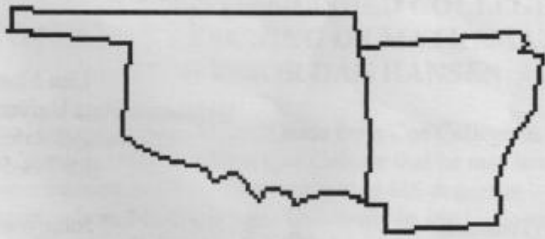


NEWSLETTER



OKLAHOMA/ARKANSAS SECTION

Volume XXIV, No. 1 February 2003

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NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

John Watson

Thanks to the hard work of many of our colleagues you can anticipate another great program at the Section meeting in Tulsa on March 28 and 29. Something different this year is that there will be three plenary speakers: the invited address, the Court lecture, and the Polya lecture. Read the abstracts for these talks elsewhere in this newsletter to "whet your appetite". Once again workshops are being planned for students and faculty. The faculty workshop may be limited to 12 participants, so be sure and apply early if you are interested.

You may remember that the Section authorized spending up to \$500 to update the Section history and get it on the website. In the process we changed the site to make it easier to browse. If you haven't already noticed, check it out at <http://syssci.atu.edu/math/maa>

I look forward to seeing you at the University of Tulsa, March 28-29.

AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS TO PROFESSOR DAN HANSEN

Dan Hansen graduated Cum Laude from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1960. It was at Coe College that he met Jane and they were married in 1963. Dan received an MS degree in mathematics from Michigan State University in 1962. He taught for a time at Westmar College in LeMars, Iowa. He then enrolled at the University of Montana when he completed his Ph.D. in 1971. In the fall of 1971, Dan came to Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. He became the department chair in 1985 and was a regular at the Oklahoma-Arkansas section meetings where he had made several talks over the years. He and Jane reared their two children in Tahlequah. Doug is an optometrist and lives in Washington State. Heather is an attorney in Oregon.

In 1982 a team of students, coached by Dan, won first place in the Division II South Central Programming Contest in Arlington, Texas. In 1993 a team, coached by Dan, were awarded honorable mention in a mathematics modeling contest sponsored by COMAP. Dan also served as thesis advisor for over forty students working on their masters degree. When teaching Dan uses the proven method of: tell them what you are going to teach, teach them, give examples, ask for questions, if no questions ask them questions, now that they know why they don't know explain it again. He incorporated technology in many of his courses.

According to Darryl Linde, a colleague at NSU, "Dan was an example of what every faculty member should be. He did his job and did it well. He gave freely of his time. He was accessible and friendly to his students. He was willing to share his talents with his colleagues. He promoted his department and university and made them both better by his efforts.

Some comments from students:

He's a very challenging teacher.

I learn the most with him.

Dr. Hansen is accessible, very knowledgeable about his field and encourages outside enrichment activities.

Very patient in answering questions.

Dr. Hansen is a wonderful teacher who cares about his students.

Dr. Hansen is stingier than most with partial credit, but has a true talent for explaining difficult math concepts.

Another of his colleagues at NSU had this to say: "Dr. Hansen has been teaching all levels of Math at Northeastern State University for over 25 years. The students consider him to be one of the finest faculty members in Mathematics."

A student who had moved on to graduate study has this to say: "I was fortunate to have had Dr. Hansen early in my education, for it is teachers such as Dan that make a true difference in a student's future."

Dr. Hansen was a wonderful human being, a good mathematician, an excellent role model, and an inspiration to all that knew him. He will be missed in the Oklahoma-Arkansas section.

OKLAHOMA-ARKANSAS SECTION NExT

Jill Guerra

The Oklahoma-Arkansas Section NExT is inviting applications for 2003-2004 Fellows. Project NExT is a program of the Mathematical Association of America to help new mathematics faculty adjust to their responsibilities as full-time faculty members. The Oklahoma-Arkansas Section NExT is a local version of this national program. The 2003 Program will take place on March 27-28 at The University of Tulsa as part of the spring meeting of the Section. The program will include various topics of interest to new faculty members from our Section. In particular, we will have sessions addressing teaching, research and service responsibilities. Fellows will participate in the 2003 and 2004 Section NExT meetings. For the 2003 meeting, lodging and dinner for fellows on Thursday, March 27 and a luncheon on Friday, March 28 will be provided.

Fellows must be full-time faculty in their first four years of teaching at the college/university level or a graduate student completing the PhD in the current year.

Interested applicants should send a letter describing their teaching, research and service interests and how they hope their participation in the Section NExT will help them to meet their career goals. In addition, applicants must submit a letter from their department head or dean expressing support and a commitment to provide funds for the Fellow's participation in both the 2003 and 2004 Section meetings.

Completed applications should be sent to Jill E. Guerra, Department of Mathematics, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, Arkansas 72801, or by e-mail: jill.guerra@mail.atu.edu.

Applications should be received by February 28, 2003. Questions regarding the program can be directed to any of: Jill Guerra, Arkansas Tech University, jill.guerra@mail.atu.edu, Teri Jo Murphy, University of Oklahoma, tjmurphy@math.ou.edu, and Janet Woodland, University of Arkansas, woodland@uark.edu.

CAMPUS NEWS AND NOTES

Arkansas State University
Submitted by *Suzanne Melescue*

This summer the Department of Computer Science and Mathematics will be separated into the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and the Department of Computer Science. Our current Interim Chair, Dr. *Jeff Jenness*, will continue as Chair of the Department of Computer Science. We are currently reviewing applications for the new position of Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Last year we had two faculty members retire. Dr. *Tom Bishop* was an invaluable asset to our department and to mathematics education statewide for 32 years.

