in mathematics, the teaching of mathematics, applications of mathematics, and other issues of professional interest. We are hard at work recruiting speakers and planning what we expect will be an exciting and informative program. Speakers to date include **Jeffrey Weeks** and **Deborah Ball** (UM-Ann Arbor). More details will appear in the Spring Newsletter, which you should receive in April.



In addition to our invited speakers, we will have sessions for contributed papers and a special session for papers by undergraduates. Instructions for submitting abstracts for one of these sessions are contained in the Call for Papers, which is on page 33 of this Newsletter. Speaking at a contributed paper session is an excellent way to share your work and become acquainted with your colleagues in Michigan.

The meeting is scheduled to run all day Friday and Saturday morning. There will be luncheons both days and a banquet Friday evening. As is our custom, we present both a teaching award and a service award at the Friday banquet.

The program committee for this year consists of co-chairs **Steven Schlicker** (GVSU) and **Scott Barnett** (Henry Ford CC) along with **Paul Fishback** (GVSU), **Sid Graham** (CMU), and **Rebecca Walker** (GVSU). Please notify one of us if you would like to give a presentation or if you

have a suggestion for the program. **Tom Zerger** (SVSU) is the chair of the local arrangements committee. Contact information for all of us is given on page 34.

**Steve Schlicker, Four-year College Vice Chair**

## Governor's Report

At the national level, the MAA is in good shape financially, and membership is growing. New software at the Washington headquarters should allow the organization to function more efficiently; for example, you will soon be able to order MAA books online. The Board of Governors authorized management to look into electronic voting for national MAA elections, potentially saving time and money used for paper ballots. (Sadly, only about 15% of us vote in these elections.)

The CUPM has been working on guidelines for undergraduate programs in mathematics. See some of their documents at [www.maa.org/news/cupm.html](http://www.maa.org/news/cupm.html).

Check the MAA Web site for information on the exciting Mathematical Tour of Greece, May 22 to June 5.

A new SIGMAA has been formed, dealing with environmental mathematics. It plans to meet for the first time at the January meeting in Baltimore.

As always, please let me know about anything that you would like to see happening in the national organization, and especially let me know if you would like to volunteer for service at the national level. Also, the national nominating committee is soliciting nominations for President-elect (to succeed **Ron Graham**). If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

Finally, a request. The Michigan Section Newsletter is provided free to all MAA members, as well as to all full-time faculty in mathematics at all the colleges, community college, and universities in Michigan. It is a major expense, but the Section officers have felt for many years that producing a high-quality Newsletter for this audience is important. The Newsletter is also available online at the Section Web site. If you are an MAA member, then you can do your part to support the Newsletter, as well as all the other





worthwhile Section activities, from the annual meeting to the MMPC, by paying the voluntary Section dues; just fill out the form on page 28 and mail it in with your check. Note that dues-paying members receive free registration at our annual Section meeting. If you are not an MAA member, then please seriously consider joining at the national level (see the form on page 36) as well as paying your Section dues. Thanks!

**Jerrold W. Grossman, Governor**

## Secretary/Treasurer's Report

The Michigan Section's current account balance as of October 1, 2002 was \$5,150.48; last year's October 1 balance was \$5,242.33, and on October 1, 2000 the balance was \$5,039.97. The figures indicate that we have a fairly stable balance of income and expenses.

One of the major expenses, which benefits the entire mathematical community in Michigan, is the printing and mailing of the Section's Newsletter. It is mailed to all faculty in mathematical sciences departments in Michigan colleges and universities, in addition to MAA members in Michigan. Another major expense is the annual Section meeting in the spring, to be held next at Saginaw Valley State University, May 2–3, 2003. The Section also provides financial support for the Michigan Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, to be held next at the University of Michigan-Dearborn on February 15, 2003.

The Section's income derives mostly from voluntary dues payments of the Section's members, supplemented by an occasional grant and by a \$1,000 annual contribution from the national MAA. The annual request for Section dues was sent out to each member of the MAA in Michigan in early October. The time to send in your dues, if you have not already done so, is NOW. The dues structure is the same as last year, a real bargain: \$15 for a regular individual membership, \$30 (or more) for a contributing membership, and either \$40 or \$70 for an institutional membership, depending on the size



of the institution. You will find a dues form on page 28 of this Newsletter. Please encourage your colleagues, especially new department faculty, to support the activities of the Section by paying Section dues.

**Margret Höft, Secretary/Treasurer**

## Fifth Undergraduate Mathematics Conference

On Saturday, February 15 the University of Michigan-Dearborn will host the Fifth annual Michigan Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, MUMC. We anticipate 150 participants from Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Nebraska. The focus of the conference is approximately thirty-five 15-minute presentations by undergraduates on their mathematical research. In addition there will be presentations by graduate programs, REU sites, and industry. The keynote speaker is **Arthur T. Benjamin**, a professor of Mathematics at Harvey Mudd College and the winner of the Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics, awarded by the MAA, 2000.

## Members Honored with Highest Awards

Professor **Charlene Beckmann** (GVSU) and Professor **Bette Warren** (EMU) were presented with the Michigan Section's Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics and for Distinguished Service, respectively, at the banquet during the 2002 Annual Meeting last May in Southfield.

Charlene was cited for her requirement that students be active learners and for her work with prospective teachers, among other things. The citation that was presented to Char is shown on page 7.

Bette has served the Section in many roles, including Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. She has taken the lead in several programs nurturing and supporting women mathematicians in the state. The citation that was presented to Bette is reproduced on page 6.

Photographs of both Char and Bette appear in the photo spread on pages 18 and 19.



CITATION  
for  
**BETTE L. WARREN**  
for the  
**MICHIGAN SECTION OF THE  
MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICA  
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

The Michigan Section of the Mathematical Association of America is pleased to recognize Bette L. Warren, Professor of Mathematics, Eastern Michigan University, as the 2002 recipient of its Distinguished Service Award. We gratefully acknowledge the many contributions she has made both to our Section and to the larger mathematical community for many years.

Bette served the Michigan Section as the Chair of Women's Study Committee, as Secretary/Treasurer, as Vice-Chair and Program Chair, Chair, Past Chair, HSVLP Co-director, Chair of the Nominating Committee, and candidate for Governor.

In addition, Bette has taken a strong leadership role in the Michigan Women and Mathematics project. She organized support gatherings, scheduled activities, helped implement a grant from the Tensor foundation, organized outreach activities, shared wisdom with the women mathematicians in the state, and provided a vision for the future activities of the group.

At Eastern Michigan University, Bette has chaired numerous committees for the department, college, university, and AAUP. She served as President of the University Faculty Council (1992–1995), and she was awarded the 1995 EMU Distinguished Faculty Award for Service to the University.

For her many years of dedicated service and outstanding leadership, the Michigan Section is proud to present the

**2002 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD  
TO  
PROFESSOR BETTE L. WARREN**

Award for Distinguished College or University  
Teaching of Mathematics  
Presented to  
**Charlene E. Beckmann**

The Michigan Section of the Mathematical Association of America is pleased to announce that Professor Charlene (Char) E. Beckmann of Grand Valley State University has been selected as the 2002–2003 recipient of the **Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics**.

Dr. Beckmann has been teaching at Grand Valley State University for the past 12 years. Char is an effective and innovative classroom teacher who began her career as a mathematics teacher (grades 7–12) after graduating cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Marquette University in 1974. After a variety of teaching experiences, she continued her schooling and received her Ph.D. from Western Michigan University in 1988.

In *all* of the courses that Char teaches, she requires students to be active learners both inside and outside the classroom environment. She immerses her students in mathematics by routinely incorporating authentic assessment, mathematics in real context, appropriate technology, and cooperative learning. Dr. Beckmann has published a series of workbooks with Addison Wesley (1990, 1992, 1993) that integrate the teaching tools that she has used so well over the years.

