

NEWSLETTER



OKLAHOMA/ARKANSAS SECTION

Volume 31, February 2010

Table of Contents

Newsletter Sponsors.....	1
Section Governance	6
Distinguished College/University Teacher of 2009!	7
Campus News and Notes	8
Northeastern State University	8
Oklahoma State University	9
Southern Nazarene University	9
The University of Tulsa	10
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	10
Cameron University	10
Henderson State University	11
University of Arkansas at Monticello	13
University of Central Oklahoma.....	14
Minutes for the 2009 Business Meeting	15
Preliminary Announcement	18
The Oklahoma-Arkansas Section NExT.....	21
The 2 nd Annual OK – AR Undergraduate Math Competition	22
Local Area Hotels	22
Directions to the JBU Campus.....	24
Directions to the Hotels from the JBU Campus.....	25
Local Area Restaurants	26
Streets around Campus	27
Campus Map	28

Get up-to-date information from the Section website:

<http://sections.maa.org/okar/>

Newsletter Sponsors

The following entities paid a sponsorship fee to help offset the cost of publishing and mailing the postcards this year. The Section extends its appreciation for their support of the Section and its activities. These advertisements are displayed in a random order.

The University of Oklahoma

Graduate Studies in Mathematics

The Department of Mathematics at the University of Oklahoma has a rich academic tradition dating back to the awarding of our first master's degree in 1927 and our first doctorate in 1947. The Department currently offers students a broad range of study options in: Algebra and Number Theory; Analysis; Applied Mathematics and Mathematical Physics; Geometry; Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education (RUME); and Topology.

The Department consists of 34 faculty members, about 70 graduate students, and 8 post-doctoral associates and visitors. Our faculty maintain a vibrant and collegial research atmosphere, and also serve as sources of inspiration, as mentors and advisors. Our strong sense of community is enhanced by the fact that faculty, postdoctoral and student offices, common room, research library, and instructional classrooms are all housed in the same building.

The Department hosts many seminar series, including five that are run entirely by graduate students. This lively seminar culture is further enhanced by a generous endowment set up by J. Clarence Karcher, which allows the Department to bring many prominent visiting mathematicians to OU.

The University of Oklahoma is located in Norman, a comfortable city of 110,000, about 20 miles south of downtown Oklahoma City.

The graduate degrees offered are: Master of Science in Mathematics; Master of Arts in Mathematics; PhD in Mathematics; and PhD in Mathematics--RUME Option

Please visit our website <http://math.ou.edu/grad> to learn more about our programs and the financial assistance that we offer. You will also find a quick-and-easy online application form available there.

For more information, please email questions to Ms. Anne Jones at ajones@ou.edu.



Graduate Programs in Mathematical and Computer Sciences

MS in Applied Mathematics. This is a professional degree program designed to prepare students for work in business and industry. The graduates will be proficient with modern computation tools and will have experience in solving problems of a practical nature.

MS and PhD in Computer Science. Both professional and research based Master's programs are offered. Research specialties include Computer Security, Artificial Intelligence, Software Engineering, Evolutionary Algorithms, and Scientific Computation. Faculty research funding includes grants and contracts from NSF, NSA, and DOD. The Center for Information Security addresses areas of information security that will provide new technologies for securing computer systems in open environments.

Assistantships and Fellowships. Competitive teaching and research assistantships, available in both disciplines, provide stipends and tuition waivers for qualified students.

For further information contact:

Applied Mathematics:

Dr. Christian Constanda
Graduate Program Coordinator
(918) 631-3068
consta@utulsa.edu

Computer Science:

Dr. Rose Gamble
Graduate Program Coordinator
(918) 631-2988
gamble@utulsa.edu

Department of Mathematical and Computer Sciences
The University of Tulsa
800 South Tucker Drive
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104-3189
(918) 631-2228

Oklahoma State University

Assistantships and Fellowships

The Department of Mathematics at Oklahoma State University invites qualified applicants to join its graduate program. We are a small (30 faculty, 30 graduate students) but very active and friendly department located in the safe and affordable city of Stillwater.

GRADUATE PROGRAM

We offer both the Masters degree (Pure and Applied Mathematics, Mathematics Education) and the PhD degree (Pure and Applied Mathematics, Mathematics Education). Applicants are accepted into the appropriate programs depending on their career choices and their mathematical background.

GRADUATE FACULTY

Our faculty research efforts are focused in several areas: Algebra and Geometry, Analysis, Applied Mathematics, Mathematics Education, Number Theory, Representation Theory, and Topology. We have strong groups in each of these subdisciplines and conduct weekly seminars.