After 30 years of service at ASU, Dr. *Richard Tangeman* retired. Dick held a joint appointment as Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics. He was instrumental in the foundation of our CS Program, and in 1993 he helped the department in obtaining ABET accreditation for our BS program in Computer Science. We have not yet filled Dick's position.

Dr. *J. Michael Hall*, a recent graduate of the University of Mississippi, joined our department in August as the new Director of Mathematics Education. Mike presented the paper "A comparative analysis of mathematics self-efficacy of developmental and non-developmental freshman mathematics students" at the 2002 Meeting of the Louisiana/Mississippi Section of the MAA.

Dr. *Debra Ingram* was selected as a 2001-2002 Project NeXT Fellow (funded by MAA and the Exxon Mobil Foundation) and attended the Project NeXT workshops at MathFest 2002 in Burlington, VT. She received funding from the Arkansas Science Information Liaison Office (SILO) Undergraduate Research Fellowship program to continue research with undergraduate research assistant, *Steffany Belcher-Novosad*. Ms. Belcher-Novosad presented their work in "Minimum G Aberration Designs from Hadamard Matrices of Order 28" at the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics in February, 2002, and at the Annual Meeting of the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the MAA in

April, 2002. Dr. Ingram presented related work at the Spring Research Conference on Statistics in Industry and Technology in Ann Arbor, MI, in May, 2002. Two papers co-authored by Debra have recently been published.

Dr. *Suzanne Melescue* received tenure and a promotion to Associate Professor of Mathematics. Suzanne's manuscript "Decay of Solutions of Ordinary Differential Equations" appeared in the *The Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, 276 (2002), 532-544. Three papers written by Dr. *Jie Miao* have been accepted for publication. Dr. *William Paulsen* received a promotion to Full Professor and had three papers published last year.

Arkansas Tech University
Submitted by *Don Carnahan*

There have been three recent additions to the department at Tech in tenure tract positions. They are *Marcel Finan*, *Chumping Xie* and *Yea-Ling Tsao*. Marcel has a Ph.D. in Analysis from the University of North Texas. Chumping received his Ph.D. in Analysis also but from The University of Alabama. Yea-Ling has a Ph.D. in Mathematics Education from the University of Northern Colorado. They are all assistant professors.

Pallavi Ketkar also joined the faculty this fall as a visiting instructor.

After a year in interim positions *John Watson* and *Don Carnahan* were promoted, respectively, to Dean of The School of Systems Science and Head of the Math Department in July. *Jack Hamm*, a former Math Department Head and Dean of the School, is now the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

During the spring 2002 semester, two Tech undergraduates, *Dennis Heilman* and *Zeeshan Azmat*, presented research papers in Ordinary Differential Equations under the direction of *Jill Guerra*. The Arkansas Space Grant Consortium funded Mr. Heilman's work and an Arkansas Tech Faculty research grant awarded to Dr. Guerra funded Mr. Azmat's work.

Marcel Finan taught a course in college algebra during the summer using a manuscript of his own design, which was well received by students. His manuscript on Discrete Math is being used in the department this semester.

John Brown University

Submitted by Cal Piston

Frank Blume has been writing texts for the four semesters of Calculus, Linear Algebra and Differential equations. He is currently talking to potential publishers. If anyone would like to look at the books, contact Frank by e-mail at fblume@jbu.edu.

Kimberly DeJarnatt will be returning to teaching this spring after taking a medical leave for the birth of her second child. Kimberly is also nearing completion of her doctorate in Statistics.

Calvin Piston has been appointed as Associate Dean of Faculty Development. He will continue to teach 1/2 time.

Northeastern State University

Submitted by Joan E. Bell

We are pleased to have two new faculty members. *Mark Buckles* earned a Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame and teaches the upper division courses. *Martha Parrott* earned an Ed.D. from Oklahoma State University and teaches mathematics for pre-service elementary teachers.

NSF recently awarded NSU a \$797,727 grant for the Mathematics and Science Teacher Enhancement Project (MASTEP). This exciting three-year program addresses the professional development needs of middle school mathematics and science teachers in Northeastern Oklahoma. The project will develop and field-test graduate level courses that will improve mathematics and science instruction at the middle-school level. *Deborah Carment* is Co-Director of the MASTEP program.

The Northeastern Oklahoma Mathematics and Science Teacher Professional Organization (NOMSTA) was established as part of the MASTEP grant. It is a professional organization for PreK-16 mathematics and science education. Its mission is to provide the vision, cooperation, and leadership necessary to promote the highest quality of mathematics and science education for all students. The first Annual Meeting will be held on February 8, 2003 at NSU in Tahlequah. More information can be found on the NOMSTA web site: <http://arapaho.nsuok.edu/~NOMSTA>.

NSU sponsored the DUNKEM Conference this year. The "Deepening Understanding of Necessary Knowledge in Elementary Mathematics" conference was funded by an Eisenhower grant awarded to the NSU Math Dept. Presentations at the conference were geared toward techniques of modeling mathematical concepts to students in grades 3 through 6. Grant funds provided each of the nine community colleges in attendance a \$1500 set of manipulatives for their classrooms. *Steven Wilkinson* was the conference director.

Joan Bell, Luke Foster, Deborah Carment and *Steven Wilkinson* attended a workshop on the Mathematics Preparation of Elementary Teachers at San Diego State University in June. NSU was selected by the American Association of State Universities to participate in this NSF funded project. The project has resulted in changes in course content and instructional methods in the four courses typically taken by pre-service elementary teachers.

Darryl Linde, Julie Sawyer, Deborah Carment and *Mark Buckles* attended an AMS-MER workshop at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge in November. Issues considered were developing a quality undergraduate mathematics program and the recruitment and retention of mathematics majors.

