



# NEWSLETTER

## **Dates to Remember:**

**October 8, 2005**  
**Fall Meeting at Cal State Channel Islands**

*Contributed paper deadline: Sept. 19, 2005.*

*Pre-registration deadline: Friday, Sept. 30, 2005.*

**Jan. 12-15, 2006**  
**Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Antonio, TX**

**April 8, 2006**  
**Spring Meeting at Cal State San Bernardino**

## **Southern California-Nevada Section to Meet at Brand-New CSU Channel Islands!**

*Richard Katz, Section Chair*

**Spring 2005 Meeting.** The March 5 meeting at the University of Southern California was an excellent one. The weather cooperated, it was a lovely spring day, but the mathematics kept most of the people indoors. Mel Slugbate, a.k.a. Colin Adams---oops, sorry, Slugbate's brother-in-law---gave a humorous and interesting introduction to hyperbolic space and the advantages of real estate investment therein. I found Alice Silverberg's lecture on cryptography fascinating and thoroughly enjoyed Helmer Aslaksen's talk on "Heavenly Mathematics." The luncheon talk by Francis Su also was excellent although the setup was less than ideal. Unfortunately, I was unable to get to Gwen Fisher's exhibit of Quaternionic Quilts---I was manning the Book Sale table with Mike Hoffman---but I was told that it definitely was worth seeing. All in all, it was quite a successful meeting.

**Fall 2005 Meeting.** The Fall meeting will take place at CSU Channel Islands on Saturday, Oct. 8. CSU Channel Islands is the newest addition to the CSU system and, as one might expect, not all of the construction is complete. We will meet in a room in the campus conference hall that has round tables and chairs instead of the usual auditorium style seating. A buffet lunch will also be served in this room so one need not worry about how to get from the speakers' hall to the cafeteria. You won't even get wet if it is raining. However, the contributed paper sessions will be held in another building, a short distance away.

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CSU Channel Islands is on the mainland, in Camarillo, about 30 miles west of Los Angeles, and is located about 15 miles off of the 101 freeway. A lovely 2-lane road takes you to the campus. For those of you who wish to arrive the day before, there is a Hampton Inn not too far away that costs \$99 per night plus tax.

The meeting should be an interesting one. The speakers and their talks are Jacqueline Dewar of Loyola Marymount University, our 2005 Section Distinguished Teaching Award winner and newly announced 2006 Haimo national teaching award winner, on "The Trouble with 5 Examples;" Frank Farris of Santa Clara University on "Equitability and the Gini Index;" and Frank Morgan of Williams College, another Haimo prizewinner, on "Double Bubbles and Gauss Space." I look forward to seeing you at CSU Channel Islands!

**Spring 2006 Meeting.** The spring section meeting will be held at CSU San Bernardino on Saturday, April 8, which is a little later than usual. The date was chosen so as to avoid a conflict with spring breaks and CMC^3. Mathematician and comedian Lew Lefton will be one of the featured speakers.

**Thanks to Outgoing Section Officers.** As I take over as Section Chair for 2005-06, I wish to thank 2004-05 Section Chair Kenneth Millett of UC Santa Barbara and 2004-05

*Please see Section to Meet at Channel Islands, page 6.*

## **Dewar Wins Section Teaching Award**

*Richard Katz, Section Chair and  
2005 Teaching Award Committee Chair*

The winner of the Southern California-Nevada Distinguished Teaching Award for 2005 is Dr. Jacqueline Dewar of Loyola Marymount University. (This just in: I have been informed that Dr. Dewar is also a winner of the Haimo Prize, the national teaching award of the MAA. Dr. Dewar joins Art Benjamin of Harvey Mudd College and Judy Grabiner of Pitzer College as Haimo Prize winners from Southern California.)

