

SECTION BUSINESS MEETING

6 April 2024

Ron Smith, presiding

1. Call to Order – 9:20 AM
2. Establishment of a quorum of at least 15 members (16 members present)
3. Approval of the 2023 Minutes of the Section Business Meeting (as posted online)
 - Kristi Karber moved to accept the 2023 minutes, and Kayla Murray seconded. The minutes were approved by voice vote.
4. Treasurer’s Report
 - Treasurer Karber presented the 2023 financial report. The following balances, revenues, and expenses were reported:

(A) Beginning Bank Balances 12/31/2022	\$34,529.87
(B) Total Revenues	\$7,108.79
(C) Total Expenses	\$3,011.55
(D) Ending Bank Balances 12/31/2023	\$38,627.11

- Treasurer Karber noted that the revenue looks high on this year’s report, but that is a bit misleading. The income is a combination of the previous two Section meetings, since the 2022 meeting experienced some issues with Eventbrite that were not resolved until early 2023. Income and expenses are typically close to one another.
 - Andrew Wells moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Emily Foss seconded, and the report was approved by voice vote.
5. Elections
 - Nominating Committee Chair Britney Hopkins reviewed the ballot and noted that Ron Smith was only filling in as Section Chair at this meeting for Nicholas Jacob, who was unable to attend.
 - Britney Hopkins and Cherith Tucker collected ballots and left to count them.
 - Following the Bylaws Updates, Britney Hopkins returned and announced that all nominees were unanimously elected to their positions (Christopher Sauer as Communications Director, Ron Smith as Chair, Xiaoshen Wang as Local Program Chair-Elect).
 6. Bylaws Updates
 - Secretary Marsh noted that the revised bylaws (2023) have been approved by the national office. This summer, she will be recruiting Section members to help write updated descriptions for every position and committee in our revised bylaws.
 7. Officer Reports
 - (a) Section Representative – Kayla Murray
 - Section Representative Murray shared the report from the national MAA, which included notes on the following:
 - Our next Section meeting date (April 3-5, 2025)
 - Serving on MAA committees

- MAA's YouTube channel
- *Scatterplot*, MAA's new journal for data science
- MathFest in Indianapolis August 7-10
- MAA Connect
- Member benefits (including journal access)
- Project NExT (deadline: April 15)
- OPEN Math summer professional development (virtual, typically a week long)
- MAA membership
- How to contact the MAA.

(b) Local Program Chair – Tulin Kaman

- Ron Smith first noted his appreciation for the work the University of Arkansas put in to host the meeting.
- Local Program Chair Kaman gave the following registration numbers:
 - 121 total registered (64 students, 54 faculty, 2 administrators, 1 high school teacher)
 - 14 student Jeopardy teams

(c) Communications Director – Christopher Sauer

- Communications Director Sauer noted that he has received / posted six newsletter submissions so far, and only one from Arkansas. He encouraged members to submit updates from their institutions. Updates can include whatever the institution finds interesting or wants to share – outreach, new hires or other personnel news, etc. – and does not have to be very long.
- Website updates are still ongoing.
- In the future, faculty teaching award nominations will be submitted on the website.

(d) Auditor's Report – Ron Smith (Past Past-Chair)

- Past Past-Chair Smith reported that the Treasurer's report looked great and passed all of his inspections.

8. Committee Reports

(a) Department Chairs Committee – Cherith Tucker, filling in for Nicholas Zoller

- Seven department chairs attended Friday's Department Chairs Lunch. Their discussion included the following topics:
 - HLC changes that lowered faculty standards / requirements
 - Math pathways, including appropriate advising
 - Changes from the Regents, denying tuition charges for remedial courses
 - Continuing problems with lower enrollment, including math majors
 - Difficulties finding qualified people for open positions [hiring]

(b) N.A. Court/R.B. Deal Committee – Ron Smith

- Ron Smith reported that although we used to have Court / Deal lectures every year, we typically now have two speakers sponsored by the national office. Those two speakers per Section meeting seems sufficient. We can use the Court / Deal lecture series in years that we do not have two speakers. This makes the Court / Deal Committee more of an ad hoc committee now.
- Emily Foss noted that the committee had challenges finding someone who wanted to speak who was also an MAA member (and, for the Deal lecture, was from our Section).

We do not want to lose the lecture series, but three or four lectures per meeting would be a lot for our typical timeframe.

(c) Resolutions Committee – Sarah Marsh

- Secretary Marsh thanked everyone for their service throughout the year and at the meeting. She reminded members to reach out if they would be interested in being involved on a committee or other position within the Section. [The formal *Resolutions* are included at the end of these minutes.]

(d) Section NExT Coordinator – Kristi Karber

- Section NExT had one new participant this year (Ashley Berger from OU).
- The Section NExT group discussed various responsibilities in teaching and research, challenges to these responsibilities, and how to overcome (some of) those challenges. They also attended the Faculty Workshop on Friday morning.
- Kristi Karber reminded attendees to suggest the Section NExT program to new-ish faculty (first four years) in their departments, new hires, and students nearing graduation with a Ph.D.

(e) Site Selection Committee – Chizuko Iwaki

- Next year's meeting will be at the University of Central Oklahoma on April 3-5, 2025. Additional future sites are the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 2026 and Oklahoma Wesleyan University in 2027.
- The committee is now accepting invitations from Arkansas for the 2028 meeting.

(f) Student Competition Committee – Cherith Tucker, filling in for Scott McClendon

- The Team Jeopardy competition had 14 teams, with 4 teams reaching the second round.
- The Individual Integration Bee had 19 competitors and lasted 9 rounds.
- Winners of both competitions are listed in the *Resolutions*, below.

