

2025 MAA Certificate of Meritorious Service

The MAA Certificate of Meritorious Service is presented for service at the national level or for service to a section of the Association to a member of New Jersey Section every five years. The 2025 Meritorious Service Award has been awarded to **Karen Clark**, The College of New Jersey.

Citation

Dr. Karen Clark is a Professor of Mathematics and Statistics at the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at The College of New Jersey. Her service to the Association and the New Jersey Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA-NJ) over the past two decades is outstanding.

For the Association, Dr. Clark has served as the Inaugural Chair of the MAA's Committee on Section Meetings since 2023 and previously served as a member of the Committee on Sections from 2018-2023. Dr. Clark served as the MAA-NJ Congress Representative from 2021-2024. She has also served as a judge for the MAA's Undergraduate Research Poster Session at the Joint Mathematics Meetings.

For the New Jersey section of the MAA, Dr. Clark has served as the section's Chair Elect, Chair, and Past Chair from 2014 through 2018. She served three terms as Treasurer from 2002-15. Dr. Clark has also played a significant role in planning and organizing thirty-two MAA-NJ sectional meetings, coordinating meeting exhibitors and publicity from 2004-2015, and serving on the hosting committee for two MAA-NJ meetings at The College of New Jersey. Dr. Clark has also served for eleven years on the Organizing Committee for the Garden State Undergraduate Mathematics Conference (GSUMC) as treasurer from 2004-2014 and as a judge for the GSUMC student poster competition.

Dr. Clark has also played an important role in training the next generation of mathematics faculty. She has served as a mentor for two NJ-NExT faculty and on a NJ-NExT panel. At The College of New Jersey, she served as a co-PI on the NSF Advance grant "Female Faculty Through Effective Career Development" from 2009-13 to help implement Organizational Change for Gender Equity in STEM.

Throughout her career, Dr. Clark has been a leader in improving mathematics education at every level. She served as a co-PI on two NSF/DUE grants from 2002-2007 to integrate software tools into the teaching of Linear Algebra. She also the organizer and co-organizer of the 2011 and 2012 Sonya Kovalevsky High School Mathematics Days at The College of New Jersey. These NSF/AWM sponsored conferences brought together over one hundred female high school students each year for a day of mathematics activities.

In 2019, the New Jersey section of the MAA recognized her service with its 2019 Sr. Stephanie Sloyan Award for Distinguished Service. And in 2014, MAA-NJ recognized her classroom pedagogy accomplishments with its Distinguished Teaching Award.

Response

I would like to thank the MAA-NJ Section for nominating me for this award, and for their many years of collaboration, friendship, and support. It has been a privilege to serve the organization, and I am grateful for the ways in which the MAA has enriched my professional career.

Biographical Sketch

Dr. Clark earned her Ph.D. in Mathematics from New York University in 1992. Following positions at The University of Michigan and Stevens Institute of Technology, she has taught since 1994 at The College of New Jersey. She is a member of the Mathematical Association of America, the American Mathematical Society, the Association for Women in Mathematics, and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. The section is very appreciative and grateful to Dr. Karen Clark for her many contributions.