

MAA MISSOURI SECTION NEWSLETTER

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CUPM

The MAA's Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics (CUPM) is charged with making recommendations to guide mathematics departments in designing curricula for their undergraduate students. Approximately every 10 years, new guidelines are issued. The new *2015 CUPM Curriculum Guide to Majors in the Mathematical Sciences* is available in a web version at:

http://www2.kenyon.edu/Depts/Math/schumacherc/public_html/Professional/CUPM/2015Guide/CUPMDraft.html. This is “called” the working draft, but it is the official version. According to Martha Siegel of the MAA, the hard-copy portion of the *Guide* should be sent to department chairs soon (original date was to be March 2015). Brochures explaining its major recommendations and the report itself are now available for download at www.maa.org/cupm. While some of the *Guide* will be available in hard-copy, with a copy sent to all departments of mathematics, almost every Course Area and Program Area Study Group report will be available **only online**. This has been done for several reasons, but the primary one is that the MAA expects that these reports will be updated and enhanced regularly over the next decade.

If you have not looked at the new curriculum guide, I encourage you to take an hour or so and see what is there.

Mary Shepherd
Missouri Governor Elect

From the Secretary/Treasurer (Grant Lathrom)

Business Meeting Minutes

MISSOURI SECTION
THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
BUSINESS MEETING
March 28, 2015

1. Approval of Minutes from March 29, 2014 Business Meeting

Minutes approved.

2. Report on Run/Walk

Report given by Curtis Cooper. Five members participated with only one getting lost along the way. The lost person was successfully recovered.

3. MAA National Representative Report

The biggest change is coming in publications. Ivars Peterson has retired. National office has a new compositor so there is a delay in journal printing. Because of many changes happening adaption is necessary and so patience is appreciated in this time of transition. Printing of journals is expected to be caught up by May. The new membership structure is coming soon.

4. Governor's Report—Susan Callahan

The written report was detailed in the latest edition of the newsletter. Departmental membership will be one of the new important changes in the membership structure. Dues will depend on total student enrollment at the school as well as what is degree program is offered and the size of program. This should be in place for 2016. MathFest will be held in Washington DC this summer. Special activities will be available and the event will be one day longer this year. Online registration for MathFest is now open. A new CUPM report is available online. There will be a printed version available and it will be sent to all departments. Volunteers are needed for national committees, see website for details. Self-nominations are allowed. Work on committee appointments will begin in early April. The floor was opened to questions about the Joint and/or Governor's meeting. Thank you for opportunity to be governor.

5. Secretary/Treasurer's Report—Grant Lathrom

See the Treasurer's Report which follows. Encouragements were given to members to provide nominations for the Section Teaching Award. This is the second year in which there have been no nominations. There are many excellent teachers in the section who should be acknowledged.

6. Missouri Section NExT Report—Samuel Chamberlin

No report given.

7. Webpage Administrator Report—Scott Thatcher

There have been very few changes in web page. Most recent results are added to the web page. Online nomination forms may be forthcoming.

8. Liaison Coordinator Report—Yungchen Cheng

9. Nominations and elections—Grant Lathrom

Liaison Coordinator—Yungchen Cheng (Missouri State)

Web Page Administrator—Scott Thatcher (Truman State)

Chair Elect—Amilia Appuhamy (Missouri Southern)

Slate confirmed.

10. Chair Elect – Lori McCune

The spring 2016 meeting will be held at Missouri Western.

Math Competition: April 7-8th Meeting: April 8-9th

11. New business—Rob Roe

- Historical documents.

Leon Hall has several feet of shelving containing section historical documents. Carol Meade at the National office would like the documents and they would be stored at the MAA Archives in Austin, TX. Desired was expressed that local access to the materials would still be available for the section. Question was raised about digitizing. Rhonda McKee commented on digital copies, at least for KME historical documents. Curtis Cooper stated that it was approximately \$2000 to digitize 45 journals of the Fibonacci sequence journal. Digital copies of the newsletters are available back to 1995. Leon Hall is willing to take the step to move the documents to Austin. The archive is better able to handle the preservation of these materials.