FINANCIAL AID

Teaching Assistantships provide most of our financial aid to graduate students. Most students do not teach in their first semester but are provided a course to enhance their teaching skills. Salaries are competitive, and duties in subsequent years include teaching 5-6 hours per week. All teaching assistants receive waivers of out-of-state tuition. In addition, for those employed full time the resident tuition charges for 12 credit hours total for the academic year are waived.

Fellowships are available on a highly competitive basis and are usually restricted to those interested in pursuing a doctoral degree. Advanced doctoral students may also have reduced teaching assignments while doing their thesis research.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Application forms and more information may be obtained by writing to:

Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Mathematics
Oklahoma State University
401 Mathematical Sciences
Stillwater, OK 74078-0613

website:
<http://www.math.okstate.edu/>
phone: (405) 744-5688
FAX: (405) 744-8275

University of Arkansas

Location ■ The University of Arkansas is located in the city of Fayetteville, nestled in the beautiful Ozark Mountains of Northwest Arkansas. With a population of over 65,000, Fayetteville combines big-city culture with a small-town atmosphere. Thousands of acres of nearby state parks and numerous clear rivers and lakes provide many options for outdoor recreation. The historic U of A campus has a diverse student body and offers extensive opportunities for both social and academic life. There is something for everyone at the University of Arkansas.

The Department of Mathematical Sciences ■ The two dozen regular faculty members are committed to quality instruction at all levels and are actively engaged in several scholarly research areas, including algebra, analysis, geometry, and statistics. Graduate students may choose from programs leading to an M.A. in secondary Mathematics, an M.S. in Statistics, Computational or Pure Mathematics, or a Ph.D. in Mathematics.

Financial Aid ■ Graduate Teaching Assistantships are available to qualified applicants in Mathematics and/or Statistics. Teaching assistants receive a stipend of \$10,700-13,000 per academic year, in addition to a tuition waiver, and fellowships worth up to an additional \$20,000 per year are available for exceptional students. Responsibilities include teaching, grading, and tutoring in the popular Math Resource and Teaching Center. Students interested in applying for teaching assistantships should submit all application material by March 15 for the following academic year; the deadline for the fellowships is February 1.

For more information

contact:



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

Chair of Graduate Students
Department of Mathematical Science
Science and Engineering 301
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

Website: <http://math.uark.edu/>
E-mail: gradmath@uark.edu
Phone: (479) 575-3351
Fax: (479) 575-8630

Section Governance

Oklahoma-Arkansas Section Officers

Jill Guerra, Past-Chair
Gerald East, Chair
Frank Blume, 1st vice-chair
Jesse Byrne, 2nd vice-chair
Charles Cooper, Governor
Lee Turner, Secretary
Linda Braddy, Treasurer

N.A. Court Committee

Darryl McCullough, Chair
Steve Butcher
Robert Myers

Newsletter Editor

Michael Lloyd

Distinguished Teaching Award

Nominating Committee

(to be named)

Distinguished Teaching Award

Committee

David Wright, Chair
Danny Arrigo
Joan Bell
Linda Braddy
John Wolfe

Liaison Coordinators

TBA - Oklahoma
TBA – Arkansas

Student Workshop Committee

Don Siemens, Chair
Bill Sticka
Kathy Pinzon

Faculty Workshop Committee

Cal Piston, Chair
Mike Dougherty
Myron Rigsby

Oklahoma Teacher Award Committee

Anne Fine, Chair
Betsy Showalter
Mickle Duggan

Arkansas Teacher Award Committee

Charles Seifert, Chair
David Gardner
Steve Butcher

Department Chairs Committee Chair

Myron Rigsby

Section NExT Coordinator

Jill Guerra

Webpage Administrator

John Diamantopoulos

Distinguished College/University Teacher of 2009!

Dr. Wright has a longtime interest in math competitions dating back to high school in Ridgewood, New Jersey, where he competed in the Bergen County Scholastic Math League and helped Ridgewood achieve a national ranking of 17th in the 1973 MAA Annual High School Math Examination. He was a Putnam Fellow at Cornell in 1976, and has participated in and/or conducted problem practice sessions everywhere he has been, including for many years now at Oklahoma State. He served on the MAA Committee X charged with preparing the Putnam Competition from 1997-1999

Professor Wright earned an AB degree in 1977 from Cornell University, majoring in mathematics and physics. He attended the University of Cambridge on a Winston Churchill Scholarship in 1978, earning a certificate in Part III of the Math. Tripos. He earned his MA and Ph.D. at Harvard University, finishing in 1982. His advisor was Barry Mazur, with S. J. Patterson as an “unofficial” advisor.

