

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2003 Spring Meeting of the Missouri Section of MAA will be held April 4th and 5th at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri with the Missouri MAA Collegiate Mathematics Competition held on the evening of April 3rd and the morning of April 4th. The Fall 2002 and Winter 2003 newsletters will carry more details on this meeting.

Future Meeting Sites

The Spring Meeting is held at various locations around the state. As part of its long-range planning, the Executive Committee is entertaining invitations for future meetings in 2007 and thereafter. The meeting sites for the past several years and the next four years are listed below for your convenience. If your campus would be willing to host a Spring Meeting, then please contact Renato Feres, Chair, or any other member of the Executive Committee. Please see the inside of the front cover for information on the members of the committee.

1985	Central Missouri State University	1996	Southeast Missouri State University
1986	Southwest Missouri State University	1997	Missouri Western State
College			
1987	Truman State University	1998	Southwest Missouri State University
1988	Washington University	1999	Rockhurst College
1989	University. of Missouri-Columbia	2000	Central Missouri State University
1990	College of the Ozarks	2001	U. of Missouri-Rolla
1991	University of Missouri-Rolla	2002	Truman State University
1992	Northwest Missouri State University		2003 Washington University
1993	Westminster College	2004	Southeast Missouri State University
1994	Missouri Southern State College	2005	Missouri Western State College
1995	Central Missouri State University	2006	University. of Missouri-Columbia

Congratulations to Dr. Robert Sheets

Congratulations to Dr. Robert Sheets of Southeast Missouri State University as the 2002 recipient of the MAA Missouri Section Teaching Award. "Dr. Sheets is an excellent instructor who clearly demonstrates a concern for his students' understanding and comprehension of the course material. I have had him as an instructor several times at the University and I rate him the highest of all." This is a typical comment from students of Robert W. Sheets. Bob received his Ph.D. in 1977 from the University of California, Riverside, and since 1978 has been at Southeast Missouri State. He has won the College of Science and Mathematics teaching award twice, and is universally acknowledged as the teaching mentor in the Department of Mathematics. This is particularly impressive considering that he regularly teaches the classes considered hardest for math majors: Calculus II, Foundations of Mathematics and Modern Algebra. Bob is also the advisor and mentor for all masters students, and has organized the Mathematical Modeling Contest participants for ten years. In 1995, one of his teams received an "outstanding" rating, one of only four teams in the country to receive that rating for the problem that they worked on. Dr. Sheets' teaching ability is only part of his whole life, which is exemplary. He is devoted to his wife Nita and his grown children David and Laura (along with David's wife Jessica and Laura's fiance Randy), as well as caring for his mother, and has a firm, consistent faith in and devotion to His Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Chairman (and Section Governor) Vic Gummersheimer summed up his overall qualities: "Bob's sincere, deeply religious, friendly, approachable, and professional persona makes him an outstanding citizen of this department and serves as an example to which all new members of the department can aspire."

(This is taken from comments of Dr. Tim Ray at the banquet, April 12, 2002 at Truman State University.)

Minutes of Missouri Section Executive Committee Meeting April 12, 2002

The Executive Committee meeting of the Missouri Section was held in the Georgian Room, Student Union Building, at Truman State University. Chair James Guffey called the meeting to order after the banquet. Frank Farris, Editor of Mathematics Magazine, attended the meeting along with the following officers:

Chair	James Guffey (Truman)
Governor	Vic Gummersheimer (SEMO)
Newsletter Editor	Jim Bruening (SEMO)
Past Chair	Ilene Morgan (UMR)
Student Chapter Coordinator	Les Reid (SMSU)
Secretary-Treasurer	Susan Callahan (Cottery)