This past year thirteen NSU students and two faculty members were initiated into the Oklahoma Alpha chapter of Kappa Mu Epsilon. For the fifth year in a row, the students designed and sold 70 math shirts. They sponsored several guest lectures, including Dr. Floyd Coppedge, State Secretary of Education, and Jim Wilson, Oklahoma State Representative, who both hold bachelors degrees in mathematics. To spread the excitement of math, KME sponsored a "Math Fair at Oaks" for fifty 5th and 6th graders at Oak Mission School this past year. The children made math posters to compete for graphing calculators, math games, and our KME math T-shirts. The KME students also prepared hands-on math activities to do with the children.

Oklahoma City Community College

Submitted by Ken Harrelson

The mathematics department has two new faculty members, *Paul Buckelew* and *Sherry Ray*. Paul graduated from Woodhouse 6th Form College in London and has a MA in Mathematics from the

University of Oklahoma. Paul's teaching experience includes serving as an adjunct instructor at OU, a mathematics instructor at Mount St. Mary's High School, and a Professor of Mathematics at Saint Gregory's University. Sherry has attended Northern Oklahoma College, Southwestern Oklahoma State University and has a MS in mathematics from OU. In addition to community college teaching experience, Sherry taught at OU for several years as a graduate assistant, adjunct and full-time lecturer. Over the Christmas break, Sherry gave birth to her 2nd child, Trent.

Jay Malmstrom chaired a contributed paper session on Student Assessment at the recent Joint Mathematical Meetings in Baltimore, MD. In addition he presented a paper on "A Project Based Approach to General Education Assessment"

Oklahoma State University

Submitted by Benny Evans

We must report that *Sheldon Katz* has resigned his position at OSU to take an appointment at the University of Illinois. His appointment there is split between mathematics and physics. We already miss Sheldon, but this is a great opportunity for him, and we wish him the very best. We have two new Assistant Professors joining our faculty this year. *Ralph Kaufmann* is an algebraic geometer who got his Ph.D. at the University of Bonn and comes to us from USC where he was a Buseman Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Ralph has additional post-doctoral experience at IHES and the Max Planck Institut. He is spending his first year on leave in Bonn. *Ning Ju* works in partial differential equations. He got his Ph.D. at the University of Indiana and has had post-doctoral experience at University of Bristol, Duke, and Cal Tech. In the fall of 2002 Ning participated in a special semester on PDE's at UCLA.

Jim Cogdell is on sabbatical leave this year. He spent the fall at Yale and is currently at the Clay Institute in Toronto where he is participating in a "Special Semester in Automorphic Forms, Shimura Varieties, and L-Functions." Jim was an invited speaker at the International Congress in Beijing this past summer. He is the first mathematician at OSU to receive such an honor. *Brian Conrey* remains on leave as Director of the American Institute of Mathematics. Under Brian's direction AIM was awarded one of the NSF Institute Grants this past year. We look forward to Brian's

eventual return to Stillwater. *David Wright* is on leave this year. He is spending much of his time here in Stillwater but has also visited Cambridge. His book, *Indra's Pearls* which he wrote in collaboration with David Mumford and Caroline Series, is out and has received excellent reviews. *Wieping Li* spent the fall, 2002 semester on sabbatical leave at the Institute for Advanced Study. *William Jaco* spent a month of the fall semester in Melbourne continuing his collaboration with Hyam Rubenstein. As Graduate Director, William Jaco has overseen the introduction of some important new graduate programs. This together with a renewed emphasis on recruiting is rapidly strengthening our graduate program. Finally *J. T. Chang* is on leave this spring in Tiawan.

I am happy to report that this is my last year as Department Head at OSU. The Department is in the process of selecting a new Head to take office June 1. The (coerced) candidates are *Alan Adolphson* and *Jim Cogdell*, and thus excellent leadership is assured for the future.

Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City

Submitted by Marcel Maupin

All three of our Math fulltime faculty were nominated in the Fall semester for the Regents Distinguished Teacher Award. The three faculty members nominated were: *CJ Frederick*, *Dr. Irving Tang*, and *Marcel Maupin*. We also had one of our adjunct instructors, *Don Connel*, win an Adjunct Teaching Award for this year.

In addition to the nominations, Dr. Irving Tang was an official delegate to the national AMATYC Conference in November.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Submitted by Mike Raney

Wayne Hayes, Associate Professor of Mathematics, retired in June after 34 years of distinguished service in higher education in Oklahoma.

The Mathematics Department welcomed three new faculty members in August. *Dr. Roberto Rivera*, an algebraist, received his degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology. *Dr. Bill Sticka*

graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia and taught for five years at the University of Illinois-Carbondale before arriving in Weatherford. Dr. *Mike Raney* hails from the University of Oregon, where he completed his dissertation in 2002.

During the Fall term, the first recipients of departmental scholarships provided by the SWOSU Math Alumni were announced. They are *Melissa Hanks, Audrey Jones, and Matt Thiessen*.

Southwestern has an active chapter (Oklahoma Gamma) of the national mathematics honor society Kappa Mu Epsilon. There are currently 20 members in the chapter, which meets regularly throughout the fall and spring semesters. Among other activities, the chapter members participate in an undergraduate math colloquium, featuring talks by both faculty and students.

University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

Submitted by Dmitry Khavinson

C.-Y. Jean Chan joined us this year as tenure-track Assistant Professor. She is finishing the third year post-doctoral position at Purdue University after she had received her PhD from the University of Utah. Her specialty is Algebra.

We also are hosting a new visitor from the Steklov Mathematical Institute in St. Petersburg, Russia. Professor *Alexandre Solynine* is visiting our Department and is working with our Analysis group. Dr. Solynine does research in Complex Analysis.

Chaim Goodman-Strauss has returned in January from his leave in Princeton and Mexico. *Yo'av Rieck* has returned in September from his leave in Tokyo, Japan.

