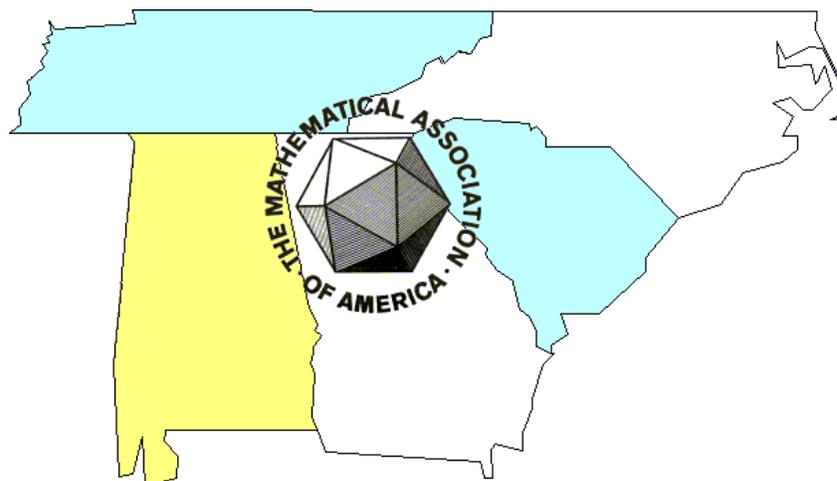


Southeastern Section Newsletter



Fall 2015
Volume 34 Number 2

IMPORTANT SECTION MEETING INFORMATION
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
BIRMINGHAM, AL
MARCH 25-26, 2016

Call for Papers: Deadline February 15
Meeting Information: Page 26

LOOK INSIDE!

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The Newsletter is published in April and November each year. The deadlines for items to be included in each issue are March 15 and October 15 respectively. Departmental News appears in the November newsletter only and is solicited from department liaisons.

Material may be submitted to the editor on paper or by email, although email is preferred. Currently the newsletter is produced using Microsoft Publisher, which can import plain text files or files produced by most word-processing software.

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SECTION CALENDAR

January 6-9 2016	Joint Mathematics Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA
January 22, 2016	Deadline for Nominations for the Section Distinguished Teaching Award
January 22, 2016	Deadline for Nominations for the Section Distinguished Teaching Award for Beginning Faculty Members
February 12, 2016	Alabama State Dinner, Auburn University at Montgomery
February 13, 2016	66th Annual Meeting of the Alabama Association of College Teachers of Mathematics, Auburn University at Montgomery
February 15, 2016	Deadline for Abstract Submission for Session Annual Meeting
March 25-26, 2016	Southeastern Section Annual Meeting, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL
January 4-7, 2017	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
March 2017	Southeastern Section Annual Meeting, Mercer University, Mercer, GA
January 10-13, 2018	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
January 16-19, 2019	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD

FROM THE CHAIR



The section Executive Committee met at Clayton State University on October 2 and 3 (during the height of the SC monsoon) to discuss business and plan for the meeting at the University of Alabama - Birmingham in March. Our national speaker will be Francis Su of Harvey Mudd College, President of the MAA. We are extremely fortunate to get him to speak; he is a dynamic and entertaining lecturer (I've heard him before several times), and extremely busy. Faculty and students will be sure to enjoy his talk.

This year we'll be electing individuals for a large slate of positions from Chair-elect on down. If contacted by a member of the nominating committee, please agree to serve; we depend on our members! Also, consider nominating a colleague for the Section Teaching Awards (Beginning Faculty and "More Experienced"), as well as the Section Service Award.

This year's Section Lecturer is Chris Raridan from Clayton State University. I know he has been invited to give several talks at state "dinners" already; don't forget you can also invite him for colloquia, etc. Last year's Section Lecturer, Yulia Babenko is still available as well.

A Facebook page (MAA Southeast) and Twitter feed (@MAASoutheast) have been set up to ease communications with our members. Like us and Follow us! Post your news, events, position openings, etc.! Let's have some good mathematical conversation, cartoons, and other postings.

We plan to see most of you in Birmingham, March 24 – 26! Festivities will kick off Thursday with Project NExT in the afternoon and the always enjoyable Treasure Hunt in the evening.



FROM THE GOVERNOR

Let me begin by thanking my predecessor, Martha Abell, for her service as Section Governor for these last three years; Martha is a shining example of the sort of volunteers that make the Southeastern Section such a wonderful section to be part of! I am truly honored to have been elected to serve as our section Governor and look forward to having the opportunity to learn more about the Association and to collect your comments, ideas and suggestions for distribution at the national level. My first Board of Governors meeting coincided with the highly successful Centennial Celebration Meeting in Washington, D.C., a conference so full of special lectures and sessions that an extra day was added to the meeting schedule! The program included six Centennial lectures and numerous sessions highlighting the MAA's role in mathematics over the last century as well as entertainment each night including jugglers and artists at the Mathematical Carnival and magicians and mimes at the Cirque de Mathematiques.

The Board of Governors meeting took place the day before this historic meeting; in addition to hearing traditional reports about awards and lectures, we discussed three significant issues that are facing the MAA: membership, finances, and governance. Membership has been declining for a number of years; this is true not simply for the Association but also for many professional organizations. There is a feeling that the evolving digital revolution is changing the ways in which mathematicians interact with organizations such as the MAA, and this may necessitate changes in our traditional ways of serving our members. Clearly there are a number of loyal members who strongly support the MAA; however, a substantial minority has expressed concern that the benefits do not outweigh the costs. Would more significant online member-only benefits attract and retain a larger portion of the mathematical community? President Francis Su believes this may be the case and has recommended several projects, including video-recording or live-streaming events (such as MathFest Lectures) and making them available behind a member wall. Social media and smart phones have changed the ways that individuals interact, and mathematicians are no exception, so other suggestions include creating a mobile-friendly website and crafting a coherent social media strategy.

Might I suggest that we consider joining the MAA as we might support a charitable organization? The organizations that I support I do so for the work that they do; yes, I may receive a tote bag with the organization's logo as thanks for my donation, but ultimately I donate to encourage the work that is being done. And the work that the MAA has been doing and continues to do is worthwhile: supporting undergraduate education, conducting outreach and programming to strengthen mathematics instruction, advocating for funding for these activities with the National Science Foundation and the United States Department of Education, and advancing the mathematical sciences, especially at the collegiate level. We all want this work to continue; please renew your membership and consider talking with your colleagues about the important work that the MAA is doing.

While we're on the subject of membership, the MAA has introduced a new Departmental Membership for the 2015-2016 academic year. Dues depend on the type of institution and the total enrollment and include one faculty membership and unlimited student memberships. Benefits include online subscriptions to *The American Mathematical Monthly*, *The College Mathematics Journal*, *Mathematics Magazine*, and *Math Horizons*.

As in previous years, the Association is financially healthy and yet cautiously wary of decreasing revenue from reduced membership and reduced book sales. Staff and volunteers have been working hard to reduce expenses and increase book sales. Governors applauded the rebranding of books published by the Association as the MAA Press, which is also exploring partnerships with international companies to distribute MAA Press books globally. In addition, the Association is in negotiation with WebAssign to offer MAA textbooks as part of their system. As this is my first year on the Board of Governors, I was surprised to discover that the role of the Board of Governors may be changing in the near future. The current Board of Governors consists of members elected from the current 29 sections as well as seats designated to bring perspective from a variety of groups such as minorities or business and industry. Such a group can assist the Association in strategic planning and with communication between national and local constituents; it may however be less successful in making timely, informed decisions about MAA financial and business operations. A new version of the Board of Governors will likely be smaller

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FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

October 2-3, 2015

Clayton State University
Catherine Matos, recording



Friday, October 2

Present: Pat Humphrey, Sarah Raynor, Jessie Hamm, Kristen Abernathy, Karen Briggs, Brian Beasley, John Mayer, Jim Gleason, Bernie Mullins, Alice Pierce, Virginia Watson, Catherine Matos, Laurie Dishman, Jon Ernstberger, Stacy Ernstberger

The meeting started at 7:01 pm.

REPORTS:

Most of the officer reports had been emailed to the executive committee prior to this meeting. (The reports themselves are available from the Secretary.) Several officers highlighted a few items that were contained in their respective detailed reports. Other officers gave oral reports. The contents of these verbal reports are briefly described below.

Mullins (Alabama State Director) shared that the State Dinner and meeting will be February 12, 2016. Communications about the State Dinner had caused some issues with the National MAA, as emails to section members are limited to 2 per month. Raynor proposed that the section approve a motion to convey the need for the Southeast section to be able to email section members more frequently, due to our greater number of states, and compile a list of typical emails that go out to the section members each year.

Briggs (Georgia State Director) informed the committee that the 2016 MAA State Luncheon for Georgia has not been scheduled yet. She is planning to hold it in the spring at Georgia Southern, but they have not yet heard from the NSF about funding for their undergraduate conference, where the luncheon is typically held.

A recent miscommunication about the North Carolina State Dinner prompted Humphrey to remind State Directors to pass information about any plans for state dinners on to their successors when their terms are over.

Beasley (South Carolina State Director) stated that they have had trouble getting someone to host the state dinner for 2015-16. They have hosts lined up for future years, but he is still trying to solicit interest for this year's dinner.

Dishman (Tennessee State Director) informed the committee that the Tennessee State Dinner will be held November 21st, and they have a speaker for the dinner, but have not yet sent out announcements. Note: later communication from Laurie Dishman indicates the dinner will be moved to Spring.

Jon Ernstberger is maintaining the section's Facebook page and Twitter feed and stated he is willing to continue doing so. Humphrey stated that we need to make sure these are advertised in the section newsletter, meeting program and on our webpage. Announcements about State Dinners and other events should also be made on the Facebook page.

J. Ernstberger (Project NeXT) reported that they had good discussions on involving women in STEM, writing recommendation letters for students, and getting funding. Plans for 2016 are still being shaped. Karen O'Hara is rotating off the committee, so a replacement will need to be nominated.

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Governor's Report (continued from page 5)

with members who receive training about fiduciary responsibilities; a larger advisory board (perhaps similar to the current Board of Governors) could provide guidance on strategic proposals and articulate membership concerns. Discussion will continue on this process at the Joint Mathematics Meeting.

Our next Board of Governors meet will occur alongside the Joint Mathematics Meeting in Seattle, Washington; enthusiasm for the meeting runs high as the MAA received a record number of proposals for minicourses and contributed paper sessions. I hope that you are planning to attend and would enjoy a chance to talk with you more about these challenging issues facing our organization.