In the mathematics education courses that Dr. Beckmann teaches, she takes her responsibility for preparing prospective teachers seriously. She expects prospective teachers to find, adapt, and/or create appropriate mathematical curricula and organize these materials into a cohesive and mathematically meaningful unit.

It takes 16 pages to document all of Dr. Beckmann's accomplishments. Amongst the most notable are her publications in *PRIMUS*, *School Science & Mathematics*, *Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School*, *Mathematics Teacher*, *MAA Notes*, *NCTM 2002 Yearbook*, and numerous *ICTCM Proceedings*. Dr. Beckmann has received over \$350,000 in external funding, in particular Eisenhower grants, which have been dedicated to improving the mathematical competency of teachers and prospective teachers.

Char also finds time in her busy schedule to be an active member of the Michigan Calculus Network and has served as a site director for the MCTM 2001 conference. She is a member of the MCTM Executive Board.

One of Prof. Beckmann's students writes, "Dr. Beckmann is one of the more effective instructors I have ever had. I have worked hard but have learned a great deal. Her methods of teaching and assignments and tests are very thought provoking and stimulate one to explore the why, creating a better basis of knowledge to take away with you."

## From the Origin: A Section for Opinion

From the Origin provides a forum for lively discussion of issues of importance to the mathematical community. The Michigan Section—MAA Newsletter solicits opinion pieces for publication in this column from anyone in the Michigan mathematical community. In addition, comments on pieces published in earlier issues are welcomed.

Items for From the Origin should be submitted to the editor by the beginning of October to be considered for inclusion in the December issue and by the beginning of February for the April issue. Main opinion pieces should be at most 1800 words long, and responses at most 400. The editors reserve the right to shorten responses, if necessary, in order to fit as many as possible within the available space.

### Reflections on a Transition from Graduate School

Gavin LaRose  
UM-Ann Arbor

On the day I received my undergraduate degree, one of those people swirling around me asked what is a particularly reasonable question given the circumstances: “What are you going to do after graduation?” On hearing that I was going to graduate school, the follow-up question, “Are you going to teach, then?” was, perhaps, understandable.

I said, “No, I don’t think so.”

Five years later, looking at the prospect of finishing graduate school, I was applying for teaching jobs. To any who asked I replied that this was because I realized in the past couple of years that the days I left work the happiest were those on which I had been teaching. But I couldn’t say that I was doing a whole lot of teaching. The sum total of my teaching experience in graduate school consisted of working in a short summer program for bright high school students, for whom a cadre of graduate students were recruited to teach courses on any topic at all—mine was called “Mathematical Modeling”—and running homework recitation sections for one class each quarter of my last year as a graduate student. I have a vague memory of a meeting of math TAs at the beginning of that year, in which the expectations and responsibilities of the role were, I suppose, clarified. But the only thing I’m sure that I retained from the meeting was a contact with another TA I saw later at several national meetings as we made the transition from graduate students to academic professionals.

And so I went into my first recitation overly prepared, and by the time I got to the third had disposed of most preparation and cheerfully

## From the Origin

worked with the class the problems of those who came to ask them. I gave a couple of substitute lectures for the faculty with whom I was working, which were frenetic in their energy, faultless in their organization, and most memorable for a comment made by a student long after my efforts: It is never possible to follow a lecture from start to finish. Even mine, as it turned out.

Then, after around four months, 120 job applications, 20 or 30 employment register interviews, three on-campus interviews and one job-offer—it was a bad year to be looking for jobs—I was standing at the front of a first-semester calculus class as a shiny new assistant professor. Where does one start filling in a completely clean slate with a lecture for a class one took nine years before, especially when there are 40 more class-days visible behind the cinderblock back wall of the classroom? I started with the notes from the Calculus I course I took my freshman year in college, which (astonishingly) I still had—until I found that their content was more impressive for its doodled hands, faces, dragons and cartoons than for any organized mathematical presentation. Closing the notebook, in a time-honored tradition I took a deep breath and asked the questions “what is calculus?” and “what are we doing this semester?”

As the semester came to a close I was asking different questions, like “how can in-class time be made more effective?” While teaching at a small school may have increased the efficacy of my frenetic lectures, the lesson given by my student in graduate school remained. In my first semester I had tried an occasional stab at something other than lecturing, but had only slightly better than no success. However, I had the good fortune to be a Fellow in the MAA’s Project NExT (“New Experiences in Teaching”), starting in the summer I completed graduate school, with the subsequent meetings of my fellowship year taking place the winter and summer following that. It was from this program that I sought such answers to these questions as could be found—in fact, the origin of the questions can itself be traced to a great extent to the workshop I attended that first summer. My department was small (five faculty for a combined mathematics and computer science department), and I made the transition from primarily lecturing to a more active classroom on the strength of the sum of its wisdom with that of the 65 other Fellows I had contact with through Project NExT.

As time has passed since that first year, I’ve wondered and been asked by others whether my experience in graduate school prepared me

## From the Origin: A Section for Opinion

for the plunge I took into teaching and being an academic professional. The waters of the academic sea are deep and wide. I think it's possible to dive into teaching, especially when teaching three and four courses a semester (with two to four preparations), and never surface to find the breath to dive again into the service and scholarship that are expected and necessary for academic survival. Or, in the course of the first dive, to get stuck irretrievably between that and the inevitable pull of service and see little more.

My understanding of all of these things as I emerged from graduate school was very close to nonexistent. The expectations of service and scholarship were lined up behind the other walls of my first-day classroom, but I don't know if I really saw them then. Coming out of graduate school it is perhaps not so hard to understand what continuing research means, but as I wandered into the service component of my professional role I think the largest asset I had was that (in at least some cases) I was able to think just fast enough to keep my mouth shut. Insofar as deferring to the inevitable and postponing the undesirable may be graciously accomplished by silence, there may be something to be said for retaining that part of one's role as a graduate student that involves keeping a low profile by saying less than one thinks. Of course, this is clouded by the convincing argument that one should say "yes" to opportunity even as one tries to say "no" to those assignments which, from their onerous or political nature, are best avoided. Campus politics, especially at a small school, are a fantastic web, better to be admired from outside than discovered after walking into it. As I traipsed through the committee assignments I fell into, I wandered around this web rather blindly, becoming at some point aware that I had missed it by dint of no conscious act I could pin down. Perhaps the subconscious avoidance techniques of graduate school were at work, or perhaps I was simply lucky.

Or perhaps I was aided by my network of Project NExT Fellows and the colleagues in my department, all of whose opinions I trusted. These networks served to augment what limited knowledge I brought from graduate school to work out my path through the professoriate. Armed with them I was never left adrift as I charted that course, but I don't know that I adequately used the sage advice at my disposal. It is with a vague sense of astonishment and awe that I've watched friends and colleagues equipped with the same bestowed wisdom balance the

## From the Origin

three pillars of their professional career and simultaneously appear to avoid burnout. This mantle of success I am not sure I can claim for myself. I plunged into teaching with the same frenetic energy that I put into my first substitute lectures, and after each semester of running from that to committee meetings, to office hours and grading, I would emerge with a sizeable sleep deficit (something that graduate school did prepare me for, perhaps), reasonable teaching evaluations, and a need to recover the conviction that I love what I do. I have never been a good candidate for the "balancing your professional and personal lives" panels that have appeared now and again at national and regional meetings. Of course, balance and committee work aren't really parts of one's graduate work either.

