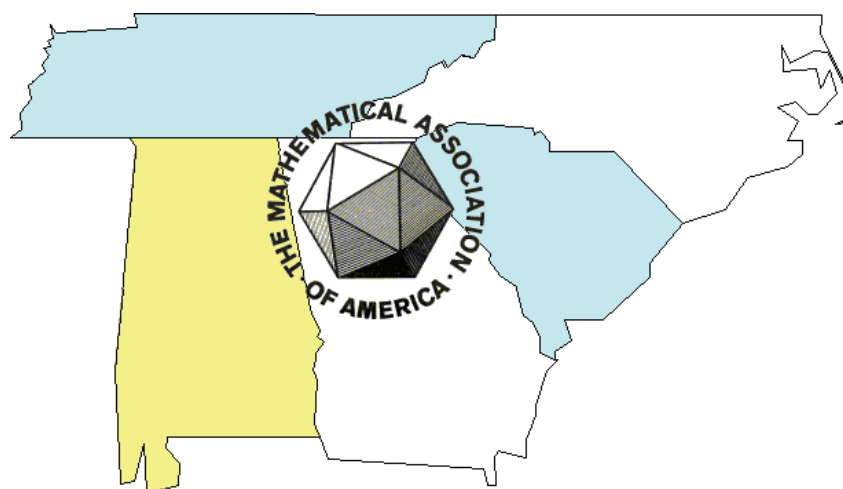


# Southeastern Section Newsletter



*Spring 2015*  
*Volume 34 Number 1*

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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**

August 5-8, 2015	Mathfest, Washington, D.C.
January 6-9, 2016	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA
<b>March 25-26, 2016</b>	<b>Southeastern Section Annual Meeting, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL</b>
January 4-7, 2017	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Atlanta, 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**

It was great to see so many of you in Wilmington! I think the conference went off very well; thanks to the local organizers Russ Herman and Matt Tenhuisen and all the rest of their faculty. I know from first-hand experience that you cannot pull this off without a lot of help. Thanks also to MAA Deputy Executive Director Linda Braddy for an entertaining and informative Saturday morning plenary (interrupted by pi minute). I can't forget the other plenary speakers from the section: Lecturer Yulia Babenko from Kennesaw State, Joe Rusinko (last year's Beginning Teaching Award winner, who sadly, will be leaving our section to move to New York) and Historian Virginia Watson.

It's time to say "Farewell" to departing section officers: Jim Solazzo (SC State Director), Patrick Bahls (NC State Director), Joe Rusinko (Student Activities Coordinator), and Governor Martha Abell. I know we'll see most of you in future. Welcome to new officers Brian Beasley (SC State Director), Jason Parsley (NC State Director), Kristen Abernathy (Student Activities Coordinator), Jessica Hamm (Newsletter Editor – due to Kristen's position change), Stacey Ernstberger (co-NExT Coordinator – this completes our set of three individuals who will each serve rotating three-year terms), and newly-elected Governor Charlotte Knotts-Zides.

I'll make a special mention of this year's Section Lecturer, Chris Raridan from Clayton State. Please consider inviting him to your campus and/or State Dinner. I know he does a lot of research with undergraduates there in Graph Theory, so his presentations should be entertaining and informative for your students. Also, don't forget that you can still invite Yulia to be the speaker for your State Dinner for another year!

I and the rest of the Executive Committee look forward to seeing even more of you next year in Birmingham and the year after at Mercer in my own state of Georgia.



## **FROM THE GOVERNOR**

Now in my third year as Governor of the Southeastern Section, I continue to be amazed by the enthusiasm of the faculty and students in our section. As we know, we have the good fortune of being a member of the best MAA section in the country. As further evidence, I was pleased to hear new MAA President Francis Su report at the January 2015 Board of Governor's meeting that the MAA-SE joined two other sections (Maryland, DC and Virginia; Northeastern) in contributing over \$10,000 to the MAA's second century campaign. What a tremendous way to continue to distinguish ourselves through our generosity and support for our MAA community!

The MAA continues to work on ways to attract new members and retain current ones. As a result, the yearly dues will remain unchanged for 2015 and an option of making monthly payments as opposed to a lump sum payment is available. Dues in 2016 will likely have a modest increase of \$6 per year. The Association's efforts to reconnect with members who have dropped out in recent years have yielded some good results. Unfortunately, the efforts to build membership in Canada have not gone as well. It was mentioned, however, that there is great interest from the mathematics communities in Latin America to become more involved in the MAA, so we may try to reach out in those areas. Of course, this would impact the governance of MAA by having more sections, so we would need to think about how far we wish to expand. There will be upcoming changes to the MAA Departmental (or Institutional) Membership, which could bring automatic ("free") memberships to all students at institutional member schools. Stay tuned for more information on this interesting plan.

To review the financial health of the Association, we can look to several areas of strength. The MAA continues to be highly successful in obtaining funding to support a variety of projects. As of the Joint Mathematics Meetings in January, the MAA reported \$14.3 million in federal grants. In addition, the MAA reported that we received funding to extend the Calculus Project. The MAA also hopes that the recent recognition of the Carriage House as a top meeting venue for conferences with fewer than 100 participants will attract more business (and revenue) to MAA headquarters in DC. Currently, the Carriage House is in use about 17% of the time. In terms of other revenue streams, the Association expects improvements in the areas of Publications and the American Mathematics Competitions (AMC) based on investments made recently in these areas.

Steve Kennedy is doing an outstanding job as MAA Acquisitions Editor in lining up many outstanding projects for publication in the near future. In addition, the entire AMC office is now housed at MAA Headquarters in DC, which cuts back on the costs of the program. Links between MAA memberships for K-12 teachers and AMC participation by their students is also improving the income derived from the AMC.