Professor Wright was a C.L.E. Moore Instructor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1982-85, an NSF Postdoctoral Fellow at MIT, 1982-84, and has been a member of the faculty at Oklahoma State University since 1985. He was a guest professor at SFB 171, Goettingen, Germany, 1986-87, a Sloan Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, 1989-90, and a member of the Institute for Advanced Study, 1994-95.

Professor Wright’s fields of interest are number theory, Riemann surfaces, Kleinian groups, and computational hyperbolic geometry. He is co-author with David Mumford and Caroline Series, of *Indra’s Pearls*, Cambridge University Press, 2002, now being translated into Japanese, Italian and Russian.

Because the meeting was cut short in 2009 because of inclement weather, Dr. Wright will be publically honored at the 2010 meeting.

Campus News and Notes

These submissions appear in the order in which they were received.

Northeastern State University

Joan E. Bell

The Mathematics and Computer Science Department at NSU currently has 23 full-time faculty members. **Mark Buckles** and **Rad Alrifai** were granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. **Steven Wilkinson** was promoted to Professor.

This past year has seen intensive committee, and then Department work, in writing a complete set of Bylaws for the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. The Department is pleased to announce that the Bylaws were approved November, 2009.

NSU is in its second year of a \$599,355 federal education grant from the National Science Foundation that provides scholarships for students majoring in mathematics or computer science.

NSU is an active participant in the Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search, currently ranking 2nd in the world as far as overall production. Thanks to **Darryl Linde** and **Evan Linde**, NSU has the program running on over 1000 computer processors.

John Diamantopoulos took ten students in his senior seminar class to present their research at the 11th annual Oklahoma Research Day, which was held at the NSU campus in Broken Arrow.

This past year 21 NSU students were initiated into the Oklahoma Alpha chapter of Kappa Mu Epsilon. The members of the Student Chapter of the MAA meet concurrently with the KME students. The student groups KME/MAA sponsored several speakers this year: **Elwyn Davis**, Pittsburg State University, **Cynthia Woodburn**, Pittsburg State University, **Giovanni Petris**, University of Arkansas, **Michael Schillaci**, NSU, and **Underwood Dudley**. Students submitted their solutions to two problems to the journal *The Pentagon*. They also designed and sold 48 Math T-

shirts. Social activities included the annual Ice Cream social in May and Christmas party with homemade pizza.

Oklahoma State University

Dale Alspach

Here are a few things that happened at OSU this year:

In June of 2009, **Marvin Keener** retired. In addition to being a faculty member in the mathematics department for 39 years, **Marvin Keener** served in several administrative posts, Provost of OSU, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Head of the Department of Mathematics.

Weiping Li was on leave during the fall and **Ning Ju**, **Amit Ghosh** and **Lisa Mantini** are on leave this spring. Li spent most of his time at institutions in Beijing, Tianjin and Shanghai, China. **Ning Ju** will be at IMA in Minnesota, **Ghosh** will be at the Institute for Advanced Study and **Mantini** will be at Arizona State.

The department hosted some conferences this year. March 20-21 there was an NSF sponsored conference organized by **Weiping Li**, "Topology and Geometry of Knots",

<http://cauchy.math.okstate.edu/~wli/ConfatOSU/conf09.html>. In November, **Jiahong Wu** organized the first "Oklahoma PDE Workshop", https://www.math.okstate.edu/ok_pde_workshop and there will be a conference "Topology and Geometry in Dimension Three: Triangulations, Invariants, and Geometric Structures", in honor of **William Jaco**, on the occasion of his 70th birthday, <http://www.math.okstate.edu/jacofest/>.

Southern Nazarene University

V. Lee Turner

The SNU Math Department welcomed its newest member this fall, Dr. **Nicholas Zoller**. Dr. **Zoller** is a native of Maryland. He received his undergraduate degree in Mathematics from Messiah College in 2003 and earned the PhD. in Mathematics from Lehigh University last August. His research interest is in Galois groups of CM fields.

The University of Tulsa

William Coberly

Amy Adams has joined the faculty as Instructor of Mathematics.

Undergraduate mathematics majors, **Matthew Behlmann** and **Erin Stranford**, were named honorable mention Goldwater Scholars as juniors in 2009.

Christian Constanda's new book, "Dude, Can You Count? Stories, Challenges, and Adventures in Mathematics", published by Springer, should be of interest to anyone involved in the teaching or learning of mathematics in high school and above. The author is a professor of mathematical sciences at the University of Tulsa. The book, advertised on the Amazon, Springer, and Barnes & Noble websites, will be available in January 2010.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Mike Dougherty

Southwestern Oklahoma State University hosted the Seventy-First Annual Meeting of the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of The Mathematical Association of America scheduled for March 26-28, 2009 at the Weatherford Campus of SWOSU. The workshops and student activities went well, as did the earlier talks though weather caused the cancellation of the conference starting in mid-afternoon on March 27.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's math students formed a Math Club in fall of 2009. They have been very busy with fund raising, weekly meetings with talks, and their first "Math Day" for grades K-4. Dr. **Thomas McNamara** is the faculty sponsor.

