

**Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the MAA
Minutes for the 2006 Business Meeting
Saturday, April 1, 10:05 a.m. – 10:55a.m.
Science and Engineering Auditorium
University of Arkansas**

The meeting was called to order by chair **Robert Ferdinand**, East Central University, at 10:05 a.m. There were approximately 50 members present.

The minutes of the 2005 business meeting were approved as distributed. Secretary – Treasurer **John Watson**, Arkansas Tech University, gave the treasurer’s report. He supplied copies of the yearly report submitted to the national office showing the following:

	<u>Checking/Shares</u>	<u>Court CD</u>
Beginning balances, 12-31-2004	\$13,334.60	\$14,784.93
Revenues during the year	\$ 3,695.00	\$ 374.03
Expenses during the year	\$ 3,252.25	\$ -
Ending balances, 12-31-2005	\$13,777.35	\$15,158.96

He also supplied an account of all receipts and expenditures from 1-1-2005 through 3-27-2006. All Section funds are deposited in the Pope County Educators Federal Credit Union. As of March 27, 2006 the balance in the share-checking account was \$2,026.39, the balance in regular shares (savings) was \$2,228.75, and the balance in the share CD was \$9,287.62, giving a total of \$13,542.76. This includes \$10,292.25 in the operating account, \$1,315.37 in Court funds (this is separate from the Court CD), and \$1,935.14 in the faculty workshop account. Watson reported that \$9,146.00 of the operating funds were placed in a CD on May 31, 2005. The treasurer’s report was approved.

Robert Ferdinand called for the audit report. **John Watson** reported that he had sent the treasurer’s records to **William Coberly**, University of Tulsa, to be audited as required by the Section, but that Coberly had not yet responded and was not present at the meeting. Watson said he will inform the executive committee as soon as he receives any news. Coberly was asked to send his report to Ferdinand, with a copy to Watson.

Fred Worth, Henderson State University, gave his first report as Governor of the Section. He expressed his thanks to the Section its confidence in electing him as governor. Worth reported that he attended Mathfest in Albuquerque NM in August and the Joint Meetings in San Antonio TX in January. He also reported the following issues were discussed at the governor’s meeting.

Project NExT is going well. Some sections sponsor their own national Project NExT Fellow. Do we want to consider doing that? The cost is \$2500.

Want to encourage people to consider participating in PREP sessions (PProfessional Enhancement Programs of the MAA). See www.maa.org/PREP for details.

Discussed ways to increase section membership. One way was to have all schools inform the secretary about new (1st to 3rd year) faculty and have a letter sent by the officers of the section inviting them to join if they are not already members or to become active if they are not already active. Also, consider encouraging non-members in your department, whether new or "not so new," to become members. Consider encouraging inactive members in your department to become active.

Fernando Gouvea, editor of FOCUS, is in need of book reviewers. If interested, please contact him.

There is going to be a restructuring of the membership dues. Ideas being considered are to eliminate the "retired" category and add a "century club" for long-time members. The push is to try to have the dues actually support the "costs" of the member. Details will be forthcoming.

We were asked to work to encourage participation in the American Mathematics Competition. It might be worthwhile to investigate ways to do that. Information on the AMC can be found at www.unl.edu/amc/.

Project ACCESS is a mentoring and professional development initiative for two-year college mathematics faculty. The project's goal is to provide experiences that will help new faculty become more effective teachers and active members of the broader mathematical community. There are ways that the sections can participate in this program if we wish to do so.

Worth also asked members to contact him if they have any answers to the question "What do you want the MAA to do for you?", and that agenda items for the May meeting of the MAA Executive Committee are due in the Secretary's office by April 30.

Carl Cowen, President of the MAA, of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, brought greetings from the national office. He encouraged the Section to sponsor a NExT fellow. He reported on the MAA sponsored annual trips: to China this year and Europe in 2007. He encouraged members to frequent the MAA website for information about these trips and other MAA news. He also encouraged members to attend Mathfest August 10-12 in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Charles Cooper, University of Central Oklahoma, gave the Department Chairs/Liaison's report. He first asked for help in updating his list of email address for all department chairs and department liaisons. Information should be sent to him at ccooper@ucok.edu. On behalf of the chairs/liaisons committee Cooper presented four motions.

