May 3, 1988

Dear Newsletter Editor:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which was sent to all of the departmental representatives in your section. We would be appreciative if you would set aside a significant amount of space in the next issue of your newsletter to describe the MAA student chapters and to urge all institutions in your section to form an MAA student chapter.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Howard Anton

Howard Anton, Chairman
MAA Committee on Student
Chapters

MAA STUDENT CHAPTERS

In a letter of November 12, 1985, MAA President Lynn Steen gave the following charge to an ad hoc MAA Committee on Student Chapters:

"To develop a plan for MAA student chapters (or clubs) for the purpose of attracting students to careers in the mathematical sciences and to encourage membership in MAA."

Below are selected portions of the plan that was approved by the Executive and Finance Committees. The plan proposes procedures for developing MAA student chapters at individual colleges and organizing those student chapters into student sections that are part of the current MAA sections.

STRUCTURE -

> MAA student chapters will be established at college campuses by inviting each Mathematics Department to affiliate its existing mathematics club with the MAA as an MAA student chapter or, if no such club exists, to simply create an MAA student chapter. In either case the department will have to appoint a faculty advisor for the MAA student chapter and provide a list of its student members to the MAA annually. There will be no charge for creating an MAA student chapter and each chapter will be entitled to receive literature and assistance with projects that may be sponsored or supported by the MAA.
>
> It is proposed that the parent MAA section appoint a coordinator (or possibly a coordinating committee) to work with the faculty advisors of its student chapters to organize activities at the section level for these chapters.

MEMBERSHIP -

Membership in the MAA student chapters is intended primarily for full-time undergraduate students. However, it is recognized that deviations from this guideline may be appropriate for some colleges and the ultimate decision on the eligibility for membership will be left to the college. However, "interest" should be the primary qualification for membership -- academic record or other criteria that would tend to make the chapter an "honorary" group should not be considered. A minimum of 10 students will be required to form a chapter.

JOURNALS FOR STUDENT MEMBERS -

Student members will receive FOCUS and be required to select at least one additional journal: Mathematics Magazine, The College Mathematics Journal, or The American Mathematical Monthly.

DUES -

The student member dues will be $10.00/year plus charges for journal subscriptions: $5.00/year for the College Mathematics Journal or Mathematics Magazine and $10.00/year for the American Mathematical Monthly.

The dues have been kept low to ensure that membership in the MAA will not make it difficult financially for students to be members of other student organizations.
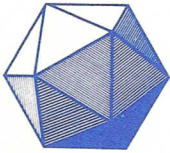
JOURNAL SPACE -

It is recommended that the section newsletters be expanded, if necessary, to include space for activities of its student chapters and that FOCUS allocate space for articles of interest to students. Student members should be added to the mailing lists for section newsletters.

SAMPLE BENEFITS THAT THE MAA MIGHT PROVIDE TO STUDENT CHAPTERS -

1. Films

2. Speakers

3. Minicourses

4. Career Information

5. Information about activities of other clubs

6. Discounts on MAA books

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES THAT MAA SECTIONS MIGHT PROVIDE -

1. Speakers from section colleges

2. Student paper competitions

3. Mathematics contests

4. Career fairs with representatives from local industry and graduate schools

5. Student-oriented talks and activities at section meetings

6. Separate meetings totally devoted to student activities

7. Minicourses developed within the section

8. Cooperative activities with Pi Mu Epsilon, SIAM, and other student organizations

To: Student Chapter Advisors
      Student Chapter Section Coordinators

From: Alfred B. Willcox

Date: March 9, 1989

Re: Student Chapter Resource Packets

We enclose the Student Chapter Resource Packet which has been assembled and written by the MAA Committee on Student Chapters. It contains a wealth of information and many suggestions on organizing a successful student chapter. I suggest that you read it carefully. It answers a number of questions that chapter leaders have asked in the past several weeks. We have only a limited number of the publications enclosed therefore you must photocopy any materials you want to distribute to your members. We intend for this information to be a part of a "library" of information that chapter members can refer to.

I hope that your chapter is doing well. I can imagine that you are eager to see it grow in membership as well as in activity. You may therefore be interested in the statement on page 1 that new chapter members may be added <u>at any time</u>.

Early in each fall semester we will send you forms for reporting the names of your student members at the beginning of the school year. We will contact any of your students from the past year who are not on your list for the new year about continuing their membership on an individual basis.

I invite you to send comments on the resource packet to me or my Administrative Assistant, Alicia Bennett.
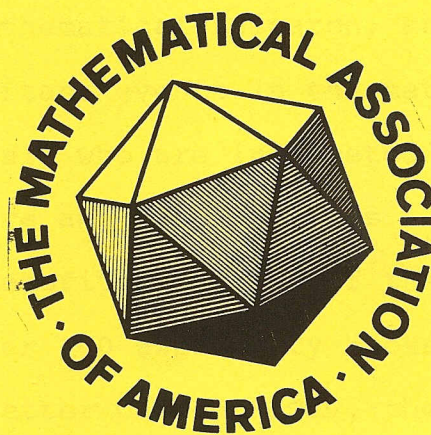
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P.S. Please note that the publication entitled *An Annotated Bibliography of Films & Videotapes for College Mathematics* is an older publication and it may not be completely accurate.

cc: Section Chairs
      Section Secretaries

ENCLOSURES IN STUDENT CHAPTER RESOURCE PACKETS

1. Cover Letter

2. Careers in Mathematics Brochure

3. Assistantships & Graduate Fellowships in the Mathematical Sciences

4. Information 1988-1989, A Listing of Services Offered by the Mathematical Association of America

5. 1 Page Description of the three journals

6. Modern Learning Aid's Catalog

7. Visiting Lecturers Booklet

8. Professional Directory of the Mathematical Sciences
   (this publication will be mailed to the chapters in March)

9. SPEER Brochure
   (when available, an updated brochure will be mailed to chapters)

10. Publications Catalog

11. MAA Bylaws

12. Films & Videotapes in the Mathematical Sciences

13. MAA logos for official chapter business

14. 2 flyers on scholarship and grant information

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT CHAPTERS

The Mathematical Association of America
1529 Eighteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036