Cameron University

Karla Oty

The Mathematical Sciences Department hired two regular faculty members who started in Fall 2009. Dr. **Hong Li** (Ph.D., Statistics, Bowling Green State University) joined our faculty as an Assistant Professor. Her research interests are in statistical theory and methodology in multiple comparisons and multiple testing procedures. Ms. **Irene**

Corriette (M.S., Mathematics, Texas Tech University) also joined the regular faculty as an instructor. Ms. Corriette received her B.A. degree from Cameron University. The department also hired two temporary instructors for the AY 2009-2010: Ms. **Calandra Brazile** (M.S., Mathematics, Texas Tech University) and Mr. **Larry Young** (B.A., Mathematics, Cameron University). Mr. Young is serving as the department's Mathematics tutoring lab director for the AY 2009-2010.

In Fall of 2009, one of Cameron's mathematics majors, **Jingshu Zhao**, had her undergraduate poster chosen for an Oral Presentation at Oklahoma Research Day. This project, done under the supervision of Dr. **Ioannis Argyros**, was titled *Enclosing roots of polynomial equations and their applications to iterative process*

For the AY 2008-2009, the student mathematics club won Cameron University's *Organization of the Year* award. Activities that led to this award included hosting bi-weekly problem sessions for the Putnam Exam, celebrating Math Awareness Month, hosting a Mathematical Games night, as well as participating in a variety of service activities.

The sixth annual TORUS (Texas and Oklahoma Regional Undergraduate Symposium) will be held at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas on February 27, 2010. All undergraduate students interested in mathematics are invited to attend and, if they wish, to make a presentation; for more information see the web page at

http://carmine.se.edu/belliott/Torus/Undergraduate_Math_Conference.htm

or email Dr. **Karla Oty** at koty@cameron.edu. TORUS is a conference designed to provide an opportunity for undergraduate students to present mathematical research projects and expository papers, to meet with more established mathematicians, to network with their fellow students, and to participate in Math Jeopardy. Partial funding for TORUS is provided by NSF grant DMS-0536991 through the MAA Regional Undergraduate Mathematics Conference program, www.maa.org/RUMC

Henderson State University

Carolyn Eoff

The Henderson State University Department of Mathematics and Computer Science experienced a productive 2009. We were fortunate to have new faculty member **Meredith Wright** join our department last August. Meredith is an alumna of Lyon College and received her master's

degree in mathematics education from the University of Central Arkansas. Her teaching duties primarily focus on classes for prospective middle school and elementary mathematics teachers, but also include service and developmental courses.

Dr. **Duane Jackson** returned to full-time teaching last fall after serving as Assistant to the President for Diversity at HSU for almost two years. Dr. **Michael Lloyd** continues to serve as the OK-AR Section *Newsletter* editor. **David Gardner** was recently awarded a well-deserved sabbatical leave for the fall 2010 semester. Catherine Leach began her term as president of the HSU Faculty Senate for the coming year. A number of animations designed by **Brian English** were featured in a recently published computer science text. Dr. **Fred Worth** continues to be active in home-school mathematics, presenting several workshops and talks. On the non-mathematical side, Dr. Worth has become something of an expert in baseball history; he has given a number of talks at both the state and regional level. **Brian English** and **John Greene** are both working on doctoral degrees in addition to their teaching responsibilities.

As with most institutions, we continually seek ways to improve student success in developmental courses without compromising academic integrity. To this end, we implemented a module system for intermediate algebra last fall; students get the chance to repeat any modules until successful. This is not a new idea, but we have added the feature of developing our own materials. Dr. **Debra Coventry** and Ms. **Holly Morado** collaborated to write a workbook for each of the three modules. These workbooks provide activities to engage students in interactive lectures.

Both the HSU Computer Science Club and Math Club had active years. We were pleased to send a team to the 2009 Arkansas Undergraduate Mathematics Competition held at John Brown University. We had several graduates in our secondary mathematics licensure track during the year; all are now working in education. Our graduates continue to have success in their various endeavors in graduate schools such as UAF and Baylor, and companies such as Axiom and Cisco.

University of Arkansas at Monticello

By Farrokh Abedi

Each year the School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences recognizes the exceptional and hardworking freshman students in Chemistry, Mathematics and Biology by awarding an Outstanding Freshman certificate. Last year **Victoria DeVoar** a Math major (minor CIS) from Sugar Land, Texas shared the Outstanding Freshman Mathematics Award with **Faye Stephens** a double major Biology and Chemistry from Star City, Arkansas. Fay also received the Outstanding Freshman Award in Chemistry and Biology last year.