Mark Johnson is on sabbatical this year. He spent the Fall semester at MSRI, Berkeley and will spend the Spring semester at Purdue University.

John Duncan has retired in the Spring after having worked at the Department for 17 years. He has served as a Chair in 1990-1991.

Jennifer McLoud-Mann has defended her PhD thesis under the direction of Mark Johnson in July. She and her husband *Casey Mann*, who had obtained his PhD a year earlier, have accepted tenure-track positions at University of Texas at Tyler.

A number of the members of the Department hold prestigious research and educational grants from the NSF and other agencies. *Luca Capogna* was awarded the NSF 5-year Career Grant to support his research and educational efforts.

The Department will be sponsoring its 27th Spring Lecture Series featuring Professor Andrew Gasson from Yale University. The title of this year program is "The Andrews-Curtis and the Poincare Conjectures". The series will take place on April 10 - 12, 2003. For more information on the series and other current events, including our seminar and colloquia series, please, visit our web page <http://www.uark.edu/depts/mathinfo/>.

University of Arkansas at Monticello

Submitted by John Annulis

Charles Dolberry joined the UAM mathematics faculty. He received his Ph.D. from Auburn in 2002. *Carole Efrat*, a mathematics instructor at UAM received her EdD from UALR during the fall. *Rachel Trana*, a 2002 graduate of UAM, received a fellowship to Northwestern University to study Applied Mathematics.

University of Central Arkansas

Submitted by Donna Foss

We have a new faculty member, Dr. *Ayrin Calachan Molefe*, Assistant Professor. She has a Ph.D. in Statistics from Northern Illinois University.

Dr. *Jean J. McGehee* was awarded tenure. She has a Ph.D. in mathematics education from the University of Texas at Austin.

Two of our students with majors in computer science, *Casey Milford* and *Brandon Willis*, won top award in the MAA Student Research Poster section at the Joint meeting in San Diego last year. Their research mentors are Dr. *Fred Hickling* and Dr. *Danny Arrigo* in the UCA Department of Mathematics. The following applied mathematics majors presented papers/poster at various meetings throughout the year: *Bryan Gipson, Chad Fendt, Brandon Lindley, and Garth Johnson*. Mathematics Education major, *Matthew Dalke* presented two papers last year.

University of Central Oklahoma

Submitted by David Boliver

The Mathematics and Statistics Department at UCO continues its historic mission and tradition of personal fellowship despite many changes in personnel during recent years. Retiring this academic year was **G. Kay Powers**. Dr. Powers was not only a professor, but had previously served as department chair and as Dean of the College of Mathematics and Science at UCO for many years. Dr. Powers has recently received a law degree and has retired to pursue her law practice full time. We also acquired two new faculty in August. **Judy Harris**, lecturer, is teaching a variety of undergraduate courses. **Marius Munteanu**, associate professor, completed his doctorate in Topology at the University of Oklahoma during the Fall term and continues with us for now.

We also have several continuing faculty who have received tenure and/or promotion. **Daniel Endres** has received tenure and been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. Dr. Endres also served during the Fall term as Associate Dean of Graduate Study, but has returned to full-time teaching. **David Stapleton** and **David Boliver** were each elevated to the rank of Professor. This is the second time Dr. Boliver has achieved this rank, having previously done so 10 years earlier at The College of New Jersey. Dr. Boliver also continues his OSRHE-funded summer academy, Public Secrets, with a focus on public key cryptography for 13 to 15 years olds. **Cynthia Murray** has been approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Dr. Murray is a Statistician and has collaborated with **Sandra Leonard** on a supplemental text for elementary education majors in a course entitled Data and Chance.

During the past year, the department was greatly saddened by the death of **Helen Chastain**, our secretary for many years and the longest-serving employee of UCO. A scholarship fund has been established in Helen's memory and Professors Murray and Leonard have designated the profits from the sale of their text to the Chastain scholarship fund.

Also, during the past year, Professors **Charlotte Simmons** and **Jesse Byrne** received a grant for \$18,000 from a consortium of the NSF and the NSA to support the continuation of the UCO Conference on Applied Mathematics (CAM).

These funds supported several outstanding speakers at the conference in October, including keynote speaker Robert Kalderbank, the head of research at A.T.&T. Corporation. Sixty participants were able to attend CAM this year and we have hopes of continuing this tradition through renewal of the grant funding, although it will probably not be an annual affair as it has sometimes been in the past. The intent is to focus first on excellence rather than frequency.

University of Oklahoma

Submitted by Paul Goodey

The Department is very pleased to welcome **Krishnan (Ravi) Shankar** to its faculty. Ravi received his PhD in 1999 from the University of Maryland. From there he went to the University of Michigan as a T. H. Hildebrandt Research Assistant Professor. He is a differential geometer working in group actions on positively curved manifolds. In addition we are pleased to have a new visitor **Jintae Kim**. He received his PhD in 2001 from Michigan State University. He works in partial differential equations and is particularly interested in applications of variational methods to nonlinear wave equations, Maxwell's equations and mechanics. **Enrique Reyes** continues his work integrable systems replacing **Brent Gordon** during the latter's leave of absence. Also on leave were **Murad Ozaydin** and **Luther White** who were both granted sabbaticals. Murad traveled to Poland and Turkey whilst pursuing his research interests in Signal Processing, Transformation Groups and Geometric Galois Theory. Luther continued his interdisciplinary collaborations in Ecology, Geophysics and Elasticity. They both seem to have thrived and are now thrilled to be back.

The Department congratulates **Andy Magid** on his receipt of the Regents' Award for Superior Teaching and **Russell Goodman** who received the Provost's Award for the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant. Russell was Andy's graduate student, so we see genetics at work here! We also congratulate **Noel Brady** and **Teri Jo Murphy** on their promotion to Tenured Associate Professorships.