And so went this first transition in my academic life. By most measures it was made successfully, if informed only in small part by my graduate experience. When the university's evaluation machinery rolled around to my case I had an established niche in which I appeared essential, though I found it periodically to demand more than I was willing to give. And I was able to do many things that I enjoyed doing, not the least of which was teaching—the desire for which directed my job search as I departed from graduate school.

I don't have any illusion that my path is either unique or universal, however. I have since moved from the cozy niche that I carved on emerging from graduate school to a very different one at a school with a graduate program of its own. I am now able to watch this transition from the graduate school side again, albeit vicariously. The view I have now is different, though I don't know how much of this difference is a change in culture over time and how much a change due to location. Here I watch graduate students make their way through an intricate training program designed to give them both the tools and desire to do more than lecture in their courses. When I was in graduate school, I did not have whole courses of my own, a reality dictated at least in part by the administrative reality there. For better or worse, these graduate students are starting with a teaching background I did not have until a semester or so after I left school. Whether it is possible or desirable to also give them a sense of the expectations and requirements lined up behind the other walls of their academic careers I don't know. (After all, who wants to see the underbelly of a curriculum evaluation committee before it is unavoidable?) And I am fortunate to be far enough from



## From the Origin: A Section for Opinion

administration to be able to leave idle my wondering if preparation of this nature is better considered at the level of the graduate school than within the mathematics department.

But in the long run, it seems reassuring that we as academics do make the transitions in our careers—graduate school to the professoriate to other roles as faculty and as academicians—with remarkably consistent success. I wrote in a teaching statement once that at the end of the day it seemed most significant that on Mondays I could still look forward to going to work, an assertion I am happy to still make. And it seems reasonable to hope that anyone making a transition in their academic life might at the end of it be able to say the same.

## VISIT THE MICHIGAN SECTION'S WEB SITE

<http://www.michmaa.org>

## Positions Available

*NOTE: Most positions in the mathematical sciences, including many of the ones listed here, are advertised in Employment Information in the Mathematical Sciences ([www.ams.org/eims](http://www.ams.org/eims)). The MAA also has a Web site for employment opportunities ([www.maa.org/pubs/employ.html](http://www.maa.org/pubs/employ.html)). All openings are for Fall 2003 unless otherwise stated, and further information is available from the department.*

**Eastern Michigan University** ([math.emich.edu/new.html](http://math.emich.edu/new.html)) has a tenure track faculty position for a mathematician or statistician who is interested in directing our actuarial program as well as teaching a variety of mathematics and/or statistics courses.

**Ferris State University** was approved for three new tenure track positions for the Fall. Unfortunately, there is now a budgetary driven freeze on the

*Positions continued on page 17*

Michigan Technological University  
Department of Mathematical Sciences

**MS and PhD Degrees**

Michigan Tech faculty conduct cutting-edge research in bioinformatics, combinatorial designs and algorithms, combustion, computational fluid dynamics, cryptography, error-correcting codes, materials science, wildlife statistics, and many other areas. We have a comprehensive training program for teaching assistants, and PhD students are encouraged to complete an internship at a government agency or private company. These features of our program, along with the coursework in mathematics, statistics, and numerical methods, provide an exceptional preparation for both academic and nonacademic careers.

Full financial support, in the form of teaching and research assistantships, is available for qualified students. For more information, contact: Mark S. Gockenbach, Director of Graduate Studies, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI 49931, (906) 487-3083, msgocken@mtu.edu. Michigan Technological University is an equal opportunity educational institution/equal opportunity employer.

Doctoral Studies at  
**Central Michigan University**

PhD with Concentration in  
**the Teaching of College Mathematics**

This PhD is a content-based degree designed to prepare individuals for a career in college teaching. The program consists of broadly distributed coursework, professional pedagogical component, teaching internship, and dissertation. Areas of research strength include approximation theory, combinatorics, fluid dynamics, functional analysis, operator theory, number theory, algebraic geometry, algebra, differential geometry, statistics, and mathematics education. One GAANN fellowship is available for next year. These fellowships offer an \$18,000 yearly stipend and a reduced teaching assignment.

For information contact: Richard Fleming, Graduate Director, Department of Mathematics, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859; phone 989-774-3596, fax 989-774-2414, mathgrd@cmich.edu, www.cst.cmich.edu/units/mth.

CMU, an AA/EO institution, is strongly and actively committed to increasing diversity within its community ([www.cmich.edu/aaeo.html](http://www.cmich.edu/aaeo.html)).

**Contest News**

The sixteenth American Mathematics Contest AMC8 was held last November 13, 2001. Michigan again led the nation in school participation with enrollment of 184 schools and was second in student participation with 13,220 examinations ordered. Credit and thanks again go to the Exam Managers of the various schools, without whose support, cooperation and enthusiasm the exam could not be offered. We also thank the Directors of Michigan's Mathematics and Science Centers, along with several Gifted and Talented Program Coordinators for their support for the American Mathematics Competitions.

A total of 664 Michigan students earned scores of 16 or higher and were placed on the 2001 Michigan AMC8 Honor Roll; those with scores of 18 or higher have USA Honor Roll standing. A total of 343 students in grades six and below earned scores of 10 or higher to become 2001 Michigan AMC 8 Merit Roll Students; those with scores of 13 or higher have USA Merit Roll standing. All these students were awarded certificates of merit for their achievements.

At the high school level, 110 schools in Michigan gave the AMC10 and AMC12 in February, 2002. High scorers on the AMC12 were **Robert Hough** (HH Dow HS) with 140.5, and **Jordan Marcusse** (West Ottawa HS) with 139.5. On the AMC10, **David Liaw** (AA-Huron HS) and **Neil Bannerjee** (Andover HS) both scored 140.5. High team scorer was Troy HS, closely followed by HH Dow HS.

Two Michigan students, **Sunil Agarwal**, a 7th grader at Boulton Park Middle School in Troy, and **Andrew Koltonow**, an 8th grader at Berkshire Middle School in Birmingham, achieved perfect scores of 25 on the AMC 8; plaques are given to commemorate this accomplishment.

The Edith May Sliffe Award, which is given to recognize the excellence of exam managers whose students are most successful on the AMC 8, was awarded to **Venkatesh Agaram** of the ICAE in Troy, and **Steve Hatt** from Smith Middle School, also in Troy.

This was the last year that **Matthew Wyneken** served as Michigan Co-Director for the AMC 8. Thanks go to Matt for his many years of devoted service. **Kristina Hansen** is joined as Co-Director this year by **Ricardo Alfaro**, also of the UM-Flint.

Three Michigan college students were honored by the Section for their performance on the 2001 Putnam Examination: **Vivek Shende** (UM-Ann Arbor), **David Koop** (Calvin C), and **Andrew Schepler** (MSU).

*Contest News continued on page 31*

## The 46<sup>th</sup> MMPC is Underway

The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual MMPC is underway. My name is **David Redman** (Delta C) and I am the director of the 46<sup>th</sup>, 47<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> MMPC. All information related to the MMPC has been posted at the MMPC web site: [www.delta.edu/math/mmpc](http://www.delta.edu/math/mmpc).

Many thanks to the previous director **Robert Messer** (Albion C) who continues to provide his expert assistance during the transition.

Part I took place on Wednesday, October 9. Results have been tabulated and invitations will be extended to approximately 1,000 students to participate in Part II on Wednesday, December 4.

The exam committee of **Bill Sledd**, chair (MSU), **Edward Aboufadel** (GVSU), **Eddie Cheng** (OU) and **John Clifford** (UM-Dearborn) has worked very hard to prepare Part I and Part II.