Executive Comm. Minutes (continued from page 6)

Watson attended the section officers meeting at MathFest 2015, and updated the committee on those discussions. The Outreach Council solicited ideas for outreach activities for a wide array of people. Only a few items were mentioned that the section is not already doing. The Business, Industry, and Government committee was promoting the Promotion for Industrial Careers (PIC) Math, which encourages opportunities for undergraduates to do very involved projects. Information on a faculty professional development opportunity to attend a summer workshop to learn how to make students attractive for industry positions and internships, and how to make industry contacts. Humphrey suggested trying to recruit some speakers for math in business/government for the MAA-SE meeting at Birmingham, to talk about what students can do with a math major.

Gleason (Webmaster) stated that online registration for the Spring 2015 Section meeting seemed to go smoothly. They experimented with accepting credit cards for the state dinners, and it went very well.

Pierce (VC of Two Year Colleges) stated that about 20 of 440 people at the Spring 2015 meeting were described as Associate (from 2 year colleges). She is trying to reach out to two year school faculty to come to MAA-SE through AMATYC and regional MATYCs.

Hynds (Treasurer) was not in attendance. Humphrey summarized the treasurer's report. The section ended up gaining a little money over the year. However, at the moment the Birmingham section meeting is projected to fall short by about \$4000.

Hamm (Newsletter) reminded the committee that the deadline for sending reports to her for the newsletter is

Monday, October 26th. Reports should be sent to hammj@winthrop.edu.

Abernathy (Student Activities) stated that she is getting things in order, and has contacted those who have organized student activities for the section meeting previously to verify that they will continue.

Matos (Secretary) stated that she was mailed the new section banner from the 2015 MathFest to pass on to the 2016 meeting organizer.

Humphrey (Section Chair) stated that the section needs to form a new Nominations Committee, made up of at least one person from each state in the section. Nominations are needed for Vice Chair for Programs, Chair Elect, Student Activities Coordinator, Alabama State Director, Georgia State Director, Historian, Webmaster, Project NeXT, Vice Chair for 2 Year Colleges, and Section Lecturer. Kristen Abernathy indicated that she was willing to continue as Student Activities Coordinator. Several possibilities for the Nomination Committee were discussed. Gleason encouraged the Nominating Committee to seek out people from other types of institutions for some of the positions.

Humphrey suggested that each state director contact each math department chair in their state to keep up with department liaison information, so they could contact those liaisons directly. We will need to verify that this would not cause issues with the National MAA. She reiterated that the MAA-SE Facebook page is one way to work around email issues and easily get information out to members. She also encouraged the states to use the section lecturer.

Humphrey concluded the Friday segment of the meeting by summarizing the action items discussed:

- Forming a Nominating Committee
- Talking with National MAA about the limits on emailing section members
- Sending in Newsletter items by October 26, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Saturday, October 3

Present: Pat Humphrey, Sarah Raynor, Jessie Hamm, Kristen Abernathy, Karen Briggs, Brian Beasley, John Mayer, Jim Gleason, Bernie Mullins, Alice Pierce, Virginia Watson, Catherine Matos, Laurie Dishman, Jon Ernstberger, Stacy Ernstberger, Karen O'Hara

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The meeting began at 8:38 am.

SPRING 2016 MEETING

Plenaries: Introduction for the Plenary Sessions were decided. Catherine Matos will introduce Section Lecturer Chris Raridan, Pat Humphrey will introduce the National MAA speaker, Francis Su. Sarah Raynor will ask Jason Parsley to introduce Mo Hendon. Charlotte Knotts-Zides will preside over Session 2 and introduce Kristen Abernathy.

Short Courses for the Spring meeting at University of Alabama- Birmingham were voted on. Sarah Frick will again organize the graduate student workshop. Three additional short courses were approved.

Beasley moved that Plenary speakers and student volunteers receive free registration. The motion was seconded by Raynor, and the motion passed unanimously. Jim Gleason will register the plenary speakers for the conference.

Special Sessions for the Spring meeting were discussed. Five special sessions were proposed, in addition to Beginning Faculty and Graduate Student presentation sessions. Four of the proposed special sessions were approved, one with a small modification to the description.

S. Ernstberger pointed out that the meeting will take place over Good Friday. This is something to be considered in the future, as this will likely effect attendance at the meeting.

The abstract and early registration deadline was set to be February 22, 2016. Raynor moved to keep registration fees unchanged from last year (\$25/40 for faculty, \$15/25 for students). The motion was seconded by Abernathy, and passed unanimously.

General Plans

Mayer (University of Alabama Birmingham) presented plans for the 2016 meeting.

Mayer brought samples of the meeting programs that his department can print in-house, presenting a significant savings. Kristen should provide a list of needed volunteers (poster judges, etc.) to Sarah so that it can be put on the registration page.

Much of the meeting will run in a manner similar to those in the past. Discussion was held on which of the

three primary buildings to hold various activities (Executive Committee Meeting, Project NeXT, Vendor exhibits, Jeopardy rounds, etc.) so as to make the best use of space and satisfy room capacity and fire code restrictions.

Hotel rooms have been blocked, but the committee requested that blocks of rooms be reserved at less expensive hotels to accommodate students.

The Undergraduate Poster session will be held in the Hill Student Center. Easels with 3x4 backing boards and clips will be provided. It was requested to have that information put on the registration form, so that students submitting poster abstracts would be aware.

The committee requested that Mayer collect information on the technology available in each of the presentation rooms (laptops or projector hookups, document cameras, white boards, etc.).

The committee discussed the Executive Committee Dinner. Raynor made a motion that the dinner be limited to a cost of \$20 per person for attendees, with any additional costs for Executive Committee members covered by the section. Briggs seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The committee discussed the amount of catered food/drink that would be needed, and made suggestions to bring the cost of catering down to a more reasonable level. S. Ernstberger made a motion to provide plastic water bottles as part of the registration packet, in an effort to promote sustainability and allow the elimination of bottled water from the coffee service. Briggs seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. It was suggested to put a QR code on the water bottle to take people to the section website. The registration packet will include the water bottle, name tag and lanyard, and any sponsor promotional items. Programs will be available upon request.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE SOUTHEAST SECTION!

The MAA Southeastern Section now share information and media from all of our activities on Twitter (@maasoutheast) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/MAASoutheast/). Follow us on Twitter and Like us on Facebook!

For those looking to be more involved with the organization of the section, there's a public Facebook Group for discussion (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/370619956452453/>).

LOOKING FOR A GREAT MATHEMATICS SPEAKER?

Invite the Southeastern Section Lecturer to your campus!

Many think the Section Lecturer only delivers an address at the Annual Meeting of the Section, but this person also visits individual institutions within the Section.

Chris Raridan is the 2015-2016 Section Lecturer. Contact him at christopherraridan@clayton.edu.

Make your arrangements today!

STATE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Bernadette Mullins, State Director of Alabama

You are invited to attend the *2016 MAA Alabama State Dinner* on the campus of Auburn University at Montgomery in Montgomery, Alabama on the evening of Friday, February 12, 2016. We will enjoy a delicious buffet dinner in a lovely banquet space to be followed by a keynote address by the Southeastern Section Lecturer, Dr. Chris Raridan of Clayton State University. Students, guests, and mathematicians are all most welcome. Dr. Jerome Goddard of AUM has generously agreed to serve as local organizer. All Alabama MAA members have been invited to attend via a “save the date” email. Registration will be available closer to the date of the event at the MAA-SE section website: <http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/calendar.php>. When registration is available, we will also make a post to the MAA-SE Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MAASoutheast>.

On the following day, Saturday, February 13, 2016, the annual meeting of the Alabama Association of College Teachers of Mathematics (AACTM) will be held at Auburn University at Montgomery. Dr. Goddard will also serve as local organizer for that event.

From Karen Briggs, State Director of Georgia

The 2016 MAA Georgia State Luncheon is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, February 13, 2016 and will be held in conjunction with the Eagle Undergraduate Mathematics Conference at Georgia Southern University. More details regarding the luncheon will be posted on the MAA Southeastern Section website as they become available.

From Jason Parsley, State Director of North Carolina

The 2015-16 MAA State Dinner for North Carolina will be held at Elon University on Monday, October 26, 2015. The keynote speaker is Dr. David Kung of St. Mary’s University (MD); Dr. Kung is the current Director of Project NeXT. The local organizer is Dr. Crista Arangala. There will also be an undergraduate poster session and a talk by Dr. Kristen Mazur of Elon University. Online registration is now available; all interested individuals are welcome to attend.

From Brian Beasley, State Director of South Carolina

A survey has been sent to all MAA members in South Carolina, to solicit feedback on the format (luncheon vs. dinner) and scheduling (fall vs. spring, weekday vs. Saturday) of our annual state event.

Furman University will hold the annual Clanton Lecture Series on Thursday, October 29, 2015. Professor Richard Karp of the University of California Berkeley will present lectures on “Fundamental Limits on Efficient Computation” and “How the Theory of Computation Illumi-

nates Physics, Economics, Biology, the Internet and More”.

Francis Marion University will host the Carolina Math Seminar on Friday, November 6, 2015 and the Francis Marion Undergraduate Mathematics Conference in April 2016.

The Fall Conference of the South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics will take place in Greenville on November 12-13, 2015.

Coastal Carolina University will host the annual Dr. Subhash Saxena High School Math Contest on Friday, March 4, 2016.

From Laurie Dishman, State Director of Tennessee

The 2015-16 Tennessee State Lunch will be held in April 2016, in Wilson County, TN. Dr. Christopher Raridan (Clayton State University in Georgia), the 2015-16 Section Lecturer, will be our speaker. His topic will be accessible and interesting to undergraduate students and faculty members alike. Please watch for further announcements at a later date with the specific time and location.