1. James Guffey apologized for the lack of a nominating committee. Jim Bruening agreed to serve another term as Newsletter Editor and Susan Callahan agreed to serve another two years as Secretary-Treasurer. The people from SEMO indicated Tim Ray agreed to be Chair Elect. The terms of both contest coordinators expire this year. Shing So has previously expressed a desire to be reappointed as High School Contest Coordinator. Ilene Morgan and Leon Hall will confirm with Rob Roe that he wishes to continue as Junior High Contest Coordinator.
2. Victor Gummersheimer reported that he had received a note from MAA Secretary Martha Siegel about the Meritorious Service Award. The Section should select a recipient for this award. The award will be presented at the January Meetings (2003), but the awardee needs to be approved at MathFest 2002 this summer. Jim Bruening will put the criteria and a call for nominations in the spring newsletter. Troy Hicks, Harold Hager and Curtis Cooper are previous recipients of the award. It was suggested that they be asked to serve as the selection committee.
3. Ilene Morgan reported that the Section's web site was sometimes unavailable because people occasionally turn off the computer which is supposed to be left on.
4. James Guffey said that Sharon Vestal had obtained the Mathematics Awareness Week Proclamation signed by the Governor of Missouri. She is considering requesting the proclamation every year and leaving it with the host school at the end of the meeting.
5. Rhonda McKee joined the Committee to talk about the High School Lecturers program. Very few high schools are interested. MAA members sometimes give talks at high schools, but not through the program. Ideas for increased publicity were discussed: an article in the Section's newsletter, mailing information to the principal and one teacher at each school, and e-mailing information to high school teachers. Currently information is sent out with the high school contest letter. There is no separate budget for the lecturers program. The general feeling was that we should try to keep the program going for a little longer.
6. James Guffey explained an idea, suggested by Curtis Cooper, to hold two meetings a year. A fall meeting could be held in a regular, central location or could alternate between Kansas City and St. Louis. If the talks were spread over two meetings, fewer would be concurrent. Some people would find a fall meeting easier to attend. Frank Farris mentioned that the Northern California Section has a quick get-together in the fall--9:00 am to 4:00 pm. one day. Disadvantages include that someone would have to do extra work to plan a second meeting and that people would go to one meeting or the other, resulting in low attendance at both meetings. James will present this issue in the Business Meeting so people can discuss it. He foresees taking a couple of years to make a decision.
7. The content of the spring newsletter was discussed. Suggestions included the minutes, articles on award winners, and announcements of summer workshops.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Callahan
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of MAA Missouri Section Business Meeting

April 13, 2002, Truman State University

(Approval will be considered at the Spring 2003 Business Meeting: April 15, 2003.)

The Business Meeting of the Missouri Section was held in Violette Hall Room 1000 on the campus of Truman State University. Chair James Guffey called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

1. Susan Callahan presented certificates to all students who presented papers at the Meeting.
2. The minutes of the 2001 Business Meeting were approved as published in the Fall Newsletter.
3. James Guffey reported on issues discussed at the Executive Committee Meeting. There is concern over the lack of participation in the high school lecturers program. An effort to increase awareness of the program will be made by trying to build more personal relationships with the high schools. Members are encouraged to form stronger relationships with schools close to their institutions. The situation will be reviewed in a couple of years.

The possibility of having two meetings per year was discussed. The Fall Newsletter could invite feedback on this issue. Chair Elect Renato Feres was willing to be the recipient of this feedback. It may be possible to set up a place to receive and post responses on the web site.

Every five years the Section selects a recipient for the Meritorious Service Award. The selection will be made this spring and the Award will be presented at the Meetings in January, 2003. Previous winners are Troy Hicks, Harold Hager and Curtis Cooper. More information will be in the Spring Newsletter.

4. Vic Gummersheimer attended the Governors' meetings in Madison and San Diego. Ron Graham is President Elect, John Kenelly has recently become Treasurer, and a fourth interest group (history) has been formed. The cost of changing software at Headquarters was twice as much as expected. Members are invited to become involved in the MAA's many committees. Those who are interested in a committee should send relevant information to Vic.

Vic also talked about CBHE's Mathematics Technical Advisory Committee. He and Glen Haddock represent the university level. This Committee is recommending that secondary math education be added to the list of areas needed by business and industry. The state gives scholarships to students in areas on the list through a program called Advantage Missouri.

5. Susan Callahan, Secretary-Treasurer, distributed the Treasurer's Report. The balance as of April 1, 2002, is \$4,360.85.

6. Jim Bruening, Newsletter Editor, expects to have the Spring Newsletter out in May. It will contain minutes, announcements of workshops, and information on the Meritorious Service Award. There will be more emphasis on news from the campuses in the Fall Newsletter.
7. Les Reid, Student Chapter Coordinator, reported that he thinks a few more student chapters will be formed. He has been targeting interested schools. He would also like to establish better communications with existing chapters.
8. Rhonda McKee, High School Lecturers Coordinator, reported that she received one or two questions about the program, but no requests for speakers. She thanked the lecturers for their time and abstracts.