Grading Day is Saturday, January 11, 2003 at the Delta C Planetarium in Bay City. Teams of 10 to 12 people will work on each of the five problems of Part II. This is our tentative schedule:

8:30 a.m.–8:55 a.m.	Welcome and Refreshments
9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Grading (Executive Committee Meeting)
12:30 p.m.–1:30 p.m.	Lunch

Discuss this event in your department and come as a group to enjoy this important and fun project of the Michigan Section of the MAA. Send the names of those who are able to attend Grading Day to the director ([bdredman@alpha.delta.edu](mailto:bdredman@alpha.delta.edu)) and watch the MMPC web site for more information.

I am also pleased to announce that one of the speakers on Awards Day (March 8, 2003) will be **Robert Devanney** (Boston C). Awards Day presentations will be held on the campus of Delta College and the banquet will be held at the nearby Bay Valley Resort. All of these facilities are located in the tri-city area of Saginaw, Bay City, and Midland near I-75 and US-10.

**David Redman, Delta C**

## High School Visiting Lecture Program

The High School Visiting Lecture Program has a new home. After spending the last three years at Grand Valley State University, the program will be housed at Lake Superior State University for the next three years. **Brian Snyder** and **Evan Schemm** (LSSU) will be jointly directing this program for the 2002–2003 academic year. I would like to thank the former directors **Steve Schlicker** and **Paul Fishback** (GVSU) for their hard work.

The HSVLP offers high school students and teachers the opportunity

to connect with college and university faculty and other mathematics professionals. Topics that mathematicians share with schools include applications of mathematics in Congressional apportionment and digital communication, careers in mathematics, mathematically based games, and topics in other areas such as chaos theory, combinatorics, and geometry.

Last year there were 22 volunteer speakers from 13 institutions, offering 46 titles. There were 6 requests for visits, all of which were honored. This number is down from 11 requests during the 2000–2001 academic year. All faculty who are interested in giving high school presentations are encouraged to participate. The continually updated list of speakers is available on the Section Web site ([www.michmaa.org/vhs/Announce.html](http://www.michmaa.org/vhs/Announce.html)).

Please encourage any high school teachers you may know to take advantage of the program. There is no charge to them for this service. Teachers can apply directly from the Web site. For further information, see our Web site or contact Brian or Evan.

Contact information:

Brian Snyder: [bsnyder@lssu.edu](mailto:bsnyder@lssu.edu); 906-635-2658

Evan Schemm: [eschemm@lssu.edu](mailto:eschemm@lssu.edu); 906-635-2633

**Brian Snyder, LSSU**

## Positions continued from page 12

hiring of new personnel. It is possible that there will be an exception made to the freeze, perhaps for one or more positions. If you have an interest, please check with our Chair, Dr. Allgaier, for an update (231-591-2565).

**Grand Valley State University** ([www.gvsu.edu/math/jobs.html](http://www.gvsu.edu/math/jobs.html)) anticipates filling tenure track positions in Mathematics and in Mathematics Education as well as a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship in Mathematics or Mathematics Education.

**Hillsdale College** ([www.hillsdale.edu/jobs](http://www.hillsdale.edu/jobs)) has two positions available, one in applied mathematics and one in mathematics.

**Hope College** ([www.math.hope.edu/position.html](http://www.math.hope.edu/position.html)) will have three positions, pending administrative approval, one in statistics and the other two open to all areas of mathematics.

**Northern Michigan University** ([math.nmu.edu](http://math.nmu.edu)) is seeking two tenure track assistant professors in mathematics.

**Oakland University** ([www.math.oakland.edu](http://www.math.oakland.edu)) has one opening this year, for a biostatistician, or a statistician with training in areas related to biostatistics.

# Annual Meeting at Lawrence Technological University, May 10–11, 2002



*Distinguished Teaching Award winner Charlene Beckmann.*



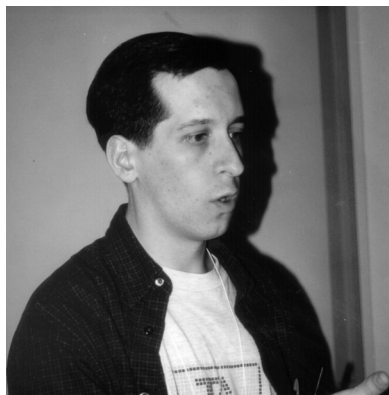
*The new University Technology and Learning Center at Lawrence Technological University.*



*A math nerd (a.k.a. John Mooningham) introduces Keith Devlin.*



*Keith Devlin: How did mathematical ability evolve?*



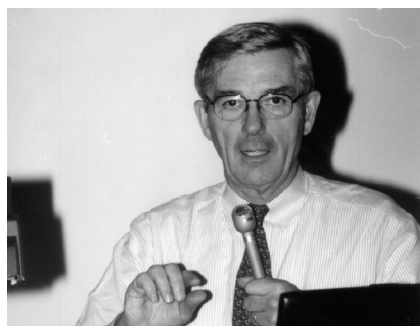
*Brian Conrad (UM-Ann Arbor) speaks on prime values of polynomials.*



*Tara Terry (Oakland U) talks on Derivates of Matrix Functions.*



*Patricia Lamm (MSU).*



*Bernard Madison (U of Arkansas) speaks after lunch on Quantitative Literacy.*



*Glenda Lappan (MSU).*



*Distinguished Service Award winner Bette Warren.*



## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

### Department of Mathematics

The Department offers coursework leading to the degrees of

Master of Science  
Master of Science in Applied Mathematics  
Master of Science in Industrial Mathematics  
Master of Arts for Teachers  
Doctor of Philosophy

Doctoral candidates may pursue study and research in the areas of

algebra  
analysis  
applied mathematics  
combinatorics and graph theory  
dynamical systems  
geometry  
mathematics education  
topology

***Assistantships are available.*** The Department usually awards at least 110 graduate teaching assistantships to new and returning graduate students on the basis of merit. Duties include classroom instruction, paper grading, and help room duties, and normally require no more than 20 hours per week. An assistantship provides a stipend of approximately \$1300 per month and includes health insurance and a 9-credit tuition waiver each semester.

Detailed information is available on our Web pages:

[www.math.msu.edu](http://www.math.msu.edu)

For further information and application materials, contact

Director of Graduate Studies  
Department of Mathematics  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1047  
Telephone: 517-353-4650  
E-mail: [grad@mth.msu.edu](mailto:grad@mth.msu.edu)

## News from the Campuses

### *Adrian College [reported by Cindy Bosio]*

**Nancy Colwell** has been granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. • **Pete Boudreau** has been promoted to Prof. • In recognition of exemplary teaching, Pete Boudreau received the “Newsome Award in Teaching” at the Adrian C Fall Convocation. [cbosio@adrian.edu]

### *Central Michigan University [reported by Ahmad Assaf]*

We have three new Assist. Profs.: **Esther Beneish** in Algebra, **Lisa Demeyer** in Differential Geometry, and **Peter Vermeive** in Algebraic Geometry. • **Sivaram K. Narayan** is on sabbatical for the Fall at William and Mary C in VA • **Kiya Famoye** is on sabbatical for the Spring semester of 2003. • **Yury Ionin** is on a research professorship this semester. • Professor Emeritus **Donald Hazekamp** died on Oct. 18, 2002. Hazekamp was a member of the math faculty at CMU from 1961 to 1993. [Assaf1am@mail.cmich.edu]

### *Eastern Michigan University [reported by Tim Carroll]*

**Barb Britton** was tenured and promoted to Assoc. Prof. • **Nelly Ullman** and **Mary Yorke** retired. • **Odiviu Calin** and **Bingwu Wang** were hired as Assist. Profs. • **Jean Pedersen**, **Peter Hilton**, and **Richard Fleming** were among our Colloquium speakers. • The EMU Math Education Conference will be on March 22. [mth\_carroll@emuvax.emich.edu]

