



ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION
NEWSLETTER

December 7, 1984

David Ballew, Editor

I M P O R T A N T --- NOTE ANNUAL MEETING DATE CHANGE

Due to a conflict with other conventions in Casper, the date of the Annual Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section will be March 15, 16 at Casper College; because of the difficulty of changing typeset material; the WRONG dates will probably continue to be advertised in the Monthly and FOCUS.

CALL FOR PAPERS --

This is the First Call for Papers for the Annual Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section which will be held at Casper College on March 15, 16, 1985. The deadline for submission of papers is February 15, 1985 and they should be sent to:

Dr. Allan Skillman
Program Chairman
Casper College
Casper, Wyoming 82601

Because this meeting date is earlier than normal, all Section Members should mark their calendars now and prepare papers for submission a little sooner than in the past.

When you submit your paper, include an estimate of the time and include all audio-visual requirements that you will need.

STUDENT PAPERS --

We will continue our tradition of having student papers presented at the Annual Meeting. Everyone that has been involved with these students will testify that it has been a very valuable experience for the students and the advisors. Because the meeting is earlier this year, it is important that you identify prospective students now. You will have to encourage them and explain that this activity is important for their professional life, whether that professional life is academic or industrial. Student talks can be on research projects, problems they have solved, reports they have written or even summer employment; usually, the student papers are as good or better than some of the professional papers. The student papers are always enjoyable. Make your institution look good; sponsor a student!!

SECTION OFFICERS --

The Section Officers for the 1984-85 year are:

Chair --	Ruth Rebekka Struik University of Colorado/Boulder
Chair-Elect --	Stephen Bronn University of Southern Colorado
Program Chair --	Allan Skillman Casper College
Vice-Chair --	Marie Ritten National College
Governor --	Gary Grefsrud Ft. Lewis College
Secretary/Treasurer --	David Ballew South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

Contact any of these persons with any problems, concerns or complaints.

FUTURE MEETINGS --

1985 Meeting -----	Casper College
1986 Meeting -----	Mesa College
1987 Meeting -----	University of Southern Colorado
1988 Meeting -----	Joint Hosting by Metropolitan and The University of Colorado/Denver??

NOMINATING COMMITTEE --

This year we will need to elect a Chair-Elect for a one-year term; then this becomes the Section Chair. Also, we will need a Program Chair for the Mesa College Meeting. The Nominating Committee is Ed Hawkins, Mesa College (Chair), Vern Nelson, Metro State, and Richard Gibbs, Ft. Lewis College. They will be happy to hear of nominations or suggestions.

LIDA BARRETT IS THE MAA SPEAKER AT THE ANNUAL MEETING --

Professor Lida Barrett of the University of Northern Illinois will be the featured speaker at the Annual Meeting in Casper. This is one delightful speaker who has something worthwhile to say.

SOMETHING FOR THE STATISTICIANS --

I noticed the following statement in a paper in Sociology: "--if your parents didn't have any children, there is a 60% chance that you won't have any.

MATHEMATICAL DELIGHT --

With thanks to Professor Leonard Gillman, here's a story that mathematicians, and only mathematicians, seem to appreciate (try it on your colleagues in other fields):

The math teacher was substituting for the English teacher and the subject for the day was Shakespeare. As the class was discussing the phrase "the quality of mercy is not strained," little Johnny wanted to know what kind of "strained" that meant: was it strained like reaching hard for something, or strained like vegetables? The logical teacher thought for one brief second and replied that "it doesn't matter -- Shakespeare said the quality was not strained."

RAY GUTZMAN RETIRES --

Ray Gutzman of the Colorado School of Mines has retired in order to take a transitional appointment starting the current semester. He was awarded Emeritus status at the May 1984 Commencement and will teach one semester each year in his new position.

We assume that he will continue to come to the Section Meeting; I don't think we can have one without Ray.

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE -- METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE --

Metropolitan State College is a fully accredited four-year institution which was established in 1965 to meet the educational needs of the Metropolitan Denver area. Bachelor's degrees are offered in all the traditional disciplines of a liberal arts college, as well as some non-traditional majors in certain fields. The College moved from rented facilities to a permanent campus, the Aurora Higher Education Center in 1976. It is a campus shared with the University of Colorado at Denver and Denver Aurora Community College, yet each institution maintains its identity, role and mission. The Center is located across Cherry Creek from downtown Denver and the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. Current enrollment at MSC is 10,500 FTE with an average age of approximately twenty-seven years.

The Department of Mathematical Sciences currently consists of nineteen tenured faculty, four faculty in tenure-track positions and two temporary faculty; twenty-two have doctorates earned in the fields of probability and statistics, topology, logic, algebra, complex analysis, differential equations, number theory, numerical analysis and education. A growing number of faculty are independently developing expertise in computing science. There are currently two hundred fifty-two students who have declared a major in mathematics; students may choose an emphasis in applied mathematics, computer science, probability and statistics, secondary education or "pure mathematics." A proposal for a B.S. in Computer Science is being prepared by the department and is expected to be submitted by the end of the Autumn semester. Last year, twenty mathematics majors were placed in CO-OP Ed. jobs with employers in the Denver area.