Rhonda also announced that she, Ed Spitznagel and Lou Grimm comprised the Selection Committee for the teaching award. Bob Sheets is the winner of the 2002 Missouri Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics.

9. Shing So, H.S. Contest Coordinator, said that the contest now takes place on two days. A student can take both the AMC 10 and AMC 12. This year 92 schools participated. The report of the results of the 2002 American High School Mathematics Examinations is available at the booksale.
10. In the absence of Robert Roe, Junior High School Contest Coordinator, Leon Hall reported that the AMC 8 is a fall event. Approximately 80 schools participated. Efforts are being made to arrange a meeting with the governor for the highest-scoring students.
11. Sharon Vestal, Public Information Coordinator, obtained the Governor's Proclamation of Mathematics Awareness Week this year. She plans to continue requesting the proclamation. It will be left at the meeting site/host school.
12. Leon Hall, Web Page Administrator, asked people to check and be sure their institutions' information on the web page was up to date. He would like to be notified if there is trouble accessing the site.
13. Curtis Cooper listed the top five teams in the Collegiate Mathematics Competition: Truman Team A, UMR Team B, Washington University Team A, Missouri Southern, and UMC Team A. Twenty three teams and more than 60 students participated in competition activities. Al Tinsley is retiring and will no longer be on the Competition Committee; Don Vestal will join the Committee.
14. Distinguished Teaching Award Report--See #8.
15. The following arrangements have been made for officers:
Jim Bruening will serve another term as Newsletter Editor.
Susan Callahan will complete the last two years of a term as Secretary-Treasurer, as Keith Brandt is unable to serve.

Tim Ray (SEMO) will be Chair Elect.

Shing So will continue for another term as High School Contest Coordinator.

Rob Roe is expected to continue for another term as Junior High Contest Coordinator.

16. Lanny Morley reported that five runners and four walkers participated in the 5K Run. Bob Sheets won the drawing for the prize, an MAA book.
17. Renato Feres, Chair Elect, invited the Section to Washington University for the meeting next year. He will notify people as soon as the date is set.
18. A motion to have the secretary write a letter to the appropriate official at Truman State University, expressing gratitude for their having hosted the meeting, was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Callahan
Secretary-Treasurer

From the Governor:

Committees. The MAA has about 120 committees, which do much of the work of the Association at the national level. The Committee on Committees is currently in the process of making some appointments with terms beginning in January 2003 and has asked me to suggest Missouri Section members who might be interested in serving on one of these committees. You may access the lists of the committees from <http://www.maa.org/aboutmaa/commlist.html>

Please send me (vgummersheimer@semo.edu) the committees that interest you and a brief vita that supports your qualifications. I will forward your name to the Committee on Committees who will then select the committee members.

Mathematics Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC). This committee was formed by the K-16 Coalition, the University of Missouri, and the CBHE to facilitate discussion of mathematics and technology by individuals from elementary through university education in Missouri. Suggestions to improve mathematics education that emerge from these discussions are forwarded to the appropriate body for consideration and action.

The committee met May 20 and will meet again on August 6. We are currently developing plans to refine the Missouri Frameworks Curriculum (<http://www.dese.state.mo.us/divimprove/curriculum/frameworks/math.html>) in light of the federal mandate to assess student progress every year. Our goal is to set achievement levels for each grade so that

appropriate tests can be prepared when they are mandated in a couple of years. Please let me know if you have questions or suggestions on this project or would like to be considered for one of the subcommittees.

Missouri Western to Host Lecture and Art Display

Missouri Western State College will host a lecture and display by Mr. Dick Termes. Mr. Termes' artwork was featured in the September 2001 Math Horizons magazine. Eight of his termespheres will be on display in the MWSC library from September 9 to October 4, 2002. He will give a public lecture on Thursday, September 19th at 7 pm in the Hearn Learning Resources Center, room 102. There will be a reception, following the lecture, in the library. This event is sponsored by the following groups at Missouri Western: the Department of Computer Science, Mathematics, and Physics, the Cultural Events Committee, the Library, and the Missouri Western Matrix.

