MathFest 2019 MAA Congress Report

The MAA Congress met for an all-day meeting in Cincinnati on July 31, 2019, the day before the 2019 MathFest. The meeting began with introductions and a review of the MAA’s revised mission and vision statements:

Mission: The mission of the Mathematical Association of America is to advance the understanding of mathematics and its impact on our world.

Vision: We envision a society that values the power and beauty of mathematics and fully realizes its potential to promote human flourishing.

The Congress reviewed the MAA’s strategic goals and approved two new goals: (1) To sustain a robust portfolio of programs that expand MAA’s outward facing impact; and (2) Hosting the International Mathematical Olympiad competition in July 2021. The Congress then heard reports on the MAA’s current operations and programs. Significantly, in 2018, the MAA experienced modest membership growth and had a balanced budget. The Congress was informed about new membership benefits:

a) Access to PRIMUS, Journal of Mathematics and the Arts, Chance,
b) Discounted subscriptions to The Great Courses

c) Access to the MAA Video Library. New to the Video Library this fall will be the 2019 MAA MathFest Speaker Videos.

The Congress discussed the ending of the JMM in 2021. As of 2022, all MAA national meeting events will occur at MathFest. The MAA will build on the continued growth of MAA MathFest and will also direct resources to better support MAA Sections at sectional meetings and other programs that expand access and services to more members. Examples include:

• Digital community tools such as MAA Connect
• More support for Section NExT
• Expanded MAA MathFest program
• New Section speaker programs

The meeting concluded with two discussions on i) Ideas for Increased Support for MAA Section Meetings; and ii) how to ensure that all areas of the MAA community are well-represented on the Congress. The next meeting will be at the 2020 MathFest in Philadelphia, Jul. 29-Aug. 1.