News from the Campuses

Fall 2015

MAA Southeastern Section

Agnes Scott College (Decatur, GA)

In late April, Agnes Scott College hosted the 13th annual Carolina Dynamics Symposium organized by Rachel Bayless. We hope to host the symposium again in the next three years pending grant approval. In May, Rachel taught a three-week course in mathematical problem solving at Shiv Nadar University in India as part of the 2015 Duke Talent Identification Summer Studies Program. During the program she worked with Sarah Fisher, an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Emory and Henry College, to engage students in a collaborative activity about "Mathematical Fairness in a Constitutional Convention" to highlight the interconnectedness between political science and mathematics. Jim Wiseman has returned to teaching after a semester paternity leave following the birth of his daughter. Alan Koch is now the chair of the mathematics department. (Submitted by Larry Riddle)

Austin Peay State University (Clarksville, TN)

APSU Math Students present at the Tennessee Academy of Science Collegiate Meeting April 18th 2015 at Belmont University. In the Math & Computer Science session, Students Steven Purcell and Thomas Ruland presented; *Applying the Euler-Cromer method to model a solar system*. Their presentation won first prize in this session. In the Cellular and Micro Biology session, Ryan Honea and Emily Stark presented; *Identifying factors outside the immune system leading to beta-cell apoptosis during the onset of diabetes mellitus type 1*. Dr. Ben Ntatin, associate professor of mathematics, was present to encourage and cheer the students to a successful conference.

Congratulations to Dr. Ntatin (Mentor) and the Jeopardy Team - David Zhang, Mathew Rayburn, Rayan Honea, and Thomas Clayborn for winning the 2015 MAA-SE Jeopardy Championship.

Faculty and Students present at -10th Mississippi State Conference on Differential Equations and Computational Simulations October 23-25, 2014: *Step collisions in crystal growth*, Dr. Nick Kirby, Co-authors: Michel Jabbour and Paolo Cermelli, *Using logarithmic basis functions to solve singular differential equations*, John Garwood (mentored by Dr. Samuel Jator), *Extended backward differentiation formulas with polynomial and non-polynomial basis functions for solving the Black-Scholes partial differential equation*, Joseph Hayes (mentored by Dr. Samuel Jator)

Dr. Jackie Vogel is the new president of TMTA (Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association). APSU was a host site for the Middle Tennessee Region of the 58th Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association Annual Mathematics Contest for high school students in May. We will once again be a host site for this contest next May. We also host the annual APSU middle school mathematics contest in May of each year, rewarding and encouraging young students to study mathematics. (Submitted by Jim Vandergriff)

Appalachian State University (Boone, NC)

Appalachian's Department of Mathematical Sciences is excited to welcome our newest faculty member Dr. Erica Slate Young. Erica is a mathematics educator coming to Boone from the University of Alabama, where she was the Director of Accreditation and an Assistant Professor in the College of Education.

The Department has a newly redesigned Master of Arts in Mathematics, with concentrations in College Teaching and Secondary Teaching. Each term will include at least one program course that will be offered in a hybrid delivery, with limited face-to-face meetings. A new opportunity for undergraduate secondary mathematics majors is the Teaching for Equity in Appalachia in Mathematics and Science (TEAMS) R. Noyce Scholarship. The scholarship provides an annual \$10,000 stipend and travel support for students intending to teach in under served regions of N.C. We congratulate the TEAMS program director, our own, Dr. Tracie McLemore Salinas and her co-PIs on this exciting new grant.

Appalachian State University approaches its fiftieth anniversary as a comprehensive university. Reflecting on this

department's transformation, our colleague Dr. Mike Perry (retired) returned to the department in October to present, *ASU Department of Mathematical Sciences 1960-1980: Years of Transformation*. This presentation brought many friends and familiar faces back to the department. Thank you, Mike.



Pictured from left to right- Tom Rokoske, Bill Paul, Witold Kosmala, Cecil Smith, Kenneth Jacker, Anita Kitchens, Ted Goodman, Theresa Early, Billie Goodman, Arnold McEntire, Larry Kitchens, Ernie Lane, Mike Perry, Rudy Curd, Harvey Durham

The Citadel (Charleston, SC)

Isaac S. "Spike" Metts retired after 43 years at The Citadel. He held several positions here, including Department Head and Dean of Undergraduate Studies. We hired a new assistant professor, Richard Robinson. We hope Richard, whose Ph.D. is in mathematics education, will develop our mathematics education programs. Rigo Flórez and Li Zhang were on the organizing committee for the 29th Midwestern Conference on Combinatorics and Combinatorial Computing held in Charleston, SC on 17 – 19 October. The department held its annual Math Jeopardy competition for upperclassmen on 20 October, and will hold its freshmen competition next January. Breeanne Baker Swart gave birth to her first child, a daughter named Brooke. (Submitted by Dave Trautman)

Clayton State University (Morrow, GA)

The department welcomed Chaogui Zhang as Department Chair in July 2015. Dr. Zhang comes to Clayton State from Marywood University in Scranton, PA, where he served as Department Chair from 2011 to 2015. He received his Ph.D. in Mathematics from Purdue University in 2002, and worked as a visiting assistant professor for two years at Case Western Reserve University before joining the faculty at Marywood University in 2004.

The department is also proud to announce that Associate Professor Dr. Michael Dancs was awarded tenure.

The department continues to have several active and successful undergraduate research groups. Dr.

Chris Raridan's student, Ha Dao, gave a presentation on "A Solution to a Labeling Dilemma" at Clayton State University's Student Academic Conference in April, 2015. Senior Michael Ngo presented his research on small pattern mixed Ramsey numbers at the 94th Annual MAA-SE meeting at UNC-Wilmington. Six students from Clayton State attended the conference. Dr. Raridan and Dr. Keith Driscoll escorted 5 students, including 2 dual-enrolled high school students, to the 11th Annual UNCG Regional Mathematics and Statistics Conference.

Clayton State faculty and students have had several papers accepted for publication over the past year. Mathematics major Hung Hua, and faculty members Dr. Elliot Krop and Chris Raridan's paper was accepted for publication in the Bulletin of the Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications. Hua and Raridan also had a paper accepted for publication in Congressus Numerantium. Clayton State graduate students Sarah Minion and Pritul Patel had a paper co-authored with Drs. Raridan and Krop accepted for publication in the Bulletin of the Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications.



Clemson University (Clemson, SC)

The Department of Mathematical Sciences at Clemson University added five new faculty for the 2015 – 2016 academic year. Additionally, Dr. Christopher Cox was recently appointed interim department chair. New assistant professors include Yuyuan Ouyang, whose research is in nonlinear optimization and stochastic approximation, and Brook Russell, whose research is in statistics. The department also welcomed Sean Sather-Wagstaff as a new associate professor. Sean's research is in homological and combinatorial commutative algebra. Jonathan Leverenz and Patrick Buckingham joined the department as visiting assistant professors. The department also had two long-time faculty retire this summer: Professor Daniel Warner and Senior Lecturer Sherry Biggers.

Seven undergraduate students participated in research experiences for undergraduates during the summer of 2015. Mitchel Colebank participated in an REU at North Carolina State University, Patrick Dynes participated in an REU at Oregon State University, Rivers Jenkins participated in an REU at Worcester Polytechnic

Institute, Hannah Kimbrell participated in an REU at West Georgia University, Hannah Rollins participated in an REU at the University of Connecticut Health Center, James Stevens participated in an REU at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, and Alexander Stoll participated in an REU at Valparaiso University.

Rivers Jenkins and Alexander Stoll will be presenting their undergraduate research from their REUs at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in January. Undergraduates Hannah McCall and Mitchel Colebank were recently accepted to a workshop at SAMSI.

Twenty-two students had internships during the summer of 2015. Andrew Bell had an informatics internship with Highmark Health, Inc. in Pittsburgh, PA. Kaitlin Carter had actuarial internship with State Farm Life/Health in Bloomington, IL. Grace Clark had a IT/credit risk analysis internship with First Data in Hagerstown, MD. Matthew Hinton had an actuarial internship with Lincoln Financial Group in Greensboro, NC. Scot Gilbert had an IT internship with RoundTower Technologies in Boca Raton, FL. Doug Greiwe had an internship at Market6 in Deerfield, IL. Charlie Maikis has a sports analytics internship with Clemson Men's Basketball in Clemson, SC. Sarah Malick had a software engineering internship with Blackbaud in Charleston, SC. Jake Marshall had an actuarial internship with Nationwide in Columbus, OH. Kellen McClain had a UPIC 1st internship with Clemson University in Clemson, SC. Lindsey Moyer had an actuarial internship with Lincoln Financial Group in Radnor, PA. Mary Poindexter had a corporate banking internship with SunTrust Robinson Humphrey in Atlanta, GA. Katie Reading had an actuarial internship with Colonial Life in Columbia, SC. Aeren Richardson had a sales internship with the University Inn and Conference Center in Clemson, SC. Anna Robinson had an IT internship with TIAA-CREF in Charlotte, SC. Lisa Shade participated in the Naval Research Enterprise Internship Program (NREIP) at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC. Sarah Smotherman had an industrial engineering internship at Clemson University in Clemson, SC. Lauren Sparks had an actuarial internship with Insurance Applications Group, Inc. in Greenville, SC. Joseph Weeks had an IT internship with Sealed Air in Duncan, SC. Devin White had an IT internship with Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Columbia, SC. Barbara Woo participated in the Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) Program at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, NY. Lastly, Katy Wrenn had an industrial engineering internship with Boeing in Charleston, SC.

Many events and conferences were held at Clemson University this year. The 30th Clemson Mini-

Conference on Discrete Mathematics and Algorithms, organized by Drs. Michael Burr, Neil Calkin, Wayne Goddard, and Svetlana Poznanovik, was held October 23, 2015. The 4th Annual Practice AP Statistics Exam, organized by Dr. Christy Brown, was given on May 2, 2015. This year's Practice AP Statistics Exam will be given on April 30, 2015. More information can be found at: <https://sites.google.com/a/g.clemson.edu/cjb2/ap-statistics-practice-exam>. The 12th Annual Clemson Calculus Challenge was held on April 17, 2015 with 249 students from 36 schools participating. The Clemson Calculus Challenge is organized by Drs. Shari Prevost and Terri Johnson, and the 13th Annual Clemson Calculus Challenge will be held on April 15, 2016. More information can be found at <https://mthsc.clemson.edu/ccc/2016.html>. (Submitted by Meredith Burr)

Elon University (Elon, NC)

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Elon University has enjoyed another year of successful student and faculty achievements.

Our students and faculty gave a total of 25 professional presentations at various national and regional venues. They also published a total of 13 research and education papers in a variety of math/stats journals.

We currently serve 109 majors and 108 minors in our programs, and we graduated 24 majors and 38 minors during the 2014-15 academic year. Additionally, 21 of our students were inducted into national honor societies, including 2 into Phi Beta Kappa and 17 into Pi Mu Epsilon. Three of our students are heading to graduate school (at Emory, Vanderbilt, and VCU), one to medical school (at Rowan University), and the rest have secured jobs at a variety of business, industry, and teaching posts.

