

Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the MAA
Minutes for the 2008 Business Meeting
Reynolds Room, Smith-Pendergraft Campus Center
University of Arkansas-Fort Smith

The annual business meeting was called to order by chair **John Diamantopoulos**, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, at 9:35 a.m., Saturday, March 29, 2008. There were approximately 55 members present.

The minutes of the 2007 business meeting were approved with one minor correction. **John Watson**, Arkansas Tech University, gave the treasurer's report for 2007. 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, 12-31-2006	\$11,779.39	\$15,712.27
Revenues during the year	\$ 5,017.29	\$ 689.81
Expenses during the year	\$ 4,459.81	\$ 1,500.00
Ending balances, 12-31-2007	\$12,336.87	\$14,902.08

Linda Braddy, East Central University, who was appointed to the treasurer's office beginning January 1, 2008, supplied an account of all receipts and expenditures from 1-1-2007 through 3-26-2008. All Section funds are deposited in the Pope County Educators Federal Credit Union, but will probably be moved to a financial institution in Ada, Oklahoma when the CD's mature in early June, assuming **Linda** is elected to continue as treasurer. As of March 26, 2008 the balance in the share-checking account was \$1,527.96, the balance in regular shares (savings) was \$2,297.75, and the balance in the share CD was \$7,770.05, giving a total of \$11,595.76. This includes \$8,634.52 in the operating account, \$1,201.40 in Court funds (this is separate from the Court CD), and \$1,759.84 in the faculty workshop account. The treasurer's report was approved. (Note: The section's new bylaws, approved by the Board of Governor's at MathFest in August, 2007, split the secretary-treasurer office into the two offices of secretary and treasurer. **John Watson** remained secretary-treasurer until January 1, 2008, when **Linda Braddy** assumed the duties of section treasurer).

John Diamantopoulos informed the members that **Charles Seifert**, University of Central Arkansas had completed audits of the treasurer's records for 2005 and 2006 and found them to be in order. **Robert Ferdinand**, East Central University had completed an audit of the treasurer's records for 2007 and found them to be in order.

Fred Worth, Henderson State University, gave the Governor's report. He summarized new publications, changes to the MAA Online, noted that there will be no increase in MAA membership dues in 2009, summarized the strategic plans for the national organization, gave some facts about the American math competitions and the mathematical study tours, and noted that our Section bylaw changes were approved at MathFest in August, 2007. He expressed gratitude to the membership for the opportunity to serve as governor.

The membership was informed that the election of a new governor had resulted in a tie vote. The national bylaws did not provide for a remedy and it was left to the section executive committee and nominating committee to resolve the dilemma. It was reported that **Charles Cooper**, University of Central Oklahoma, was chosen to be the new governor.

Charles Cooper, University of Central Oklahoma, gave the Department Chairs/Liaisons report. He presented the following resolutions from the chairs committee:

Resolution #1: Be it resolved that the mathematics chairs group of the state of Arkansas and a similar Oklahoma group (to be formed) obtain information regarding alternative certification in their respective states, discuss and form recommendations regarding alternative certification, and communicate those recommendations to appropriate state officials. Furthermore, that each state chairs group report at the next chairs/liasons/chapter sponsors luncheon meeting in the spring of 2009 the results of this work.

Resolution #2: Be it resolved that the Section newly commit itself to providing dynamic leadership in actively addressing the need for elevating the mathematical preparation of all teachers of core-curricular mathematics; and that the Section authorize its Executive Committee:

1. To establish a Mathematical Task Force on Teacher Education, and,
2. To appoint a Steering Committee to activate that taskforce and to develop procedures for recruiting its members and for its operations, and,
3. Charge that task force with developing proposals for Section initiatives aimed at so alleviating the under-education of teachers of mathematics.

Both resolutions were adopted.

Cooper asked that the Executive Committee designate a new Chairs Committee chair, since he was no longer a department chair and a new State Liaison's Coordinator for Oklahoma since he would be assuming the post of Section governor in July. A discussion ensued about the state liaisons coordinators and a consensus was reached that they had relatively no function anymore and it was recommended that those particular positions for Oklahoma and Arkansas be discontinued. The executive committee will check on whether the national office communicates with the membership through section liaison coordinators or if information is sent directly to departmental liaisons, thus bypassing the section coordinators. **Cooper** expressed the need to establish a departmental liaisons list. He also read a "Math Awareness Proclamation" from the governor of Oklahoma.

Linda Braddy reported that three new Section NExT fellows, four past fellows, and two directors attended the Section NExT activities this year. On Thursday evening **Todd Timmons**, University of Arkansas-Fort Smith, gave a presentation on "Using history in a mathematics classroom", and **Linda Braddy** presented "Just say yes – a "rip-off" of Joe Gallian's Project NExT speech. Thursday's activities also included dinner and discussion. On Friday morning they attended the faculty workshop and Section NExT activities concluded with lunch and discussion.

Dan Sisk, Northeastern State University, gave the site selection report. Invitations have been received from Southwestern Oklahoma State University for 2009, John Brown University for 2010, and the University of Central Oklahoma for 2011. The meeting dates are March 27 - 28, 2009, March 26 – 27, 2010, and March 25 – 26, 2011. The proposed sites and dates were approved.

Michael Lloyd, Henderson State University, the section newsletter editor, reported that there was one newsletter ad sold giving \$100 income, with expenses of \$169.16, resulting in a deficit of \$69.16 in producing the 2008 newsletter. He reported that nine department representatives submitted campus news reports, down from ten last year. He encouraged members to urge their chair to submit news next year.