Jackie Dewar has a most impressive biography. She received her B.S. degree, summa cum laude, from Saint Louis University and then came west to get her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from USC. She then joined the faculty at LMU and has remained there to the present time. At LMU, Jackie has been active in working with future K-12 teachers and encouraging women to study mathematics. She has developed new courses in the mathematics curriculum and was instrumental in the development of workshops to increase the retention rate of math majors. Along the way, she became a Carnegie Scholar, received a SENCER grant to develop a course for

*Please see Dewar Wins Teaching Award, page 6.*



## The Students' Column

*Cindy Wyels, Student Chapters Coordinator*

### The 2005 Student Poster Session

Fifty-four students presented a total of 24 posters during the 2005 Student Poster Session at the Spring Meeting at USC. Topics included original research, mathematical biographies, Putnam problems, epidemiological research, two scheduling algorithms, mathematics education, computer learning and other industry-related problems, and many modeling projects. Both the scope of presentations and the quality were fantastic. The following presentations were judged to be of especially high merit.

#### Best Project

Juan Zuñiga, CSU Channel Islands: *Pebbling Modified Web Graphs*

Jason Murcko, Harvey Mudd College: *Cesaro Limits of Analytically Perturbed Stochastic Matrices*

Owen Lewis, Harvey Mudd College: *Dynamical Systems and Julia-like Sets*

#### Best Poster

Katherine Pabst, California Lutheran University: *Analysis of the Current Math Placement Program at California Lutheran University*

Scott Bachman, CSU Long Beach: *Ordering of Divisors and Prime Factors of an Integer  $n$*

Jedidiah Butler, Point Loma University: *The Calculus of Newton*

### Day-trip to the islands?

Have you visited the newest California State University campus - Channel Islands? Check it out during the 2005 Fall Meeting of the Southern California-Nevada Section of the MAA. We'll meet at CSU Channel Islands on Saturday, Oct. 8. Organize a group from your school and attend - see if you can't get your department to subsidize your trip! (You won't need to take a boat: CSUCI is on the mainland, in Camarillo.) The program promises to be entertaining and educational. Look for the program and the schedule in this newsletter.

### Broaden your horizons – get beyond the classroom!

Meetings and seminars, extra-curricular mathematics projects, the Putnam Exam and the Mathematical Modeling Competition, summer research opportunities, mathematics-related internships: these are just a few of the ways you can broaden your thinking, put your classroom learning to use in new situations, and learn new mathematics. Talk to more experienced students, recent graduates, and your professors, and look for information on the web, at your school's Career Center, and anywhere you can find it. You might start at <http://www.maa.org/students/career.html> and <http://www.maa.org/awards/putnam.html>.

### Upcoming Meetings with Student Poster Sessions

Can you imagine 5,000 and more mathematicians congregating in one place? It happens in January every year... and it's mind-boggling. The Joint Meetings include technical research presentations, survey talks, poster sessions, often movie showings and musical performances, and much more. The Student Poster Session has become one of the highlights of the meetings. In 2006 the Joint Meetings will be January 12 – 15, in San Antonio, Texas. Keep an eye on [http://www.ams.org/amsmtgs/2095\\_intro.html](http://www.ams.org/amsmtgs/2095_intro.html): detailed information on all student activities planned for these meetings will be listed there in early September. For more information about the Student Poster Session, see **Student Poster Session in San Antonio**, below.

Meanwhile, it's never too early to start thinking about presenting a poster at the 2006 Spring Meeting of the So Cal-NV Section of the MAA. This year we'll meet on April 8 at CSU San Bernardino. Detailed information will be in the next newsletter. But start planning now: your poster could feature the results of any individual or group mathematics project, including:

- Results of honors, senior, or independent study projects;
- Results of classroom projects or modeling contests;
- Results of REUs or other summer research programs;
- Historical investigations in pure or applied mathematics;
- Solutions of problems from the Putnam Exam or from the *Monthly* or other journals.

