

Another year begins for the Ohio Section of the MAA! Welcome back! I hope that your semester is off to a great start. This year will be a busy and exciting one for our section and I hope that you will be able to participate. If you are new to the section, welcome. In particular, if you are a new PhD, I encourage you to get involved in Ohio Project NExT. It is a great way to get to know colleagues from across the section and share teaching and research ideas.

In preparation for this Message, I read several of the previous years' messages and was struck by the similarity between them. Upon reflection, the resemblance is perfectly reasonable. We have a strong section with a lot to promote and hard work to acknowledge. For instance, if you attended the spring meeting, you are well aware of the outstanding program that was organized. Invited addresses were given by Jennifer Quinn, Gordon Swain, Doug Ensley, and retiring president, Don Hunt. Thank you, Don, for your leadership this past year. Thanks also to Youngstown State and in particular, to Tom Wakefield for all the work required for such a successful meeting. Phil Blau deserves our appreciation as well for inviting an excellent group of speakers and for serving the section as program chair. He and rest of the program committee, David Singer and Adam Parker, did an outstanding job.

The spring meeting was a great experience for our students. The weekend kicked off with the Leo Schneider Student Team Competition. Twenty-four teams, consisting of a total of seventy students from thirteen institutions participated in the competition, with "Team KSF" from Case Western Reserve University taking first place. In addition to the competition, there were 30 student presentations. The students are setting a great example for the faculty. Please consider giving a contributed talk sometime this year. Whether related to teaching, the solution to a novel problem, or an update on your research, there will always be an interested audience.

For this fall's meeting, David Singer has invited Serge Tabachnikov from Penn State University and George Francis from the University of Illinois. Also presenting are in-section speakers Mark Meckes from Case Western Reserve University and the 2010 Ohio Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics, Dick Little. We hope you can join us on October 21 and 22 at the University of Findlay. Have no fear - although the world is predicted to end that Friday, we are still planning Saturday activities just in case!

Because summers are becoming quite busy for everyone, the Committee on Section Activities (CONSACT) has moved from offering a summer short course to a fall workshop following the section meeting. This year, we are pleased to present a workshop on GeoGebra that will be facilitated by Barbara D'Ambrosia from John Carroll. GeoGebra is a free, online mathematics application that is useful for geometry, algebra, and more. The workshop is will take place on Saturday following the conclusion of the regular meeting. More information about the workshop will be available on the meeting and registration pages online. We hope you can participate!

While on the subject of CONSACT, I would like to put out a plea to anyone interested in serving on the committee. For newer faculty, this is a great way to get involved in the section. If interested, please send me an email or call.

At the officers meeting of MathFest this summer, we received some details about the changes in policy at MAA book sales held at our meetings. Due to issues with sales permits (cost and varying state rules), meeting participants will no longer be able to receive a physical copy of the book at the meeting. However(!), you will still be able to order books at a discounted rate and they will be shipped to you from the MAA *with no shipping costs*. Display copies of many titles, particularly the newer ones, will be available. Please continue to support the MAA through book purchases as this is one way our section generates revenue. Consider visiting the online MAA bookstore, making a list of the books you would like to inspect, and then buy the ones you like while at the meeting. Two recent releases that I am enjoying are *Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers* by Bremigan, Bremigan, and Lorch, and *Rediscovering Mathematics* by Shai Simonson.

With the recent election of Wiebke Diestelkamp to the President-Elect post, the position of section liaison coordinator will be open. Please find the “advertisement” for this position in this issue of the Ohio Focus and consider volunteering for the position. We want to thank Wiebke for her many years of serving in this capacity and I know that she will be willing to mentor the new coordinator.

Over the next several years, there will be a lot happening in the section. In addition to this fall’s meeting at the University of Findlay, we have meetings coming up at Xavier University, Baldwin-Wallace College, and Denison University. In Spring 2016, the section will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary at The Ohio State University. Watch for “Centennial Moments” at upcoming meetings! Please contact me if your institution is interested in hosting a meeting.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as Section President. I look forward to an exciting year and to seeing you in Findlay in October!