

MAA MISSOURI SECTION NEWSLETTER

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2011 MAA MISSOURI SECTION MEETING

The Computer & Mathematical Sciences Department at Columbia College is looking forward to hosting the Spring Meeting of the Missouri Section of the MAA on Friday April 1 and Saturday April 2, 2011 (with the Missouri Collegiate Mathematics Competition beginning the evening of Thursday March 31). The Missouri Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges (MOMATYC) will be having their annual meeting with us this year. Each organization will follow its usual schedule but there will be more opportunities to eat and more talks to choose from. David Bressoud, MAA President, will be one of our speakers at the meeting.

Suzanne Tourville
Section Chair
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SECTION TEACHING AWARD

Congratulations to **Jeff Poet** of Missouri Western State University for winning the 2010 Missouri Section Teaching Award.

PAST TEACHING AWARD WINNERS

1992 August J. Garver, University of Missouri, Rolla
1994 Curtis N. Cooper, Central Missouri State University
1996 T. Christine Stevens, St. Louis University
1997 Troy L. Hicks, University of Missouri, Rolla
1998 Robert Kennedy, Central Missouri State University
1999 Rhonda McKee, Central Missouri State University
2000 Edward L. Spitznagel, Washington University
2001 Louis J. Grimm, University of Missouri, Rolla
2002 Robert Sheets, Southeast Missouri State
2003 W. Thomas Ingram, University of Missouri, Rolla
2004 Les Reid, Southwest Missouri State
2006 Timothy Ray, Missouri State University
2007 Kenneth W. Lee, Missouri Western State University
2008 Shing So, University of Central Missouri
2009 James Guffey, Truman State University

The MO MAA website has information on the section teaching award. Check it out at www.maa-mo.org/teachingaward/teachingaward.html and start thinking about nominating someone for next year.

MISSOURI SECTION NExT FELLOWS

Congratulations to our new Missouri Section NExT Fellow for 2010, Jonathon McCrary of Culver-Stockton College. He joins previous section NExT fellows Gavin Waters, Glenn Rice, Grant Lathrom, and Malgozata Marciniak.

FUTURE MEETING SITES

The Spring Meeting is held at various locations around the state. The meeting sites for the past several years and the next several years are listed below for your convenience. If your campus would be willing to host a Spring Meeting, please contact Suzanne Tourville, Chair, or any other member of the Executive Committee.

2005	Missouri Western State College	2013	Northwest Missouri State University
2006	University of Missouri-Columbia	2014	Saint Louis University
2007	College of the Ozarks	2015	Missouri University of Science and Technology
2008	Missouri State University	2016	Missouri Western State University
2009	Truman State University	2017	Missouri Southern State University
2010	University of Central Missouri	2018	Drury University
2011	Columbia College	2019	OPEN
2012	University of Missouri-St. Louis	2020	University of Central Missouri

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

April 9, 2010

The Executive Committee meeting of the Missouri Section was held in Room 220 of the WC Morris Science Building on the campus of the University of Central Missouri. Chair Shing So called the meeting to order at 8:16 pm following the banquet. The following officers attended the meeting:

Governor	Yungchen Cheng (MSU)
Chair	Shing So (UCM)
Chair-Elect and Newsletter Editor	Suzanne Tourville (Columbia College)
Student Chapter Coordinator	Les Reid (MSU)
Secretary/Treasurer	Mary Shepherd (NWMSU)

In addition, Daniel Velleman, Editor of the *American Mathematical Monthly*, attended.

1. The minutes of the April 17, 2009, Executive Committee Meeting minutes were approved as distributed in the Spring 2009 Newsletter.
2. Nominating committee report from Shing So indicated that no nominations for Secretary/Treasurer were received and that Mary Shepherd had agreed to continue as Secretary/Treasurer. No one has been present from UMSL, so no chair-elect has been nominated. Yungchen will contact UMSL to get a name. At the business meeting the floor will be open for nominations.

Next year nominations for webpage administrator and newsletter editor are due, in addition to a chair-elect from NWMSU.