Our graduate program had another record intake last year. We welcomed twenty new students into our various programs. Three doctoral degrees were awarded during the year, we congratulate the recipients: *Mamuka Gomarteli*, *Russell Goodman* and *Marius Munteanu*. Much of the recent success in graduate recruitment derives from our annual OU MathFest. This is a weekend recruiting event for all prospective graduate students. It is held each year at the end of January and attracts students from all over the country. The university has also been generous in providing us with numerous graduate fellowships.

University of Tulsa
Submitted by *William Coberly*

Christian Constanda, formerly of the University of Strathclyde, has been appointed Charles W. Oliphant Endowed Chair in Mathematical Sciences. Dr. Constanda is an applied analyst specializing in integral equation methods for elliptic two-dimensional problems in elasticity and harmonic oscillations in thin plates.

Thomas Cairns was named TU's Mr. Homecoming for 2002. Tom was recognized for his contributions to academic programs in mathematics and computer science and his years of service as the coach of the intercollegiate Women's Volleyball team.

Stephen Magill, 2002 mathematics and computer science graduate was named to the All-USA College Academic Second Team by USA TODAY last spring. Stephen, who is a Goldwater Scholar and a DOD Graduate Fellowship recipient, is pursuing his graduate studies in computer science at Carnegie Melon University.

Jesse Keller, *Jon Novotny*, and *Bradley Skaggs*, three sophomore students with double majors in applied mathematics and computer science, were named Goldwater Scholars in 2002.

The TU Student Chapter of the MAA hosted the 6th annual Hurricane Mathfest on November 19, 2002. Over 135 students from 14 area high schools participated in this math contest.

The 9th annual Sonia Kovalevsky High School Mathematics Day will be held on February 4, 2003 at The University of Tulsa. Over 140 freshman and sophomore girls from Tulsa area schools will

Area and Hotel Map



1. Adams Mark 100 E 2nd St Tulsa, OK 74103-3207 (918) 560-2266 \$75.00 Single/Double	4. Holiday Inn Select 5000 E Skelly Dr Tulsa, OK 74135-7013 (918) 622-7000 \$55.00 Single or Double (I-44 and Yale Ave.)
2. Double Tree Downtown 616 W 7th St Tulsa, OK 74127-8901 (918) 587-8000 \$79.00 Single/Double	5. Microtel Inn and Suites 4531 E 21st St Tulsa, OK 74114 (918) 858-3775 \$37.00 Double/2 queen sized beds
3. Hampton Suites 3209 S 79th East Ave Tulsa, OK 74145-1343 (918) 663-1000 \$59.00 2 Doubles or 1 King (Access from 31 st Ct. & Memorial)	6. Radisson Inn Tulsa Airport 2201 N 77th East Ave Tulsa, OK 74115-3706 (918) 835-9911 \$59.00 Single/Double

Mention TU and the MAA meeting to obtain special rate.

*Preliminary Announcement of the Sixty-Fifth Annual
Meeting of the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of*
THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Time and Place: Friday and Saturday, March 28 and 29, 2003 in the Allen Chapman Activities Center, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Program: Sessions of Contributed Papers:

1. General Sessions: *Subject matter for these sessions may be from any area of mathematics.*
- 2-5. Special Sessions: *Algebra, Analysis, Applied Math, & Topology.*
6. Special Session: *Mathematics Education and Classroom Notes.*
7. Special Session: *By Undergraduate Students.*
8. Special Session: *The Teaching of Mathematics, William Durand presiding*

This is your invitation to present a paper at our 2002 MAA section meeting. **Deadline for the abstract of your paper is Friday, February 28, 2003.** You should indicate the particular session in which you desire to present your paper though some adjustments in requests may be necessary. Time allowed per paper is 15 minutes. An Abstract Form is included in this newsletter. It can also be obtained from the Section website (<http://syssci.atu.edu/math/maa/>). It should be mailed directly to Fred Worth, Department of Mathematics, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AR 71999. Phone: 870-230-5079, Fax: 870-230-5099, e-mail: worthf@hsu.edu

Invited Address: Underwood Dudley, DePauw University

Topic: Why Teach Mathematics?

Abstract: Why do we teach algebra to almost the entire high-school population and calculus to more than a million students a year? I will give six reasons, five of which are wrong, and conclude with the right reason. Not everyone may agree with it.

N. A. Court Lecturer: William "Bus" Jaco, Oklahoma State University.

Topic: Are those the same space?

Abstract: The fundamental problem of topology is to determine whether two given topological spaces are equivalent (the "same") and, whenever possible, to enumerate the classes of inequivalent spaces. We look at this problem in the case of manifolds. In particular, we give an elementary method (having some new features) for determining if two surfaces (2-dimensional manifolds) are equivalent and demonstrate that it is impossible to give a general procedure for determining if two manifolds having dimensions greater than three are equivalent. This will bring us to our principal theme, which is to determine if two 3-dimensional manifolds (or spaces) are equivalent. This remains an open problem and is listed among the most important problems in mathematics.

Faculty Workshop: Mathematics for Business Decisions, presented by Richard Thompson, University of Arizona. Friday 8:30 am – 11:00 am (There is a \$20.00 fee for this workshop)

Student Workshop: Cryptography, presented by Tom Barr, Rhodes College Friday 8:30 am – 11:00 am (This workshop is free.)

Polya Lecturer: Edward Burger, Williams College.

Topic: "How to always win at limbo" or "You can sum some of the series some of the time, and some of the series none of the time ... but can you sum some of the series ALL of the time?"