### *Ferris State University [reported by James Howard]*

During the past year, we had the following colleagues retire: **George Wales**, **Betty & Gene Arnold**, and **Vaclav Konecny**. • We are also pleased to welcome **Darrell Allgaier** to our Department as our new Chair. He comes to us from Belhaven C where he was Chair of the Mathematics Department. [James\_M\_Howard@ferris.edu]

### *Grand Valley State University [reported by Paul Fishback]*

**Jan Shroyer** has retired. • **Don VanderJagt** and **Jody Sorensen** are enjoying sabbaticals this year. • The department welcomes three new members: **Jonathan Hodge**, Assist. Prof., Ph.D. WMU; **Reva Kasman**, Assist. Prof., Ph.D. U Illinois-Chicago; **Jan Figa**, Visit. Assist. Prof., Ph.D. U Illinois-Urbana/Champaign. • Tenure was awarded to **David Austin** and **Jody Sorensen**. Jody was also promoted to Assoc. Prof. • An NSF-sponsored REU program ran at GVSU during Summer 2002. GVSU faculty **Steven Schlicker**, **Edward Aboufadel**, **Jody Sorensen**, and **Clark Wells** worked with eight students from around the country (California, Oregon, Georgia, Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan) on research projects in distance geometry, wavelets, dynamical systems, and topology. Three of the students were from Michigan schools: **Lisa Driskell** from CMU, **Rana Mikkelsen** from Kalamazoo C, and **Keith Dailey** from GVSU. The REU program included funded trips to Northwestern U on the July 4th weekend and a trip to Mathfest in Vermont in early August. At Mathfest, talks by students were well received. [fishbacp@gvsu.edu]



## WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

### Department of Mathematics

The Department of Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences, Western Michigan University, consists of 31 full-time faculty members with specialties in many areas of mathematics and mathematics education. About 45 graduate students are supported by assistantships and doctoral associateships. The University is located in southwestern Michigan, midway between Chicago and Detroit, and less than an hour's drive from Lake Michigan.

*Degree Programs* The Department offers Ph.D.'s in Mathematics, Mathematics Education, and Collegiate Mathematics Education; and Master's degrees in Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Computational Mathematics, and Mathematics Education. Our graduate students receive individualized attention and encouragement from professors who are committed to maintaining the highest standards in both research and teaching.

*Financial Assistance* A variety of assistance is available. Stipend levels for 2002–2003 were \$11,000 to \$12,300. We anticipate a similar level of support for 2003–2004. All teaching assistants receive tuition waivers. Additional support may be available for one of the two Summer sessions. Applications submitted by February 14, 2003, will receive full consideration. Even after this date, feel free to apply, as assistantships are often available until July. All application materials are available on-line. Late applications are accepted as long as openings remain. For additional information, please contact:

Graduate Committee  
Department of Mathematics  
Western Michigan University  
1903 W Michigan Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5248

Phone 616-387-4512  
Fax 616-387-4530  
E-mail chapman@wmich.edu  
Web site www.wmich.edu/math

*Western Michigan University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution.*

### *Hope College [reported by Todd Swanson]*

The mathematics department hosted a “Week of Math” October 28–November 2. Some of the department activities during this week included a career dinner; a student problem-solving session; dinner and a mathematical movie; and a mathematical poetry writing contest. [swansont@hope.edu]

### *Kalamazoo College [reported by Michele Intermont]*

We are happy to report that **Michael Tanoff** has joined the department as Visit. Assoc. Prof. Mike comes to us from the Kellogg Company. We continue to have an active Colloquium series (Wednesday afternoons, 4:10 p.m.). Recently, **Helen Moore** from Stanford U and the new American Institute of Mathematics spoke on “Fun With Bubbles”. While here, she also gave a lecture entitled “Using Mathematics to Improve Medical Treatments”. We’re always looking for speakers; please contact **Michele Intermont** (intermon@kzoo.edu) if you’re interested. [intermon@kzoo.edu]

### *Lake Superior State University [reported by Brian Snyder]*

**Tom Mickewich** retired after 35 years of service. • **John Jaroma** has accepted a position at Austin C (TX). • **Scott Lewis** (Ph. D. in dynamical systems from Montana State U) and **George Voutsadakis** (Ph. D. in algebraic logic from Iowa State U) have joined the faculty. • **Evan Schemm** and **Brian Snyder** are the new co-directors of the Michigan Section High School Visiting Lecture Program (HSVLP). [bsnyder@gw.lssu.edu]

### *Lansing Community College [reported by JingLing Wang]*

The Mathematics and Computer Science Dept. welcomes a new full-time faculty member, **Kelly Sakkinen**. Kelly has degrees in mathematics and statistics; she brings experience teaching on-line courses and working in teacher preparation, in addition to teaching other math and statistics courses. • We are also happy to have **Dan Harned** working full-time for our department for the 2002–2003 academic year. Among other things, Dan is teaching a new course, Investigations With Math, which satisfies our general education math core requirement for the Associate Degree and has as prerequisite Beginning Algebra. Another new course is in the works, Art of Geometry, to be piloted Spring 2003. • **Sue Halick**, who has been training teachers in LCC’s Center for Teaching Excellence while teaching part-time in math, is now also serving as the department’s official on-line resource person, providing invaluable technical and pedagogical support for faculty who teach on-line or incorporate on-line elements in their face-to-face courses. LCC will be hosting the MichMATYC 2003 fall conference. For more information, please contact **Nan Jackson** (Nan\_Jackson@lansing.cc.mi.us). [Jingling\_Wang@lansing.cc.mi.us]

### *Lawrence Technological University [reported by M. Merscher]*

LTU hosted the MAA Michigan Section Annual Meeting on May 10–11, 2002. The Local Arrangements Committee—chaired by **Mike Merscher**, and including **Ruth Favro**, **Tom Lackey**, and **Pam Lowry**—wishes to thank the many LTU people who helped make the meeting a success, notably our department chair, **David**

**Bindschadler**. Thanks also to **John Mooningham** of SVSU, who was Program Chair, and to the many presenters and attendees. Robofest 2002, led by **Chan-Jin Chung**, was a rousing success again this year, with teams from many local schools competing. The 33rd Annual LTU High School Mathematics Competition, led by Mike Merscher, was held on April 28, 2002. First Place went to **Ryan Timmons**, who also scored a second-place Gold Award on last year’s MMPC. [merscher@ltu.edu]

### *Michigan State University [reported by Peter Lappan]*

The following are new tenure track faculty in the Mathematics Department this fall: **Kening Lu** (Prof.), **Guowei Wei** (Assoc. Prof.), and **Rajesh Kulkarni** (Assist. Prof.). In addition, **Katherine Socha** is a new Assist. Prof. in Lyman Briggs College with a partial appointment in Mathematics. **Alguta Buse**, **Faouzi Triki**, and **Alexandru Tupan** are new postdoctoral fellows. **Nikolai Nikolski** from the Steklov Institute and the U of Bordeaux is visiting MSU during the Fall semester. • **Dennis Dunninger**, **Charles Seebeck**, and **Lee Sonnbarn** have retired in the past year. • The Richard E. Phillips lectures were given this fall by **Lawrence C. Evans**, of the U of California-Berkeley. He spoke on “Partial Differential Equations Methods in Dynamics” in three lectures on October 7, 8, and 10. [plappan@math.msu.edu]

