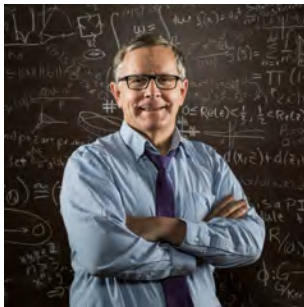


## Summer 2021 Section Meeting - Virtual

*The summer 2021 section meeting will be held virtually, June 25-26. If you or your students would like give a talk please email Hans Nordstrom by June 11, 2021 with the title, short abstract [a template will be available on the meeting website]. Visit the meeting website for more information. Please note that the invited program details, links to online registration, and additional information for the general program is being added as the meeting approaches.*

*This meeting's plenary speakers are:*



**Michael Dorff** – Professor Mathematics at Brigham Young University, and past president of the MAA



**Matthew Richey** – Professor of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science and Paul and Mildred Hardy Distinguished Professor of Science at St. Olaf College



**Christopher Wrather** – Ph.D. Statistics and Operations Research, Executive Vice President SavvyAviation

*Special Panel Session: Fostering Undergraduate Capstone Experiences*

*Please find more information by visiting the meeting website: <http://sections.maa.org/pnw/pnwmaa2021/maa-pnwsection-meeting.html>.*

*Registration is **free**. Please register here: REGISTER.*

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## In This Issue...

- 2021 Section Meeting: Virtual
- University Spotlight
- NExT news
- Executive Committee Update
- Editor's Note

## University Spotlight: Gonzaga University

by KATE KEARNEY

The Gonzaga University Math Department is in the midst of several major changes. We have recently rolled out a new Applied Math major, have welcomed Abdulla Mamun to our department, and will soon move part of our department to a brand new building.

Gonzaga's new Applied Mathematics program will prepare students for graduate level study in applied mathematics, engineering, or interdisciplinary programs, as well as careers in government, industry, and research institutions in areas such as systems biology, ecology, chemistry, computer animation and digital imaging, finance and economics, environmental sciences, climatology,

and medicine. The interdisciplinary nature of the Applied Mathematics program supports Gonzaga's mission of cultivating creativity, innovation, and lifelong learning in students. In addition, the program's focus on understanding phenomena encountered in science or those driven by social needs is consistent with the Jesuit traditions of care for the planet and service to society. Students majoring in Applied Mathematics can choose to pursue any of six possible concentrations in Economics, Computer Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Biochemistry (or elect to have no concentration); additional concentrations may be added in the future. We are already graduating students under this new major and are excited about how our program continues to grow.



As our majors have grown, so have our faculty. This year we welcomed Abdulla Mamun, who joined us following a postdoctoral position at University of Windsor. Dr. Mamun's

research interest is related to Longitudinal Data Analysis, Generalized Linear Models (GLM), Survival Analysis, Regression Diagnostics and Statistical Modelling. He will be teaching primarily statistics courses in our department. We're excited to have him with us as we expand our applied mathematics and statistics offerings.



While our programs grow, we are also excited about physical changes around our university. While we have been working remotely, construction crews have been busy on campus building our new Integrated Sciences and Engineering facility. The building will house classrooms, labs and offices for a variety of STEM departments with the goal of facilitating collaboration between disciplines. The math department will be moving our tutoring center as well as several faculty offices into the new space. We expect the building to be open Fall 2021.

## Distinguished Teaching Award Nominations

Distinguished Teaching Award Nominations are due November 1, 2021. Initial nominating materials (the first page of the Nomination Form) are usually due to the Section Secretary/Treasurer in late October of each year. Complete materials are usually due from selected semi-finalists in early January of the following year.

- Eligibility requirements: [http://www.maa.org/Awards/Haimo\\_EGN.pdf](http://www.maa.org/Awards/Haimo_EGN.pdf)
- Nomination form: [http://www.maa.org/Awards/Haimo\\_NF.pdf](http://www.maa.org/Awards/Haimo_NF.pdf)

## Introducing Section NExT leadership roles

by MEGAN BUZBY

This spring we welcomed two new PNW NExT Fellows: Abdulla Mamun from Gonzaga University and Sahadeb Uprettee from Central Wash-

ington University. We are excited to learn from them and add their expertise and perspectives to our discussions.

Our Section NExT program is introducing new leadership roles. These positions will help Section NExT run smoother and give people an opportunity to gain experience

and serve our MAA section in an entry level capacity.

**Assistant Secretary:** Keep brief minutes of the annual meeting. Maintain current membership and listserv information. Coordinate with the Director, Section Secretary, and Assistant Webmaster as needed.

**Assistant Webmaster:** Ensure website is updated with annual meeting information, new fellow application deadlines, member list, etc. Coordinate with the Director, Section Webmaster, and Assistant Secretary as needed.

In addition, the Associate Director position is open as Hans Nordstrom is stepping out of that role and into the PNW Section Chair. The Associate Director assists the Director in coordinating the annual meeting, serves on the selection committee for new fellows, and serves on the PNW Section Executive Board.

For interest and questions, please contact Megan Buzby at [mbuzby1@alaska.edu](mailto:mbuzby1@alaska.edu).

As usual, the Section NExT annual meeting will take place the first day of the regular meeting, Friday June 25. See the meeting website for the agenda.

## Changes to the Section Executive Committee

As of the May business meeting, our section executive committee con-

sists of:

### Chair

Hans Nordstrom  
University of Portland  
Email: [nordstro@up.edu](mailto:nordstro@up.edu)

### Past-chair

Chuck Dunn  
Linfield College  
Email: [cdunn@linfield.edu](mailto:cdunn@linfield.edu)

### Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Fitch  
University of Alaska Anchorage  
Email: [mafitch@alaska.edu](mailto:mafitch@alaska.edu)

### Representative to the MAA Congress

Chris Hallstrom  
University of Portland  
Email: [hallstro@up.edu](mailto:hallstro@up.edu)

*after July 1*

Nancy Neudauer  
Pacific University  
Email: [nancy@pacificu.edu](mailto:nancy@pacificu.edu)

### Newsletter Editor

Kate Kearney  
Gonzaga University  
Email: [kearney@gonzaga.edu](mailto:kearney@gonzaga.edu)

### Web Manager

Jim Bisgard & Aaron Montgomery  
Central Washington University  
Email: [bisgardj@cwu.edu](mailto:bisgardj@cwu.edu)

### Section NExT Director

Megan Buzby

University of Alaska Southeast  
Email: [mbuzby1@alaska.edu](mailto:mbuzby1@alaska.edu)  
**Student Program Coordinator**  
David Hartenstine  
Western Washington University  
Email: [david.hartenstine@wwu.edu](mailto:david.hartenstine@wwu.edu)

## A note from the editor

by KATE KEARNEY

The last two years our section newsletter has had a short hiatus. As I step into the role of newsletter editor, I will be working on a new format for our newsletter. The hope is to produce a shorter more frequently distributed newsletter. I welcome suggestions and contributions at any point, especially events and deadlines that are relevant to the section. I also hope to run a regular "University Spotlight" column with news from colleges and universities in our section, and announcements of new faculty to the section and retiring faculty from our section. Please email me with any contributions or other section news.