3. Shing So shared experience of having the undergraduate research conference prior to the section meeting. It was thought this might be a good idea, but we need to think about it. More student presentations were at undergraduate conference (10), but fewer were at the section meeting. We may need to rethink timing of the undergraduate research conference. Nick Baeth suggested to Suzanne that next year we might continue at same time, to try it one more time. Suzanne suggested more targeted topics for contributed papers at the section meeting and, maybe an “apply to grad school” panel for students. We had an unusual occurrence at the competition this year. A student complained of a rash, but no medical care directly available on campus at that time. The message is to be prepared. Shing So reported that registrations of 140 participants at the section meeting, about 200 total in attendance including students.
4. Again, there was discussion about how to get the word out and encourage more nominations for the Section Teaching Award. Suggestions included having a follow up email in November if no nomination intentions are received by the secretary/treasurer, with additional, follow up emails in January. Suzanne suggested that we include a running list of winners of the teaching award in our newsletter.
5. Mary noted that the section will be eligible to have a Polya lecturer next year along with national officer speaker.
6. There are no known announcements to be made at the Chairs/Liaisons Breakfast on April 10. In the past the two groups have separated after breakfast which has not been happening recently.
7. It was suggested that whoever the chair elect nominee from UMSL may be, that person should be encouraged to attend the MathFest Section officer’s meeting with a reminder of the travel allowance from the national office and additional \$100 available from the section.
8. The third year of the Missouri Section NExT saw one new fellow. Mary suggested that there be plans to create a steering committee, with the section by-laws revisions, so that there can be some ongoing continuity to the program and help in coordinating the program.
9. Suzanne Tourville announced that the dates for the joint meeting with MOMATYC are set. The meeting will be held at Columbia College with the competition on March 31 and Apr 1 and the meeting on April 1 and 2, 2011. Schedules are slightly different between the two organizations. We will do the two meetings more or less separately with some planned joint session or sessions.
10. Suzanne reported that the revision of section by laws is not yet finished. Still substantial work still needs to be done on them. The process has been slow. Yungchen has encouraged Susan Callahan to bring ideas that are being brought forward tomorrow at the business meeting. There was some discussion about the separation of the section chair from program chair.
11. Electronic proceedings. There was nothing published last year. Mary will follow up with Jeff Poet before the business meeting tomorrow.
12. There was no specific report from the national office.
13. Other/New business.—Chip Curtis would like MSSU on the list of upcoming meetings. They will be on for 2017. The scheduled meetings currently are:

NWMSU, 2013
 SLU, 2014

MST, 2015
MWSU 2016
MSSU, 2017

Suzanne Tourville has no good way to get a list of those who don't want mailed postcard notices. She will ask those who have their home addresses on their MAA membership to change to school so they will not receive a postcard.

Approved agenda for business meeting

Adjourned at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Shepherd
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING

April 10, 2010

The business meeting of the Missouri Section was held in the W. C. Morris Auditorium on the campus of the University of Central Missouri in Warrenburg, Missouri. The meeting was called to order 11:05 am. About 20 people stayed.

1. The minutes of the April 18, 2009 Business Meeting were approved. As published in the Spring 2009 Newsletter.
2. Shing So reported on Executive Committee Meeting. A Regional Undergraduate Mathematics Conference funded by MAA was held in conjunction with the section meeting. There were more students this year, but not all students presented at both. We might try one more year to see if the idea appears good. For next year, Suzanne Tourville suggested more targeted topics for contributed papers, and is looking for ideas to keep students participating after the competition. One suggestion was to include a panel on "How to apply to graduate school." Other suggestions are welcome.

A minor medical issue occurred at the competition this year and it was discovered there was no first aid available on campus at that time. One suggestion is to check food for peanuts since this is a wide spread allergy.

Teaching award nominations are still hard to get and we are looking for suggestions to get more nominations. Yungchen Cheng will try to have more follow up emails in Nov and Jan, and Suzanne Tourville will post a running list of winners in the Newsletter. A Polya lecturer will be available to the section next year. Yungchen Cheng will try to encourage the UMSL chair elect nominee to attend MathFest in Pittsburg this year and remind him of travel monies available from national and in section.

Section NExT is in its third year. Mary Shepherd needs help to keep it running, especially since she will be on a sabbatical next year. The 2011 section meeting next year will be joint with MoMATYC at Columbia College. The meetings will be "separate" with one or more joint sessions and

opportunities to attend either. The 2017 volunteer for hosting a section meeting is Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, Missouri.