### Student Poster Session in San Antonio

*Mario Martelli and Diana Thomas, Organizers*

A Student Poster Session featuring mathematics research by undergraduates from across the country will be held Saturday, Jan. 14, 2006, at the Joint National Mathematics Meetings in San Antonio, Texas. Apply by submitting items 1-6 below online at

<http://www.maa.org/students/undergrad/poster06.html>

1. Title of the project;
2. abstract (not longer than 1/2 page);
3. names and affiliations of all authors;
4. name(s) and affiliation(s) of advisor(s);
5. source(s) of financial support.

Poster proposals will be accepted until the poster session is full or until Nov. 5, 2005, whichever comes first. Prizes will be awarded to the best posters. For more information, visit the website given above.

#### *Attention faculty: Be a judge!*

Planning to attend the 2006 Winter Meetings in San Antonio, Texas? Volunteer to judge the Student Poster Session, to be held Saturday, Jan. 14, 4-6:30 p.m., by visiting <http://www.maa.org/students/undergrad/poster06.html> and clicking on Information for Judges.

The Students' Column is continued on page 8.



## Section Members Speak, Win Prizes at Albuquerque Mathfest

### “Point Me in the Direction of Albuquerque”

*Art Benjamin, Section Governor*

Clearly many members of our section followed the advice of The Partridge Family, who sang "Point Me in the Direction of Albuquerque." In fact, so many members of our section received awards, gave talks, and organized sessions at this MathFest, that it seemed like the MAA was singing "I Think I Love You" to our section.

For me, the most exciting news was that **Jacqueline Dewar**, winner of our section's Distinguished Teaching Award for 2005, was awarded the MAA's National Teaching Award, the Haimo Prize, named after our section's **Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo**. Jacqueline will accept her award and present a talk at the Joint Meetings in January in San Antonio, but you can hear her first at the Fall Section Meeting Oct. 8 at CSU Channel Islands.

Congratulations also to **Judith V. Grabiner** of Pitzer College for receiving the Lester R. Ford Award for her article "Newton, MacLaurin, and the Authority of Mathematics" in the *American Mathematical Monthly*, December, 2004. This is Judy's third Ford Award, which is almost certainly a record number.

**Francis Su** of Harvey Mudd College was selected to deliver the James R. C. Leitzel Lecture at next year's MathFest. James Leitzel was one of the founders of Project NExT, and the annual Leitzel Lecture honors his many contributions to the improvement of mathematical sciences education. Francis is the first Project NExT Fellow to be awarded this honor.

Speaking of Project NExT, I had the pleasure of speaking to the incoming group of Project NExT Fellows. The new "Sterling Dots" in our section are:

**Angela Gallegos**, Occidental College

**John Kloke**, Pomona College

**Min-Lin Lo**, California State University, San Bernardino

**Christina L. Soderlund**, California Lutheran University

**Eric Sundberg**, Whittier College

Many members of our section co-organized sessions, including: **Kirby Baker** of UCLA, who co-organized a contributed paper session on "Uses of the World-Wide Web that Enrich and Promote Learning," and **Martin Bosangue** of Cal State Fullerton and **David Drew** of Claremont Graduate University, who co-organized a session on "Effective Systematic Change in the University: Five-Year Results from NSF Houston-Louis Stakes Alliance for Minority Participation." **Mario Martelli** of Claremont McKenna College organized an invited paper session on "The Many Branches of Dynamical Systems," in which **Ami Radunskaya** of Pomona College spoke. **Jennifer Quinn** (Occidental College) and I organized a special session for *Math Horizons*, where we met many of the magazine's readers. I also gave the Pi Mu Epsilon J. Sutherland Frame Lecture on "Proofs that Really Count." Finally, **Shawnee McMurran** of Cal State San Bernardino had the gargantuan task of co-organizing the General Contributed Paper Sessions.

