

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**April 5, 2022 6:00 pm (Virtual)**  
**Presiding: Ronald Smith, 2021-2022 Chair**

In Attendance: Past Chair John Diamantopoulos, Chair Ronald Smith, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Carolyn Eoff, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Nicholas Jacob, Section Representative Britney Hopkins, Treasurer Kristin Karber, Communications Director Christopher Sauer, and Secretary Sarah Marsh. Michael Lloyd (HSU) joined as a special guest due to the unique nature of both the Executive Committee meeting and the Section meeting.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Smith at 6:00 pm. The meeting was held in a virtual format via Zoom.
2. The minutes from the 2021 Executive Committee [EC] Meeting were considered by those who had been present for that meeting. Dr. Karber made a motion to accept the minutes, and Dr. Hopkins seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.
3. Treasurer Karber gave the Treasurer's report from 2021. The primary sources of income were conference registrations (\$3260) and the MAA subvention (\$549). The primary expenses were awards (including postage to mail plaques and checks) and Eventbrite fees. The Section reported a profit in 2021, thanks largely to the virtual format of the Section meeting. The combined bank balance for all Section accounts at the end of 2021 was \$35,250.81. Treasurer Karber then discussed earmarked accounts and the division of the total balance across various Section accounts.

Dr. Jacob made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, and Dr. Smith seconded the motion. During discussion, a question was raised about whether we should expect the Eventbrite fees to look similar for the 2022 meeting. The precise amount of Eventbrite fees for 2022 will depend on the number of meeting registrants. Dr. Eoff reported that we have over 90 registrations to date, but some of those are the free registrations for the integration bee. After discussion, the motion passed by voice vote.

4. Chair Smith brought up the following potential concerns regarding committees:
  - a. The State Teacher Awards are now given on a rotation based on the state hosting each year's meeting, so each state's Teacher Award Committee sits idle in the off-years. The upcoming bylaws revision proposes to merge these two state committees into one "K-12 Teacher Award Committee," with members from each state, so that the committee work is consistent from year to year. This change should also aid in staffing this committee work. EC members discussed the advantages to having a member from the "awarding" state solicit nominations; however, all committee members could help read nominations and select award recipients.
  - b. Now that the national MAA covers two speakers each year, we no longer need to have Deal / Court lectures as often. Chair Smith discussed the difficulty in recruiting someone for the Court committee that might do nothing for several years (potentially). The upcoming bylaws revision proposes to merge these two lecture committees into one "Court-Deal Lecture Committee," which would be appointed in years where either a Court or a Deal lecture is to occur. Discussion continued about whether a nomination to

the Court committee was needed at this year's Business Meeting, since the bylaws are not yet changed. Further work will be requested of the current Court committee to help determine a rotation for the lectures moving forward.

- c. Chair Smith noted that a single individual within our Section has taken charge of determining our highest Putnam Exam score, engraving a new entry for the traveling award, and ensuring the award arrives at its new home each year. However, the Section has not officially recognized this work in the past. There was some discussion about how best to recognize this work (committee? coordinator?). Because the work can be (has been) done by a single person, a coordinator seemed to fit best. We should be able to get the change covered in the upcoming bylaws revision with a friendly amendment given at the Business Meeting.
  - d. The Department Chairs Committee is another area where one person has been taking the full load (despite the title of "committee"). The upcoming bylaws revision has rewritten this as a coordinator position for clarity, and so that whoever does this work gets appropriate credit.
5. Chair Smith noted that we had a few requests for presentations from outside our Section membership for this year's meeting. This had been raised among the EC via email previously. EC members noted concerns about whether such talks were geared toward sharing knowledge or making profit (e.g., promoting a textbook or software). Some of these issues seem unique to a virtual meeting and might even be related to the shifting meeting plans of other Sections. EC members had also previously questioned whether students from other Sections could be eligible for awards. (They will not be eligible at this year's meeting.)