Dr. **Morris Bramlett**, Dean of School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences, was named the Alpha Chi Administer of the year.

The School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences received the Arkansas Zeta Chapter of Alpha Chi Vice Chancellor's Academic Award. In the past this award was being presented only to an individual for his or her outstanding performance. For the first time the School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences was named the recipient for this award since all the Alpha Chi members majoring in mathematics and sciences attended the graduate schools or professional schools and excelled in those programs.

Dr. **Carole Efir** was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. Carole joined UAM faculty in August, 1998. She received her Ed.D. from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in Higher Education in 2002. Carole received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from UAM in 1994 and a Master of Education with an emphasis on Secondary Mathematics from UAM in 1997.

Gia McBay, Adam Wade, and Lowell F. Lynde, Jr. presented a workshop on November 5, 2009 at the Arkansas Curriculum Conference in Little Rock entitled "Analyzing the 2009 ACTM Regional Geometry Contest". Mr. Lynde is on a sabbatical during the spring semester of 2010. During this time he will be revising his *Intermediate Algebra Workbook and Study Guide*. In addition, he will be serving as the regional director for the thirty-second ACTM regional math contest.

Farrokh Abedi attended the 2010 Joint Annual Meeting of the Mathematical American Association and American Mathematical Society

on January 13-16, in San Francisco, California. The only downside was missing the first week of the spring classes.

University of Central Oklahoma

Charlotte Simmons

The UCO Department of Mathematics & Statistics enthusiastically welcomed a new assistant professor this fall. Dr. **Britney Hopkins** earned her Ph.D. from Baylor and has expertise in the area of Differential and Difference Equations. Additionally, Ms. **Kansas Pope**, a doctoral candidate at Oklahoma State University, joined the department as a Lecturer. She has expertise in the area of elementary education.

The department is currently conducting a search for the **John T. Beresford** Endowed Chair of Mathematics & Statistics. This position is a result of a generous gift to the university, the largest endowment in the history of UCO, by the Beresford family in memory of their recently deceased son.

Dr. **Carol Lucas** and Dr. **Michael McClendon** were promoted to the rank of Professor at the beginning of the fall term. Congratulations are also due to Dr. **Charles Cooper**, who received the UCO College of Mathematics & Statistics Vanderford Excellence in Teaching Award, and to Ms. **Lee Ann Brown**, who received a UCO 2009 e-Learning Award for her online trigonometry course. Dr. **Dan Endres** and Dr. **Jeremy Thibodeaux** received grants from the Idea Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE), and Dr. **Tracy Morris** received a grant from the UCO Office of Sponsored Research & Grants and a curriculum development grant from INBRE.

Effective with students entering UCO in the Fall 2009 semester, all biology majors will be required to take two newly created courses: Bio-Calculus and Introduction to Statistics for the Sciences. Previously only College Algebra was required. Dr. **Jeremy Thibodeaux** and Dr. **Cynthia Murray** developed these courses and taught them for the first time last fall.

UCO strongly promotes undergraduate research, and the College of Mathematics & Science initiated a Center for Undergraduate Research and Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (CURE-STEM) in 2008. Dr. **Jeremy Thibodeaux** was named a CURE-

STEM Scholar in the fall. The department hosted an NSF-funded national workshop for undergraduates in knot theory, “Why Knot?,” in October with keynote speaker, Dr. **Colin Adams**. Dr. Adams is author of *The Knot Book* and a recipient of the MAA Haimo Distinguished Teaching Award. The workshop attracted 83 participants from 15 universities and 8 states.

The department also hosted a visit by Dr. **Tony DeRose**, lead of the Research Group at Pixar Animation Studios, in October as part of the College of Mathematics & Science Seminar Series. Dr. DeRose presented “Math in the Movies” to a packed auditorium with a seating capacity of 510. Using examples drawn from Pixar’s feature films, he provided a behind the scenes look at the role that math plays in the digital revolution of film making.

The UCO College of Mathematics & Statistics has received an S-STEM grant from the National Science Foundation for \$600,000. Dr. **Charlotte Simmons** is the PI. The grant will provide scholarship funds for between 30 and 42 academically talented but financially disadvantaged undergraduates pursuing degrees in STEM fields for up to four years each.

Finally, Dr. **Michael Fulkerson** literally answered the call from Hollywood. He tutored **Casey Affleck** for his lead role in “The Killer Inside Me.” The movie, filmed in Guthrie last summer, also stars **Kate Hudson** and **Jessica Alba** and is scheduled for release in 2010.