Even our students distinguished themselves. In the National Problem Solving Competition, students **Greg Minton** of Harvey Mudd College and **Patrick Dixon** of Occidental College had 2nd and 4th place finishes, respectively. After such an impressive showing by the Southern California-Nevada Section, what can you sing but "C'Mon Get Happy!"?

### Benjamin Gives Pi Mu Epsilon Lecture

*Shawnee McMurran, Program Chair*

Art Benjamin, Professor of Mathematics at Harvey Mudd College and MAA Southern California-Nevada Section Governor, gave the prestigious Pi Mu Epsilon J. Sutherland Frame Lecture at the 2005 Mathfest. The auditorium was full and anticipation was high when Art took the stage to deliver "Proofs That Really Count: The Art of Combinatorial Proof." It didn't take long for him to have the entire audience in the palms of his "magical" hands. We laughed, we learned, and we eagerly worked on the problems presented. Who would have ever thought that Fibonacci identities could be so exciting? After Art's talk, the students waiting for the bus to the dorms didn't seem to even notice the 45-minute wait. Groups were enthusiastically discussing the mathematics presented and working through problems. Many couldn't wait to get their hands on Art's and Jenny Quinn's MAA book, *Proofs That Really Count: The Art of Combinatorial Proof*, the next day.

In addition to giving the Pi Mu Epsilon lecture, Art gave a talk on "Magic Square Magic" during the two-day Recreational Mathematics short course that preceded Mathfest, represented our section at the MAA Governors Meeting, co-organized an invited paper session on "Gems of Number Theory," and co-organized a special session for *Math Horizons* readers with co-editor Jennifer Quinn of Occidental College.

## More News of the Section

**Cal State Channel Islands** welcomes **Cynthia Wyels**, formerly of California Lutheran University. Cindy will direct CSUCI's masters degree program.

**Cal State Fullerton** has two new statisticians starting this fall, **Gulhan Alpargu**, who received her Ph.D. from McGill University, and **HeeJeong Lim**, who earned her Ph.D. at the University of Missouri.

**Harvey Mudd College** congratulates **Hank Krieger** on his retirement and welcomes Assistant Professor **Susan Martonosi**.

Associate professors **Jim Bentley** and **Tamara Veenstra** earned tenure at the **University of Redlands**.

*Please send news from your institution to  
janet\_beery@redlands.edu*



Southern California-Nevada Section of the Mathematical Association of America

## Fall 2005 Meeting Schedule

Saturday, October 8, California State University, Channel Islands

8:00—11:45 **Registration**—Main Entrance of Conference Halls Building

8:30—2:30 **MAA Book Sale**—Conference Halls Building, Conference Hall 2  
Organized by Richard Katz, Michael Hoffman, Cal State Los Angeles

9:00—10:00 **Invited Address by Frank Morgan**—Conference Halls Building, Conference Hall 1  
Williams College, Williamstown, MA

### *Double Bubbles and Gauss Space*

The 2002 Double Bubble Theorem says that the familiar double soap bubble is the least-perimeter way to enclose and separate two given volumes of air. I'll discuss extensions to other spaces, many by students. Featured today will be Gauss space, Euclidean space with Gaussian density. Despite the rotational symmetry of Gauss space, the best single bubble is not round, but another familiar shape. Gauss space is the model example of the important "new" category of manifolds with density.

10:15—11:45 **Contributed Paper Session**—Bell Tower Building  
Organized by George Jennings, Cal State Dominguez Hills  
See **Call for Contributed Papers**, next page.

11:45—12:45 **Luncheon**—Conference Halls Building, Conference Hall 1

12:45—1:00 **Business Meeting**—Conference Hall 1

1:00—1:55 **Invited Address by Frank Farris**—Conference Hall 1  
Santa Clara University, CA

### *Equitability and the Gini Index*

The rich are indeed getting richer, as measured by the Gini index, a number that economists use to express the degree to which a distribution of resources is equitable. If everyone had a perfectly equal share of the pie, the Gini index would be 0. One person having it all would lead to a Gini of 1. In the United States, the Gini index for family income has been rising steadily since the 1960s, from a low of about 0.34 to a current value of about 0.41. The Gini index for wealth has also been increasing and is now about 0.80. In this talk, I'll develop the Gini index and discuss the problem of computing it from data. The main mathematical tool is a simple one, the definite integral that gives the area between two curves, but more advanced topics, such as moments and order statistics, also appear.