One of the more important services of the MAA is the work done by the Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics to produce the 2015 CUPM Curriculum Guide to Majors in the Mathematical Sciences. The 2015 Guide has a special focus: Designing a Major in the Mathematical Sciences. In order to assist departments, the Guide offers a general set of cognitive and content goals for consideration and builds on the premise that "... a successful major offers a program of courses that gradually and intentionally leads students from basic to advanced levels of critical and analytical thinking, while encouraging creativity and excitement about mathematics". The development of the Guide was supported by the MAA, the NSF, the Educational Advancement Foundation, and the professional advice of over 250 mathematicians and scientists. More information about the Guide may be found at the link below. You are all encouraged to let your colleagues know about the Guide and to use this resource as a way to build the mathematical sciences program at your institution!

[http://www.cbmsweb.org/Forum5/MAA\\_CUPM2015\\_Flyer.pdf](http://www.cbmsweb.org/Forum5/MAA_CUPM2015_Flyer.pdf)

Another important project in the mathematical sciences community is the Common Vision Project, which is funded by the NSF and has the goal of developing a shared vision in the mathematical sciences community of the need to modernize the undergraduate mathematics program, especially in the first two years. The project is in response to national calls to improve undergraduate training in mathematics and statistics provided in two reports,

**(Continued on page 7)**



## **SPRING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** **MEETING MINUTES**

7:20 pm, March 12, 2015

UNC Wilmington

Emily Hynds, recording

Present: Jim Gleason, Sarah Raynor, Emily Hynds, Bernie Mullins, Joe Rusinko, Kristen Abernathy, Martha Abell, Karen O'Hara, Jon Ernstberger, Jim Solazzo, John Mayer, Virginia Watson, Pat Humphrey, Linda Braddy

The meeting began at 7:20 pm. After a brief welcome and introductions the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Russ Herman (Site Host) gave an update on the meeting. He mentioned some minor issues but reported that overall everything is running smoothly so far. He gave a report on the total number of pre-registrations.

Sarah Raynor (Program Chair) gave an update on numbers for the meeting as they pertain to special sessions and contributed talks. There was some discussion about the low number of speakers in some of the special sessions.

### **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.) These include reports from the Alabama, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Georgia State Directors, the Vice Chair for Two-Year Colleges, the Site Selection Committee, the Vice Chair for Programs, the Treasurer, the Historian, and the Governor. All of the awards committees reported that they had selected award winners for this year. A few of the officers gave oral reports or elaborated on their submitted reports. The contents of each of these are briefly described below.

Emily Hynds (Treasurer) gave an update on section finances.

Joe Rusinko (Student Activities Coordinator) reported that there will be a new activity this year. Jennifer Ellis-Royal from Mercer has put together a panel discussion on graduate school. It brings together a diverse group of panelists.

Kristen Abernathy (Newsletter Editor) reminded the group that the deadline for the spring newsletter is April 1, 2015. She needs the following: chairs comments, approved minutes from the meetings, the announcement for the meeting at UAB in 2016. She also needs copies of the formal citations for the award winners.

Karen O'Hara (Project NExT Co-Director) There are three new Section NExT faculty this year. They are Zach Abernathy from Winthrop University, Nicole Kroeger from South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, and Ben Wescoatt from Valdosta State University. Karen reported that they had already had a good session on the afternoon of March 12<sup>th</sup> and there are more sessions scheduled for the morning of the 13<sup>th</sup>. There was some discussion on how can we advertise better to get more applications in the future. It was suggested that we utilize email to the liasons and to executive committee members.

Virginia Watson (Historian) reported that she has sent three completed interviews to Jim Gleason and that she has a few more that are almost complete. She will give a talk March 13<sup>th</sup> about the history of our section as we celebrate the centennial of the MAA.

Jim Gleason (Webmaster) reported that the online registration has run much better this year. He also reported that

**(Continued on Page 7)**

# **Governor's Report (continued from page 5)**

Engage to Excel: Producing One Million Additional College Graduates with Degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, 2012) and The Mathematical Sciences in 2025 (National Research Council, 2013). The Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS), an umbrella organization consisting of seventeen professional associations, is leading on this project with the help of project leaders from AMATYC, AMS, ASA, MAA, and SIAM. More information may be found <http://www.maa.org/programs/faculty-and-departments/common-vision>

As you know, the MAA will celebrate our Centennial at MathFest this summer in DC, August 5-8. It's hard to believe, but the planning has been going on for eleven years. Each section will have its own Centennial Banner in the main lecture hall at MathFest, and after MathFest, the banners will be given to the sections. There will be many special events throughout the meeting and MathFest will last an extra day just to give enough time for all of the activities, including a slate of amazing lectures and presentations. I hope that many MAA-SE will be able to attend!

I appreciate the efforts by MAA President Francis Su to help us all do a better job of explaining to colleagues what the MAA means to us. Here are several ways he speaks about the MAA: (a) MAA is a professional society that values all kinds of mathematical people, at every educational level; (b) MAA seeks to support every area of faculty professional lives and provides unrivaled professional development opportunities, especially for new faculty; (c) MAA values outstanding exposition, communication, and teaching of mathematics - to make math accessible for everyone; (d) The MAA community is down-to-earth, a lot of fun, and deserves your support! I encourage all of us to remember these words as we talk with others about why we choose to support the MAA and why they should consider joining as well!

As my term as MAA-SE Governor winds down, I want you to know that it has been an honor serving as your Governor. When I took office, I never imagined that I would be joining the Board of Governors at a time of great change in the Association. From our first meeting, we were involved in making critical decisions on how the MAA should direct funding to support areas of potential growth, in having candid conversations on the way the MAA conducts business in order to be as inclusive and open as possible, and in reformulating the

he successfully used paypal to register people for the Alabama state dinner and offered that option to the other states as well. A suggestion was made that we do a better job of contacting the liaisons about the liaison lunch. It was also noted that we should make the registration

# **Executive Comm. Minutes (continued from page 6)**

available for the liaison lunch at an earlier time than we did this year. Jim noted that most of the attendees at the meeting this year are from North Carolina and Georgia.

Pat Humphrey reported that the Site Selection Committee had two viable proposals to host the section meeting in 2017. (Mercer and Valdosta State) A final decision will be made at the business meeting on March 14.

A suggestion was made by Sarah Raynor that, in the future, a copy of the site proposals be available at the executive committee meeting so that the committee can review them if needed.

