

## Governor's Report

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MAA Board of Governors Meeting in Portland, OR, August 5, 2009

This was the first MAA Board of Governors meeting that I have attended, and it was my pleasure meeting other members of the Board of Governors and participating in the deliberations and decision making process of the MAA. There were many items on the agenda for the meeting including reports of officers, strategic planning working groups' reports, reports from the Washington office, reports of MAA journals editors, reports of the committees, and decisions for prizes, elections, and nominations. Some of the decisions reached and reports presented at this meeting are highlighted in this report.

T. Christine Stevens of Saint Louis University stepped aside as Director of Project NExT on August 16, 2009. She spent sixteen years on Project NExT. In her report to the Board of Governors, she indicated that the funding prospects for Project NExT are good. A resolution in recognition of her valuable contributions to the MAA, particularly her work with Project NExT, was adopted at the meeting. Aparna Higgins of the University of Dayton is the new director.

According to the report of the Committee on the Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching, there were 24 nominations for the 2010 Haimo awards; these nominations came from 20 MAA Sections. The Committee recommended three nominations from two Sections for the Haimo awards. The Board of Governors accepted the committee's recommendation. Sections are encouraged to actively recruit nominations for MAA Section Teaching awards, to recognize outstanding teachers, and nominate these teachers for the Haimo awards.

John Kenelly, Treasurer of the MAA, reported that the total value of the MAA investment portfolio declined in the past year. The amount that was lost was from recent gains in the value of the portfolio. Overall, when compared with others, the MAA losses were smaller. He also added that the MAA is financially stable.

As the new Governor of our Section, I participated in the New Governors Orientation in Portland, OR on August 4, 2009. During the orientation, Tina Straley, the Executive Director of the MAA, emphasized that the MAA is a member-run organization. Martha Siegel, the Secretary of the MAA, reported that there are over 130 committees in the MAA, and that a lot of the work is done through committee activities by volunteers. More volunteers are needed to serve on these committees. If you are interested in serving on an MAA committee, please let me know so that I can forward your name to the MAA for consideration. The list of committees is available on the MAA website at [maa.org](http://maa.org).

The Board of Governors approved the appointment of Barbara Faires of Westminster College to the position of MAA Secretary for a term of five years, beginning after the Joint Meetings in January 2010. The term is renewable. She will serve as Secretary-Elect until the conclusion of the Joint Meetings in 2010.

Officers elected in the 2009 MAA National Election are as follows. Paul Zorn of St. Olaf College was elected president, Francis Su of Harvey Mudd College was elected First Vice-President, and Doug Ensley of Shippensburg University was elected Second Vice-President. Paul Zorn will become President-Elect after the Board of Governors meeting in January 2010 and serve as president in 2011 and 2012.

Tina Straley of the MAA reported that there is a decline in the number of students taking the AMC (American Mathematics Competition), but the number of schools participating has increased. It was recommended that MAA members should be involved in putting a local face on the AMC.

In addition to the current options now available to members, the Board of Governors approved the option of electronic membership for 2010. The benefits for an electronic membership include electronic versions of MAA FOCUS, American Mathematical Monthly, Mathematics Magazine, and College Mathematics Journal. Dues for electronic membership are \$190 for Regular, \$152 for Discounted, and \$95 for Retired members. Note that these are the same dues for ordinary, non-electronic members receiving only the Monthly and MAA FOCUS in 2010.

The Board of Governors approved the following renaming. Institutional membership was renamed Departmental membership. The renaming is intended to remove the implication that the membership is meant for the entire institution; thereby, helping to eliminate the practice of forwarding the journals to the institution library. The benefits include copies of MAA FOCUS, American Mathematical Monthly, Mathematics Magazine, College Mathematics Journal, and Horizons. Furthermore, a department with this membership has the right to buy student departmental nominee memberships at \$30 apiece, with one free student membership for every five that are purchased. The Departmental membership due for 2010 is \$370.

Undergraduate and graduate student memberships will be converted to all electronic memberships for the academic year 2010-2011. Each group benefits will include electronic versions of MAA FOCUS, Math Horizons, American Mathematical Monthly, Mathematics Magazine, and College Mathematics Journal.

Sections are encouraged to send short articles about Section meetings and activities for publication in MAA FOCUS. In addition, ideas for professional development or workshop should be sent to Michael Pearson, Director of Programs and Services including meetings of the MAA. According to Pearson, such a professional development or workshop could be held at a Section meeting as an MAA Professional Enhancement Program (PREP).

One of the duties of a Governor is to bring communication from the Section to the MAA. If you have any ideas that you think would be helpful to the MAA or issues that you want the MAA to address, please send them to me.

Many of the MAA reports are posted on its website, particularly on the site for members only. The MAA encourages you to look at these reports and other information posted on its website.

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