In addition after, the meeting volunteers for the 2018 and 2020 section meeting were received. It is believed that the schedule will be:

NWMSU	2013
SLU	2014
MST	2015
MWSU	2016
MSSU	2017
Drury	2018
(open)	2019
UCM	2020

3. Yungchen Cheng gave the Governor's report. He attended the two Board of Governors meetings in Portland, Oregon and San Francisco, California. Full reports are in the newsletters. The Strategic Planning Working Groups process will pause to review the reports already submitted. The national office is also doing a bylaws revision. There is quite a bit of digital information on web at the MAA website, www.maa.org. MathFest in August, 2010 will be in Pittsburg and there are travel grants for students. Student attendance is way up at the national meetings, e-memberships are doing quite well, and membership fees will be up about 2% next year.
4. Mary Shepherd presented the Treasurer's Report. The balance on hand as of April 10, 2010 was \$4,902.11.
5. Suzanne Tourville gave the Newsletter Editor Report. There have been no complaints. She has a crude algorithm to decide who to send postcards to, and encourages those who have home address to change it to a school address if possible. There have been no new requests to mail out hard copies of the newsletter.
6. Les Reid gave the Student Chapter Coordinator Report. He will soon be setting up a Facebook page as a common resource for the sections. He asks for suggestions of what to put on it.
7. Shing So gave the High School Contest Coordinator Report. About 70 schools participated. The highest 7 teams were from the St. Louis area. The report will only be posted to the webpage. All details are now handled by Lincoln, but So attempts to contact governor to give plaques to winners. Last year he made the attempt but there was no return email last year. He will try again this year. He has received \$100 donation this year which he split and used to give cash to the winners.
8. Public Information Coordinator/Section Liaison Report---none
9. Web Page Administrator Report—Keith Brandt by Mary Shepherd. Please check out the webpage and send any suggestions or corrections to Keith. The web page URL is: <http://www.maa-mo.org/>
10. Electronic Proceedings report—Jeff Poet—he left no report.
11. Al Tinsley reported on the 5K Run/Walk. Winning names were drawn by Daniel Velleman. 1st to Yungchen Cheng—book, 2nd Audrey Swope, , 3rd Hang Chen, 4th , Curtis Cooper , 5th Mary Shepherd. Places 2 through 5 received T-shirts.

12. Shing So reported that the nomination secretary/treasurer was received as below, but no UMSL nominee was here for chair-elect. There were no floor nominations. Yungchen Cheng will contact and try to have in newsletter.

Chair Elect—to be determined later (UMSL)
Secretary/Treasurer—Mary Shepherd (NWMSU)

The floor was opened for additional nominations. None were received and a motion received to accept the nomination presented by acclamation. Motion approved.

Since the business meeting, Yungchen Cheng has contacted UMSL and their nominee for chair-elect, who agreed to serve is: Prabhakar Rao.

13. Susan Callahan reported on section by-laws revisions. The committee has been working on these for a couple of years, with members Leon Hall, YungChen Cheng and Suzanne Tourville. Some was done last year at the section meeting with a little more done by email (but not much). The work was sent to Committee on Sections. Most of the work was just to make minor corrections to bring the by-laws in line with national suggestions. There have been some changes on section officers, additional officers, including a section liaison coordinator, a webmaster, and a student chapter coordinator will be added, and the section public information officer will be removed. They are working on job descriptions for the 3 added officers. They also need to address some committees. Two committees are currently at work—the competition committee and the teaching award committee. Another will need to be added for the Section NExT. Questions that have arisen include: Should the section chair and program organizer be the same person? The by-laws revision committee consensus is that it is working, but would appreciate feedback on this. The timeline for next steps include type up changes, circulate among committee, put on webpage so all in section can have input, and sometime before MathFest, submit a best draft to Committee on Sections for feedback. After that it will be posted in the newsletter and by next year should have final version ready to vote on.
14. Report from Suzanne Tourville as incoming chair on joint meeting with MoMATYC in 2011. Meeting dates will be for the competition to be March 31st and April 1st with the meeting April 1st and 2nd. The meeting is joint with MoMATYC. They will keep their format and their typical schedule, we keep ours. They have a luncheon on Friday, we will have our banquet Friday night. There will be more opportunity for talks, ideas for more contributed papers, roundtables, and vendors. Suzanne would welcome any suggestions.
15. Old/New business. A motion was made for the secretary to write appropriate letters of thanks to the appropriate officials at the University of Central Missouri.

We gave a big round of applause for Shing So as thanks for the great meeting.

Motion to adjourn approved at 11:44 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Shepherd
Secretary/Treasurer

The MAA Missouri Section Newsletter is published in October, March, and May each year. Please send any news, comments, questions or corrections to me at setourville@ccis.edu.

Suzanne Tourville
Newsletter Editor