2:10—3:05 **Invited Address by Jacqueline Dewar**—Conference Halls Building, Conference Hall 1  
Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA

### *The Trouble with 5 Examples*

College math faculty know that typically beginning students are too easily convinced by examples. One common goal of mathematics major curricula is for these students to come to recognize and value the need for mathematical proof by the time they graduate. This talk will describe what a year-long investigation revealed about the progression of Loyola Marymount University math majors in their understanding of proof, including what part of their curriculum is instrumental in this growth.

## Remember to Register!

Complete the registration form on page 7 and send it with payment **by Friday, Sept. 30, 2005** to:

Ernie Solheid  
Meetings Coordinator  
Department of Mathematics  
California State University,  
Fullerton  
800 N. State College Blvd.  
Fullerton, CA 92834



## Frank<sup>2</sup> and Teacher Extraordinaire to Speak at Fall Section Meeting

*Shawnee McMurrin, Program Chair*

The MAA Southern California-Nevada Section has assembled an exciting trio of speakers for its Fall Meeting, to be held at the brand-new California State University Channel Islands campus in Camarillo, CA, Saturday, October 8, 2005. The meeting also will feature a Contributed Paper Session with presentations by both faculty and students and the MAA Book Sale, run by Richard Katz and Michael Hoffman of Cal State Los Angeles. Southern California-Nevada Section NextT will run sessions for new faculty members. Please see **What's (SoCalNev Section) NextT**, page 7, to find out how to apply to participate. See you at CSU Channel Islands!

**Frank Morgan** received his doctorate from Princeton University in 1977. He taught at MIT for 10 years and has been on the faculty at Williams College since 1987. Professor Morgan works in minimal surfaces and studies the behavior and structure of minimizers in various dimensions and settings. In addition to solving the Double Bubble Conjecture with colleagues and students, he has written over 100 math papers and six books. His honors include the MAA Haimo national teaching award and he was founding Director of the SMALL NSF undergraduate research project.

**Frank Farris** received his doctorate from MIT in 1981 and has been a professor at Santa Clara University since 1984. He is the current editor of *Mathematics Magazine*, an official publication of the MAA. As part of his service on the Executive Committee of the MAA, Professor Farris is leading a strategic planning working group on the American Mathematics Competitions. His honors include the Trevor Evans Award for his 2002 *Math Horizons* article, "The Edge of the Universe," and the David Logothetti teaching award at Santa Clara University.

**Jacqueline Dewar** is the 2005 recipient of the MAA Southern California-Nevada Section Distinguished Teaching Award and will receive the MAA's Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award for Distinguished Teaching in January of 2006 as well. She received her PhD from USC in 1973, and has been teaching at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles since then. At LMU, Professor Dewar is Director of the Master of Arts in Teaching Mathematics Program and Coordinator for both the Mathematics Single Subject Matter and Mathematics Concentration in Liberal Studies programs. In 2003 the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning named her a Carnegie Scholar.

### Call for Contributed Papers

Students and faculty are invited to submit abstracts for 15-minute talks in the Contributed Paper Session of the Fall Meeting. All topics will be considered. The selection of talks will be based on interest to the expected audience and on scheduling constraints.