Minutes for the 2009 Business Meeting

at

Southwestern Oklahoma State University

The annual business meeting was called to order by chair **Jill Guerra** at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, at 2:00 p.m., Friday, March 27, 2009. There were approximately 25 members present.

(Note: Due to the inclement weather, the business meeting was rescheduled from its announced location and time. The remainder of the annual meeting was cancelled after the business meeting adjourned.)

The minutes of the 2008 business meeting were approved.

Linda Braddy, East Central University, gave the treasurer’s report for 2008. She supplied copies of the yearly report submitted to the national office showing the following:

	<u>Checking/Shares</u>	<u>Court CD</u>
Beginning balances, 12-31-2007	\$12,336.87	\$14,902.08
Revenues during the year	\$ 5,766.30	\$ 551.30
Expenses during the year	\$ 5,018.00	\$ 0.00
Ending balances, 12-31-2008	\$13,085.17	\$15,453.38

Linda Braddy, East Central University, supplied an account of all receipts and expenditures from 1-1-2008 through 12-31-2008. All Section funds were transferred to East Central Credit Union in Ada, Oklahoma on June 23, 2008. As of December 31, 2008 the balance in the share-checking account was \$2,850.94, the balance in regular shares (savings) was \$2,176.74, and the balance in the share CD was \$8,057.49, giving a total of \$13,085.17. This includes \$10,774.27 in the operating account, \$551.06 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.

No audit report was presented.

Charles Cooper, University of Central Oklahoma, gave the Governor’s report. He provided a brief summary of the Governor’s meeting he attended at MathFest 2008. He expressed gratitude to the membership for the opportunity to serve as governor. Charles noted that the section has the opportunity to nominate an individual for a Meritorious Service Award from MAA. There was a motion and second to nominate **John Watson** for the award. The motion passed.

Myron Rigsby, University of Arkansas – Fort Smith, gave the Department Chairs/Liaisons report.

Kathy Pinzon, University of Arkansas – Fort Smith, gave a report on the undergraduate student competitions. Fourteen teams competed in Math Jeopardy and 26 students in the Integration Bee.

Jill Guerra reported that **Linda Braddy** of East Central University and **David Bressoud** from the MAA made presentations to the Section NEXt sessions.

Lee Turner, Southern Nazarene University, gave the site selection report. Invitations have been received from John Brown University for 2010, the University of Central Oklahoma for 2011, and Henderson State University for 2012. The meeting dates are March 26 – 27, 2010, March 25 – 26, 2011, and either March 23-24 or March 30-31, 2012. The proposed sites and dates were approved.

Under new business, there was a discussion regarding refunds of registrations and banquet fees due to the cancellation of the majority of the meeting. It was noted that many expenses in support of the meeting had already been incurred. Also the organizing committee had been able to cancel the banquet without penalty. A motion and second was made to not refund meeting registrations and to have the executive committee decide on refunds of banquet fees. The motion passed.

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

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

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

Lee Turner, Southern Nazarene University speaking for the Court Lecture Committee, nominated **Robert Myers**, Oklahoma State University, to serve on the Court Lecture Committee. He was elected by acclamation.

There were no resolutions due to the early termination of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

**Preliminary Announcement
of the Seventy-Second Annual
Meeting of the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the**

THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Time and Place: Friday and Saturday, March 26 – 27 on the campus of the John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR with Section NExT activities and undergraduate student competitions beginning on the evening of March 25. See the Section website for additional information and updates: <http://sections.maa.org/okar/>

Program: Contributed Paper Sessions:

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.*

This is your invitation to present a paper at our 2010 MAA section meeting. *Deadline for the abstract of your paper is Monday, March 1, 2010.* 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 the Section newsletter and can also be obtained from the Section website. It should be sent directly to Lee Turner, Department of Mathematics, Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, OK 73008. Phone: 405-491-6364, Fax: 405-491-6689, e-mail: lturner@snu.edu.

Invited Address (3:30 pm, Friday, March 26): David Bressoud, Issues of the Transition to College Mathematics

Abstract: Over the past quarter century, 2- and 4-year college enrollment in first semester calculus has remained constant while high school enrollment in calculus has grown tenfold, from 50,000 to 500,000, and

continues to grow at 6% per year. We have reached the cross-over point where each year more students study first semester calculus in US high schools than in all 2- and 4-year colleges and universities in the United States. There is considerable overlap between these populations. Most high school students do not earn college credit for the calculus they study. This talk will present some of the data that we have about this phenomenon and its effects and will raise issues of how colleges and universities should respond. David Bressoud is the current president of MAA.