(g) Student Contributed Talks Committee – Kristi Karber

- There were 23 undergraduate presentations from a variety of institutions. Kristi Karber noted that the students and mentors had done a good job preparing their talks. She also thanked the judges for their service.
- The judges decided to recognize three winners at an equal level, rather than ranking 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. These winners are listed in the *Resolutions*, below.

9. New Business / Announcements

- Tulin Kaman acknowledged the University of Arkansas's \$2000 investment in the curvahedral pieces for students to build with in the student workshop. Forty-four students benefited from this generous investment! The faculty workshop had 25 participants this year.
- Fred Worth noted that Dr. Edray Goins was very impressed with student attendance and participation in our Section and even mentioned one of the student talks within the plenary session. Cherith Tucker reported similar comments from Dr. Deanna Haunsperger. A brief discussion of the importance of, roadblocks to, and incentives for student participation followed.
- Tulin Kaman announced the upcoming Arkansas Math Discovery Day that the University of Arkansas will hold at the Fayetteville Public Library on Saturday, April 13, 2024.

There will be fourteen booths set up for children to experience math in a variety of ways.

- Tulin Kaman also announced the University of Arkansas's annual spring lecture series coming up on May 3-5, 2024 with speakers from all over the world. This year's topic is Harmonic Analysis. The lecture series is free for students to attend, and there is partial support for faculty. More information is available on the University of Arkansas Math website.

10. Adjournment – 9:56 AM

- A motion to adjourn was made by Fred Worth and seconded by Kristi Karber. The meeting was adjourned by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Marsh, OK-AR Section Secretary 2023-2024

Resolutions
2024 Meeting of the OK-AR Section of the MAA
Hosted by the University of Arkansas
April 6, 2024

Whereas, the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the Mathematical Association of America recognizes that its 85th Annual Meeting has been successful due to the efforts of all involved: the welcoming atmosphere created by the host institution, the University of Arkansas, the ongoing service of the Section officers and the Section committees, the efforts of the student and professional presenters, the expertise of the competition judges, the willingness of the presidors, and the participation of the attending members,

Therefore, be it resolved that the following are thanked for their administrative contributions to the Section:

- Kayla Murray, for her guidance as Representative of the Section
- Past Chair Amy Schachle, Chair Nicholas Jacob, Local Program Chair Tulin Kaman, Local Program Chair-Elect Erin Williams, Treasurer Kristi Karber, Secretary Sarah Marsh, and Communications Director Christopher Sauer, for their leadership as the officers of the Section for the 2023 – 2024 year

Be it resolved that the following committees are thanked for their efforts in recognizing individuals who have demonstrated exceptional abilities and behaviors in the world of mathematics:

- Distinguished Teaching Award Committee, chaired by Samantha Robinson
- Arkansas Teacher Award Committee, chaired by Javier Taylor

Be it resolved that the following committees are thanked for their efforts in arranging special activities for the Section members:

- Student Workshop Committee, chaired by Tori Ryburn
- Faculty Workshop Committee, chaired by Shanda Hood
- Section NExT, coordinated by Kristi Karber
- Student Contributed Talks Committee, chaired by Kristi Karber
- Student Competition Committee, chaired by Scott McClendon

Be it resolved that the following committees are thanked for performing special duties on behalf of the Section:

- Nominating Committee, chaired by Britney Hopkins
- Resolutions Committee, chaired by Sarah Marsh
- Site Selection Committee, chaired by Chizuko Iwaki
- Department Chairs Committee, coordinated by Nicholas Zoller

Be it resolved that the following individuals are thanked for their presentations as part of the special programming of the Section:

- Edmund Harriss (University of Arkansas) for the Student Workshop entitled “Crazy Curvature”
- Deborah Korth (University of Arkansas) for the Faculty Workshop entitled “Implementing Active Learning with ACUE”
- Edray Goins (West Pomona College), Chair of the MAA Congress, for the Section Visitor Lecture entitled “Clocks, Parking Garages, and the Solvability of the Quintic: A Friendly Introduction to Monodromy”
- Deanna Haunsperger (Carleton College) for the MAA Pólya Lecture entitled “A Glimpse at the Horizon”

Be it resolved that the Section congratulates the recipients of the special Section awards and recognitions:

- 2024 Arkansas Teachers of the Year
 - Taylor Upton, Kilpatrick Elementary School, Texarkana, AR
 - Shawna Radcliff, Corning Middle School, Corning, AR
 - John Tollett, Nashville High School, Nashville, AR
- High Scorer on the 2023 Putnam Exam: Jacob Norris – University of Oklahoma
- Team Jeopardy Competition
 - First Place: Jesse Wallace, Nate Ward, and Arthur James – Oklahoma State University
 - Second Place: James Blalack and Luke Pipkin – John Brown University
 - Third Place: Jade Stauffer and Noah Steelman – Oklahoma Baptist University
- Individual Integration Bee
 - First Place: Eric Seglem – University of Arkansas
 - Second Place: Jade Stauffer – Oklahoma Baptist University
 - Third Place: Cassidy Crockett – University of Central Oklahoma
- Undergraduate Oral Presentations (R. B. Deal winners in alphabetical order)
 - Zachary Akridge (University of Arkansas) – “Sparseness and Blowup for the Supercritical SQG Equations”
 - Lydia England (University of Oklahoma) – “Quantum Error Mitigation: A Mathematical Approach”
 - Parker New (Oklahoma Baptist University) – “Dynamics Within the Torus”

Finally, be it resolved that the Section expresses its sincere appreciation to all its members, for it is because of them that the Section exists.