The following students received external recognition for their research accomplishments. Maddie Edwards '15 received a Walt & Susan Patterson Prize for her presentation at the Section's meeting last March. Nicole Soltz '17 received an outstanding presentation award at the 10th Annual Regional Math and Stats Conference at UNC-Greensboro last November.

Here are a few highlights from our faculty and staff. Jeff Clark received the Section's Distinguished Service Award last March as well as the service award from Elon's College of Arts and Sciences. Crista Arangala was promoted to full professor, and her lab manual "Exploring Linear Algebra: Labs and Projects with Mathematica" was published by Hall/CRC last November. The department wished a fond farewell to two retirees: Ms. Bernice Foust (who served as our beloved pro-

gram assistant for 16 years), and Senior Vice President Gerry Francis (who came to Elon in 1974 as an assistant professor of mathematics).

We encourage interested parties to visit our website <<http://www.elon.edu/mathstat/>>. More information on our students, faculty, and employment opportunities can be found there. (Submitted by Chad Awtrey)

Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston Campus (Clarkston, GA)

Congratulations to all of the following. Joanna Wilson was promoted to Assistant Professor. Martha Fulk and Dr. John Weber III were awarded tenure. Dr. Allison Wolf was promoted to Assistant Professor and awarded tenure. Our engineering colleague, Dr. Anant Honkan was selected as this year's Cole Fellow, the highest honor for a faculty member. William Gregory Johnson won the school-wide Club Advisor of the Year for his outstanding leadership of the Clarkston Computer Science and Engineering Club.

We said good bye to Stacy Thrall who took a position at Georgia Gwinnett College. This fall, we welcomed to the department Linda Brasher as a lecturer and Anna Yeboah as a term-to-term instructor.

In January, it was announced by the Board of Regents that our school and Georgia State University would be consolidated in 2016. During the year, a steering committee and several working groups made recommendations on the various aspects (curriculum, technology, scheduling, finance, etc.) of consolidating a multi-campus two-year college with about 21,000 students and a university with about 32,000 students. Georgia Perimeter College (GPC) will become a school of Georgia State and will be known as Perimeter College at Georgia State.

In May, GPC held its 50th and last graduation.

The goal of Complete College Georgia is to increase the number of young adults in Georgia with a college degree or certificate to 60% by 2020. This fall, co-requisite support classes were required for some students enrolled in our two entry-level courses, Quantitative Reasoning and College Algebra. These support courses were created to decrease the number of students starting off in Foundations math courses (formerly known as Learning Support or Developmental math) and to increase the success rate of students in our two entry-level courses.

The U.S. Department of Education awarded GPC a \$3 million grant to increase the number of students who

exit learning support math in two or fewer semesters through the use of academic success coaches. Dr. Margaret Ehrlich, Dean of Mathematics, Computer Science and Engineering and Dr. Katrina Hunter, Project RAISE Director were key in getting this grant.

Dr. John Weber III was awarded an NSF EAGER collaborative grant for Project SMILES (Student-Made Interactive Learning with Educational Songs) that will investigate the use of interactive songs within Introduction to Statistics courses.

Each year, GPC students participate in the AMATYC Student Mathematics League (SML) Competition which consists of two rounds, one per semester. The SML includes 165 colleges in more than thirty-five states involving over eight thousand community college math students. Georgia Perimeter College placed 1st in the Southeast Region and one of our students placed second in the Southeast Region.

Clarkston, Decatur, and Dunwoody campuses sent teams to the University of North Georgia Mathematics Tournament. This was the 21st year that GPC has participated in this tournament. GPC came in second place overall and a team from Dunwoody campus placed second in the Team Competition.

The 29th Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference will be held at Clarkston Campus on February 19, 2016. For further information about attending or presenting at the conference, contact Thomas.Gaines@gpc.edu or go to <http://depts.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc/> (Submitted by Alice Pierce)

Georgia Southern University (Statesboro, GA)

After three years as Interim chair, and a national search, Sharon Taylor was named permanent Chair of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Georgia Southern, effective July 1, 2015.

The fall, we welcomed one new tenure-track faculty member: Stefan Mueller is an Assistant Professor of Statistics. He received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin - Madison in 2008 and joins us from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Department of Mathematical Sciences also welcomed two new lecturers, Divine Wanduku (Ph.D. from the University of Central Florida), and Youting Zou (Ph.D. from Michigan State). In addition, Francois Ziegler transitioned from a temporary Assistant Professor to a tenure-track position. Transitioning from temporary positions to permanent Lectureships were Jackie Hoell, Neelam Ag-

Hua Wang received the College of Science and Mathematics Award for Excellence in Teaching and was recognized for his achievement at our fall convocation.

Georgians: We still plan to host the Eagle Undergraduate Mathematics Conference and State Lunch this spring – watch for the date! (Submitted by Pat Humphrey)

Kennesaw State University (Kennesaw, GA)

Associate Professor Ana-Maria Croicu was awarded the KSU Foundation Distinguished Teaching Award.

Southern Polytechnic State and Kennesaw State Universities completed their merger this year as

Kennesaw State University. (Submitted by Steve Edwards)

Mercer University (Macon, GA)

Dr. Keith Howard is now serving as the Interim Dean of Mercer's College of Liberal Arts.

We have one new and one returning faculty member this fall. Dr. Timothy Ferdinands is a visiting assistant professor. He earned a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Notre Dame and studies Coxeter groups, root systems, and related systems. Dr. Yuanting Lu has re-joined the department as a visiting assistant professor.

Three Mercer mathematics majors participated in REUs this past summer. Tyler Allee studied mathematical modeling of selfish and cooperative behaviors at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Jonathan Beall studied financial mathematics at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Sara Stover studied skew Sturmian sequences at California State University, Channel Islands.

Tori Plourde and Alex White are the co-recipients of the 2015 Riley Plymale Award for Excellence in Mathematics. This award is presented to the senior mathematics major whose work has been judged to be exemplary by the mathematics faculty. Tori, who is now a graduate student in Operations Research at North Carolina State, received a Dean's Doctoral Fellowship and Graduate Merit Award to pursue her studies. Alex is now a graduate student in mathematics at University of Alabama at Birmingham.

The Thirty-First Annual Mercer University High School Mathematics Contest will be held November 14, 2015.

More information is available at <http://departments.mercer.edu/math/mathcontest/index.html>.

(Submitted by Curtis Herink)

North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC)

"Math Doesn't Bug Me" was a big success at BugFest at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh on Sept. 19, 2015.

Undergrad and grad students from the Math Department and the Center for Research in Scientific Computation led interactive math activities and presented posters on their research. The organizers were

Assistant Professor Lorena Bociu and graduate students Steven Derochers, and Shira Polster.

Jiang Luh, a member of the NC State Mathematics Department from 1968 until his retirement in 2002, passed away in Raleigh on July 8. He was 83. Dr. Luh received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1963. He was an algebraist who worked on prime rings and semi-simple rings. He published 62 research papers and supervised 12 Ph.D.

students. In 2002 the Mid-Atlantic Algebra Conference was held at NC State in honor of the retirement of Jiang Luh and Kwangil Koh. Dr. Luh was a founder of the Triangle Area Chinese American Society, which promotes Chinese language and cultural education as well as cultural exchange, and served as its first president.

Dana May Latch, who taught mathematics at NC State from 1976 until 2000, passed away on May 31 following a period of failing health. She was 71. Dr. Latch earned her Ph.D. at CUNY Graduate School in 1971.

Her interests were in algebraic topology and theoretical computer science. She published 15 mathematics research papers and had one Ph.D. student. During the 1990's she served as a program director in the National Science Foundation's Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering.

The Association for Women in Mathematics Student Chapter held its 4th annual Sonia Kovalevsky Day on April 18, 2015. Almost 50 middle-schoolers came to SAS Hall for a morning of math workshops and talks. SK Day honors Sonia Kovalevsky, the first woman in Europe to receive a Ph.D. in mathematics, and aims to encourage young women to continue to pursue their interest in studying math.

Charlene Wallace, executive assistant to Mathematics Department Head Loek Helminck, has been named winner of the 2015 College of Sciences Award for Excellence. This is only the second time a Mathematics Department staff member has won this award. Professor Helminck notes that when anyone in the math department has an issue they don't know how to handle, the mantra is, "I'll ask Charlene!" He adds, "Whatever the

crisis of the day might be, Charlene's good nature, sense of humor, and effectiveness get us through."

Professor H. T. Banks was named the first Leroy B. Martin Jr.

Distinguished Professor of Mathematics. The professorship was created by alumnus Dr. James Goodnight, CEO and co-founder of SAS, to honor Martin, a longtime NC State mathematics professor. Banks's work integrates innovative ideas from mathematics and statistics into powerful predictive models that have profound effects on patient diagnosis and therapy, as well as the design of clinical trials for HIV and other areas of medicine.

Professor Frank Morgan of Williams College spoke on "Soap Bubbles and Mathematics" on April 14, 2015, in a public lecture aimed at everyone from fifth graders to university faculty. The lecture included demonstrations, explanations, and a guessing contest with prizes. Professor Morgan's talk was the fourth annual Kwangil Koh Lecture on Mathematics in Our Time. The goal of the Koh lectures is to communicate the importance of mathematics and its impact on science, technology and society. Professor Morgan is the author of the popular Math Chat Book, based on his live, call-in Math Chat TV show and Math Chat column. He was one of the first winners of the Mathematical Association of America's Haimo Distinguished Teaching Award, and is a Fellow of the American Mathematical Society.

The NC State Colleges of Sciences and Education hosted "MoSAIC: Mathematics of Science, Arts, Industry and Culture," a festival celebrating connections between mathematics and the arts, on March 27-28, 2015, in SAS Hall. Over 500 people attended, including kids, teachers, college students, faculty, and general public. MoSAIC is a collaborative effort sponsored and funded by MSRI and the Bridges organization. Presenters included Ingrid Daubechies of Duke, past president of the International Mathematical Union, who spoke on "Math Helping Art Conservation"; mathematical sculptor George Hart, co-founder of North America's only museum of mathematics, MoMath, in New York City; mathematician-photographer Bruce Torrance and mathematician-artist Eve Torrance, who led a workshop on balloon-twisting; mathematician-artist Radmila Sazdanovic of NC State; Raleigh pianist Anatoly Larkin; and NC State graduate student Ashley White, who led a workshop on "Applications of Algebra in Dance Composition." The event was a great opportunity for children and adults to experience and reflect about the interplay between math and art.