1. To authorize the treasurer, **John Watson**, to transfer funds to the national office to be administered if so requested by the MAA. Watson noted that: a) the Section would retain ownership of the funds; b) the reason for considering this is that we operate under the federal tax id of the national office and the auditors tend to be concerned about funds in the amount of \$10,000 or more which are not administered by the national office. Two other solutions to this concern, neither of which Watson recommended, would be to obtain our own federal tax id or pay to have the auditors come to audit our books; and

- c) the return on funds administered by the national office would likely be approximately 7% instead of the current 3% or less. After discussion the motion passed unanimously.
2. To direct the Chair to appoint a person or committee to handle the MAA book sales at the Section meeting. The reason for this is to provide more consistency in the MAA book display at the Section meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
 3. To direct the Chair to appoint a nominating committee for the Section's Distinguished Teaching Award. This committee would be disjoint from the committee that selects the winner of the award. The purpose of this motion is to ensure that the selection committee has a larger pool of applications from which to choose. The motion passed unanimously.
 4. To establish a late registration fee of \$30. The purpose of this is to encourage early registration. This helps the host institution prepare packets and in planning for the banquet. The regular fee of \$20 would be collected until approximately one week before the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Cassandra Cox, University of Arkansas-Little Rock, reported that the student chapter coordinators met during the chairs/liaisons luncheon and discussed ideas for student activities such as problem solving contests and designing club t-shirts.

Janet Woodland, University of Arkansas, reported that the student workshop had 20 participants. **Chaim-Goodman Strauss**, University of Arkansas, presented the workshop titled "*Symmetry and the Shape of Space*". **Allan Cochran**, University of Arkansas, reported that 19 participants attended the faculty workshop, "*Assessment and Quantitative Literacy (QL): Double Trouble*", presented by **Bernard Madison**, University of Arkansas.

Linda Braddy, East Central University, gave the Section NExT and the student presentation awards reports. Section NExT met on Thursday evening and Friday morning and included five new fellows. They attended sessions on ideas for implementation in the classroom and certain aspects of surviving the first few years as a mathematics faculty member. On behalf of Section NExT, Braddy expressed gratitude to the MAA President, **Carl Cowen**, for speaking to them about "*Challenging your students to do their best*", and to **Bernard Madison** for his workshop, which was integrated into the Section NExT program this year. Braddy reported that the student presentation committee judged 10 presentations and awarded 1st place (\$75 award) to **Michael Schelkopf**, University of Central Arkansas, for his presentation "*Marimba Bar Tuning and Young's Modulus*", 2nd place (\$50 award) to Akhil Mehta and Chase Ransom, University of Central Arkansas, for their presentation "*Evaluating Unit Hydrograph for Stream Flow*", and 3rd place (\$25 award) to Alex Cameron, Hendrix College, for his presentation "*The number of ring homomorphisms between finite rings*".

No invitations for the 2009 meeting in Oklahoma have been received so no action was required concerning site selection. The 2007 meeting will be at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma on March 30 – 31, 2007 and at the University of Arkansas in Fort Smith, Arkansas on March 28 – 29, 2008.

Paul Goodey, University of Oklahoma, expressed appreciation to the Court Lecturer, **David Rowe**, University of Mainz, and to the Section invited lecturer, **Darryl McCollough**, University of Oklahoma for their presentations. The Court committee nominated **Weiping Li**, Oklahoma State University, for a three year term on the Court Committee. There were no other nominations from the floor and Li was elected by acclamation. **Charles Cooper**, University of Central Oklahoma, will be serving his third year on the committee and **Steve Hennagin**, Ouachita Baptist University his second year.

Ken Harrelson, Oklahoma City Community College, the section newsletter editor, reported that 400 announcements were sent out to let members know that the newsletter was on-line. He had 50 paper copies produced and mailed ten. One hundred postcards were mailed to national officers and section secretaries and newsletter editors. The total cost was \$330.37 (\$195.22 postage and \$135.15 copy costs). Five ads for \$100 each were sold to OU, McGraw-Hill, Prentice Hall, Addison Wesley, and Houghton Mifflin, producing a surplus of \$169.63. **John Watson** presented **Harrelson** with a certificate of thanks for his eight years of service to the section as newsletter editor and for establishing the on-line newsletter. **Harrelson** reported that in February the section chair **Robert Ferdinand** had appointed a committee consisting of **William Durand**, **Lee Turner**, **Steve Hennagin**, and **Harrelson** for the purpose of finding someone to replace **Harrelson**, who had resigned. The committee nominated **Michael Lloyd**, Henderson State University, and he has accepted the nomination to be the new newsletter editor.