Some discussion followed about site locations and the difficulty that the program chair sometimes faces in making a site visit. Up to this point it has been an expense incurred by the home institution of the program chair.

**Motion:** Karen O'Hara moved that the Southeastern Section of the MAA cover all reasonable expenses of one site visit each year for either the Chair or the Program Chair. Martha Abell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Pat Humphrey reported for the Nominations Committee that they plan to have a full slate of nominees for all open positions in time for the business meeting on the morning of March 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be electing a new NC state director, SC state director, Section Lecturer, Student Activities Coordinator (1 year replacement), Newsletter Editor, and Section NExT Co-Director.

Jim Gleason urged the Executive Committee to look for some people from doctoral institutions as we are looking for new people to be involved in section leadership.

Linda Braddy (MAA Deputy Executive Director of Programs) is our guest this year from the national office. She highlighted a few things that are going on with MAA at the national level.

In honor of the Centennial celebration, MathFest will have an extra day of scheduled events. She invited those who attend the meeting to visit the MAA headquarters. The MAA is housed in several historic buildings with interesting history and architecture. She mentioned that the Carriage House was recently named the best small

venue in the nation by Unique Venues magazine. She also announced that some older publications are now going to be available on the web for free. Some will be open to the public and some will be for members only. Finally, she noted that all AMC operations will be moving to DC.

Pat Humphrey (Chair) addressed the group.

In response to requests by the sections to utilize storage space on the MAA servers, the MAA has created google accounts for all sections to use for storage. The section websites will still be housed on the MAA server.

At its August meeting in 2014, the Board of Governors of the MAA approved several Cognitive and Content Recommendations and also reaffirmed the principles of the *CUPM Curriculum Guide 2004*. The CUPM guide is now ready and can be viewed on the website.

Finally, a decision was made that departments can now have as many student members as desired through a department membership. Department membership prices are based on the size of the department. The department should assign one person to manage the membership account and that person will get a free personal membership.

In closing, there was discussion about whether or not to continue with the Friday night banquet at the section meetings. The consensus was that we will not have one next year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:34pm.



## **STATE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **From Bernadette Mullins, State Director of Alabama**

The 2015 MAA Alabama State Dinner was a successful evening. It was held on the campus of the University of Alabama on Friday, February 6, 2015 and featured Southeastern Section Lecturer Dr. Yulia Babenko of Kennesaw State University. Her talk entitled “The Secret Mathematical Ingredient in the Ratatouille Recipe” gave an interesting introduction to splines and their applications including approximating curves and surfaces, fitting data, and computer-aided geometric design. Twenty-five people were in attendance. A big thank you goes to local organizer Dr. Jim Gleason of the University of Alabama.

### **From Karen Briggs, State Director of Georgia**

The 2015 Georgia State Luncheon was held on Saturday, February 21 at Mercer University in conjunction with the Sixth Biennial Mercer University Undergraduate Research in Mathematics Conference. According to Dr. Jeff Denny, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Professor of Mathematics, seventy-four students and faculty members attended the luncheon from across Georgia. The plenary speaker was Dr. Amy Langville of the College of Charleston who presented an engaging talk on “Random Search, Ordered Results: How search engines use mathematics to organize the Web,” in which she discussed the mathematics of link analysis and PageRank. Many thanks go to Mercer University for hosting the luncheon and to Drs. Jeff Denny, Keith Howard, Jeff Pullen, Jennifer Royal, and Carolyn Yackel of Mercer University for organizing the luncheon.

### **From Jim Solazzo, State Director of South Carolina**

The 2014-2015 MAA South Carolina State Dinner was held on the campus of Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina on the afternoon of Monday, October 20, 2014. The speaker was Professor Michael Dorff from Brigham Young University. Professor Dorff two talks. The first talk was “What is the best job of 2014” and the second talk was “Soap Bubbles and Mathematics”.

The talk was followed by Math Jeopardy! where students from Coastal Carolina University and Francis Marion University participated.

Francis Marion University will host its annual Undergraduate Mathematics Conference on Friday March 27<sup>th</sup>. The conference will included student presentations, a student poster session, Math Jeopardy!, and a keynote address by Dr. Yuliya Babenko.

Information regarding the 2015-2016 MAA South Carolina Dinner will be available spring 2014. If your institution is interested in hosting this dinner, please send an email to Jim Solazzo at [jsolazzo@coastal.edu](mailto:jsolazzo@coastal.edu).

### **From Laurie Dishman, State Director of Tennessee**

The 2014-15 Tennessee State Lunch will be held on April 18, 2015, in Mt. Juliet, TN. Dr. Yuliya Babenko (from Kennesaw State University in Georgia), the 2014-15 Section Lecturer, will be our speaker. Her 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.

## **SECTION MEETING REPORT**

**March 12-14, 2015**

**University of North Carolina Wilmington**

University of North Carolina Wilmington hosted our 94th annual meeting this year. Attendance was good, with over 400 participants. Although we had 140 presentations in total, this is a bit low for our conference and we hope to have more participation, particularly in special sessions, in the following years.

The meeting kicked off on Thursday, March 12 with Project NExT—SE, a treasure hunt for students, and the executive committee meeting. This year our new Project NExT class, Zachary Abernathy (Winthrop University), Nicole Kroeger (SC Governor's School for Science and Math), and Benjamin Wescoatt (Valdosta State University), as well as friends of Project NExT, enjoyed a professional development program on Thursday evening and Friday morning. In 2017 we will be selecting a new class of section fellows, so consider nominating your junior faculty to the program.

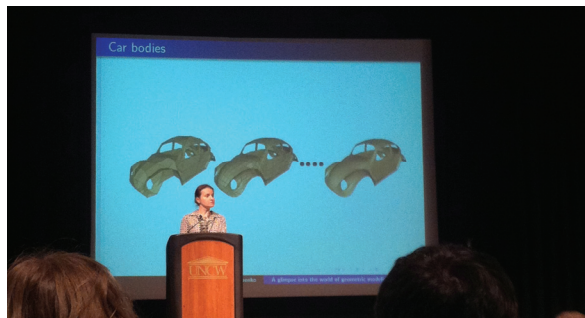
Minutes from the Executive Committee's meeting can be found on Page 6.