Abstract: Have you ever gone out with someone for a while and asked yourself: "How close are we?" This presentation will answer that question by answering: What does it mean for two things to be close to one another? We will take a strange looking infinite series, dare to mention a calculus student's fantasy, and momentarily consider transcendental meditation. In fact, we will even attempt to build some very exotic series that can be used if you ever have to flee the country in a hurry. We will either succeed or fail... you will have to come to the talk to find out. Will you be at the edge of your seats? Perhaps. But if not, then you will probably fall asleep and either way, after the talk, you'll feel refreshed. No matter what, you'll learn a sneaky way to always win at Limbo.

Luncheon Meetings: (Reservations are needed for these luncheons.)

- **Department Chairs/Heads/Liaisons, 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 28**
Formal Lounge of the Allen Chapman Activities Center. Cost: \$7.50.
Presiding: Chuck Cooper, University of Central Oklahoma.
- **Faculty Sponsors of Student Chapters, 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 28**
Gallery of the Allen Chapman Activities Center. Cost: \$7.50.
Presiding: Cassandra Cox, University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Banquet: Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. on Friday Evening in the Great Hall of the Allen Chapman Activities Center. Cost: \$15.00.

Reservations for the Banquet or Luncheon Meetings must be received by March 21, 2002. Please help by getting your reservations in by the deadline.

Registration Fee: Regular - \$20, Students - \$5, (*No P.O.'s please*) payable in advance or at registration in the Allen Chapman Activities Center, Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. & Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.
There is also a voluntary contribution registration available - \$25, which includes the OK-AR MAA Section History. In addition, please note that Regular Absentee Registration is requested of each section member not attending. An absentee or early registration form is included with this newsletter.

Please mail your check and registration form to:

Dr. William Coberly	Phone: 918-631-2228
Mathematical and Computer Sciences	FAX: 918-631-3077
University of Tulsa	
600 South College	
Tulsa, Ok 74104	

PLEASE POST

ABSTRACT*
2003 - Contributed Paper
for Sessions, # 1 - 8.
Oklahoma - Arkansas Section of the MAA
University of Tulsa, March 28 and 29, 2003

Speaker: Name: _____
Please print or type

Address: _____

e-mail: _____

If you are a student please check as appropriate: Graduate. _____ Undergraduate. _____.

Title of Paper: _____

Time for all presentations is 15 minutes.

Session Desired: General _____ Algebra _____ Analysis _____ Applied Math _____ Topology _____
Mathematics Education & Classroom Notes _____ Undergraduate _____
Special Session on the Teaching of Mathematics _____.

Due to scheduling constraint, some rescheduling of talks to other sessions may become necessary.

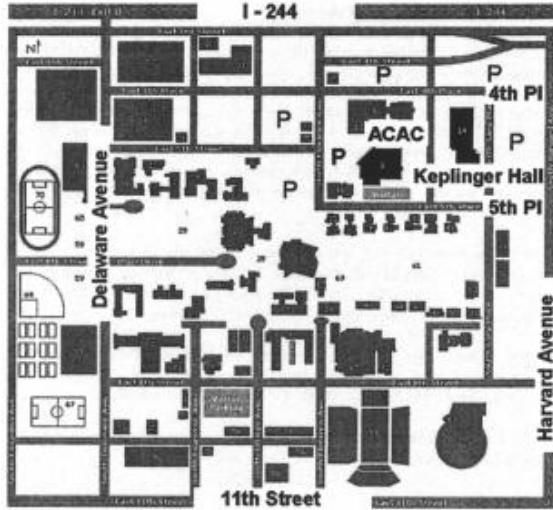
Brief Description of Paper: _____

Signature: _____

*Please mail your abstract to Fred Worth, Department of Mathematics, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AR 71999 or FAX it to 870-230-5099 by February 28, 2003. E-mail abstracts will also be accepted. Please follow the format above. Submit to: worthf@hsu.edu

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ACAC – Allen Chapman Activities Center (Registration)

explore the mathematics of codes and ciphers and careers in mathematics through workshops, speakers, and problem solving activities.

COMING ATTRACTIONS SPRING MEETING WORKSHOPS UNIVERSITY OF TULSA MARCH 28, 8:30 – 11:00 am

Faculty Workshop: Richard Thompson, University of Arizona
Topic: Mathematics for Business Decisions

Abstract: Students at today's business schools often find that the mathematics education they receive is either insufficient or difficult to apply to the situations they face in professional settings. This workshop presents an innovative, interdisciplinary course in mathematics for business students that not only solves these difficulties for students, but also opens the door to new approaches in teaching mathematics. Mathematics for Business Decisions is an example of how interdisciplinary experiences for students can be shaped through the active collaboration of academic departments. For more information visit business.math.arizona.edu/MBD/mbd.html on the web.

Student Workshop: Tom Barr, Rhodes College

Topic: Cryptography

Abstract: Alice and Bob want to communicate over a channel on which their nemesis Eve is listening. To prevent or forestall Eve's obtaining the content of their messages, they can use key-dependent codes and ciphers—cryptography. Alice and Bob's cryptographic methods have a mathematical basis. Eve's efforts at breaking the ciphers, cryptanalysis, are facilitated by mathematical tools as well. In this workshop we develop some mathematical ideas related to cipher-making and cipher-breaking, cryptology. We will also explore how spreadsheets and computer algebra systems can be used to make these tools work.

**Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the MAA
Minutes for the 2002 Business Meeting
Saturday, April 6, 9:45-10:50 a.m.
Lecture Hall D121A
Henderson State University**

The meeting was called to order by chair **Don Leftwich**, Oklahoma Christian University, at 9:45 a.m. There were approximately 50 members present.