Distinguished Professor of Mathematics Ralph Smith was one of four NC State faculty named winners of 2015 Alumni Association Outstanding Research Awards. Professor Smith was recognized for seminal contributions to the modeling and control of smart material systems and to uncertainty quantification. He is co-author of the book "Smart Material Structures: Modeling, Estimation and Control" (1996), and author of the books "Smart Material Systems: Model Development" (2005) and "Uncertainty Quantification: Theory, Implementation, and Applications" (2014). Professor Smith is the second Mathematics Department faculty member to win an Alumni Association Outstanding Research Award since the award's inception in 1982. The first was Professor H. T. Banks in 1996 and 2008.

Natalie Clark, a second-year student in the interdisciplinary Biomathematics Graduate Program, was awarded a National Science Foundation graduate research fellowship. Natalie's research interests are systems biology, developmental biology, and gene regulatory network inference. Her work involves a mix of lab studies, mathematical modeling and statistical analysis. Natalie's

Ph.D. advisors are Professors Ross Sozzani (Plant and Microbial Biology) and Alun Lloyd (Mathematics).

Mathematics Professor Hien Tran was one of four NC State faculty named 2015 Alumni Association Distinguished Graduate Professors. The award recognizes outstanding graduate-level teaching. The selection committee noted that letters from students "attested to the extraordinary quality of the mentoring" that Professor Tran "provided both during and after their graduate programs at NC State." Professor Tran is the second Mathematics Department faculty member to be named an Alumni Association Distinguished Graduate Professor since the award's inception in 1983. The first was Professor H. T. Banks in 2000.

Mathematics Ph.D. student Steven Britt received a Fulbright award for postgraduate research at Tel Aviv University in Israel. The Fulbright Program, which is administered by the U.S. State Department, awards highly competitive grants to U.S. citizens for research, teaching, and creative work abroad. It is considered among the prestigious award programs worldwide. Britt's Ph.D. advisor is Professor Semyon Tsynkov.

A team of three participants in the Mathematics Department's summer 2014 Research Experience for Undergraduates won an Outstanding Presentation Award at the Joint Mathematics Meetings (JMM) in San Antonio in January. Jessie

de la Cruz Santos (College of the Holy Cross), Ryan Gallagher (University of Connecticut), and Sarah Haidaidi (University of Kentucky) received the award for their poster "Do Polygons Become Asymptotically Regular under Flow by Curvature?" NC State's Dr. Andrew Cooper directed the research. JMM is the largest annual mathematics meeting in the world. Outstanding Presentation Awards were given to 43 out of 273 undergraduate posters.

Mathematics Department Head Loek Helminck was one of 63 mathematical scientists from around the world named Fellows of the American Mathematical Society (AMS) during the program's third year. Professor Helminck was cited "for contributions to the representations and applications of symmetric spaces as well as for leadership in developing programs that attract and retain mathematics students." He is the fifth member of the Mathematics Department to be named a Fellow of the AMS.

Professor Loek Helminck stepped down as Head of the Mathematics Departments on August 16. Professor Alina Chertock replaced him as Interim Head. Professor Hien Tran will continue as Associate Head.

Helminck served as Interim Head in 2005-2006 and as Head since 2006.

Highlights of his tenure include:

- * The construction of SAS Hall, which became the Department's home in 2009.
- * The 2010 American Mathematical Society Award for an Exemplary Program or Achievement in a Mathematics Department, which recognized the Department's blend of fundamental and interdisciplinary research, integration of undergraduate and graduate students into research, and professional development opportunities for graduate students. The Department's Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program, which was started by Professor Helminck and was one of the largest in the country, was especially praised.
- * The 2011 American Mathematical Society Award for Mathematics Programs that Make a Difference, which recognized the Department's success with students from underrepresented groups. Since 1999 the Department had produced almost 13% of all African-American mathematics Ph.D.'s in the nation.
- * Hiring of numerous young faculty, who enjoyed unprecedented success, including a Packard Fellowship for Science and Engineering (only the third in any field in the history of NC State) and a Sloan Foundation Research Fellowship (the second in the history of NC State).

Helminck will remain a member of the Department, continuing research and teaching.

Professor Chertock joined the Department in 2002 after completing her Ph.D. at Tel Aviv University and a post-doc at the University of California, Berkeley. She is an expert on numerical methods for partial differential equations.

John Storey, a 1998 honors graduate in mathematics and valedictorian, has won the 2015 COPSS Presidents' Award, given annually by the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies to a member of the statistics community under age 40. This award is often considered to be the most prestigious in the field of statistics. Storey won the award "for transformative and groundbreaking research on the theory, methods, and applications of inference methods, particularly significance testing, applied to high-dimensional data analysis problems; for impactful development and application of statistics to modern biological and medical research; and for service to the field of statistics through interdisciplinary activities." Storey is the Harman Professor in Genomics at Princeton University, where he is Director of the Center for Statistics and Machine Learning. (Submitted by Steve Schecter)

Presbyterian College (Clinton, SC)

The department has created the Lindner Lecture Series in honor of distinguished Presbyterian College alumnus and Auburn University Distinguished Professor of Mathematics Dr. Curt Lindner. This spring's speaker was Dr. Tim Chartier of Davidson College, who presented "Who's Number One? From Ranking to Bracketology" at the spring Pi Mu Epsilon induction ceremony. Six new members of Pi Mu Epsilon were inducted: Nicole Alleva, Kylie Birch, Hannah Harris, Elizabeth Kahn, Ignacio Monchetti, and James Satterfield.

Dr. Brian Beasley presented "Card Shuffles, Symmetric Groups, and Landau's Function" at the 2015 MAA-SE Section Meeting in March at UNC-Wilmington and "The Mysterious Mathematical Madame X" at the 2015 ACMS Conference in May at Redeemer University College in Ancaster, Ontario.

Dr. Clint Harshaw presented "Changing the Rules for Competitiveness: The Case of NHRA Pro Stock Motorcycle Drag Racing" at the 2015 NCAAPHERD-SM Conference in Winston-Salem, NC. The research included contributions from Presbyterian College alumnus and current University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill graduate student, Gonzalo Asis. (Submitted by C. Clinton Harshaw)

Sewanee: The University of the South (Sewanee, TN)

Professor Linda Lankewicz retired at the end of the 2014-15 academic year. Her outstanding contributions in building Sewanee's computer science program and her ten-year service as the University's Provost will be celebrated by alumni, students, and faculty during this fall's Homecoming.

Brown University's Professor Emeritus of Mathematics Thomas Banchoff was with us for the Spring 2015 semester as the University's Brown Foundation Fellow. A renowned differential geometer and former President of the Mathematical Association of America, he developed and taught a new course intertwining differential geometry and topology.

Professor François Apéry of the Université de Haute-Alsace, Mulhouse, France, who is well known for his powerful visualizations of results in geometry and topology, and as an artist producing computer-generated models, spoke to math and computer science students and faculty about "Using Wire Models to Evert the Sphere" in February.

Andrew Melo, a member of Sewanee's Class of 2007 and Vanderbilt Ph.D. candidate, gave the Department's 2014 Homecoming Lecture on "Physics at Terascale: Computing Challenges and Solutions at the Large Hadron Collider," reporting on his work at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory and on the Compact Muon Solenoid experiment at CERN's Large Hadron Collider.

Dr. David C. Royster, Mathematics Outreach Professor at the University of Kentucky, gave the 2014-15 Sherwood Ebey Lecture, "What is an Outreach Mathematician and Do We Really Need One?" to a broad Sewanee community audience. He also spoke to math and computer science students and faculty on "Euler's Solution to the Basel Problem, or How Bad Mathematics and Good Intuition Can Get You Far."

Math and Computer Science Department Chair, Doug Drinen, led the 2015 Sewanee-Rhodes-Hendrix Mathematics Symposium hosted by Sewanee with presentations made by students and a plenary address given by Brown Foundation Fellow Thomas Banchoff.

Seven students graduated in May 2015 with a major in mathematics and two students graduated with a major in Computer Science.

The Senior Robert Hooke Prize for Achievement Mathematics was awarded to Brandon Miller of the Class of 2015.

Professor Emily Puckette organized a Project NExT panel for MathFest in August 2015 titled: "Finding your new niche," focused on mid-career math faculty options in service and in employment. (Submitted by Joel Cun-

ningham)

Spelman College (Atlanta, GA)

The department welcomed a new faculty member, Megan Cream, as Assistant Professor. Megan recently received her Ph.D from Emory University. Jeffrey Ehme, department chair and professor of mathematics, gave a minicourse on public- and private-key cryptography at the 2015 Joint Mathematics meetings in San Antonio. Jeffrey also received the 2015 Spelman College Presidential Senior Faculty Excellence Teaching Award. (Submitted by Yewande Olubummo)

Troy University (Troy, AL)

There was a flurry of activity in Troy University Mathematics during 2014-15. We welcome new Assistant Professors Dr. Huijun Yi, Dr. Danush Wijekularathna (in 2015), and Lecturer Ms. Abigail Carter. Dr. Yi earned her Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. She works in the area of categorical data analysis under some type of constraints. She is also interested in regression models, multivariate statistical inferences, and Bayesian Analysis. Dr. Wijekularathna earned his Ph.D. from the Texas Tech University. His research interests include Nonparametric Statistical Inference, Biostatistics, Experimental Design, Linear Models, and Generalized Linear Models, Repeated Measures and Mixed Effects Models. Ms. Carter earned her Master's degree from Troy University, and has been teaching mathematics for almost twenty years. She teaches many of the General Studies mathematics courses as well a mathematics concepts course for elementary education majors.

Dr. Vitaly Voloshin was on sabbatical in Spring 2015. Among other places, he visited several universities in China, among other places. Additionally, Dr. Voloshin had co-authored the chapter "Hypergraph Colouring" (with Cs. Bujtas and Zs. Tuza) in *Topics in Chromatic Graph Theory*, edited by L.W. Beineke and R.J. Wilson, Cambridge University Press. He was also an author of the book *Hypergraphs and Designs* (with M. Gionfriddo and L. Milazzo), Nova Science Publishers, Inc. Dr. Voloshin also had the paper "The Smallest One-Realization of a given set IV," (with K. Diao, K. Wang, and P. Zhao) in *Discrete Mathematics*. He gave numerous invited talks in the U.S., China, Russia, and Moldova.

Dr. Sergey Bely was the official host of a visiting faculty member from China.