Jill Guerra reported that there were fifteen undergraduate student papers presented. Judging procedures used to select the top three papers are similar to national procedures.

John Diamantopoulos, Northeastern State University, reported on the electronic proceedings and on the new Section website. He asked members to feel free to send him suggestions concerning the website.

Under new business, **Jill Guerra** reported that the executive committee had discussed ways to get more undergraduates involved in the annual meeting. After discussion it was decided that the new chair should appoint a student activity committee to plan activities for next year's meeting.

Allan Cochran, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, presented the following nominations:

Past-Chair	John Diamantopoulos , Northeastern State University
Chair	Jill Guerra , University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
1 st Vice-Chair	Gerald East , Southwestern Oklahoma State University
2 nd Vice-Chair	Frank Blume , John Brown University
Treasurer	Linda Braddy , East Central University
Secretary	Lee Turner , Southern Nazarene University
Newsletter Editor	Michael Lloyd , Henderson State University

The chair, **John Diamantopoulos**, asked whether there were nominations from the floor. **Darryl Linde**, Northeastern State University, nominated **John Diamantopoulos** for the office of secretary. There were no other nominations from the floor. Paper ballots were distributed to the members present and **Lee Turner** was elected. The nominees for the other offices were elected by acclamation.

John Watson received a round of applause for his service as secretary-treasurer for the past seven years.

Steve Hennagin, Ouachita Baptist University and chair of the Court Lecture Committee, nominated **Steve Butcher**, University of Central Arkansas, to serve on the Court Lecture Committee. He was elected by acclamation. **Hennagin** announced that **Lou Kaufmann**, a Polya Lecturer, has already committed to give the Court Lecture next year.

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 – Fort Smith** for their courteous hospitality in hosting the 70th Annual meeting of the association. Special thanks go to **Jill Guerra**.

Be it resolved that the section expresses appreciation to **Fred Worth**, Governor, **John Diamantopoulos**, chair, and **John Watson**, secretary-treasurer, for carrying out their duties during 2007-2008.

Be it resolved that the section expresses gratitude to **Kathy Pinzon**, University of Arkansas – Fort Smith, for her stimulating presentation at the student workshop on *Mathematical games and party tricks*, and to **Joe Gallian**, University of Minnesota – Duluth, for his challenging presentation at the faculty workshop on *Encouraging undergraduate research*. The section expresses gratitude to the faculty workshop panelists: **Danny Arrigo**, University of Central Arkansas, **Duff Campbell**, Hendrix College, **Andy Miller**, University of Oklahoma, **Kenneth Wantz**, Southern Nazarene University, and also to the student panelists who participated: **Shanda Fulmer**, University of Arkansas-Fort Smith (now in graduate school at the University of Arkansas – Fayetteville), **Devin Smith**, University of Central Oklahoma, **Luis Suazo**, University of Central Arkansas, **Cherith Tucker**, Southern Nazarene University, (now in graduate school at the University of Oklahoma), and **Dan Pinzon**, Cornell University, now on the faculty at the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith. The section also expresses its appreciation to the student and faculty workshop committees for organizing these events, especially the committee chairs, **Kathy Pinzon** and **Myron Rigsby**.

Be it resolved that the section conveys sincere appreciation to our invited speaker **Joe Gallian**, President of the MAA, for his stimulating lecture entitled *Breaking driver's license codes*, and to **David Wright**, Oklahoma State University, for his interesting N.A. Court Lecture entitled *Exploring Kleinian Groups*.

Be it resolved that the section expresses thanks to **Michael Lloyd**, Henderson State University, for his service as newsletter editor.

Be it resolved that the section expresses thanks to **Charles Seifert**, University of Central Arkansas, **Anne Fine**, East Central University, and the teacher award committees for the selection of outstanding mathematics teachers for the section to honor.

Be it resolved that the section congratulates the following award winners:

Arkansas teachers of the year: Elementary School—**Angela Blue**, Ida Burns Elementary, Conway, AR; Middle School—**Trela Cook**, Pulaski Heights Middle School, Little Rock, AR; Secondary School—**Beth Jones**, Ramay Junior High School, Fayetteville, AR.

Oklahoma teachers of the year: Elementary School—**James Pratt**, Central Intermediate Elementary School, Oklahoma City, OK; Middle School—**David Moskal**, Jenks Middle School, Jenks, OK; Secondary School—**Jan Sturdevant**, Byng Junior High School, Byng, Ok.

Undergraduate presentations: 1st place: **Curtis McCully**, Southern Nazarene University; 2nd place: **Ted Swang**, University of Oklahoma; 3rd place: **Joe Mitchell**, University of Oklahoma.

Although not confirmed, we think the high scorer in the section on the Putnam exam: **Nicklaus Little**, Oklahoma Christian University.

Oklahoma-Arkansas Award for Distinguished Teaching of Mathematics: **Danny Arrigo**, University of Central Arkansas.

Be it resolved that the section expresses gratitude to **Jill Guerra** and **Linda Braddy** for organizing and implementing Section NExT activities at the meeting. The section also expresses its gratitude to Guerra and others who judged the undergraduate papers, and to all institutions and students who participated.

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

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

Jill Guerra gave the following summary report:

63 students and 103 faculty registered for the meeting; 150 attended the banquet; 40 attended the luncheon; 31 students participated in the student workshop; 41 persons participated in the faculty workshop.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:40 a.m.