Submissions for all contributed papers should contain a title, an abstract (not to exceed one-half page and suitable for inclusion in the conference program), the desirable mathematical background of the audience, and any special presentation display needs other than an overhead projector. Electronic submission is preferred. Please send all submissions to:

George Jennings  
gjennings@csudh.edu (preferred)  
Department of Mathematics  
California State University,  
Dominguez Hills  
Carson, CA 90747  
Phone: (310)243-3592  
Fax: (310)516-4268

**Deadline for receipt of submissions:  
Monday, September 19, 2005**

### Directions to California State University, Channel Islands

California State University, Channel Islands, is in Camarillo, CA.

Traveling North on the US 101 Ventura Freeway to Camarillo:

- Exit at the Pleasant Valley Road/Santa Rosa Road off-ramp from US 101.
- Turn left onto Pleasant Valley Road (takes you across the freeway) and stay in the right hand lane as you continue on Pleasant Valley Road to Lewis Road.
- Turn left onto Lewis Road and continue until you see the CSU Channel Islands sign.
- Turn left at University Drive and continue approximately 2 miles to campus.
- After entering campus, continue on University Drive past Los Angeles Avenue and Chapel Drive to one of the parking lots on the left side of University Drive. Parking is free with no permit required.

Registration will be in front of the Conference Halls Building, at the corner of University Drive and Chapel Drive, and labeled CH on the campus map (see below). Refreshments and the Book Sale will be in Conference Hall 2. The first talk will be in Conference Hall 1.

Local and campus maps are available from the CSUCI website:

<http://www.csuci.edu/about/maps.htm>

and from the MAA Southern California-Nevada Section website:

<http://www.maa.org/socal>

### Hotels Near California State University, Channel Islands:

Hotels in Camarillo include the Hampton Inn, 50 West Daily Drive, Camarillo, which offers a rate of \$99 per night to those with school or university identification. Telephone 805-389-9898 or visit:

<http://www.hamptoninn.com/en/hp/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=OXNHSHX>

For a listing of hotels in and near Camarillo, see:

<http://www.hotelsquick.com/hotels/Camarillo/CA/USA/>



## Call for Nominations for Section Teaching Award: New Nomination Process!

*Curtis Bennett, Secretary-Treasurer*

Preliminary nominations for the 2006 Southern California-Nevada Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics are now being accepted. This year the section is trying a new two-part nomination process. The initial nomination consists of a one-page form (available at <http://www.maa.org/socal>) and a 1-2 page description of the candidate's qualities and teaching successes. From the initial nominees, the selection committee will choose two to three semi-finalists. Each nominator will then be asked to complete a full nomination for the semi-finalist, and upon receipt of the full nomination, semi-finalists will automatically become finalists. Each finalist will receive an official letter of commendation from the Chair of the Section, which will be copied to the candidate's department chair and dean.

The selection committee will choose the winner from the pool of finalists. Finalists who are not selected will automatically have their full applications considered the following year for the Section award. The winner of the award will be recognized at the Spring Meeting of the MAA Southern California-Nevada Section April 8, 2006, at California State University, San Bernardino. The awardee will also be the official Section nominee for the MAA Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics.

Successful nominees are individuals who are widely recognized for their extraordinarily successful teaching effectiveness and whose teaching has had influence beyond their own institutions. To be eligible, nominees must be current MAA members who teach mathematical science courses at least half time during the academic year and have at least five years experience teaching at the college or university level. If you have an eligible and qualified colleague in your department, we urge you to nominate her/him so that s/he may be considered for the award. **Initial application deadline is Tuesday, October 25, 2005.** Questions? Contact Curtis Bennett at [cbennett@lmu.edu](mailto:cbennett@lmu.edu)

## Dewar Wins Section Teaching Award

*Continued from page 1*

the modeling of environmental problems, and was the campus coordinator for LACTE (Los Angeles Collaborative for Teacher Excellence). Jackie is currently the director of the Master of Arts in Teaching Mathematics Program at LMU. In spite of her busy schedule, all of her students love her and strongly imply that all math teachers should teach like she does!