Our department chair Diane Porter was the PI on our NSF-MAA RUMC grant for hosting our annual TROY MathFest undergraduate mathematics conference on April 11. This was our 9th such conference. This year's

conference had about 150 participants from Alabama and some neighboring states. The invited talk was given by Dr. Chris Rodger, the Dan Logan Endowed Chair in Mathematics at Auburn University. We had numerous student talks and our annual calculus competition.

Our Square Root of C Mathematics Club hosted 11 seminars given by faculty, students, and career speakers. We also had our annual tailgating tent for the football game versus Georgia State. Our chapter of Pi Mu Epsilon inducted 44 new members from our various campuses. (Submitted by Ken Roblee)

University of South Carolina Aiken (Aiken, SC)

The Department of Mathematical Sciences at the University of South Carolina Aiken offers B.S. degrees in Combined Math and Computer Science, and in Industrial mathematics. The department has added a new degree, a B.S. in Industrial Process Engineering.

Recent new faculty: Dr Bethany Fralick (Engineering).

The Departmental webpage is: <http://web.usca.edu/math/> (Submitted by Reginald Koo)

Wake Forest University (Winston-Salem, NC)

The Mathematics Department at Wake Forest University has changed its official name to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, reflecting our increased offerings in statistics.

Jeremy Rouse was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. Jule Connolly was promoted to Professor of the Practice. Edward Allen was appointed to a second term as department Chair, and Sarah Raynor was appointed to a second term as Associate Chair.

We have a number of new faculty. Staci White is a new Assistant Professor; she comes from Ohio State University and specializes in statistics (<http://college.wfu.edu/math/people/faculty/white>). Josh Hallam (<http://college.wfu.edu/math/people/faculty/hallam>) is a new Teacher-Scholar Postdoctoral Fellow who comes from Michigan State University and specializes in algebraic and enumerative combinatorics. We have three new Visiting Assistant Professors: Guillermo Alesandroni (commutative algebra and combinatorics, <http://college.wfu.edu/math/people/faculty/alesandroni>) from Oklahoma State University, Chris Johnson (dynamical systems, <http://ccjohnson.org/>) from Clemson University, and Daniel Maroncelli (functional analysis and differential equations, <http://college.wfu.edu/math/people/faculty/maroncelli>) from North Carolina State University.

This year our Gentry Lecturer is Cameron Gordon, the Sid W. Richardson Foundation Regents Chair at the University of Texas, Austin; he specializes in Geometric Topology. His lectures will occur on April 19 and 20, 2016. The 30th Automorphic Forms Workshop will be held at Wake Forest March 7-10, 2016 (<http://automorphicformsworkshop.org/>). Jeremy Rouse, along with Kate Thompson of Davidson College, conducted an REU at Wake Forest this past summer. Information on the coming summer's REU can be found at: <http://college.wfu.edu/mathreu/> (Submitted by Ellen Kirkman)

Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC)

There were a couple of personnel changes over the past academic year. Beth Costner was promoted to the rank of Professor and has departed the Math Department to become the Associate Dean and Director of Student Academic Services in the College of Education. Gary Brooks retired from his post of Professor of Statistics after many years at Winthrop in which he served as Department Chair among other things.

Winthrop University continued into year two of its NSF-REU which was successfully hosted this summer. Eight students from across the nation spent nine weeks working on various research projects in differential equations (under mentor Zach Abernathy) and algebraic geometry (under mentor Joe Rusinko).

Zach Abernathy was selected to participate in the Preparation for Industrial Careers in the Mathematical Sciences (PIC Math) program. He attended a faculty training workshop over the summer and will teach a research course partnering his students with local industries in the spring.

Jessie Hamm was awarded a Tensor Women and Mathematics Grant (through the MAA) to host a Sonia Kovalevsky Day and a follow-up event in the summer and fall respectively. Both events were successfully held and roughly 30 local middle school girls attended the Cryptography-themed events designed to promote mathematics appreciation among this demographic.

Winthrop University was awarded a five-year grant to continue its WISE program. This program is designed to support and train preservice STEM educators by providing these students with research and internship experiences. (Submitted by Arran Hamm)



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE MAA-SE AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING BY A BEGINNING COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICS FACULTY MEMBER

COMPLETE NOMINATION PROCESS

Brief Description: The MAA Southeastern Section (MAASE) established this award to honor beginning college or university faculty whose teaching in the Section has been extraordinarily successful and whose effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics is shown to have influence beyond their own classrooms. An awardee must have taught full time in a mathematical science in the Southeastern Section for at least two years, but not more than a total of seven years in any collegiate institution. Each year at most one college or university teacher is to be honored with this MAASE section award. Nominations for the award may be made by any member of the MAASE section.

A complete nomination packet should consist of a nomination form, a narrative, additional documentation, and letters of recommendation as described below. Please mail, fax or email the completed packet to arrive by Friday, January 22, 2016 to:

Ron Taylor
Department of Mathematics & Computer Science
Berry College
Mount Berry, GA 30149

Questions may be directed to Ron at rtaylor@berry.edu or at 706-290-2677.

Eligibility and Guidelines for Nomination

Eligibility

Teaching is intended to include classroom instruction as well as activities outside the classroom, such as working with student groups, preparing students for mathematical competitions, directing undergraduate students in research in mathematics, directing students in the preparation of honors theses, preparing teaching materials used by others, etc.

Nominees must:

- Hold the terminal degree required by SACS to be a full time faculty member in a collegiate institution,
- Be college or university teachers currently in the MAA-SE who have taught full time in a mathematical science in the Southeastern Section for at least two years, but not more than a total of seven years in any collegiate institution (In determining eligibility, we do not count time spent in a postdoctoral position where nearly all the nominee's time was spent on research, and the nominee did very little or no teaching (e. g. three semester courses a year or less).), and
- Hold membership in the Mathematical Association of America

Guidelines for nomination

Nominees for the award may be made by any member of the MAA-SE section.

Nominees should:

- Be recognized as extraordinarily successful in their teaching
- Have effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics that can be documented
- Have had influence in their teaching beyond their own classrooms



A nomination for this award should consist only of the materials requested below, and should not include any other materials, such as curricula vitae or other items. Please prepare all nomination materials on one side only of 8.5 by 11 inch paper, with a type size no smaller than 12 points (pica).

Nomination Packet:

Nomination Form

A completed **Nomination Form** is the first part of the packet. Please see Page 24 of this newsletter for the nomination form.

Narrative

Please describe the nominee's extraordinary success in teaching by providing a narrative of the nominee's background, experience, teaching style, special contributions, other teaching awards, and any additional evidence of the nominee's unusual achievement in teaching. Note especially effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics and influence beyond the nominee's own classrooms. The narrative should not exceed five double-spaced pages.

Additional Documentation

Please submit no more than three pages of further evidence to document the nominee's extraordinary teaching success. This documentation will vary greatly from institution to institution, but may include summaries of peer or student evaluations, comments on teaching, possible increases in numbers of majors in mathematics (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), possible student success in mathematics competitions (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), success in research in mathematics conducted by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, production of superior quality honors theses by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, development of curricular materials successfully used by colleagues, adoption of the nominee's teaching methods or techniques by experienced colleagues, service as a respected adviser for a student group, etc.

Nominators should bear in mind that the selection committee might view a nomination more positively if it is accompanied not just by carefully chosen testimonials from a few selected students and faculty, but also by reports, comments and criticism which is representative of the whole spectrum of opinion among students and faculty on the nominee's teaching.

Letters of Recommendation

Please include no more than five letters of recommendation, as follows:

- Two letters from the nominee's present or former students.
- Two letters from the nominee's colleagues (one of whom could be the department chair).
- One additional letter from any one qualified to comment on the nominee's extraordinary teaching success.



MAASE Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Mathematics Faculty Member

NOMINATION FORM
To be submitted by January 22, 2016

PLEASE TYPE

Nominee's Name (First name first):	
College or University Affiliation:	
College or University Address:	
Nominee's email address:	
Is the nominee a current member of the Mathematical Association of America? (only members of the MAA are eligible for the Award)	Year joined _____
Nominee's number of years teaching experience in a mathematical science (at least two years, not more than seven)	Number _____ Year _____ to Year _____
Graduate Degree earned in mathematical sciences:	Degree _____ Area of Specialty _____
List the years and where the nominee taught full time in a mathematical science in the Southeastern Section (at least two needed)	Years _____ Location _____

Please describe on no more than one page of 12 point type, double-spaced, the unusual personal and professional qualities of the nominee that contribute to his or her extraordinary teaching success, and attach.

Name of nominator (First name first):	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email address:	
Signature:	
Date:	/ / /

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: THE 2016 SOUTHEASTERN SECTION DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Nominations for the 2016 Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics are now being accepted. The Southeastern Section selection committee will choose the winner of this award from the pool of nominees in two stages. From the initial applicants, the committee will choose a group of finalists. Nominators of finalists will be contacted for more detailed information about the candidate's teaching. The winner will be honored at the Spring 2016 meeting of the Section at University of Alabama at Birmingham.

A nomination form is attached. Each member of the Section is encouraged to consider submitting a nomination to **Ron Taylor** (rtaylor@berry.edu), chair of the selection committee. Please submit a nomination form by **January 22, 2016**. The selection committee will contact nominators of finalists to solicit a complete packet.

Previous Teaching Award Recipients:

The section has presented the Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics each year since 1992. Past recipients are:

- 1992 Anne Hudson, Armstrong State University
- 1993 Robert Bryant, Duke University
- 1994 John Neff, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 1995 Sylvia Bozeman, Spelman College
- 1996 Carl Pomerance, University of Georgia
- 1997 Harold Reiter, Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte
- 1998 Ben Klein, Davidson College
- 1999 Joel Brawley, Clemson University
- 2000 Theodore Shifrin, University of Georgia
- 2001 Johnny Henderson, Auburn University
- 2002 Ronald Harshbarger, University of South Carolina, Beaufort
- 2003 Sue E. Goodman, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2004 Jeff R. Knisley, East Tennessee State University
- 2005 David Stone, Georgia Southern University
- 2006 William "Mac" Priestly, the University of the South
- 2007 David Sumner, University of South Carolina, Columbia
- 2008 Ronald Gould, Emory University
- 2009 Hugh Howards, Wake Forest University
- 2010 Martin Jones, University of Charleston
- 2011 Barry Spieler, Birmingham-Southern College
- 2012 Sam Kaplan, University of North Carolina at Asheville
- 2013 Ron Taylor, Berry College
- 2014 No award given
- 2015 Maurice Herndon, University of Georgia

**Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics
Nomination Form**

Please type.