A question was raised as to whether or not there was any subset of the material we would like to keep?

Leon Hall commented that the journals we have and some of the correspondence is interesting. Photographs would be good to have. Digitizing the minutes would be desirable for those which we do not have.

A motion was made for Leon Hall to contact Austin, TX about preservation of the materials and to facilitate delivery. Seconded.

All in favor and no opposed nor abstentions.

- Suggestion for next year to review how the meeting place is chosen.
- Move to send letters of thanks for meeting officials.

Seconded and approved.

12. Meeting adjourned.

Section Teaching Award

Each year, every Section of the MAA is invited to select a college or university teacher to be honored with a Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics. This year was the second year in which the Missouri Section failed to have anyone nominated for the Section Teaching Award. This is a very unfortunate state of affairs for the Missouri Section.

Nominations for the 2016 MAA Section Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics are now being accepted. The Missouri Section Selection Committee will determine the recipient of the award from those nominated. The awardee will be honored at the spring 2016 meeting of the Section and will be widely recognized and acknowledged within the Section.

Anyone may make a nomination, but nominations from chairs or MAA liaisons in departments of mathematical sciences are especially solicited. For this reason, this call for nominations is sent to both department chairs and MAA liaisons so that the responsibility for nominations can be shared between them.

We urge you to submit a nomination for the MAA Missouri Section Award if you have someone eligible and qualified in your department. Even if not selected this year, it is an honor for someone to have been nominated, and your candidate can likely be nominated again in a future year. Your department will receive recognition for its commitment to excellence in teaching, and the work done in preparing a nomination folder for your candidate is a tribute in itself. Self-nomination is not permitted.

Please discuss this memo with your colleagues and post it in a prominent place in your department.

Eligibility

- College or university teachers who currently teach a mathematical science at least halftime during the academic year in a public or private college or university (from two-year college teaching through teaching at the Ph.D. level) in the United States or Canada. Those on approved leave (sabbatical or other) during the academic year in which they are nominated qualify if they fulfilled the requirements in the previous year.
- More than seven years of experience in teaching a mathematical science.
- Membership in the Mathematical Association of America.

Guidelines for Nomination

Nominees should

- Be widely recognized as extraordinarily successful in their teaching.*
- Have teaching effectiveness that can be documented.
- Have had influence in their teaching beyond their own institution.**
- Foster curiosity and generate excitement about mathematics in their students.

* "teaching" is to be interpreted in its broadest sense, not necessarily limited to classroom teaching. It may include activities such as preparing students for mathematical competitions at the college level such as the Putnam Prize Competition or the Mathematical Contest in Modeling, attracting students to become majors in a mathematical science or to become Ph.D. candidates, working with pre-service or in-service teachers, etc.

** "influence beyond..." can take many forms, including demonstrated lasting impact on alumni, influence on the profession through curricular revisions in college mathematics teaching with wide-ranging impact, influential publications or innovative books concerned with the teaching of college mathematics, etc.

Nominations must be submitted on the "Nomination Form."

http://www.maa.org/sites/default/files/pdf/awards/Haimo_NF.pdf

Please submit a preliminary nomination form (page 1 of the Nomination form) by early November. This may be done electronically and sent to the Secretary at lathrom-g@mssu.edu.

Follow the instructions on that form precisely to assure uniformity in the selection process both at the section and national levels.

If a file on a Section awardee significantly exceeds the prescribed limits (as stated on page 2 of the Nomination Form), it will not be considered for a national award and will be returned to the Section.

Please send six copies of each nomination packet to

Grant H Lathrom, Secretary
Missouri Section

Missouri Southern State University
3950 Newman Road

Joplin, MO 64801

so as to be received **no later than March 1, 2016.**

Nominations for someone from another Section should be sent to the Secretary of the nominee's Section.

We look forward to your participation in this exciting MAA venture of taking substantive action to honor extraordinarily successful teaching. We want to see such teaching recognized at all post-secondary school levels. We depend on you to help us identify those who merit such recognition.