Student activities have become a dominant focus of our meetings, and the UNCW meeting was no exception. Starting with the treasure hunt hosted by Julie Barnes, they continued with Jeopardy on Friday morning and other events throughout Friday and Saturday. In addition to undergraduate activities, graduate students had the opportunity to participate in a professional development workshop organized by Sarah Frick. See the student activities report beginning on Page 13 for details.



Throughout the meeting, book displays and exhibits were available for browsing in the lobby of the Warwick Center from the MAA itself as well as three other sponsoring publishers-- Hawkes Learning Systems, Pearson, and Macmillan Science and Education.

Friday morning began with short courses and workshops, distinguished lectures for students, two contributed paper sessions, and preliminary Jeopardy rounds. This year we had two workshops available: *Teaching Numerical Analysis using the free software SAGE MATH* (Razvan Mezei, Lenoir-Rhyne University) and *Graduate Student Career Development* (organized by Sarah Frick, Furman University).



At lunchtime on Friday, Section Governor Martha Abell hosted a liaison lunch for the liaisons of each school in our section. At the same time, Joe Rusinko organized the Graduate School and Career Fair. This year, eight schools participated in the fair. It was well attended and the schools that were there had many successful conversations with potential students. Pizza was served, and a VISA gift card was given to a student attendee via a raffle.

Our first general session saw the talk "A glimpse into the world of Geometric Modeling" by Yuliya Babenko, our outgoing Section Lecturer, of Kennesaw State University. Prof. Babenko illustrated several roles geometric modeling play in the real world, including applications to animation. This talk was informative and well received by the audience.

Prof. Babenko's talk was followed by another round of parallel session periods, during which there were four special sessions, four contributed paper sessions, three sessions of undergraduate paper presentations, a vendor presentation, and a panel on surviving graduate school. For the tenth year in a row, students presenting a paper at our conference were eligible to win the Patterson Prize. One winner was chosen from each session of undergraduate papers.

Friday afternoon concluded with our second general session, featuring two talks. The first talk was given by the 2014 Section Beginning Teaching Award recipient Joe Rusinko of Winthrop University. Prof. Rusinko introduced us to tropical mathematics. His talk motivated the connection between mathematics and reconstructing genetic trees. Prof.

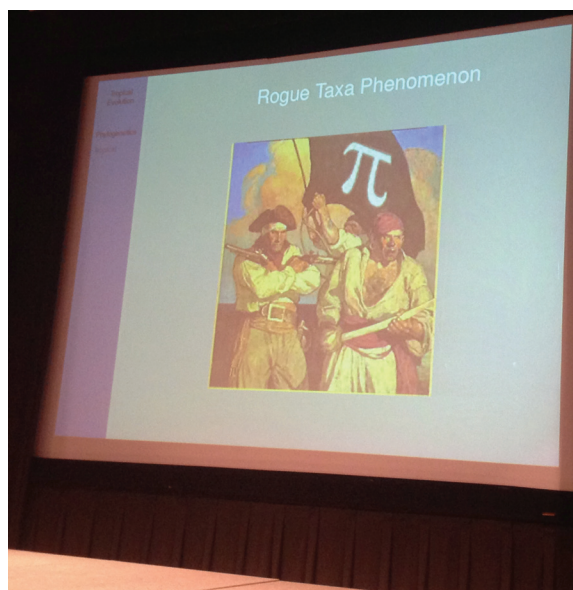
Rusinko very animated and his talk was quite enjoyable.



read the committee's citation starting at Page 32. Each of these awards will be accepting nominations for the 2016 cycle in the fall. Please consider nominating one of your colleagues! Nomination information and forms are available in this newsletter, each following its respective 2015 citation.

Friday finished up with the meeting dinner, held in the Burney Center, with entertainment provided by Whiskey Creek.

Saturday morning began early, with the section business meeting at 7:50am. Minutes can be found on Page 17. Several new officers were elected: Jessica Hamm for Newsletter Editor, Chris Raridan for Section Lecturer, Jason Parsley for NC State Director, Brian Beasley for SC State Director, Kristen Abernathy for Student Activities Coordinator, and Stacey Ernstberger for Project NExT Co-Director. The Section thanks the outgoing officers for their service. During the business meeting it was also announced that the 2017 meeting will be at Mercer University in Macon, GA. As a reminder, the





2016 meeting will be at University of Alabama at Birmingham on March 25 and 26.

After the business meeting, Linda Braddy, Deputy Executive Director, gave a talk titled “The Lion and the Path.” During this talk, Prof. Braddy delved into some history of the MAA, particularly the important role the committees play in the workings of this association. During Prof. Braddy’s talk, we paused at 9:26 to celebrate the Pi Day of the century!

The second and final parallel sessions occurred in the latter half of Saturday morning. This included the undergraduate poster session, at which 13 posters were presented and three prizes were awarded. There was also a department chairs’ meeting, one more special session, six contributed paper sessions, and three more undergraduate paper sessions. The meeting concluded with Jeopardy finals, where Austin Peay took home the championship.



**See you next year at University of Alabama at Birmingham!**

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES REPORT**

Nearly half of the participants at the MAA-SE Section meeting were students! They spent two and half days engaged both formally and informally with the culture of mathematics. An enormous group of faculty rallied to support a wide range of student activities. Students are the future of our profession, and keep our annual meetings fresh and lively. You can see evidence of all of these in the report. If you have suggestions of ways to make the meeting even more interesting and informative for students, we would love to hear your ideas. Please send your suggestions to the section's new Student Activities Coordinator, Kristen Abernathy, at [abernathyk@winthrop.edu](mailto:abernathyk@winthrop.edu).

### **Math Treasure Hunt**

The Math Treasure Hunt is a great way for students to connect with each other and stretch their legs after a long journey to the conference. Julie Barnes, continued her successful run as Treasure Hunt Coordinator, once again mixing mystery, mathematics and madness to create a welcoming evening for our students. She coordinated many volunteers who helped make this event a success for the nearly 100 student participants. This year had a new twist with students creating their own videos during the Treasure Hunt.