2002 Workshops and Conferences

July 27-29: Towson University, Towson, MD

Bridges: Mathematical Connections in Art, Music, and Science

The Fifth Annual Conference exploring mathematical connections in art, music, and science. Topics will include: Fractals, Math and Music, Tessellations, Geometry in Quilting, M. C. Escher Work, Math and 3-Dimensional Art, Origami, Mathematics and Architecture, Computer-Generated Art, Math and Art in Culture, Art in Hyperbolic Geometry

Contact: Reza Sarhangi, 410.830.4450, gsarhangi@towson.edu

July 29-31, 2002 and January 19-20, 2003: Burlington, Vermont (Prior to MathFest 2002) and Baltimore, Maryland (Following 2003 Joint Mathematics Meetings)

Assessment at the Department Level #2

This workshop series, led by Bill Haver and Bernie Madison, is a continuing education program to help teams of two to three faculty members lead their departments in the conceptualization, formulation, and implementation of assessment of some component of their academic programs. An **MAA PREP Workshop** sponsored in part by the NSF.

Contact: Gretchen Brown, MAA, gbrown@maa.org

July 29-August 2: Hilo, HI

AMATYC Hawai'i Summer Institute

Spend a week on the Big Island of Hawaii studying mathematical applications in exotic locations. Instructors in geology, astronomy, and marine science will share problems appropriate for discussion at the pre-calculus or beginning calculus levels.

Contact: Jane Iida, iida@hawaii.edu

Application Deadline: June 29, 2002

July 30-31: Burlington, VT

The Mathematics of Cryptology

This MAA Short Course, organized by **Carl Pomerance**, will visit some of the mathematics that has been stimulated by cryptology, some of the cryptology that has arisen out of mathematical problems, and some of the real-world issues that arise when cryptosystems are actually implemented.

August 1-3: Burlington, VT
[Mathfest 2002](#)

The annual summer meeting of the MAA. Enjoy a full complement of sessions and workshops.

August 1-3: Burlington, VT
[Minicourses at Mathfest 2002](#)

Making Liberal Arts Mathematics the Most Important Course Students Take to Learn Effective Thinking.
 Ethnomathematics as a Mathematics Literacy or Teacher Education Course
 The Mathematics of Presidential and Other Elections
 Incorporating the Software Gap into an Abstract Algebra Course
 A Dynamical Systems Approach to the Differential Equations Course
 Music and Mathematics

August 8-9: Monroe Community College, Rochester, NY
[Beyond the Formula](#)

A conference for teachers of introductory statistics. The central focus will be "How does a classroom instructor actually use the new curriculum ideas and modern techniques to teach a beginning statistics course?" To attend conferences and learn about all the wonderful new ideas presented is great, but it does not go far enough for many instructors. There needs to be more emphasis on exactly how instructors can incorporate these ideas into their course, into their curriculum, into their teaching techniques, into their evaluations. There will be several presentations in the areas of curriculum, teaching techniques, technology usage, and applications.

Contact: BeyondTheFormula@MonroeCC.edu

August 11-17, DIMACS Center, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ.
[DIMACS Reconnect Conference: Voronoi Diagrams in the Undergraduate Classroom](#)

This conference aims to "Reconnect" faculty teaching undergraduates to the mathematical sciences research enterprise by exposing them to an exciting current research topic relevant to the classroom through a series of lectures by a leading expert and involving them in writing materials useful in the classroom. Participants have the possibility of following up by preparing these materials for publication in the DIMACS Educational Modules Series. Lodging and meals will be provided.. Limited funds expected to be available for travel awards

Contact: reconnect@dimacs.rutgers.edu or 732.445.5928

September 30-October 4: DIMACS Center, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ.
[Geometric Graph Theory](#)

The rapid development of computational geometry in the past two decades presented a powerful new source of inspiration for combinatorial geometry, the theory of geometric arrangements. Many curious extremal problems in recreational mathematics turned out to be crucially important for the analysis of a wide range of geometric algorithms. The aim of this workshop is to explore the consequences of new results, and to discuss their extensions and some related questions. We will bring together many of the researchers who contributed to the development of this area

Contact: Janos Pach, pach@cims.nyu.edu