Due to time constraints, the Chair **Robert Ferdinand** proceeded to the nominating committee report followed by the resolutions. Written reports from the teacher award selection committees, the electronic proceedings report, and the summary report will be added as an addendum to these minutes.

Lee Turner, Southern Nazarene University, presented the following nominations:

Past Chair	Robert Ferdinand , East Central University
Chair	Allan Cochran , University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
1 st Vice-Chair	John Diamantopoulos , Northeastern State University
2 nd Vice-Chair	Jill Guerra , University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
Secretary/treasurer	John Watson , Arkansas Tech University

There were no nominations from the floor and the candidates were elected by acclamation.

William Durand, Henderson State University, presented the following resolutions which were approved.

Be it resolved that the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of MAA expresses thanks to the faculty, staff and administration of the **University of Arkansas** for their courteous hospitality in hosting the 68th Annual meeting of the association. Special thanks go to **Allan Cochran** and **Janet Woodland**.

Be it resolved that the section expresses appreciation to **Fred Worth**, Governor, **Robert Ferdinand**, chair, and **John Watson**, secretary-treasurer, for carrying out their duties during 2005-2006.

Be it resolved that the section expresses gratitude to **Chaim Goodman-Strauss**, University of Arkansas, for his stimulating presentation at the student workshop on the *Symmetry and the Shape of Space*, and to **Bernard Madison** for his challenging presentation at the faculty workshop on *Assessment and Quantitative Literacy (QL): Double Trouble*. The section also expresses its appreciation to the student and faculty workshop committees for organizing these events.

Be it resolved that the section conveys sincere appreciation to our invited speaker **Carl Cowen**, Indiana University – Purdue University, Indianapolis, for his excellent presentation “*Connections between Mathematics and Biology*”, and for his service as the president of the MAA.

Be it resolved that the section expresses gratitude to **David Rowe**, University of Mainz, for his interesting N.A. Court Lecture entitled “*On the geometry of space from Euclid to Einstein*”.

Be it resolved that the section expresses gratitude to **Darryl McCollough**, University of Oklahoma, for his stimulating invited address by a section member entitled “*Gian-Carlo Rota (1932-1999)*”.

Be it resolved that the section expresses special thanks to **Ken Harrelson** for his eight years of service as the newsletter editor, and for establishing an online newsletter.

Be it resolved that the section expresses sincere thanks to **Charles Seifert** and **Sandy Johnson** and the teacher award committees for the selection of outstanding mathematics teachers for the section to honor. Appreciation is also extended to department liaison coordinators, **David Boliver** and **Janet Woodland**, for their help in strengthening lines of communication within the section, and to **David Boliver** for coordinating math awareness.

Be it resolved that the section expresses gratitude to **Jill Guerra**, **Janet Woodland**, and **Linda Braddy** for organizing and implementing Section NExT activities at the meeting. The section also expresses its gratitude to **Jill Guerra** and others who helped judge the undergraduate papers.

Be it resolved that the section expresses thanks to **John Diamantopolous** for establishing and maintaining the electronic proceedings of the section meeting.

Be it resolved that the section expresses thanks to everyone who served the section on a committee or participated in planning the annual meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Additional reports not given at the meeting due to time constraints:

Linda Braddy, East Central University, was awarded the 2006 Oklahoma-Arkansas MAA Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics.

Charles Seifert reported the Arkansas Teacher award winners were: **Dorothy Doolittle**, Brady Elementary School in Little Rock, **Donald E. Glover**, Paris Middle School, and **Karla Whisnant**, North Little Rock High School.

Sandy Johnson, Anautics, Inc. reported that the Oklahoma Teacher winners were: **Diane Brown**, Angus Valley Elementary School in Sand Springs, **Cynthia Mason**, Tomlison Junior High School in Lawton (Middle Level Award), and **Beth Harper**, Moore West Junior High School in Moore (High School Award).

John Diamantopoulos, Northeastern State University, reported that he was happy to offer the on-line proceedings again this year for the Section. He hopes that more papers will be included in the proceedings for this year. The deadline for waivers and web-ready papers is May 1, 2006.