### **Math Jeopardy**

The Math Jeopardy competition was organized this year by Ron Taylor. The question writers were Jeffrey Powell from Sanford University and Brian Wagner from UT Martin. The moderators were Mike Berry from UTK, Brian O'Connor from Tennessee Tech and Timothy Goldberg from Lenior-Rhyne University. Team sponsors contributed questions and served as judges, timekeepers and scorers for the competition.

Twenty-six teams competed in the preliminary rounds of math jeopardy. The winning team in each preliminary round plus the next highest scoring teams went on to compete in three concurrent semifinal rounds.

The winning team in each semifinal round, plus the next highest scoring team advanced to the final round of Math Jeopardy, moderated by Mike Berry in front of a large crowd in the plenary lecture hall. Finalist were Austin Peay University, University of South Carolina, UNC-Wilmington and Georgia Southern University.

Austin Peay University's correct response to the Final Jeopardy secured their spot as 2015 MAA-SE Math Jeopardy Champions. Team members from the "final four" sponsors are shown above.



### **Math T-Shirt Competition:**

Entries in the sixth annual math T-Shirt contest included a variety of silly and clever designs. In the end, the championship went to the "Mean Girls" of Winthrop University who earned their reputation during a fierce first round of Math Jeopardy. Their winning t-shirt design is shown on the next page.

We look forward to seeing many more amazing T-shirt designs next year, as this competition for bragging rights continues to grow.

### Graduate School and Career Fair,

The Graduate School and Career Fair featured representatives from eight graduate programs in the region: Clemson University, Georgia Southern University, University of Georgia, North Carolina State University, Tennessee Tech University, UNC-Greensboro, University of Tennessee, Wake Forest University and UNC-Wilmington.

In addition to free pizza and networking opportunities for all students, the event features a raffle for an Amazon gift card. Students who made visits to at least five tables at the fair were eligible to enter the raffle. One entrant was chosen at random during a plenary session.



### Student Presentations and Posters

Mathematical research is the heart of any section meeting, and the students are no exception to this rule. This year thirty-five undergraduates and at least seven graduate students gave talks, and thirteen under-



graduates presented posters. This section is grateful for the many volunteers who helped organize, moderate and judge the talks and posters. Special thanks go to Chris Raridon, and Antara Mukherjee for organizing the poster session. In the ninth annual awarding of the Walt and Susan Patterson Prize for outstanding undergraduate research, the following seven oral presentations and three posters were recognized.

#### Oral Presentations:

Jeffery Fisher, Lenoir Rhyne University: *The Path Between the Points: Interpolation and Splines*.

Madeline Edwards, Elon University: *Derivative Sign Patterns for Infinitely Differentiable Functions in*

*Three-Dimensions*.

Moriah Gibson, Georgia College and State University: *Various Properties of the Fibonacci Number Sequence*.

Kaige Lindberg, The Citadel: *A closed form for the sums of squares of consecutive Lucas numbers*.

Jerez Chen, Furman University: *Snakes on the Plane*.

Soowhan Yoon, Mercer University: *Linear Sums of Binomial Coefficients*.

#### Posters:

Amber Holmes, LaGrange College: *An Introduction to Phylogenetics and Tree Space*

Ben Eavenson, Emmanuel College: *Optimization of Water Delivery for Optimal Fire Flow Capabilities*

Emili Moan, Winthrop University: *Combinatorics of Linked Systems of Quartet Trees*

### Graduate Student Career Development Workshop:

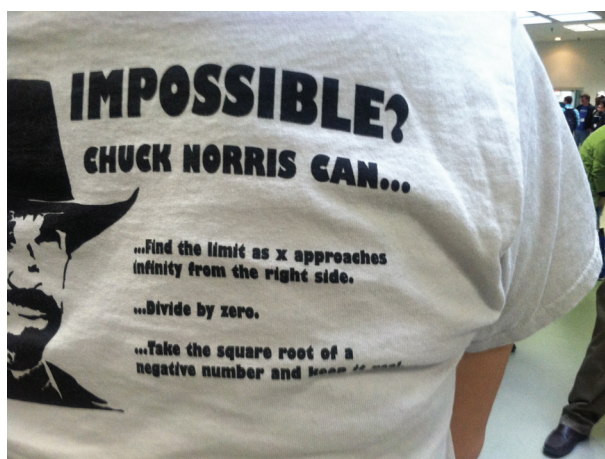
The conference included a special professional development workshop for graduate students. Organizer Sarah Frick of Furman University ran a workshop on Friday morning which included advice on career options, graduate school, networking tips, mock interviews and a panel discussion. In the afternoon participants presented their work in a special session where panelists provided constructive feedback to help



strengthen the participants' communication skills. This event was a real hit, and we hope it continues and grows in the coming years. Please encourage your graduate students to participate!

**Graduate School Panel Discussion:**

For the first year, Jennifer Royal of Mercer University hosted a panel discussion on *How to Survive Graduate School: Tips for success for students from all backgrounds*. The panel included Michelle from Belmont University, Keith Howard from Mercer University, Melissa Tolley Nink from Wingate University and Carmen Wright from Jackson State University. This event was very well received and will be scheduled in the future to serve a wider student audience.



**Join us next year at the  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Birmingham, AL  
March 25-26, 2016!**

The Mathematics Department in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham will host the 2016 meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America, March 25-26, 2016 during the Spring Break for UAB. Headquarters for the meeting will be Heritage Hall (pictured) at the corner of University Boulevard and 14<sup>th</sup> Street South in Birmingham, one of UAB's newest classroom buildings. Blocks of rooms will be reserved at hotels within walking distance. Most meeting rooms will be in Heritage Hall or within one block. There is ample parking in a lot and a deck within one block of HHB. UAB is easily accessible via Interstates 65, 20, and 59. Come one, come all!



Mathematics faculties of Birmingham-Southern College, Samford University, and Miles College, all in Birmingham, will be cooperating with UAB faculty in organizing the meeting.