### *Michigan Technological University [reported by Lynn Murphy]*

**Phillip Merkey** was appointed Research Assist. Prof. and Dir. of Computational Science and Engineering. • **Russell Reid** accepted a position at Apple Computer. \* Darrell Hicks retired. • **Barbara Bertram** and **Allan Struthers** were promoted to Prof. • **Michael Gilpin** is on sabbatical leave for the Spring semester at Southern Polytechnic State U in Georgia and NASA in Houston. • **Jeffrey Bonn** and **Kathleen Bonn** are Visit. Assist. Profs., **David Pray** is a Lecturer, and **Rolf Rees**, from Memorial U of Newfoundland is Research Assoc. Prof. • Adjunct Faculty: **Bin Tean Teh**, from Van Andel Research Institute in Grand Rapids. • **Ilene H. Morgan** from the U of Missouri-Rolla, gave a colloquium October 8 titled, “Dice and Polynomials” and a Combinatorics Seminar October 9 titled, “Latin Squares and Related Structures”. [murph@mtu.edu]

### *Mott Community College [reported by Karen Sharp]*

**Bernie Cunningham** is a new full-time math faculty member. [ksharp@mcc.edu]

### *Northern Michigan University [reported by Roxin Zhang]*

**Jeffrey Horn** and **Randy Appleton** in Computer Science and **David Buhl** in Mathematics Education have been promoted to the rank of associate professor. • The 53rd Annual Conference of the Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics was held at Northern Michigan University on October 10–12. It was co-hosted by the Seaborg Center for Science and Mathematics Education and included some sessions in science and social studies. The presentations and workshops incorporated the curriculum standards of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and of the Michigan Curriculum Framework, and included sessions on using technology

as prompted by the Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning. The Saturday sessions focused on assessment in Michigan, and included MI CLiMB (a clarification of the MCF benchmarks) and changes in the MEAP tests. For more information, go to [www.mictm.org](http://www.mictm.org). • NMU will be sending five teams to this year's ACM programming contest on November 9th. Our Computer Science Program will continue its hosting of an unofficial Programming Contest this spring. This year we expect four schools and about twenty-five teams to attend. Contact [rappleto@nmu.edu](mailto:rappleto@nmu.edu) for more information. [[rzhang@nmu.edu](mailto:rzhang@nmu.edu)]

### *Oakland University [reported by Jerry Grossman]*

Former chairperson **Marc Lipman** has become the dean of arts and sciences at Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne. **Jack Nachman** is serving at least one year as Interim Chairperson. • We have two visiting faculty this year: **Gary McDonald**, retired as the Director, Enterprise Systems Lab, General Motors Research & Development Center, and **Irina Siverguina**, formerly a senior research scientist with our Engineering School. Gary works in statistics, and Irina in various areas of applied mathematics. • **Datta Kulkarni** has resigned and now works for General Motors Research. • **Fiki Shillor** and **Curt Chipman** are on leave this semester. • Our 2002 Summer Mathematics Institute was a great success, with a full roster of 36 exceptionally bright high school students getting college credit in Number Theory and Linear Algebra. Information on the 2003 program is available at [www.math.oakland.edu/ousmi.html](http://www.math.oakland.edu/ousmi.html). [[grossman@oakland.edu](mailto:grossman@oakland.edu)]

### *Schoolcraft College [reported by Randy Schwartz]*

On Sept. 25 we hosted a presentation by **Lynne Hansel**, Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence and Innovation at Henry Ford CC. Lynn spoke to us about her experience using the BlackBoard communication system for online mathematics courses. [[rschwartz@schoolcraft.cc.mi.us](mailto:rschwartz@schoolcraft.cc.mi.us)]

### *University of Michigan-Dearborn [reported by F. J. Papp]*

**Michael A. LaChance** has returned from a one year leave. He spent the year at the U of Southampton, in England, following which, he recently presented the Department with an interesting discussion of the differences between the mathematics departments at Southampton and UM-Dearborn. • We are happy to welcome a new visiting colleague: **Montaha Shamoan**. • **Timothy E. McKenna**'s new book "Precalculus: A Light and Lively Course" along with 10,000 PowerPoint slides is to be published next Fall by Books/Cole as ancillary material for the Cohen Precalculus book we use. He also authored "Calculus: A Light and Lively Course" with 7,500 PowerPoint slides. Both of these books are currently in use in his classes. [[fjpapp@umd.umich.edu](mailto:fjpapp@umd.umich.edu)]

### *University of Michigan-Flint [reported by Steven C. Althoen]*

**Larry Kugler** retired in May. His career at UM-Flint began in 1966. At the Spring 2002 Commencement he sang the National Anthem. Previously he had participated in commencements as Dean of CAS (for nine years), Acting Provost, Acting Chancellor, Commencement Speaker and Faculty Marshall—all the other speaking

roles. He was also Mathematics Department Chair, responsible for initiating Math Field Day (now in its 36<sup>th</sup> consecutive year), and extensively involved in the Honors Program. • A representative from the Digi-Block Company ([www.digi-block.com](http://www.digi-block.com)) made presentations in several sections of the math content course for elementary teachers, demonstrating the new math manipulative for understanding positional notation and arithmetic operations. • Last June, **Steve Althoen** and **Matt Wyneken** piloted a two-week workshop for elementary teachers on "Understanding Our Number System, Arithmetic Operations, and Fractions." The workshop was sponsored by the UM-Flint Office of School Partnerships and the Flint Community Schools. Participants reported that the workshop was successful, and more such workshops will be held. Together with Mott CC, we are hosting 16 Family Math Fun Nights at 14 local elementary schools and two on campus. UM-Flint played host to the Math Education Study Group on September 20. • The 36th annual Math Field Day, a team competition for high school students from throughout Michigan, will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2003. For more information, visit the event's Web site, ([www.flint.umich.edu/Departments/math/Field\\_Day](http://www.flint.umich.edu/Departments/math/Field_Day)). [[salthoen@umflint.edu](mailto:salthoen@umflint.edu)]

### *Washtenaw Community College [reported by James Egan]*

**Roger Palay** is serving as Interim Vice President of Instruction and **Dennis Bila** is serving as Department Chair. The department welcomes new full-time faculty



members **Hanan Wahab**, **Mike King**, and **Lisa Rombes**. [jegan@wccnet.edu]

### Wayne State University [reported by Daniel Frohardt]

**Po Hu** (Ph.D., UM-Ann Arbor) and **Sheng Zhang** (Ph.D., U of Pennsylvania) are new Assist. Profs. • **Nguyen Hung**, National U of Vietnam (algebraic topology), **Zbigniew Jurek**, U of Wroclaw, Poland (probabilistic limit theory), and **Sergey Shpectorov**, Bowling Green State U, are visiting this year. • **Sarah Ferguson** has been promoted to Assoc. Prof. with tenure. **Guozhen Lu**, **Kay Magaard**, and **Zhimin Zhang** have been promoted to Prof. • **John Klein** has been awarded a Career Development Chair from WSU. **Kevin Knudson** received a 2002 Board of Governors Faculty Recognition Award. • **Robert Berman** is on a third leave of absence to work on the University's Banner system. • **Kevin Knudson**, **Charles McGibbon**, **Brian Taylor**, and **Daoqi Yang** have resigned. **Leon Brown** is on long term disability leave. **Rafail Khasminskii**, **Frank Okoh**, and **Zhimin Zhang** are on sabbatical leave this semester. **Sarah Ferguson** is on a leave of absence this year. **Kay Magaard** and will be on leave of absence next semester and **Daniel Drucker** will be on sabbatical leave. • The home page for this year's colloquium series is: <http://www.math.wayne.edu/research/seminars/colloq.html>. **Alice Chang** of Princeton U will be the Owens Lecturer, on March 3–4. **John Conway** of Princeton U will speak on January 27. • WSU will host an NSF-CBMS Regional Conference in Mathematical Sciences on Free Boundary Problems in Partial Differential Equations and Applications, May 18–22. The conference will *Campus News continued on page 30*

## Section Dues: Individual • Institutional

The 2002–2003 individual and institutional membership dues for the Michigan Section are now being accepted. The \$15 individual dues payment (or \$30 contributing member payment) and the \$40 (small school) or \$70 (large school) institutional dues help support the activities of the Section such as its annual meeting and *Newsletter*. This coupon may be used to submit dues payments.