N. A. Court Lecturer (8:00 p.m., Friday March 26): Brian Conrey, Primes and Zeros: A million dollar mystery

Abstract: 150 years ago B. Riemann discovered a pathway to understanding the prime numbers. But today we still have not completed his vision. I will give an introduction to Riemann's Hypothesis, one of the most compelling mathematics problems of all time, and describe some of its colorful history.

Faculty Workshop (8:30a.m. – 11:30a.m., Friday, March 26 - \$15.00 fee): Quantitative Reasoning (QR) for College Students: Habits and Hurdles, by Shannon W. Dingman and Bernard L. Madison, University of Arkansas - Fayetteville.

Abstract: This workshop will focus on student habits and attitudes formed in traditional mathematics and statistics courses and how these habits are some of the hurdles in teaching quantitative reasoning (QR) to college students. We will illustrate some of these habits with data and video from some think-aloud sessions. After describing and discussing habits and hurdles, we will explore some ways that colleges are addressing QR. Several colleges and universities are using versions of the course developed at the University of Arkansas and described in the book *Case Studies for Quantitative Reasoning* and on the web site <http://www.cwu.edu/~boersmas/QRCW/>. The course is now being expanded with NSF support. Workshop participants will develop new case studies from contemporary news articles supplied by the workshop leaders. Participants are encouraged to bring brief written descriptions to share on how QR is being addressed at their institutions.

Student Workshop (8:30a.m. – 11:30a.m., Friday, March 26 - free):

The Making of a Stellated Octahedron – Easier Said Than Done!, by John C.D. Diamantopoulos, Northeastern (OK) State University.

Abstract: Participants will be provided 12 square pieces of paper, given oral directions to fold each of the squares uniformly, and then directed to assemble the 12 folded pieces into a stellated octahedron. The result will be a colorful, symmetric "conversation piece" of art constructed without the use of any adhesives. There will also be designed humorous mathematical interludes within the folding process to make the fun simply unbearable!

Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 26 (**Reservations are needed for this luncheon.**)

Department Chairs/Heads/Liaisons: Dye Conference Room. Cost: \$10.00

Presiding: Myron Rigsby. University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

Faculty sponsors of student chapters/student competition teams: West Kresge Dining Hall. Cost: \$10.00

Banquet: Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. on Friday Evening in Kresge Dining Hall. Cost: \$25.00 (\$12.50 for undergraduate and graduate students)

Reservations for the Banquet or Luncheon Meetings must be received by March 12, 2010.

Registration Fee: Regular - \$20, Students - \$5, (*No P.O.'s please*) payable in advance or at registration in the gathering hall on the first floor of the Walker Student Center, Friday 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. & Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. **Note: Banquet and luncheon reservations will NOT be available onsite – these reservations must be made in advance.** 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 the Section newsletter and can also be found on the Section webpage. Please mail your check (payable to MAA) and registration form to:

Dr. Frank Blume
Department of Mathematics
Page 20

The Oklahoma-Arkansas Section NExT

is inviting applications for 2010-2011 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 2010 Program will take place on March 25-26 at John Brown University 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 2010 and 2011 Section NExT meetings. For the 2010 meeting, lodging and dinner for fellows on Thursday, March 25 and a luncheon on Friday, March 26 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 Ph. D. in the current year. Interested applicants should send a letter describing their teaching, research and service interests and how they hope their participation in 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 2010 and 2011 Section meetings.

Completed applications should be sent by March 5, 2010 to

Jill E. Guerra
Department of Mathematics
University of Arkansas Fort Smith
Fort Smith, Arkansas
or by e-mail: jguerra@uafortsmith.edu

The 2nd Annual OK – AR Undergraduate Math Competition

Sponsored by the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of MAA

On Thursday, March 25, 2010, the Oklahoma – Arkansas Section of the MAA is sponsoring the 2nd Annual OK-AR Undergraduate Math Competition. The competition will consist of two contests :

1. Team Competition – Teams of 2 or 3 undergraduate students will compete in rounds of **Math Jeopardy**. Schools may enter more than one team. There is an entry fee of \$20 for each team. A Trophy will be awarded to winning team.
2. Individual Competition – Students will compete as individuals in an **Integration Bee**. There is no entry fee for this competition. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

The competition will begin at 6 p.m. with the team competition followed by the individual competition. Pizza and drinks will be provided to all student participants.

Registration for both team and individual competitions is available on the section website <http://sections.maa.org/okar/>.

Local Area Hotels

Best Western

Conference rates:

single \$68.99, double \$70.00

1 mile from the JBU campus

273 S. Hwy 59

West Siloam Springs, OK 74964

(918) 422-4444

Reservations: 1-800-780-7234

Amenities:

- complimentary breakfast,
- fitness center,
- pool,
- high-speed internet.