## **ANNUAL SECTION BUSINESS MEETING**

### MINUTES OF MAA-SE SPRING BUSINESS MEETING

8:05 am, March 14, 2015

UNC Wilmington

Pat Humphrey, Section Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:05 am.

The meeting opened with introductions.

Pat Humphrey reminded attendees about the section's new presence on social media.

There's a public Facebook page (MAA Southeast), a private Facebook discussion group (MAA-SE (MAA Southeastern Section)), and a twitter account (@maasoutheast).

Emily Hynds, Treasurer, gave a section financial update. Copies of the financial report are available upon request.

Pat Humphrey then proposed a series of resolutions which thanked the many people who helped to make this meeting possible. The resolutions passed unanimously.

Pat Humphrey, Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of nominees for offices. The slate was accepted unanimously.

#### Office:

#### Nominee

Newsletter Editor:	Jessica Hamm, Winthrop University
Section Lecturer:	Chris Raridan, Clayton State University
NC State Director:	Jason Parsley, Wake Forest University
SC State Director:	Brian Beasley, Presbyterian College
Student Activities Coordinator:	Kristen Abernathy, Winthrop University
Project NExT Co-director:	Stacey Ernstberger, LaGrange College

All other officers continue see: <http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/section/officers.php>

Pat Humphrey reported that the Site Selection Committee recommended the location for the 2017 spring meeting to be Mercer University. That recommendation was approved by the executive committee.

Pat Humphrey then presented the Governor's report which highlighted many features of the MAA.

- Celebrating a Century of Advancing Mathematics
- MAA revenue sources
- Diverse Programs of the MAA
- MAA for students
- MAA Project NExT
- Grants
- CUPM

New CUPM Curriculum Guide is now available at [www.MAA.org/CUPM](http://www.MAA.org/CUPM).

The key cognitive and content goals were endorsed by the Board of Governors at MAA MathFest 2014. The guide

points to ongoing work on the first two years being carried out through other MAA projects (e.g., [www.MAA.org/common-vision](http://www.MAA.org/common-vision)).

- Membership options – both personal and departmental.

Membership categories:

Regular  
Member Plus  
Departmental  
Student  
K-12 Teacher

See [www.MAA.org/membership-categories](http://www.MAA.org/membership-categories) for more details

- MAA Competitions  
MAA Press

We are rebranding the publishing program as “MAA Press” to generate awareness of MAA as a publisher, drive sales, and attract authors.

The publishing program produces three professional journals:

American Mathematical Monthly  
College Mathematics Journal  
Mathematics Magazine

We publish two member magazines:

Math Horizons  
MAA Focus

Members receive:

Electronic access to MAA’s three MAA journals and *Math Horizons*.

Print subscriptions as an add-on, at \$5 per issue.

(\$50 annually for the *American Mathematical Monthly*, \$25 each for *Mathematics Magazine* and the *College Mathematics Journal*, and \$20 for *Math Horizons*)

One way the MAA books program serves our profession is by publishing excellent and innovative textbooks at reasonable prices.

Consider adopting an MAA text for your course—it will help your students and your Association. You can find the latest textbook catalog at [www.maa.org/publications](http://www.maa.org/publications)

Our online resources include:

MAA Reviews - reviews of books on mathematics

Convergence - resources for teaching mathematics

Our portfolio also includes e-books and electronic versions of journals & magazines.

MAA members can access JSTOR, a full-text archive (<http://www.jstor.org/>) of MAA journals and *Math Horizons* back to 2010, for \$30 annually.

- MAA Book Sales  
MathFest 2015

MAA MathFest 2015 is a full day longer this year.

Mathematical sessions run Wednesday morning August 5th through Saturday evening August 8th. There will be special centennial lectures, presentations and events throughout MathFest 2015 commemorating the milestone. Registration opens on March 1st.

John Mayer invited everyone to attend the 2016 meeting March 25-26 at the University Alabama at Birmingham.

Jim Gleason gave a report on attendance at the 2015 meeting. He noted that many of the attendees are not MAA members. A brief discussion followed on ways to encourage more student membership through the new departmental membership option.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 am.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America expresses warm appreciation to the faculty and staff of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, and to the administration of the University of North Carolina Wilmington, for providing excellent facilities for the 94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. We have been the beneficiaries of their hard work, extraordinary efforts, gracious hospitality and helpfulness in attention to many details that such a meeting involves. We mention in particular the contributions of the following individuals:

### ***Organizing Committee:***

Russell Herman, Chair

Michael Freeze, Yishi Want, Matthew TenHuisen, and Beth Casper  
(University of North Carolina Wilmington)

Thanks also go to the UNCW Cameron School of Business, and College of Arts and Sciences for letting us use their buildings. Thank you to Conference Services for providing access to the Student Union, Warwick Center, Burney Center, and Madeline Suite. Thank you also to the many faculty and student volunteers.

### **MAA Book Table**

Tonya Adkins (Johnson & Wales University)

### **Math Jeopardy Game**

Michael Berry (UT-Knoxville), Brian O'Connor (Tennessee Tech), Jeffrey Powell (Samford University), Brian Wagner (Univ. of Tennessee-Martin), Markus Iturriaga (UT-Knoxville), and Timothy Goldberg (Lenoir-Rhyne University)

### **Math Treasure Hunt**

Emily Braley (Duke University), Meredith Burr (Clemson University), Timothy Goldberg (Lenoir Rhyne University), Rachel Grotheer (Clemson University), Jessie Hamm (Winthrop University), Bryan Lai (USC Salkehatchie), Thomas Lewis (USC Greensboro), Kristen Mazur (Elon University), Lee Raney (University of North Alabama), Aaron Rapp (Western Carolina University), Laura Stell (Mars Hill University), Breeanne Swart (The Citadel), Julie Barnes (Western Carolina University)

### **Undergraduate Poster Session and Patterson Prize**

Christopher Raridan (Clayton State University), and Antara Mukherjee (The Citadel)

We give a special thank you to all of the volunteer judges.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses warm appreciation to the following companies for their support of the 94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting:

Hawkes Learning Systems  
Mathematical Association of America  
Pearson  
Macmillan Science and Education  
University of North Carolina Wilmington