Dr. Dewar will speak about mathematics teaching Saturday, Oct. 8, at the Fall Meeting at CSU, Channel Islands, in a talk titled "The Trouble with 5 Examples."

## Great Books, Great Bargains at MAA Book Sale!

The 2005 Fall Meeting at CSU Channel Islands will include the ever-popular MAA Book Sale. Book prices at the meeting will be about 10% less than the already discounted MAA member prices. Almost all of the books in the MAA Catalog will be on display, including several brand-new titles. Among new MAA "books" are *Martin Gardner's Mathematical Games*, CDs containing Gardner's entire collection of *Scientific American* columns, and Keith Kendig's *Conics*, a book and disk combination. Recent MAA books by Southern California-Nevada Section authors include *Proofs That Really Count*, by Art Benjamin of Harvey Mudd College and Jenny Quinn of Occidental College, and *777 Mathematical Conversation Starters*, by John dePillis of UC Riverside. Again, prices of books bought at the Fall Meeting are about 10% less than the already discounted member prices in the MAA Catalog. Book Sale organizers are Michael Hoffman and Richard Katz of California State University, Los Angeles.

## Section to Meet at Channel Islands

*Continued from page 1*

Program Chair Francis Bonahon of USC for their outstanding service. The Fall 2004 section meeting at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the Spring 2005 meeting at the University of Southern California that they helped plan were two of our best ever.

**Welcome to New Officers.** Becky Head of Bakersfield College is our new Section Vice Chair, Florence Newberger of Cal State Long Beach our Second Program Vice Chair, and Ioana Mihaila of Cal Poly Pomona our Section NEXt Liaison. Continuing officers include Art Benjamin of Harvey Mudd College, Section Governor; Shawnee McMurrin of Cal State San Bernardino, Program Chair; George Jennings of Cal State Dominguez Hills, Program Vice Chair; Ernie Solheid of Cal State Fullerton, Meetings Coordinator; Curtis Bennett of Loyola Marymount University, Secretary-Treasurer; David Hunter of Westmont College, Webmaster; Cindy Wyels of CSU Channel Islands, Student Chapters Coordinator; Janet Beery of University of Redlands, Newsletter Editor; and Michelle Schultz of UNLV, Southern Nevada Liaison.

**Serve the Section! Join a Committee!** The Southern California-Nevada Section needs your help with publicity, student activities, and meeting organization. If you would be willing to assist with one or more of these tasks, please check the appropriate box(es) on the Fall Meeting registration form or e-mail the individual listed below.

Outreach Committee (publicity and membership):  
Janet Beery [janet\\_beery@redlands.edu](mailto:janet_beery@redlands.edu)

Student Activities Committee:  
Cindy Wyels [cynthia.wyels@csuci.edu](mailto:cynthia.wyels@csuci.edu)

Meetings Committee:  
Ernie Solheid [esolheid@fullerton.edu](mailto:esolheid@fullerton.edu)

**REGISTER FOR THE  
FALL MEETING!**

Complete the form at right and  
send it with payment to:

Ernie Solheid  
Department of Mathematics  
California State University,  
Fullerton  
800 N. State College Blvd.  
Fullerton, CA 92834

**Registration deadline is  
Friday, Sept. 30, 2005.**

**What's (SoCalNev  
Section) NExT?**

*Magnhild Lien, CSU Northridge*

Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) is an MAA program for new and recent PhDs in the mathematical sciences that addresses the full range of faculty responsibilities, including teaching, scholarly activities, and service.

Since its inception in 1994, the national Project NExT program has grown tremendously, and sections of the MAA have been encouraged to organize regional NExT programs.