The consensus among the EC was to handle this case-by-case in the future, as we hope it is closely linked to the virtual format. Publishers will continue to be encouraged to purchase booth space for in-person meetings; in these instances, we want them to have a table rather than a talk, but this is trickier in an online meeting space.

6. A Section member had raised the concern to Chair Smith that the current timing of our Section's Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award (in conjunction with our Spring meeting) forces our winner to wait until the following year to apply for the national Haimo award (March 1 deadline). Could we change our timing to allow our winner to be eligible for the Haimo award in the same year?

Secretary Marsh noted that our Section's internal deadlines, though largely unenforced, list January 15 as the deadline for the Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award committee to have a name selected. There was discussion as to a reasonable timeline for moving from the Section nomination (less documentation) to a Haimo nomination (larger, more detailed "packet"). Could the Distinguished Teacher committee solicit and review nominations in the Fall so that a Haimo packet could be assembled by March 1? Could the Department Chairs coordinator help put out a call for nominations in the Fall? This will be discussed in the Distinguished Teacher committee.

7. An EC member had raised the concern to Chair Smith that since Chair Smith had been asked to fill in as Chair this year due to a vacancy on the EC, we might need to officially appoint someone

to serve as Past-Chair for 2022-23. The current bylaws are not clear on this point. There was discussion about whether a precedent existed either way. Finally, Dr. Karber made a motion that Chair Smith become Past-Chair after this week's Section meeting. Dr. Hopkins seconded the motion, and the motion passed by voice vote.

8. Chair Smith asked Secretary Marsh to speak to the summary of proposed bylaws changes, which will be discussed and voted on by Section membership at the Business Meeting.
  - a. Officer Changes: The proposal is for a chair's position, separate from all meeting hosting responsibilities, that will serve one year as chair-elect, two years as chair, and one year as past-chair. The Section would also have a "local program chair" (analogous to current 1<sup>st</sup> vice chair) who would handle meeting arrangements. The composition of the EC was discussed. This proposal is consistent with most other MAA Sections who separate the chair from meeting hosting responsibilities and will allow our Section to have more experience in the chair role. The proposal also allows our Section to have a choice as to who is chair rather than being defaulted into a candidate from the host institution.
  - b. Committee Changes: The bylaws revision proposes to bring the Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award Committee, the Resolutions Committee, and the Liaison Coordinators into line with current practice. It also addresses the K-12 Teacher Awards and the Court and Deal lectures as mentioned previously.
  - c. Minor Changes: Most of these centered around who can vote in elections and when/how elections are conducted. There is also a proposal to allow the EC to set registration fees, as well as numerous smaller wording changes recommended or required by the national office.

Chair Smith thanked Secretary Marsh for heading up the bylaws revision effort. There was discussion as to whether the EC should vote on these changes before discussing them with the full membership. It was decided that while a vote was not necessary, it could be a helpful statement for our membership. Chair Smith moved that the EC accept the proposed bylaws changes. Dr. Jacob seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

9. New Business:
  - a. A question was raised regarding the process for elections at the (virtual) Business Meeting. Chair Smith reported that each of the position elections (Treasurer and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair) had only one candidate on the ballot this year. The plan is to hold elections via Zoom poll. We can ask non-members to turn their cameras off to determine quorum before voting, as was done last year. Mr. Sauer is able to run the polls feature for us and should be able to adapt them on the fly as needed. The vote on bylaws changes was also discussed. That vote might be more easily held in three stages, to correspond with the summary of changes that was sent to members.
  - b. Chair Smith asked how plans were progressing for the various student competitions. Dr. Karber indicated that she had judges in place for the student paper presentations. Dr. Lloyd is helping with the evening competitions (Jeopardy and Integration Bee) and noted

that Dr. McClendon at UCO had the competitions ready. Mr. Sauer has also volunteered to assist, given his experience with this setup at last year's meeting. The Jeopardy competition will be run via Zoom, using breakout rooms with moderators. The Integration Bee will be run through WebAssign. Treasurer Karber and Secretary Marsh requested that winners' names be provided to them for distribution and recognition of awards.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Marsh, Secretary 2021-2022