Each of these companies has provided a display and/or financial support.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses its gratitude to the presenters of short courses/workshops at the 94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting:

*Teaching Numerical Analysis using the free software SAGE MATH*, Razvan Mezei (Lenoir-Rhyne University)

*Graduate Student Career Development*, organized by Sarah Frick (Furman University)

We commend these individuals for their service to the Section through the presentation of these inviting and stimulating courses and workshops.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA acknowledges with genuine appreciation the excellent and faithful leadership and dedicated hard work of those officers completing their terms of service:

Martha Abell, *Section Governor*

Kristen Abernathy, *Newsletter Editor*

Patrick Bahls, North Carolina *State Director*

Jim Solazzo, South Carolina *State Director*

Yuliya Babenko, *Section Lecturer*

We anticipate with delight and pleasure their continued presence among us, as well as their valuable contributions to the Section in the future.





## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses its gratitude to the organizers of special sessions at the 94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting:

***Distinguished Lectures for Students***

Joe Rusinko (Winthrop University)

***Research in Mathematics Education***

Benjamin Wescoatt (Valdosta State University)

***Preparing Students to Teach Undergraduate Mathematics***

Jack Bookman (Duke University)

***Distance and Digital Learning in Higher Education Mathematics***

Jon Ernstberger (LaGrange College)

***Critiqued Presentations by Graduate Students***

Sarah Frick (Furman University)

***History of Mathematics***

AbdelNaser Al-Hasan (Newberry College)

We commend these individuals for their service to the Section through the organization of these valuable additions to the program.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses its gratitude to the presenters of special talks at the 94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting:

*MAA 100/MAASE 93*, Virginia Watson (Kennesaw State University)

*The Lion and the Path*, Linda Braddy (Deputy Executive Director, MAA)

We commend these individuals for their service to the Section through the presentation of these inviting and stimulating talks.

## **Mathematics Association of America – Southeastern Section Distinguished Service Award 2015 Jeff Clark**



The 2015 Distinguished Service Award of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America is awarded to Jeff Clark of Elon College for his many contributions to our organization and to mathematics in general. Although Jeff has rarely missed a section meeting in the last 20 years, Jeff was asked to present at the International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics conference this weekend and it is our loss that he is unable to join us. Those who know Jeff know that he has presented a talk at this conference virtually every time he attends. Nominators noted that, though soft-spoken, he has a wonderful conversational style and a gift for delivery. In addition, for two decades, he has strongly encouraged undergraduate participation, at first by helping the Elon faculty shepherd their undergraduates to this conference and later, as department chair, by providing resources for faculty and students alike to attend.

As one nominator wrote “Jeff is committed to the idea of professional service”, having served as the North Carolina State Director from 1997 to 2000, during which time he supervised the student poster session at this conference and strongly supported having a state dinner at Elon. His colleagues note that he led by example, encouraging them to contribute to the department and the section in various ways. Jeff was instrumental in bringing the section meeting to Elon in 2010 and, according to his nominators, no one could have been happier!

Those of us who served on the Executive Committee between 2003 and 2010 know how useful Jeff’s role as section webmaster was. His knowledge of web scripting allowed him to revamp and reorganize the site, making it more user friendly and helpful for the Section. As one recommender wrote “There are several key aspects of a good section web page, including: clean organization, up-to-date current information, and a repository for section history. Under Jeff, our webpage became an exemplar of all of these characteristics. As one example, he communicated with John Neff and scanned [...] John’s history of the section (1922-1992) as well as the MAA supplement on minority participation for that period. Posting these [to the website] made these important historical documents widely available beyond their printed distribution.” Another colleague noted that after Jeff served as North Carolina State Director, he wrote and posted a guide for hosting a state dinner and meeting, a resource that has been invaluable to state directors over the years. In 2005, at a time when very few sections had considered webmasters, Jeff helped the Southeastern Section Executive Committee define the position of webmaster as a non-voting ex-officio member in the current bylaws, noting humbly that the position involved the communication of the Section’s agenda rather than its formation. Nonetheless, those of who served on the Executive Committee during his tenure recall that his suggestions and insights were invaluable.

Jeff has published over a dozen articles and books and has an even more impressive list of presentations at sectional meetings, Mathfest, the Joint Mathematics Meetings, and the ICTCM. However, it is the list of undergraduates with whom he has conducted research which is truly impressive. Between 1998 and last year, he supervised twenty-five projects with undergraduates in areas from cryptography and probability theory to orbital mechanics and a Markov Chain analysis of the childhood game “Chutes and Ladders”. As one nominator wrote “Jeff loves mathematics and loves the idea of professors and students gathering and sharing that mathematics.” We are privileged to honor Jeff for the excellent service he has contributed to our section over the last many years. Please join me in congratulating Jeff!

## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2016 SOUTHEASTERN SECTION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

The Southeastern Section of the MAA is delighted to present a Distinguished Service Award at its annual Spring Meeting each year. Any member of the Section who is an outstanding contributor to our Section is eligible for nomination. The person selected for 2016 will be honored at our Section's Meeting, to be held March 25-26, 2016, at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL.

The Section Distinguished Service Award Committee encourages members of the Section to nominate deserving persons for this award. Please send your nomination(s), along with the nominees' vitae and other supporting materials/letters, all as electronic documents, to Jim Vandergriff, Committee Chair, [vandegriffj@apsu.edu](mailto:vandegriffj@apsu.edu). We ask that you make every effort to gather these materials without the nominee's knowledge, as it is the Section's tradition to surprise the awardee with the award at the Section meeting. Previous nominations of candidates who were not awardees may be carried forward for consideration for the 2015 award if the nominator so notifies Jim Vandergriff by the submission date. Contact Jim Vandergriff regarding any questions about the process or nominating materials.