The SoCalNev Section NExT program has just completed its third year, and has sponsored a dynamic cohort of participants at the 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and Spring 2005 MAA Southern California-Nevada Section meetings. SoCalNev Section NExT Fellows attend both the Fall and Spring meetings of the MAA Section and participate in special activities. These activities involve practical information about implementing effective pedagogical and professional strategies, including topics such as teaching methods, directing undergraduate research, and writing grant proposals. In addition, SoCalNev NExT provides a venue in which its participants can meet informally and discuss issues relevant to new faculty. Unlike the national Project NExT program, Section NExT includes community college faculty.

## Pre-Registration Form

### *Fall Meeting at CSU Channel Islands*

### *Saturday, October 8, 2005*

Enter the number of registrations of each type in the appropriate blank in the table below. Make checks payable to **Southern California-Nevada MAA**. (Attach a separate page for multiple registration information.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**New members of the MAA** register free for their first section meeting!

	Nonmember	MAA Member	New MAA Member First Meeting	Student
Registration	_____ @ \$30	_____ @ \$25	_____ @ FREE	_____ @ \$10
Registration and Luncheon	_____ @ \$45	_____ @ \$40	_____ @ \$15	_____ @ \$16

**Total Enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

On-site registration is available for \$5 more than pre-registration.

**Questions or problems?** Contact Ernie Solheid, Meeting Coordinator  
Email: [esolheid@fullerton.edu](mailto:esolheid@fullerton.edu) Phone: (714) 278-7023

**Yes!** I would be willing and able to assist the MAA Southern California-Nevada Section by serving on the following committee(s).

- Outreach Committee (publicity and membership)
- Student Activities Committee
- Meetings Committee

SoCalNev NExT is now recruiting applicants to participate in activities at the 2005-2006 meetings, including the fall meeting Sat., October 8, 2005, at Cal State Channel Islands. The program will accept applications from faculty with Master's degrees or PhDs who are within the first three years of beginning full-time employment with significant teaching responsibilities at the community college, college, or university level. For more information, including a link to the on-line application, please visit <http://www.maa.org/socal> and follow the link to SoCalNev NExT. To participate in the Saturday, Oct. 8, 2005, Fall Section Meeting, **apply by Friday, Sept. 23, 2005.**



## Newsletter

**Mathematical Association of America  
Southern California-Nevada Section**  
Janet L. Beery, Newsletter Editor  
Department of Mathematics  
University of Redlands  
1200 E. Colton Ave.  
Redlands, CA 92373

**The Students' Column**, *continued from page 2*

### **Attend the First-ever Pacific Coast Undergraduate Math Conference!**

The first annual Pacific Coast Undergraduate Math Conference will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2006, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Occidental College. Featuring keynote speaker Jennifer Quinn of Occidental College and the University of Puget Sound, the conference is designed for undergraduate math majors and others interested in math. The conference also will feature:

1. FREE registration for everyone (includes lunch!).
2. 15 minute talk sessions for undergraduate students.
3. Special sessions for freshmen and sophomores – talks about math history and recreational mathematics are encouraged for these sessions.
4. Panel discussions about summer opportunities and about career opportunities for math students.
5. Math club competition with fabulous prizes.

For more information and to register, visit:  
[www.math.pepperdine.edu/~killpat/PCUMC/PCUMC.htm](http://www.math.pepperdine.edu/~killpat/PCUMC/PCUMC.htm)  
Questions? Contact Kendra Killpatrick at  
[Kendra.Killpatrick@pepperdine.edu](mailto:Kendra.Killpatrick@pepperdine.edu)



**Plan to attend the Fall Meeting at CSU Channel Islands  
Saturday, October 8, 2005!**

*Contribute a 15-minute paper at the Fall Section Meeting.  
See Call for Contributed Papers, page 5.  
Please act fast! Deadline is Sept. 19, 2005.*



- **Fall Meeting Program and Call for Papers, pages 4-5.**
- **Fall Meeting Directions and Hotels, page 5.**
- **Fall Meeting Registration Form, page 7.**
- **Registration is only \$10 for students.**
- **Registration is free for new MAA members attending their first Southern California-Nevada Section Meeting.**