At the national level, MAA recognizes outstanding teaching with the Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics; each year at most three awards are given. At least one of the Award recipients must be a current Section nominee. This Section nominee may be the current recipient of the Section Award for Distinguished Teaching or a previous recipient of such an award from any Section. At most one

of the Haimo Award recipients may be other than a current or past recipient of a Section Award for Distinguished Teaching. As you see, your nomination for a Section Award for Distinguished Teaching provides the opportunity for the person to be nominated for the national award.

Susan Callahan: 1956-2015

The Missouri Section of the Mathematical Association of America lost one of its most loyal and dedicated members when Susan Callahan passed away on April 20, 2015, due to pneumonia. Susan was originally from Kansas City and had been a faculty member at Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri, since 1980. She received a B.S. in Applied Mathematics from the (then) University of Missouri – Rolla in 1979 and an M.S. in Applied Mathematics from UMR in 1980. After taking the position at Cottey College, Susan continued to take classes at UMR during the summers in the early 1980s. She passed the Qualifying Examination to become a candidate for the Ph.D. in Mathematics at UMR in the summer of 1984, but did not further pursue the doctorate, which would have required an extended leave of absence from her position at Cottey. Louis Grimm, then Chair of the UMR Mathematics and Statistics Department, who would have been her doctoral advisor, once told me (maybe it was more than once!) that he believed Susan could almost certainly have successfully completed the Ph.D. program.

Susan's career at Cottey College was notable for her dedication both to teaching and to her students. She received the Cottey Master Educator Award and the Missouri Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. After her passing, many of her students posted fond remembrances of how she had made a difference in their lives. In addition to teaching, at various times she served Cottey as coordinator of the mathematics department, chair of the Math and Science Division, faculty chair, and Rank and Tenure Committee Chair.

In the Missouri MAA Section, Susan has been Secretary-Treasurer (1999-2005), Governor (2012-2015), chair of the most recent By-laws Revision Committee and she served on more than one nominating committee. The Secretary-Treasurer is perhaps the most important officer in the section. According to the MAA's *Guidelines for Section Officers*, "Since the section secretary, or secretary-treasurer, is the officer who must take care of the major business affairs of the section, and initiate many of the activities of the section, and since secretaries tend to serve longer terms, this position merits special attention." The Missouri Section has been blessed with conscientious and dedicated secretary-treasurers, and Susan was no exception. The section Governor elections are usually the only contested elections in the section because of the MAA rule that each Governor election must have at least two candidates. Susan's election as Governor in 2012 was thus a recognition by the section of her service and the respect she had earned. She was the first Missouri Section Governor from a two-year college.

Even while undergoing treatment for cancer, which led to her passing, Susan strongly wanted to carry out her duties as Governor. She had to miss the 2014 Missouri Section Meeting,

reluctantly agreed that the section should send a substitute to the Summer 2014 Board of Governors Meeting, but was able to go to the January 2015 Board Meeting in San Antonio, with

the help of a portable oxygen tank. At the Missouri Section Meeting this last March, it was encouraging to see her back and no longer needing the extra oxygen. The only other time I remember her missing a Missouri Section meeting was when she was recovering from loss of contact with a horse – one of the things Susan liked was horses and horseback riding. Other nonmathematical interests included music, hiking, and history.

A memorial service for Susan was held Friday, May 8, 2015, in the Chapel at Cottey College. Contributions in her memory may be made to Cottey College (1000 W. Austin Blvd., Nevada, MO 64722), with designation to the Susan L. Callahan Mathematics Scholarship.

Leon Hall, Missouri S&T

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 Lori McCune, Chair (lmccune@missouriwestern.edu), or any other member of the Executive Committee.

- 2016 Missouri Western State University
- 2017 Missouri Southern State University
- 2018 Drury University
- 2019 Lindenwood University
- 2020 University of Central Missouri
- 2021 Truman State University
- 2022 University of Missouri – Kansas City

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 ddaly@semo.edu.

Dan Daly
Newsletter Editor