Call for Abstracts

The Rocky Mountain Section of the MAA is holding a virtual conference April 16 and 17, 2021. We invite abstracts to our contributed paper sessions. Abstracts are due April 1.

The schedule has 20 minutes allotted to each talk, which makes it ideal to have a talk that is 15-17 minutes long and the remaining time can be used for questions.

You can submit abstracts and register via the Google Form:

https://forms.gle/yBHJhkTJ6g4iBiKm9

The Contributed Paper Sessions are:

History of Mathematics and Its Use in Teaching
Organized by Janet Barnett of Colorado State University – Pueblo, (janet.barnett@csupueblo.edu)
This session invites talks on any topic related to the history of mathematics. Talks on the use of history in teaching undergraduate mathematics courses other than the history of mathematics are especially welcome.

The Flipped Conference Session.
Organized by Kyle Riley of South Dakota Mines (Kyle.Riley@sdsmt.edu)
Check out the video intro at https://youtu.be/Tyir_ekU66g
This past year has involved a great amount of innovation (and challenges) on adapting instruction to be delivered online. In the spirit of innovation, this session seeks to gather the developments, techniques, and tools that have been created to meet the challenge of teaching college mathematics in the past year. We plan to share these presentations in a unique format for our virtual conference. Session speakers will record their presentations prior to the conference and the recordings will be placed on a YouTube playlist. Conference participants can review the presentations at their convenience prior to the conference. During the conference, we will hold a panel session with the presenters and use the conference time to answer audience questions. We welcome your innovations that helped you transition to the online delivery challenges you faced in the past year, particularly those that you might continue in future semesters.

Once an abstract is accepted, the presenters will be notified and the recordings (in a YouTube friendly format) will be due April 8. The recordings will be posted to a YouTube playlist with a link provided to the people registered for the conference. The videos will be deleted and the playlist will be removed from YouTube on June 1.

Student Session
This session welcomes abstracts from both undergraduate and graduate students.

General Session
This session welcomes any abstracts that align with the mission of the Rocky Mountain Section.
Guidance for Speakers

The Rocky Mountain Section would like to offer the following suggestions, especially to first-time speakers (and first-time Zoomers), regarding preparation of a “virtual” talk at the conference.

Presentation Length

- All contributed talks will be placed in 20-minute time slots, ideally, approximately 15-17 minutes for the presentation with a few minutes at the end available for questions. Please prepare your presentation to fit the time allotted.

Virtual Presentations

- This year, presentations will be delivered over Zoom. Presenters should sign into the Zoom session for your talk 5-10 minutes before your talk actually begins, so that any technological issues may be addressed.
- It is advised that you familiarize yourself with Zoom and, if available, practice your talk on Zoom prior to your actual presentation.
- A moderator will be assigned to facilitate each session of presentations. The moderator will introduce the speaker, act as “host” for the Zoom session, manage any screen sharing privileges, signal the end of the presentation, and ask for questions from the audience. At their discretion, the moderator may allow questions via the “chat” feature in Zoom, and may read such questions aloud.
- You can use the “screen-sharing” capabilities of Zoom to present your talk using Power Point slides, PDF, or similar, which will greatly enhance the pace of a presentation. To avoid distraction, we recommend sharing only a single “window”, rather than your entire screen. (However, it may be possible to share, e.g., an Adobe window, and then choose “full screen view” from inside of that Adobe window.)

Presentation Tips

- Do not include too much detailed technical material in your presentation. Focus on providing the audience with insight into your topic and its key notions. Remember that most members of the audience will not be experts in the field you are discussing, and that the audience is likely to include students.
- Please make sure that the slide content is typed in a font big enough and with spacing adequate to be seen clearly. We recommend including only a small amount of text on each slide.