The minutes of the 2001 business meeting were approved. 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</u>	<u>Court CD</u>
Beginning balances, 12/31/00	\$12,949.48	\$13,025.38
Revenues during the year	\$ 2,653.10	\$ 607.15
Expenses during the year	\$ 2,845.99	\$ -
Ending balances, 12/31/01	\$12,756.59	\$13,632.53

He also supplied an up-to-date account of all receipts and expenditures. The balance in the checking account as of March 27, 2002 was \$12,551.24. This includes \$7,334.30 in the operating account, \$3,292.42 in Court funds (this is separate from the Court CD), \$2,097.98 in the faculty workshop account, and \$ (173.46) in the student workshop account. Watson also reported that he had moved the checking account from the Bank of America to the Pope County Educators Federal Credit Union for two reasons. First, the Credit Union pays more interest. Secondly, while the Bank of America allowed only three checks per month, the Credit Union has no limit. He also anticipates moving the Court CD to the Credit Union in June when it matures in order to get a higher rate of interest.

Lee Turner, Southern Nazarene University, reported that he had conducted an audit of the treasurer's books and found them to be in order. Watson thanked Turner for his work and said that he had made some helpful suggestions.

John Watson, Arkansas Tech University, reported that he had nothing to add to the governor's report he submitted for the newsletter. He thanked the Section for allowing him the opportunity to serve as governor. Don Leftwich announced that **Lisa Mantini**, Oklahoma State University, had been elected by the Section to serve a three-year term as governor beginning July 1, 2002.

Charles Cooper, University of Central Oklahoma, gave the Department Chairs/Liaison's report. He brought the following four motions to the floor, each of which was approved.

1. Because the student workshop budget is operating in the red after last year's workshop, he moved that the student workshop be funded from the operational account in the future.
2. Because there was a tie for high score by a student in the Section on the Putnam exam, he moved that the Putnam plaques reside for six months at OU and six months at OSU. The two students are **Jason Horn**, OSU, and **Jeremy Marzuola**, OU. The secretary/treasurer and representatives of each institution will work out the details.
3. Because there has been an interest expressed by some members about having the newsletter available in electronic format, and because we could save money on postage, he moved that we place the next newsletter on our website and notify members by email or letter. Members could then choose to request a paper copy to be mailed to them.
4. The fourth motion was that the secretary/treasurer be designated as the website administrator, that he be in charge of updating the Section history and getting it on the web, and he be allowed a budget of up to \$500.00 for student labor or secretarial help in getting this accomplished.

Cooper also reported that there was a brief discussion of the use of technology and college algebra.

Eileen Hargrove, Oklahoma Baptist University, gave the student chapters coordinator report. There were three chapters

represented at their luncheon. They discussed ways to involve students in chapter activities.

Duane Jackson, Henderson State University, reported that the student workshop had 20 participants. **Michael Lloyd**, Henderson State University, conducted the student workshop, titled "*Fractal Music*". The student workshop committee was composed of Jackson, Chair, **Don Leftwich**, Oklahoma Christian University, **Vrege Amirkhanian**, Arkansas Tech University, and **Cassandra Cox**, University of Arkansas Little Rock. Jackson also reported that 13 had registered for the faculty workshop and 5 actually participated. **Fred Worth**, Henderson State University, conducted the faculty workshop, titled "*The World Wide Web in the Classroom*". The faculty workshop committee consisted of **Carolyn Eoff**, chair, Henderson State University, **Jason Holland**, Oklahoma Christian University, and **Michael Keisler**, Arkansas Tech University. Jackson observed that the Section saved money this year since both workshop presenters were local.

Jill Guerra, Arkansas Tech University, reported that the Section had received \$3,000 in start-up funds from Project NEXT (New Experiences in Teaching) in order to establish a Section NEXT. Guerra, with the help of **Janet Woodland**, University of Arkansas Fayetteville, and **Teri Jo Murphy**, University of Oklahoma, organized the Section NEXT activities. Five fellows attended the activities that included discussions about teaching and the profession with **John Watson**, Secretary/treasurer and Governor of the Section, and **Ann Watkins**, President of the MAA.

Ray Hamlett, East Central University, gave the site selection committee report. He noted that next years meeting would be held at Tulsa University. He reported that the University of Central Arkansas and the University of Arkansas Fayetteville had submitted letters requesting to host the 2004 meeting. According to the site selection guidelines, since UCA had not hosted the meeting since 1972 and UAF hosted the meeting in 1982, the committee recommended UCA to host the 2004 meeting. This recommendation was approved. Hamlett also reported that the guidelines prevented naming a 2006 site at this

time, but UAF had indicated a willingness to let their invitation stand for 2006. He noted that no institution in Oklahoma has extended an invitation for the 2005 meeting.

Bill Feldman, University of Arkansas Fayetteville, reported that **Steven Krantz**, Washington University in St. Louis, had given an inspiring and entertaining Court lecture the previous night. The committee nominated **Charles Seifert**, University of Central Arkansas, for a three-year term on the Court Lecture Committee. The nomination was approved. **Andy Magid**, University of Oklahoma, and **Benny Evans**, Oklahoma State University, have 1 and 2 years remaining to serve on the committee, respectively.

Dennis Bertholf, Oklahoma State University, submitted a written report on the AMC 10 and AMC 12 for Oklahoma for the year 2002, which was read at the meeting. **Alan Cochran**, University of Arkansas Fayetteville, gave the AMC report for Arkansas. There was no AMC 8 report for Oklahoma. Both had summary reports available for Section members. They reported that a major change for the year was that a school could choose one of two different dates to take the exam. The average on exam B was about 10% higher than the average on exam A.

Ken Harrelson, Oklahoma City Community College, newsletter editor, reported that 425 newsletters were produced at a cost of \$467.09 and \$206.62 was spent in postage. Eight ads for \$100 each were sold to OU, OSU, TU, UAF, Addison Wesley, Prentice Hall, McGraw Hill, and Houghton Mifflin, producing a surplus of \$126.29.