Enclosed is a check for:	Regular Dues	@ \$15	☞
	Contributing Membership	@ \$30	☞
	Small Institutional Dues	@ \$40	☞
	Large Institutional Dues	@ \$70	☞

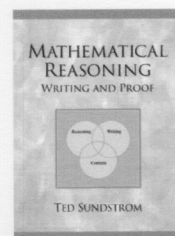
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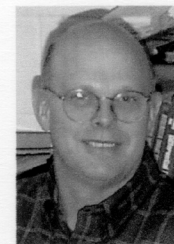
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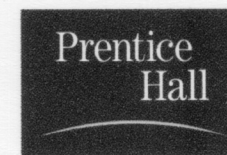
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## Student Chapter News

### Grand Valley State University

The GVSU Mathematics and Statistics Club has many activities planned for this year. The featured speakers include members of the GVSU faculty, an actuarial scientist, and a local high school teacher. Additionally, two GVSU students will be giving talks. **Chris Frayer** will be speaking about his experiences at an REU this past summer, and **Eric Nantz** will be giving a statistical consulting presentation. The club is also planning to host a Riddle-a-thon, to participate in Super Science Saturday at the IMAX theater in Grand Rapids, and to sponsor a field trip to either the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, or the University of Notre Dame.

*Campus News continued from page 28*

be partially supported by the IMA. • The department is undergoing its periodic seven year review. • This Fall marked the opening of the first dormitory on the WSU campus for many years. There are plans for more, with the second dormitory currently under construction.

## Report on ICM 2002

A few paragraphs can't do justice to the impact of ICM 2002 in Beijing, August 20–28. It was a very intense experience, both from the activity at the conference and from the travels around the city. I arrived in Beijing at 11 p.m., with students still at the airport to welcome and guide the foreign guests to their hotel. There were also English-speaking students posted at the hotels to help guests communicate with the hotel staff. There were almost 4800 mathematicians attending overall, many from China and other Asian countries.

The Fields and Nevanlinna medals were presented at the opening ceremonies, with China's President **Jiang Zemin** in attendance. It was held at the Great Hall of the People in Tiananmen Square. The medalists, **Laurent Lafforgue**, **Vladimir Voevodsky**, and **Madhu Sudan**, gave talks at the conference. (Lafforgue really wanted to give his talk in French, he said, but consented to give it in English.)

The plenary talks were in the morning, with invited and contributed talks in the afternoon. Almost all plenary talks and invited talks that I attended were excellent—exhilarating even. Some of my favorites were **David Mumford** on Pattern Theory, **Alon Noga** on Discrete Math, and **Douglas Norman** on Numerical Analysis. **John Nash**, who was in China for another conference, gave a talk one evening. The WAM panel discussion afforded a forum for women around the world to compare notes, voicing perspectives from other countries and other cultures.

The conference organizers did a superb job of providing services and making the conference enjoyable. Myriads of students were deployed to give help and directions. There were trips offered to tourist sites, a performance with Chinese singers, musicians, acrobats, and a trip to the Peking Opera. A huge outdoor party—the food was delicious and some was even cooked right there—came with the conference registration.

Good memories: climbing the Great Wall at Badaling, trying to keep up with **John Ewing**; enduring the heat of the Great Wall and Ming Tombs with **Smilka Zdravkovska** from Math Reviews; dining at the elegant Sichuan Restaurant with Michigan folks (**Dan** and **Kit Frohardt**, **Jane**

and **Jim Kister**, **Debra** and **Trevor Wooley**, **Po Hu** and new spouse **Igor Kriz**); negotiating the public transportation system; bargaining in the street markets, using my limited knowledge of Chinese; meeting interesting folks from everywhere.

And then, the day after arriving home, I started to teach all my classes—and managed to stay awake.

**Ruth Favro, LTU**

*Contest News continued from page 15*

The Michigan All-Star Mathematics Team placed thirteenth in Division A and tied for twenty-third place in Division B of the American Regions Mathematics League (ARML) Competition. **Ryan Timmons**, a team member from Groves High School in Beverly Hills, MI, was among the six students in the nation who correctly answered all eight of the questions on the individual round of the competition.

This was the fourteenth consecutive year that the Michigan Section has sponsored a team of the MMPC award winners to participate in the ARML Competition. The coaches this year were **Robert Messer** (Albion C), **John Fink** (Kalamazoo C), and **Ruth Favro** (LTU), assisted by **Camillia**

**University of Michigan  
Biostatistics Department  
MS, MPH, PhD Degree Programs**

Our department offers training in the development and application of statistical and mathematical methods to the design and analysis of biomedical research. We offer course work leading to the degrees of Master of Science, Master of Public Health, and Doctor of Philosophy. We have a large number of funding opportunities for our students including graduate student instructorships, graduate student research assistantships, training grants, scholarships, and fellowships. The faculty conduct cutting-edge research in bioinformatics, imaging, longitudinal data, missing data, survival analysis, statistical genetics, and many other areas. Our graduates have great job opportunities in fields such as government, industry (e.g. biotech, pharmaceuticals), medical research institutions, and universities.

For further information and application materials, please contact sph.bio.inquiries@umich.edu. Detailed information is also available on our Web site at [www.umich.edu/biostat](http://www.umich.edu/biostat).

## Nominations Sought for Awards and Offices

Nominations for the eleventh (2003) Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics from the Michigan Section of the Mathematical Association of America are now being accepted. The Distinguished Teaching Award Committee will choose one of the nominees for the Section Award.

The awardee will be honored at the Spring meeting of the Section and will be widely recognized and acknowledged within the Section. The awardee will also be the official Section candidate for the national MAA Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics. Each of the three national awardees will be honored at the national MAA meeting in January 2004 and receive a \$1000 check and certificate. The Section awardees for the past three years, **Larry King** (UM-Flint), **John Fink** (Kalamazoo C), and **Charlene Beckmann** (GVSU) form the selection committee (see page 35).

Anyone (other than the candidate him/herself) is entitled to make a nomination, but nominations from chairs or MAA liaisons are especially encouraged. Any college or university teacher assigned at least half-time during the academic year to teaching a mathematical science in a public or private college or university (from two-year college teaching through teaching at the Ph.D. level) is eligible, provided he or she has at least five years teaching experience in a mathematical science and is a member of the MAA.

The nominees should be widely recognized as extraordinarily successful in their teaching (interpreted in its broadest sense), have documented teaching effectiveness, have had influence in teaching beyond their own institutions, and foster curiosity and generate excitement about mathematics in their students.

Please send your nominations in triplicate to John Fink, Mathematics and Computer Science Department, Kalamazoo College, 1200 Academy Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006 (fink@kzoo.edu, 616-337-7100). **Deadline for completed dossiers is January 1, 2003.** Further information and copies of the nomination forms can be found on the Section's Web site at [www.michmaa.org/announcements.html](http://www.michmaa.org/announcements.html).

Nominations are also now being solicited for the Michigan Section's Distinguished Service Award. Please submit your nominations by January 18 to **Ruth Favro** (LTU); see contact information on page 35.

In addition, as Past Chair, Ruth also chairs the Nominating Committee for Section officers and would appreciate suggestions (by January 4) for future Section leaders (this includes self-volunteering). We need to elect a Chair and two Vice Chairs (two-year school and four-year school) to one-year terms, and a Secretary/Treasurer for a three-year term.

