

Carleton College
One North College Street
Northfield, Minnesota 55057-4025

Department of Mathematics

December 18, 1986

(507) 663-4360

Ms. Frieda K. Holley
830 Columbia Place
Boulder, CO 80303

Dear Ms. Holley:

I am writing to you on behalf of the North Central Section of the Mathematical Association of America in order to ask help from your Section of the MAA on the matter of academic freedom. In order to explain, I'll have to give you some background on the current concern of the North Central Section.

In 1962, the Board of Regents of the state of South Dakota was censured by the AAUP for dismissing, without due process, a professor--a distinguished scholar in his field, in fact--who had served the South Dakota State University for fifteen years. (In 1982, there was a similar summary dismissal of a faculty member at Northern State College, another institution governed by the South Dakota Board of Regents. This action resulted in further censure by the AAUP.) To this day, the South Dakota State University remains on the censured list of the AAUP, albeit with the specific indication that it is the Board of Regents that is being censured and not the administrations at the individual colleges and universities.

In the fall of 1983, the North Central Section of the MAA had its semi-annual meeting in Brookings, the location of South Dakota State University. At that meeting, the group passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the North Central Section of the MAA refuse all invitations to meet at colleges or universities that are held to be in violation of the principles of academic freedom and tenure by the American Association of University Professors.

In the three years since we passed that resolution, there has been some movement by the Executive Director of the Board of Regents, but that movement has not resulted--as yet--in any guarantee of the right of due process to faculty members. Accordingly, our Section voted on October 25, 1986, to establish a committee to pursue more vigorously an attempt to move the recalcitrant Board of Regents to a position where it would agree to guarantee the right to due process. As chairman of this committee, I have already taken a number of steps toward carrying out the charge given by the Section on October 25. Among other things, I am pleased to report that our efforts have

Bill,
Perhaps we should
put something about
this top letter in the
Newsletter. Frieda

Ms. Frieda K. Holley

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resulted in the National Education Association and its branch, the South Dakota Educational Association, joining forces with the AAUP in trying to effect some reform. In particular, the SDEA is now negotiating a contract with the South Dakota State Universities and is attempting to negotiate into the new contract some basic principles of academic freedom, notably an acceptance of the 1940 Principles of Academic Freedom and Tenure of the AAUP (which the NEA has adopted).

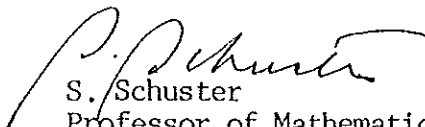
Now, to the main point of this letter, which is to ask your Section to support us in our campaign, particularly because your Section includes some South Dakota territory. The kind of support that we would like to have would be for your Section to pass a resolution similar to the one we passed in the fall of 1983, and to make it known to the Board of Regents of South Dakota and, perhaps beyond (e.g., the news media). The way to inform the Board of Regents of your action would be to write to:

Roger T. Schinness
Executive Director
South Dakota Board of Regents
700 Governors Drive
Pierre, South Dakota 57501 .

If you are willing to support us by passing such a resolution, then I might suggest that you inform the chairs at SDSU and Northern State. They would certainly be encouraged by such action.

Incidentally, as part of the "vigorous action" to support our Section's efforts on behalf of college and university faculty in South Dakota, we shall be prevailing upon other academic groups to support our position in the same way that I am asking you to. In particular, we hope soon to have such support from the American Chemical Society and the South Dakota Psychiatric Association.

Sincerely,


S. Schuster
Professor of Mathematics



Metropolitan State College

Department of Mathematical Sciences

January 5, 1987

Dr. Steven Janke, Chairman
Department of Mathematics
Colorado College
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

Dear Dr. Janke,

I have learned that Dr. Robin J. Wilson will be a distinguished visitor at Colorado College from April 6 until May 27th of this year. The Spring Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section of the MAA will be held on April 24-25 in Pueblo, Colorado, and I would like to invite Dr. Wilson to speak at the meeting but do not know how to contact him. Would you please be so kind as to send me his address?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frieda Koster Holley,
Frieda Ann Koster (Class of '65)
Chair, Rocky Mountain Section
Mathematical Association of America



Metropolitan State College

Department of Mathematical Sciences

January 5, 1987

Dr. Kenneth A. Ross, Secretary
The Mathematical Association of America
Department of Mathematics
University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon 97403-1222

Dear Dr. Ross:

The Executive Committee of the Rocky Mountain Section of the Mathematical Association of America has unanimously voted to nominate Prof. David Ballew for a Certificate of Meritorious Service. David Ballew served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Section for eleven years and kept it running smoothly. He minimized the work of the other officers by keeping them informed of their responsibilities, by organizing conference phone calls and by handling most of the paper work.

Dr. Ballew is no longer a member of our Section having taken a new position at Western Illinois University. The Executive Committee assumed that that would not prohibit us from making the nomination. Please inform me as soon as possible if that assumption is not correct.

Thank you.

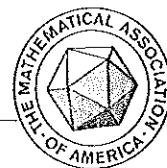
Sincerely,

Frieda K. Holley, Chair
Rocky Mountain Section

xc: Executive Committee

The MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION of AMERICA

INCORPORATED



Kenneth A. Ross, *Secretary*

Department of Mathematics
University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon 97403-1222
503 686-4721 (office)
503 686-1549 (home)

January 9, 1987

Professor Frieda K. Holley
Department of Mathematics
Metropolitan State College
1006 11th Street
Denver, CO 80204

Dear Professor Holley:

Thank you for your letter of January 5 concerning your section's Certificate of Meritorious Service. I think David Ballew is an excellent choice. I've worked with him the past few years because he is Chair of the MAA Committee on Sections. He's superb. I also worked a bit with him when he was Secretary/Treasurer of your section. I was then Associate Secretary of the AMS and we were responsible for organizing the first joint AMS-MAA regional meeting in the Rocky Mountain area. He was also a pleasure to work with then.

The fact that Professor Ballew is no longer in your section poses no problem at all.

Thanks to you and your Executive Committee for efficiently handling this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Ross

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