Nominee's Name (first name first): _____

College or University Affiliation: _____

College or University Address: _____

City: State: ZIP: _____

Nominee's number of years teaching experience in a mathematical science: _____

Has the nominee taught at least half time in a mathematical science during the current academic year or during the previous year if on approved leave or sabbatical? ____

In the space below, please describe briefly the unusual personal and professional qualities of the nominee that contribute to his or her extraordinary teaching success.

Name of nominator (first name first): _____

Address of nominator: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Nominator's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Send to: Dr. Ron Taylor , (rtaylor@berry.edu) 706-290-2677
Berry College Department of Mathematics & Computer Science Mount Berry, GA 30149
We're willing to help! If you would like assistance, please contact Ron Taylor before January 22.

**Ninety-third Annual Meeting
Mathematical Association of America, Southeastern Section
University of Alabama, Birmingham**

Friday – Saturday, March 25-26, 2016

Meeting Announcement: The ninety-fifth annual meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America will be held on Friday and Saturday, March 25 - 26, 2016 at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, in Birmingham, AL. The Association invites all interested persons to participate and asks that department chairpersons, faculty, and members of the Section help in publicizing the meeting. Attendees may pre-register and pay online through the meeting website at <http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/conference2016/>. On-site registration will also be available. Up-to-date information about the conference (program, registration, accommodations, transportation, etc.) is maintained at the conference web site, which is also accessible through the Section web site <http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/>.

General Sessions: There will be three general sessions with four speakers on Friday and Saturday

- **Maurice Hendon**, University of Georgia, 2015 Section Teaching Award Recipient and **Kristen Abernathy**, Winthrop University, 2015 Section Teaching Award for Beginning Faculty Recipient
- **Chris Raridan**, Clayton State University, 2015-2016 Section Lecturer
- **Francis Su**, Harvey Mudd College and MAA President

General sessions will be held in the Hill Student Center.

Short Courses and Workshops: There are four excellent workshops available on Friday morning at no additional fee, for which participants must preregister. These are:

- *Projects and Case Studies to Promote Quantitative Literacy*, Ryan Fox and Andy Miller (Belmont University)
- *Using Instructional Tasks in College Algebra and Precalculus to Improve Conceptual Understanding*, Stephanie Kolitsch (University of Tennessee at Martin) and Holly Anthony (Tennessee Technological University)
- *Counting Lattice Paths using Fourier Methods*, Shaun Ault and Charles Kicey (Valdosta State University)
- *Graduate Student Career Development Workshop*, Kristen Abernathy (Winthrop University)

A fuller description of the workshops, including abstracts, is given at the end of this announcement as well as on the conference web site.

Call For Contributed Papers: The officers of the Section invite and encourage submission of titles and abstracts for fifteen-minute (20 minutes between the start of one talk to the start of the next) contributed papers in all areas of mathematics by college and university faculty, graduate students, undergraduates, and others. **Due to the growth in both student and professional papers, there will be contributed papers sessions and special sessions for undergraduates Friday morning.** Abstract submissions can be made through the meeting website beginning in December or by sending the information to the Program Chair (Sarah Raynor, raynorsg@wfu.edu). The abstract submission deadline is **Monday, February 15, 2016**. It will be very helpful if individuals submit their information in advance of this deadline. Talks will be scheduled in concurrent sessions and organized, to the extent possible, by the general mathematical area indicated by the abstract. There will also be several special sessions (descriptions are included in this Newsletter) for selected mathematical areas:

- *Special Session on Critiqued Presentations by Graduate Students.* Organizer, Kristen Abernathy (Winthrop University)
- *Special Session on Presentations by Beginning Faculty.* Organizer, Ron Taylor (Berry College)
- *Special Session on the Teaching of Courses in the First Two Years of College.* Organizer, Alice Pierce

- *Special Session on Activities for Math Clubs*, Organizer, Meredith Burr (Clemson University)
- *Special Session on What Hath Fibonacci Wrought?*, Organizers, Brian Beasley (Presbyterian College) and David Stone (Georgia Southern University)
- *Special Session on Advances in the Theory and Applications of Dynamical Systems*, Organizer, Israel Ncube (Alabama A & M University)

Guidelines for Titles and Abstracts: Abstracts are expected to deal with theory, application, teaching, history, or philosophy of mathematical sciences; they should indicate what the presenter intends to communicate in the allotted time. For multiple authors, the presenting author's name should be clearly designated; please identify undergraduate and graduate student presenters/authors. The use of special symbols should be considered judiciously; however, if an abstract includes LaTeX formatting, this can be rendered when compiling the abstracts for publication.

Undergraduate Poster Session: Students are encouraged to present research and results of special projects in poster format. The session is scheduled for Saturday morning, concurrent with contributed talks. Abstracts should be submitted through the meeting website no later than **Monday, February 15, 2016** to ensure that space will be available for your poster. Contact organizer Christopher Raridan (<mailto:christopherraridan@clayton.edu>) if you need additional information.

Math Jeopardy Contest: Teams of three or four undergraduates will compete in a mathematical version of the well-known answer-and-question game. Competition is limited. There is a \$25.00 registration fee for each team. *This fee can be paid with the sponsor's meeting registration.* Topics will include calculus (single and multi-variable), linear algebra, differential equations, and discrete mathematics. The preliminary rounds for Math Jeopardy will be scheduled on Friday morning from 8:00-12:00. To register team members so their names may be included in the program, or to find out more, contact Ron Taylor (rtaylor@berry.edu). *There is a limit of 36 teams; schools will initially be limited to one team. If fewer than 36 teams register by the deadline, schools may register additional teams.*

Project NExT-SE: Project NExT-SE (New Experiences in Teaching) is the Southeastern MAA Section's version of the national program for new and recent PhD's in mathematical sciences interested in improving the learning and teaching of undergraduate mathematics. All national and section Project NExT members are always invited to attend! Activities are planned for Thursday afternoon (beginning about 2:00 pm) and Friday morning. Contact Karen O'Hara (kohara@highpoint.edu), Jon Ernstberger (jernstberger@lagrange.edu), or Stacey Ernstberger (sernstberger@lagrange.edu) for more information.

Treasure Hunt: On Thursday evening (March 24), there will be a Mathematics Treasure Hunt for students and their advisors. Students will use mathematics to solve clues and look for a "treasure." This is a fun, non-competitive event that will give students an opportunity to meet and work with students from other colleges and universities. It is also greatly appreciated if math club advisors would be willing to help at this event. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help, please contact Julia Barnes (jbarnes@email.wcu.edu). Check-in is between 7:00pm and 7:30pm in the lobby of the Digiorgio Campus Center with the event starting at 7:30pm.

Graduate School and Career Fair: In this venue, students considering graduate school in mathematical sciences have opportunities to meet with representatives of various graduate programs. In addition, those seeking jobs in industry, business or government in the mathematical sciences can meet with potential employers. Faculty mentors are also welcome. Pizza will be served free to students, and a raffle will be held for students visiting the exhibits. Representatives of graduate programs should contact Kristen Abernathy (abernathyk@winthrop.edu) for more information, if needed. The \$25 table fee can be paid with conference registration through the website.

Math T-shirt Contest:

The best mathematics T-shirt at the meeting will be recognized with an announcement, a certificate, and a featured picture in the fall newsletter. Get your Math Club organized now for a great T-shirt in the spring.

Chairpersons' Meeting: The Chairpersons' meeting, scheduled for Saturday morning, is an opportunity for discussion of issues confronting the departments. Pat Humphrey (phumphre@georgiasouthern.edu) will convene the Chairpersons.

Exhibits: On Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, representatives of publishing companies and other vendors will have exhibits in the lobby of the Hill Science Center.

Pre-Registration: Pre-registration for the meeting through the conference website <http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/conference2016/> is encouraged; on-site registration and materials pick up will be available in the lobby of the Bryan Fine Arts Center on Thursday 2:00 - 3:30 PM and 6:15 - 8:30 PM; Friday 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM; and Saturday 7:30 - 10:30 AM.

Fees	Pre-registered	After February 15
Faculty meeting registration	\$25	\$40
College/university students, emeritus faculty	\$15	\$25
High school teachers	\$15	\$25
High school students	free	free
Workshops	free (but preregistration required)	

Workshop Abstracts

- *Projects and Case Studies to Promote Quantitative Literacy*, Ryan Fox and Andy Miller, (Belmont University)

As described in the SIGMAA QL charter, quantitative literacy is “the ability to adequately use elementary mathematical tools to interpret and manipulate quantitative data and ideas that arise in individuals’ private, civic, and work lives.” It is in the nature of QL tasks and skills to be embedded in real-world contexts; hence, QL education is an excellent opportunity to apply project-based learning and case studies. Both of the workshop instructors have experience teaching quantitative literacy to general education audiences with this methodology. Participants in this workshop will see examples of QL projects and case studies; learn guidelines and be pointed to resources for developing their own QL projects; and explore how QL projects can fit into their own general education courses.

- *Using Instructional Tasks in College Algebra and Precalculus to Improve Conceptual Understanding*, Stephanie Kolitsch (University of Tennessee at Martin) and Holly Anthony, (Tennessee Technological University)

Five rigorous mathematics instructional tasks aligned to the “plus” standards in the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSSM) were designed for use in introductory college mathematics courses. This short course will briefly introduce participants to the CCSSM and how they articulate with entry-level college mathematics courses. Five rigorous tasks will be presented, discussed, and shared. At the conclusion of the session, participants will be able to: (1) understand the alignment between CCSSM and expectations for entry-level college mathematics courses, and (2) effectively use mathematics instructional tasks in these courses. The content of the session is targeted towards topics that students typically struggle to understand conceptually. Specifically, we focus on understanding the shape of rational functions, exploring horizontal asymptotes, modeling “messy” real-world data, and modeling traffic flow.

Each task was designed to be “dropped” into any existing College Algebra or Precalculus course, and the time needed for a task depends on the amount of individual or group work and the amount of classroom discussion the instructor decides to allow. The five tasks are:

- **Traffic Flow**—this task is designed for use in a unit on solving systems of linear equations and specifically focuses on the meaning of the general solution of a system of linear equations that has infinitely many solutions.
- **Importance of Horizontal Asymptotes**—this task is designed for use in a unit on rational functions and focuses on the meaning and contextual interpretation of a horizontal asymptote.