## Call for Papers

The Michigan Section of the MAA and MichMATYC invite papers from students and faculty for the next combined Annual Meeting.

**Saginaw Valley  
State University  
University Center, MI  
May 2–3, 2003**

Please send the title and an abstract (100 words or less) to:

Professor Steve Schlicker E-mail: [schlicks@gvsu.edu](mailto:schlicks@gvsu.edu)

Department of Mathematics

Grand Valley State University

Allendale, MI 49401

Phone: 616-895-2305 FAX: 616-895-3120

E-mail submission is preferred. Papers should normally be at most 20 minutes in length. Please include your name, affiliation, home or office address, phone numbers, and e-mail address. There will be a separate session for **undergraduate papers**. You will receive a form asking you about the equipment you need for your presentation. If you have any question, please contact Steve Schlicker.

**The deadline for abstracts is Friday, January 24, 2003.**

*Undergraduate papers may be submitted until March 21, 2003. However, only those received by the January 24 deadline will be assured of inclusion in the advance program.*

# COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS

## Michigan Section Mathematical Association of America

### Contact Information

#### Executive Committee

<i>Chair</i>	John Mooningham (03)	Saginaw Val. S U	jwm@svsu.edu	989-790-4183
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Scott Barnett (03)	Henry Ford CC	sebarnett@hfcc.net	313-845-6496
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Steve Schlicker (03)	Grand Valley SU	schlicks@gvsu.edu	616-895-2305
<i>Sec/Treas</i>	Margret Höft (03)	UM-Dearborn	mhoft@umich.edu	313-593-5007
<i>Past Chair</i>	Ruth G. Favro (03)	Lawrence Tech U	favro@ltu.edu	248-204-3531
<i>Governor</i>	Jerrold W. Grossman (04)	Oakland U	grossman@oakland.edu	248-370-3443

#### High School Visiting Lecture Program (HSVLP)

<i>CoDirector</i>	Brian Snyder (05)	LSSU	bsnyder@lssu.edu	906-635-2658
<i>CoDirector</i>	Evan Schemm (05)	LSSU	eschemm@lssu.edu	906-635-2633

#### Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition (MMPC)

<i>Director</i>	David Redman (05)	Delta C	bdredman@alpha.delta.edu	989-686-9190
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#### Exam Committee:

<i>Chair</i>	William Sledd (03)	Michigan St U	sledd@math.msu.edu	517-355-9694
<i>Member</i>	Ed Aboufadel (04)	Grand Valley SU	aboufadel@gvsu.edu	616-895-2445
<i>Member</i>	Eddie Cheng (05)	Oakland U	echeng@oakland.edu	248-370-4024
<i>Member</i>	John Clifford (06)	UM-Dearborn	jcliff@umd.umich.edu	313-593-4259

#### Ad Hoc Committee to Study Calculator Usage on the MMPC Exam

<i>Chair</i>	Paul J. Eenigenburg	Western Mich U	eenigenburg@wmich.edu	616-387-4522
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#### Program Committee: 2003 Annual Meeting

<i>Co-Chair</i>	Steve Schlicker (03)	Grand Valley SU	schlicks@gvsu.edu	616-895-2305
<i>Co-Chair</i>	Scott Barnett (03)	Henry Ford CC	sebarnett@hfcc.net	313-845-6496
<i>Member</i>	Paul Fishback (03)	Grand Valley SU	fishbacp@gvsu.edu	616-895-2443
<i>Member</i>	Rebecca Walker (03)	Grand Valley SU	walkerre@gvsu.edu	616-895-2536

#### Local Arrangements Committee: 2003 Annual Meeting

<i>Chair</i>	Tom Zerger (03)	Grand Valley SU	jwm@svsu.edu	989-790-4183
<i>Member</i>	Tyler Haynes (03)	Grand Valley SU	haynes@svsu.edu	989-964-4015
<i>Member</i>	Bing Liu (03)	Grand Valley SU	bliu@svsu.edu	989-964-4894
<i>Member</i>	John Mooningham (03)	Grand Valley SU	jwm@svsu.edu	989-964-4183
<i>Member</i>	Rose Novey (03)	Grand Valley SU	rmovey@svsu.edu	989-964-4353

## Michigan Section Newsletter

<i>Editor</i>	Norman Richert	Math. Reviews	nrichert@ams.org	734-996-5254
<i>Assoc. Ed.</i>	Jerrold W. Grossman	Oakland U	grossman@oakland.edu	248-370-3443
<i>Ad Manager</i>	Matthew Boelkins	Grand Valley S U	boelkinm@gvsu.edu	616-895-3384

#### Distinguished Service Award Committee

<i>Chair</i>	Ruth G. Favro (04)	Lawrence Tech U	favro@ltu.edu	248-204-3531
<i>Member</i>	Sidney W. Graham (03)	Central Mich U	Sidney.W.Graham@cmich.edu	989-774-3596
<i>Member</i>	Bette Warren (05)	Eastern Mich U	bette.warren@emich.edu	734-487-1444

#### Distinguished Teaching Award Committee

<i>Chair</i>	Larry M. King (03)	U of Mich-Flint	lmk@umich.edu	810-762-3293
<i>Member</i>	John B. Fink (04)	Kalamazoo C	fink@kzoo.edu	616-337-7062
<i>Member</i>	Charlene Beckmann (05)	Grand Valley S U	beckmann21@aol.com	616-895-2066

#### Nominating Committee

<i>Chair</i>	Ruth G. Favro (03)	Lawrence Tech U	favro@ltu.edu	248-204-3531
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#### Audit Committee

<i>Member</i>	Gerald D. Ludden	Michigan State U	ludden@math.msu.edu	517-353-6335
<i>Member</i>	Howard Young	U of Mich-AA	hyoung@math.lsa.umich.edu	734-425-1842

#### Organizing Committee: Upper Peninsula Regional Meeting

<i>Co-chair</i>	Sujay Datta	Northern Mich U	sdatta@nmu.edu	906-227-1584
<i>Co-chair</i>	John O. Kiltinen	Northern Mich U	kiltinen@nmu.edu	906-227-1600
<i>Co-chair</i>	Andrew Poe	Northern Mich U	apoe@nmu.edu	906-227-1598

#### Other Appointments and Contacts

<i>Webmaster</i>	Earl D. Fife	Calvin College	fife@calvin.edu	616-957-6403
<i>Pub. Inf. Of.</i>	Bob Xeras	Siena Heights U	rxeras@sienahs.edu	517-265-5832
<i>St. Act. Crd.</i>	Randall Pruim	Calvin College	rpruim@calvin.edu	616-957-7113
<i>AMC 8 CoDir.</i>	Kristina D. Hansen	U of Mich-Flint	khansen@umich.edu	810-762-3304
<i>AMC 8 CoDir.</i>	Ricardo Alfaro	U of Mich-Flint	ralfaro@umich.edu	810-762-3247
<i>WAM</i>	Toni Carroll	Siena Heights U	toni@alpha.sienahs.edu	517-264-7658
<i>Women's St.</i>	Jeanne Wald	Michigan State U	wald@math.msu.edu	517-355-9695
<i>MiSMA</i>	Matthew F. Wyneken	U of Mich-Flint	mwyneken@umich.edu	810-762-3313
<i>Liaison Crd.</i>	Robert Molina	Alma College	molina@alma.edu	517-463-7197
<i>Archivist</i>	John W. Petro	Western Mich U	john.petro@wmich.edu	616-387-4591
<i>MCTM Rep.</i>	Renate McLaughlin	U of Mich-Flint	RMCL@umich.edu	810-762-3177

#### Michigan Section-MAA World Wide Web Site

www.michmaa.org

#### National MAA Headquarters, Washington, DC

www.maa.org, 800-741-9415



