

Governor's Report

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The MAA Board of Governors had its winter meeting at the 2010 Joint Mathematics meetings in San Francisco on January 12. In addition to its usual business, the Board heard reports from the Washington Office, MAA officers, strategic planning working groups, and editors of MAA publications. In addition, the Board voted on prizes and awards to be given at MathFest 2010, and conducted several elections. The following are several items that I think are important for you to know.

The Board of Governors elected Frank Farris of Santa Clara University to serve as chair of the Council of Publications and on the MAA Executive Committee. His term started after the January 2010 Joint Mathematics meeting held in San Francisco, and he replaces Paul Zorn of St. Olaf College who is serving as President-elect of the MAA.

The Board of Governors voted in January 2005 to initiate continuous strategic planning. Since then, the Board has approved several areas for study under the direction of an appointed working group on a regular basis. Each working group reports back to the Board in two years. In each final report, a working group discusses the evaluation and analysis of the issues in its specific area and makes suggestions for improvement and innovation. At the 2010 winter Board meeting, Elizabeth Mayfield (MAA First Vice President) presented the final report of the Strategic Planning Working Group on Meetings, and the Board voted to accept it. Paul Zorn (MAA President-elect) presented the preliminary report of the Strategic Planning Working Group on Periodicals and Communications. Further, the Board voted to establish two new strategic planning working groups: Working Group on SIGMAAs and Working Group on MAA Books. The reports of the strategic planning working groups are available online at the members-only website <http://www.maa.org/StrategicPlanning/>.

The MAA President, David Bressoud, reported that the MAA recently received several large grants including the 5-year renewal of the PREP Workshop grant and the REESE grant to study Characteristics of Successful Programs in College Calculus (headed by David Bressoud). In addition, he worked with Michael Pearson (MAA Associate Executive Director) to submit a proposal to the NSF for a new MAA Center for Innovation that will help colleges and universities identify and implement programs that work in improving undergraduate mathematics education. The WeBWork project, led by Arnie Pizer and Mike Gage, is another funded project at the MAA.

John Kenelly, the MAA Treasurer, reported that even though the MAA has been affected by the recent financial crisis, "the heart warming news is that the MAA made it through all this ordeal working within its operating capital account and it did not have to draw down any of its investments." That is, the MAA is weathering the storm. Members can see details of the Treasurer report online at <http://www.maa.org/treasurer/>.

Rick Cleary, chair of the Budget Committee, reported that the 2009 operating budget had a deficit, and the forecast for the 2010 operating budget calls for operating deficit. In light of these deficits, and to significantly reduce future ones, the Board voted in favor of increasing all 2011

membership dues (regular) categories by \$2 over the 2010 rate with the exception of student memberships, which will remain at the 2010 rate. This will raise the dues for an electronic membership or a print membership with just a subscription to the *Monthly* from \$190/year to \$192/year. The MAA launched electronic memberships last fall, and at the time of this Board meeting, about 25% of new and renewed members were choosing electronic membership.

Barbara Faires of Westminster College took over from Martha Siegel as Secretary of MAA after the 2010 Joint meetings in San Francisco. In addition to serving in other positions in the MAA, Martha Siegel served as editor of the *Mathematics Magazine* for five years and then for 14 years as Secretary.

The MAA is currently evaluating what should be offered as the package that comes with a departmental membership in order to make it attractive. The number of MAA departmental memberships has been decreasing, which is a disturbing trend.