- Examining Rational Functions—this task is designed for use in a unit on rational functions and focuses on understanding the end behavior of the graphs of rational functions.
- Presenting Data—this task is designed to be an introduction to understanding, representing, and interpreting data. This task can be used at any time in a course to introduce the idea of using functions to model real-world phenomena.
- Culminating Project—this task is designed to be a final modeling project for students. Students are given raw sets of data with little direction as to the type of function to use as a model or the typical follow-up questions seen in most textbooks. Instead, students are asked to choose an appropriate model, justify their choice, and create and answer their own questions about the data and the model—much as they would do in a research situation.
- *Counting Lattice Paths using Fourier Methods*, Shaun Ault and Charles Kicey (Valdosta State University)

Lattice path enumeration is a well-studied subject of combinatorics, going back over a hundred years. Many methods have been used to count various types of lattice paths, including generating functions, continued fractions, and powerful combinatorial methods. The purpose of this workshop is to introduce alternative methods from mathematical analysis, especially discrete Fourier methods, for analyzing bounded and unbounded lattice paths and walks. The workshop is intended to be self-contained, giving participants a primer in the necessary background (which will be elementary), and then explain how our methods apply to walks in bounded and unbounded lattices, in arbitrary dimension, and even certain kinds of non-rectangular lattices. Applications include exact and approximate formulas for enumeration of paths and random walks. Material is based on current research by Ault and Kicey as compiled into a monograph of the same name, and this workshop is intended to be accessible to all, including interested undergraduates.

- *Graduate Student Career Development Workshop*, Kristen Abernathy (Winthrop University)
TBA

Special Session Abstracts

- *Special Session on Critiqued Presentations by Graduate Students*. Organizer, Kristen Abernathy (Winthrop University)

Graduate Students will be given the opportunity to make presentations on their research, which will be constructively critiqued by faculty.

- *Special Session on Presentations by Beginning Faculty*. Organizer, Ron Taylor (Berry College)

Beginning faculty in the section are encouraged to present their research.

- *Special Session on the Teaching of Courses in the First Two Years of College*. Organizer, Alice Pierce (Georgia Perimeter College)

The focus of the presentations in this session will be the teaching of courses at two-year colleges and the first two years at four-year institutions. The courses range from Developmental Mathematics to Calculus which includes Quantitative Literacy, Math Education, and Introductory Statistics. Presenters will share best practices, class activities, and course changes/redesign at their institution.

- *Special Session on Best Practices in the First and Second Courses of Elementary Statistics*, Organizer, Philip Larson (Greenville Technical College)
This special session presents examples of best practices within the two semesters of introductory statistics, from important data sets to portable technology to active learning, etc., all with the goal of promoting "statistical thinking," or immersing students in the discipline of statistics.

- *Special Session on Activities for Math Clubs*, Organizer, Meredith Burr (Clemson University)

The undergraduate math major can be greatly enhanced through engaging mathematical activities that occur outside the classroom. Math clubs can provide a venue for such experiences. For this session, we invite people to share ideas for math club activities and to describe successes and challenges in organizing and running such events. Undergraduate speakers are welcome.

- *Special Session on What Hath Fibonacci Wrought?*, Organizers, Brian Beasley (Presbyterian College) and David Stone (Georgia Southern University)

Over 800 years after the publication of the classic *Liber Abaci*, mathematicians remain fascinated with Fibonacci and the sequence bearing his name. Some have spent much of their professional lives working with Fibonacci numbers, while almost every mathematician has at least dabbled in the subject. For this session, we invite presentations that feature interesting problems and applications of the Fibonacci sequence and its many relatives. In particular, we invite talks which provide validation of a "meta theorem": If one does something systematic and organized with the Fibonacci numbers, then one will find interesting results. Experts and dabblers alike are welcome.

- *Special Session on Advances in the Theory and Applications of Dynamical Systems*, Organizer, Israel Ncube (Alabama A & M University)

The focus of the proposed special session is on Advances in the Theory and Applications of Dynamical Systems. The session aims to bring together a wide spectrum of researchers working in this very interesting area. The overarching goal of the session is to showcase the progress and the many challenges that still remain in the theoretical development of the subject area. The many applications of dynamical systems, arising in a variety of areas, will also be showcased.

Lodging

Participants should make their own arrangements directly with a hotel of their choice and be sure to mention that you will be attending MAA-SE. Rooms are blocked in hotels listed below, most within 5 minute drive of the campus. Reservation deadlines vary with hotel as noted below. Prices are Plus Tax.

Hotel Name	General Location	Cost per night double queen plus tax	Reserve by....
Residence Inn 205-7361-9595	Near UAB Downtown I-65 S Ext 259B or I-65 N Ext 259	109.00	March 3, 2016
Hotel Highland 205-933-9555	Near UAB Downtown I-65 S Ext 259B or I-65 N Ext 259	109.95	February 24, 2016
DoubleTree by Hilton 205-933-9000	Near UAB Downtown I-65 S Ext 259B or I-65 N Ext 259	109.00	February 3, 2015
Courtyard Birmingham 205-254-0004	Near UAB Downtown I-65 S Ext 259B or I-65 N Ext 259	135.00	February 28, 2016
Springhill Suites by Marriott 205-322-8600	Near UAB Downtown I-65 S Ext 259B or I-65 N Ext 259	109.00	March 7, 2016
America's Best 205-835-9312	Near I-65 ext 256A or 256B	57.95	No deadline
Motel 6 205-942-9414	Near I-65 ext 256A or 256B	49.99	February 23, 2016
Super 8 205-945-9888	Near I-65 ext 256A or 256B	65.99	February 2016 – based on registration deadline
Quality Inn 205-945-9600	Near I-65 ext 256A or 256B	55.00	March 21, 2016
Travel Inn 205-942-0919	Near I-65 ext 256A or 256B	Commitment not given	

Student Activities

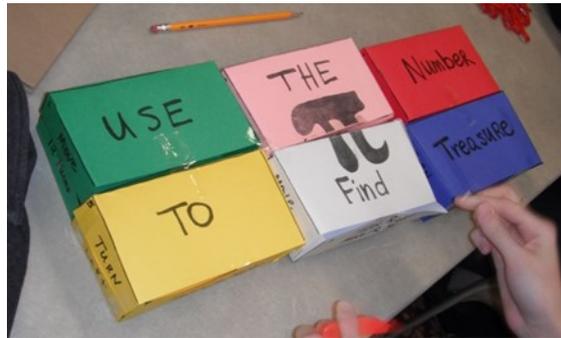
MAA SE Section Meeting

March 24-26, 2015

Treasure Hunt

Thursday evening

Arrive early to the meeting for fun activities and mathematical puzzles. Meet students from all over the Southeastern Section of the MAA. Contact Julie Barnes (jbarnes@email.wcu.edu) to participate.



Math Jeopardy

- Preliminary and semifinal rounds Friday morning
- Finals Saturday noon

Teams of 3-4 undergraduate students compete in this classic game, with clever questions (oops, answers) from calculus and other courses in the first two years of the mathematics curriculum. Register in advance by contacting Ron Taylor (rtaylor@berry.edu)



Distinguished Lectures for Students

Friday morning

Jerome Goddard II (Auburn University Montgomery)
Sarah Mason (Wake Forest University)

Math T-shirt Contest

Show off your geek chic. A prize will be awarded to the undergraduate math club or Jeopardy team with the best mathematically-themed T-shirt. Pictures will be taken following the second general session on Friday.



Graduate School & Career Fair

Friday noon

Is graduate school in your future? Need a job? Meet with representatives of graduate programs and employers.

- Pizza lunch (free for students)
- Networking
- Door prize raffle for students

Undergraduate Student Research Posters and Talks

Poster Session Saturday morning

Talks throughout meeting

Present your research in a talk or with a poster. Abstracts for talks and posters can be submitted through the meeting web site. Prizes will be awarded for best talks and posters.



For Graduate Students

Friday

Graduate Student Professional Development workshop and Critiqued Presentation session. Contact Kristen Abernathy (abernathyk@winthrop.edu) for details.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION OFFICERS 2015-2016

Chair:	Pat Humphrey (Georgia Southern University) phumphre@georgiasouthern.edu
Past Chair:	Jeff Knisley (East Tennessee State University) knisleyj@etsu.edu
Vice-Chair For Two-Year Colleges:	Alice Pierce (Georgia Perimeter College) Alice.Pierce@gpc.edu
Secretary:	Catherine Matos (Clayton State University) CatherineMatos@clayton.edu
Treasurer:	Emily Hynds (Samford University) eahynds@samford.edu
Section Governor:	Charlotte Knotts-Zides (Wofford College) knottszidesca@wofford.edu
Section Lecturer:	Chris Raridan (Clayton State University) christopherrarian@clayton.edu
Newsletter Editor:	Jessie Hamm (Winthrop University) hammj@winthrop.edu
Program Chair:	Sarah Raynor (Wake Forest University) raynorsg@wfu.edu
Student Activities Coordinator:	Kristen Abernathy (Winthrop University) abernathyk@winthrop.edu
Beginning Faculty Coordinator:	Ron Taylor (Berry College) rtaylor@berry.edu
State Director of Alabama:	Bernie Mullins (Birmingham-Southern University) bmullins@bsc.edu
State Director of Georgia:	Karen Briggs (University of North Georgia) karen.briggs@ung.edu
State Director of North Carolina:	Jason Parsley (Wake Forest University) parslerj@wfu.edu
State Director of South Carolina:	Brian Beasley (Presbyterian College) bbeasley@presby.edu
State Director of Tennessee:	Laurie Dishman (Cumberland University) ldishman@cumberland.edu
Webmaster:	Jim Gleason (The University of Alabama) jgleason@as.ua.edu
Historian:	Virginia Watson (Kennesaw State University) vwatson@kennesaw.edu
Directors of Project NeXt-SE:	Karen O'Hara (High Point University), Jon Ernstberger (LaGrange College), and Stacey Ernstberger (Lagrange College) kohara@highpoint.edu , jernstberger@lagrange.edu , and sernstberger@lagrange.edu (respectively)

MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION COMMITTEES **2016-2017**

Section Teaching Award: Ron Taylor (Chair)
Maurice Hendon
State Directors

Section Service Award: Ellen Kirkman (Chair)
Ray Collings
Jim Vandergriff
John Mayer
Jeff Clark
Curtis Herink

Site Selection: Trent Kull (Chair)
Andrew Hetzel
Russell Herman

Southeastern Section MAA Website

<http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/>