### **NOMINATIONS FOR 2016 AWARD ARE DUE BY 15 NOVEMBER 2015**

The Section Award was made in even numbered years from 1990 to 1996 and annually since that time. The following is a list of recipients:

April 1990 Trevor Evans, Emory University  
April 1992 Billy F. Bryant, Vanderbilt University  
April 1994 James G. Ware, Univ. of Tenn., Chattanooga  
April 1996 Marcellus Waddill, Wake Forest University  
March 1997 John Kenelly, Clemson University  
March 1998 David Stone, Georgia Southern University  
March 1999 M. F. Neff, Emory University  
March 2000 Tina Straley, MAA Executive Director  
March 2001 Charles Cleaver, The Citadel  
March 2002 Sharon Cutler Ross, Georgia Perimeter College  
March 2003 Sylvia Trimble Bozeman, Spelman College  
March 2004 Theresa E. Early, Appalachian State University  
March 2005 Hugh Haynesworth, College of Charleston  
March 2006 Stephen Davis, Davidson College  
March 2007 Joel Brawley, Clemson University  
March 2008 Benjamin G. Klein, Davidson College  
March 2009 Walter M. Patterson, III, Lander University  
March 2010 Ray E. Collings, Georgia Perimeter College  
March 2011 Ellen Kirkman, Wake Forest University  
March 2012 Charlotte Knotts-Zides, Winthrop University Wofford College  
March 2013 Jim Vandergriff, Austin Peay State University  
March 2014 John C. Mayer, University of Alabama, Birmingham  
March 2015 Jeff Clark, Elon College

## 2015 MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD GOES TO MAURICE HENDON



It is with great pleasure that we recognize Mo Hendon of the University of Georgia for the MAA Southeastern Section Distinguished Teaching Award. Aside from the usual calculus, multivariable calculus, and Mathematics of Decision Making classes, Mo standardly teaches the Honors Calculus II class, all three of their “bridge” courses (Intro to Higher Math, Linear Algebra, Sequences and Series), Geometry for Teachers, Modern Algebra I, and, for the first time this year, Combinatorics. He also regularly teaches the Problem Solving course, always bringing in fresh ideas and problems. He has led the summer graduate student teaching seminar (which was part of a VIGRE grant) three times. Mo was awarded their college Sandy Beaver Excellence in

Teaching Award ,in 1999.

His nominator said “I have had numerous Honors advisees who politely refused to take classes from me, saying that they preferred to take them from Mo (sometimes up to four classes’ worth). He teaches in a somewhat untraditional style, always rethinking courses from the ground up and putting his own spin on them, and, in certain courses, not even using a standard textbook. He is phenomenal at eliciting creative questions from students (some of which take us a while to sort out) and at posing unusual questions himself.”

Here are a few representative comments from his students, who are overwhelmingly enthusiastic, although some complain about the lack of technology in calculus homework assignments.

The instructor’s ability to explain concepts in class was outstanding. He would use several examples in class and make sure the class understood what was being taught. I appreciated his sense of balance between helping the class to understand concepts and making us figure them out on our own. His sense of humor also helped to make the class a fun and productive environment.(Decision Making)

Mr. Hendon is an amazing calculus teacher. The way he explains everything is very easy to follow and he makes sure that everyone understands what he has just taught before he moves on to the next subject. He really stresses the fundamentals of the course which allow students to understand the harder concepts more easily.(Calculus I)

Hendon was the best math professor at UGA. He not only increased my love of math, but he also challenged my thinking, pushing me to reach my full potential. Also,[he]helped me to believe in my ability to be successful in higher math classes.(Intro to Higher Math)

In summary, Mo definitely teaches outside the box, but is unquestionably a gem in the classroom and as a mentor for students. The MAA Southeastern Section congratulates him on this well-deserved award.

## 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 in Birmingham, AL.

A nomination form is attached. Each member of the Section is encouraged to consider submitting a nomination to **Ron Taylor** ([rtaylor@berry.edu](mailto:rtaylor@berry.edu)), chair of the selection committee. Please submit a nomination form by **December 1, 2015**. 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 Hendon, 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 Math and Computer Science Campus Box 5014 Mount Berry, GA 30149

*We're willing to help! If you would like assistance, please contact Dr. Taylor before December 1.*

## **2015 MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING BY A BEGINNING COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICS FACULTY MEMBER GOES TO KRISTEN ABERNATHY**



*Ron Taylor made the following remarks as he presented the award on March 13, 2015 at the section MAA meeting at UNC Wilmington.*

The 2015 recipient of the MAA Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Mathematics Faculty Member has been described by departmental colleagues and students as follows:

The honoree's colleagues describe a person with an energetic personality and infectious enthusiasm.

They also describe a person who is a thoughtful and caring teacher with a commitment to student engagement and someone who has consistently demonstrated teaching excellence in and out of the classroom.

Colleagues commend this person's engagement in scholarly activities with students while also playing a role in transforming student lives.

One colleague said the recipient has played a vital role in the culture shift happening in the math department, resulting in students who feel like the department is their academic home and have become more engaged in their coursework.

Students describe our honoree as an understanding, reliable and warm hearted mentor.

One student describes a professor whose teaching is breath-taking and inspirational.

...finally...

A colleague describes someone who is an engaging and innovative teacher as well as an able and enthusiastic mentor and notes that she has a bright future in our profession.

Please join me in congratulating the recipient of the 2015 MAA Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Mathematics Faculty Member - Dr. Kristen Abernathy of Winthrop University.





## 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 Thursday, December 31, 2015 to:

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

Questions may be directed to Ron at [rtaylor@berry.edu](mailto: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 34 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 December 31, 2015*

**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:	/ /

## **SOUTHEASTERN SECTION OFFICERS 2015-2016**

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

## **MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION COMMITTEES**

### **2015-2016**

<b>Section Teaching Award:</b>	Ron Taylor Maurice Hendon State Directors
<b>Section Service Award:</b>	Ellen Kirkman (Chair) Charlotte Knotts-Zides Jim Vandergriff John Mayer Jeff Clark
<b>Nominations:</b>	Ellen Kirkman Chris Raridan Laurie Heyer Antara Mukherjee Brian O'Connor David Dempsey
<b>Site Selection:</b>	Trent Kull Andrew Hetzel Russell Herman

**Southeastern Section MAA Website**  
**<http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/>**