William Durand, Henderson State University, reported that **Daniel Hansen**, Northeastern Oklahoma State University, was awarded the 2002 Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award posthumously. His widow, **Jane Hansen**, accepted the award at the banquet and gave a moving testimony of Dan's effectiveness as a teacher and mentor to his students.

David Gardner, Henderson State University, reported that the Arkansas Teacher awards committee received 14 nominees, 4 of whom made application. Two middle school teachers and two high school teachers applied. The winners were: **Kristen Scanlon**, Westfork Middle School, Westfork, Arkansas, and

Earlean Collins, Pine Bluff High School, Pine Bluff, Arkansas. The other two committee members were **Donna Foss**, University of Central Arkansas and **Ed Mosley**, Lyon College. **Sandy Johnson**, University of Oklahoma, reported that the Oklahoma Teacher awards committee sent out 150 nomination forms to University Deans of Education, Mathematics Department Chairs, and public school principals. They also used three list serves: onenet, CASMEO, and OCTM. There were 44 nominations, 14 of whom applied. The winners were: **Lori Martin**, High School, **Becky Winters**, Middle School, and **Eileen Lillard**, Elementary School. The other committee members were **Gerry East**, Southwestern Oklahoma State University and **Nancy Warden**, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma.

David Boliver, University of Central Oklahoma, gave the department liaisons report. He asked that departments that did not have liaisons send a request to him or **Carolyn Eoff**. Their email addresses are dboliver@ucok.edu and eoffc@hsu.edu, respectively. In particular, liaisons are needed at ORU and NWOSU.

Fred Worth, Henderson State University, program editor for the meeting, gave a report. There was a brief discussion of the advantages of having one person serve as program editor for several years versus having the program editor be a faculty member at the host institution. It was noted that the program was the responsibility of the secretary-treasurer and there was no need to amend our bylaws to create an official position of "program editor".

It was reported that the assessment forum, led by **Bernie Madison**, University of Arkansas Fayetteville, had an attendance of 16 and there are opportunities for future workshops sponsored by the MAA through an NSF grant.

Stan Eliason, who was unable to attend last years meeting due to a prior commitment, thanked the Section for being named the 2001 Distinguished Teacher of the Year.

The nominating committee presented the following slate of candidates:

Past chair **Don Leftwich**, Oklahoma Christian University
Chair **Debra Coventry**, Henderson State University
1st Vice-Chair **William Coberly**, Tulsa University
2nd Vice-Chair **Charles Seifert**, University of Central Arkansas
Secretary/treasurer **John Watson**, Arkansas Tech University

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

Ed Mosley, Lyon College, presented the following resolutions, which were approved.

Be it resolved that the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of MAA expresses it's thanks to the faculty, staff and administration of **Henderson State University** for their courteous hospitality in hosting the 64th Annual meeting of the association. Special thanks goes to **Debra Coventry** and our banquet chef.

Be it resolved that the section expresses its appreciation to **John Watson** for his outstanding service in representing the section as its governor for the past year. Thanks also to section officers, chair **Don Leftwich**, 1st vice-chair **Debra Coventry**, and **John Watson**, secretary-treasurer of the section for carrying out their duties during 2001-2002.

Be it resolved that the section expresses its gratitude to **Michael Lloyd** of Henderson State University for presenting an interesting and stimulating student workshop on "**Fractal Music**". Additional appreciation is extended to the student workshop committee for organizing the event.

Be it resolved that the section expresses its gratitude to the faculty workshop committee for organizing the workshop on "**The World Wide Web in the Classroom**" and to **Fred Worth** of Henderson State University for his excellent presentation in the workshop.

Be it resolved that the section conveys its sincere appreciation to our invited speaker **Ann Watkins**, President of the MAA, for her interesting presentation "**Fallacies in**

Elementary Statistics” and to **Steven Krantz**, Washington University, for his beautiful and inspiring N.A. Court Lecture entitled “**Fixed Point Theorems, Old and New**”.

Be it resolved that the section expresses thanks to **David Boliver** and **Linda Griffith** for coordinating math awareness in both states, and to **Alan Cochran**, **Dennis Bertholf**, and **Nancy Warden** for administering the AHSME exams in Arkansas and Oklahoma. Thanks also to **Ken Harrelson** for his service as newsletter editor.

Be it resolved that the section expresses its sincere thanks to **David Gardner** 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 **Carolyn Eoff**, for their help in strengthening lines of communication within the section.

Be it resolved that the section expresses its gratitude to **Jill Guerra** for organizing and implementing Section NExT, and to **Teri Joe Murphy** and **Janet Woodland** for their able assistance.

Be it resolved that the section expresses its profound gratitude to **John Jobe**, Poet Laureate (or is it Poet Lariat?) of the section for his masterful and entertaining poetic expressions as the “old timer”.

*As the “old timer” we all appreciate John Jobe
Very soon he will journey to his abode
We laughingly call him our poet lariat
This kind of teasing, well, he can bear it
But never fear next time he will return and reload.*

Be it resolved that the section is thankful for the lives and services of its recently deceased members, **Dan Hansen**, **Harold Huneke**, **John Kent**, **Roy Rakestraw**, and immediate past secretary-treasurer **Robert McMillan**.

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

Debra Coventry, Henderson State University, reported 91 faculty and 37 student registrations, 21 attended the chairs/liaisons luncheon, and 136 attended the banquet.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectively Submitted,
John Watson
Secretary-Treasurer



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For Information Please Write To:

Director of Graduate Studies
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The University of Oklahoma
601 Elm Avenue, PHSC 423
Norman, Oklahoma 73019
Website: www.math.ou.edu

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