Quality Inn

Conference rates:

single \$64.99, double \$69.99

1.1 miles from the JBU campus

1300 Hwy 412 W.

Siloam Springs, AR 72761

(479) 524-8080

Reservations: 1-877-424-6423

Amenities:

- free continental breakfast,
- free wireless high-speed internet access,
- free weekday newspaper,
- free coffee.

Hampton Inn

Conference rates:

single \$89.10, double \$102.16

approx. 2 miles from the JBU campus

2171 Ravenwood Plaza

Siloam Springs, AR 72761

(479) 215-1000

Customer support: 1-800-HAMPTON

Directions to the JBU Campus

From Little Rock, Arkansas:

- Take I-40 West toward Fort Smith.
- Take exit 12 to merge onto I-540 North toward Fayetteville.
- Continue on I-540 past Fayetteville.
- Take exit 72 and turn left onto US-412 West.
- Upon reaching the Siloam Springs city limit you will stay on US-412 and pass through a succession of eight traffic lights.
- At the second traffic light you will see a Wal-Mart supercenter on your right.
- At the eighth traffic light you will see Arvest Bank on your right and turn right onto Holly Street.
- At the end of Holly Street turn left onto University Street.
- The JBU campus will be on your right.

From Tulsa, Oklahoma:

- Take I-44 toward Joplin.
- At the fork, merge from I-44 East onto US-412 East toward Chouteau.
- Continue on US-412.
- Take the exit onto the Cherokee Turnpike, thereby staying on US-412 East.
- US-412 East will take you to the city limits of West Siloam Springs.
- At the first traffic light you will see the Cherokee Casino on your left.
- Turn left at the second traffic light onto Holly Street.
- At the end of Holly Street turn left onto University Street.
- The JBU campus will be on your right.

Directions to the Hotels from the JBU Campus

Best Western:

- Take Holly Street toward US-412.
- Turn right onto US-412 at the traffic light.
- Turn left onto Oklahoma Hwy 59 at the first traffic light.
- Best Western will be immediately on your right.

Quality Inn:

- Take Holly Street toward US-412.
- Turn left onto US-412 at the traffic light.
- Quality Inn will be almost immediately visible on your right.

Hampton Inn:

- Take Holly Street toward US-412.
- Turn left onto US-412 at the traffic light.
- Pass through a succession of five traffic lights (not counting the one at which you turned onto US-412).
- Once you have passed the fifth light, Hampton Inn will be visible on your left (just before you get to the Wal-Mart supercenter).

Super 8:

- Take Holly Street toward US-412.
- Turn right onto US-412 at the traffic light.
- Super 8 will be almost immediately visible on your left.

Local Area Restaurants

Recommended Restaurants in Siloam Springs:

Barnette's Dairyyette

111 W. Tulsa St

(479) 524-3211

Callahan's Steak House

210 Highway 412 E

(479) 524-4674

Napolis Italian Restaurant

1951 Highway 412 E

(479) 524-0551

Soup & Salad

315 W Tulsa St

(479) 524-5641

Tower Bar B Que

110 Progress Ave

(479) 524-0585

Cafe on Broadway

123 N Broadway St

(479) 549-3556

Fatiga's Sub Station

1004 S Mount Olive St

(479) 524-6277

Quiznos

3121 Highway 412 E

(479) 524-4403

Taste of Thai

202 Highway 412 W

(479) 549-3175

Fast Food Restaurants in Siloam Springs:

Arby's

1001 Highway 412 W

(479) 524-5972

Kentucky Fried Chicken

1115 Highway 412

(479) 524-4254

Subway

1099 S Maxwell St

(479) 524-9643

Hardee's

1625 Highway 412 W

(479) 524-8344

Mc Donald's

1400 Highway 412 W

(479) 524-8020

Taco Bell

1050 Highway 412 W

(479) 524-3920

Get up-to-date information from the Section website:

<http://sections.maa.org/okar/>

Streets around Campus



Source: <http://maps.google.com/>

Campus Map



1. Admissions/Financial Aid
2. Cathedral of the Ozarks
3. Art, Design, and Digital Media Building
4. Engineering Building
5. Learning Resource Center (LRC)
6. Maranatha Clock Tower
7. Mabee/Chapman Administration Building
8. Cafeteria
9. Broadhurst Village
10. William H. Bell Science Hall
11. Walton Lifetime Health Complex
12. Tennis Courts
13. Soccer Field
14. Rugby Pitch
15. North Hall
16. Walker Residence Hall
17. Walker Student Center
18. J. Alvin Residence Hall
19. Townhouses
20. Central Plant
21. Hyde Engineering Building
22. Soderquist Business Center
23. Mayfield Residence Hall

Michael Lloyd
Box 7782
Henderson State University
Arkadelphia, AR 71999