Table of Contents

Section Calendar 2

From the Chair 3

From the Governor 5

Fall Executive Committee Meeting 9

Call for Nominations for Distinguished Service Award 12

Announcements 13

News from the Campuses 16

Meeting Information ..... Center

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. Full page ads are available for graduate programs and for corporate ads. Quarter page ads are available for position advertisements. Contact the advertising manager for details.

Material may be submitted to the editor on paper, by email, or on 3.5" diskette, electronic forms are 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

December 2-4, 2005	International Conference on Statistics, Combinatorics, Mathematics and Applications (SCMA 2005)
January 12-15, 2006	MAA/AMS Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX
March 16-19, 2006	International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics, Orlando, FL
March 30, 2006	Joe Gallian, University of Minnesota, delivers Parsons Lecture at University of North Carolina Asheville, Asheville, NC
March 31– April 1, 2006	**Southeastern Section MAA, Joint Meeting with SIAM SEAS, Auburn, AL**
April 26-29, 2006	NCTM Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO
August 10-12, 2006	MathFest: Knoxville, TN
November 2-5, 2006	AMATYC Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, OH
January 4-7, 2007	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
March 16-17, 2007	**Southeastern Section MAA, Statesboro, GA**
March 21-24, 2007	NCTM Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
August 3-5, 2007	MathFest: San Jose, CA
November 15-18, 2007	AMATYC Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
January 6-9, 2008	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
April 9-12, 2008	NCTM Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT
July 31–August 2, 2008	MathFest: Madison, WI
November 20-23, 2008	AMATYC Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
January 7-10, 2009	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
April 22-25, 2009	NCTM Annual Meeting, Washington, DC

From the Chair

Hello and thank you for reading this article! As I write this article, another hurricane is barreling toward the Gulf Coast and my thoughts go out to the many colleagues and students in the Southeast who were affected by Hurricane Katrina (or any of the other storms in this active hurricane season) and to those whose lives will likely be disrupted by this newest hurricane.

The Executive Committee accomplished much at its meeting at Wofford College in September and I want to thank all of the individuals who traveled to the upstate of South Carolina to contribute their creative ideas and energy to the group. The most demanding issue on our agenda was a review of the Section Bylaws, and the Executive Committee has recommended changes that will bring our current bylaws up-to-date. New positions of Student Activities Coordinator and of Beginning Faculty Coordinator have been created and the offices of Webmaster and Historian have been formally added to the bylaws. Once the wording of the bylaws has been approved by the Committee on Sections, we will distribute a copy of the proposed changes electronically to each member of the section. We ask that you carefully read these changes prior to the spring meeting; an official vote on whether to adopt these changes will be conducted at the spring business meeting.

The local organizing committee at Auburn University, led by Narendra Govil, is busy coordinating our spring meeting on March 31 and April 1, 2006; the opportunity created by combining forces with SIAM to offer another joint meeting has energized our planning! Four intriguing short courses are available Friday morning and, once again, in addition to accepting contributed papers, there will be organizers of special sessions as well. Please urge your students to present papers and posters and to organize a team for the Math Jeopardy competition. You can find additional information in this newsletter and on the section webpage.

This spring we gather for our eighty-fifth annual meeting and some of you may have saved historic materials such as programs, abstracts, or photos from previous meetings; please consider donating these valuable items to the newly established section archives at Georgia Tech. The historian of the section , Joe Albree of Auburn University at Montgomery, would be delighted to talk with you about potential contributions; he can be reached at 334-244-3261 or via the e-mail listed on the inside cover of the newsletter.

The 2007 spring meeting will be at Georgia Southern University, March 16-17, and planning is under way to focus on a theme of encouraging undergraduate

research. The Section is also privileged to play host to this summer's Mathfest, August 10-12, 2006, in Knoxville, Tennessee. Having completed my doctorate at the University of Tennessee, I can assure you that Knoxville has plenty of restaurants and interesting sites and will make an excellent spot for a "working vacation" – I certainly hope to see many of you there! You can find information about these meetings and other important events by visiting the Calendar of Events on the section website (www.maa.org/southeastern). If you would like to post an event on the calendar, please contact our webmaster, Jeff Clark of Elon University. The website also contains information about section officers, committees, institutions and departmental liaisons as well as the current section bylaws and information about the upcoming spring meeting.

Hopefully I'll get to see many of you in San Antonio for the January AMS/MAA meeting; if you go, be sure to enjoy a stroll around the city's Riverwalk (and, for even more fun, go on one of the ferry boat tours!) Enjoy reading the articles in this newsletter and thank you for contributing to the success of mathematical events in the section!!!

Charlotte Knotts-Zides

Project NExT-SE

Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) is a national program for new or recent Ph.D.'s in the mathematical sciences interested in improving the teaching and learning of undergraduate mathematics. Project NExT-SE is the Southeastern Section's version of the program.

The current class of NExT-SE fellows will meet for workshops on March 30-31, 2006, just prior to the beginning of the Sectional meeting at Auburn. NExT-SE fellows from previous years, national NExT fellows, and Project ACCCESS Fellows are welcome to attend the sessions as well. We actively solicit ideas for sessions/topics of discussion that will benefit attendees.

Applications for the new class of NExT-SE fellows, scheduled to begin in the spring of 2007, will be accepted in the fall of 2006. Further information will appear in the Fall 2006 Newsletter and will be posted on the section website.

Julie Barnes (jbarnes@wcu.edu),
Rob Harger (rharger@highpoint.edu),
Patricia Humphrey (phumphre@georgiasouthern.edu),
Charlotte Knotts-Zides (knottszidesca@wofford.edu).

From the Governor

Before I say anything about the meeting of the Board of Governors at MathFest in August, I want to encourage every member of the Southeastern Section to attend this spring's Section Meeting at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. I have just returned from the meeting of the Section's Executive Committee at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The Spring 2006 meeting was a major topic of discussion, and, based on those discussions, I can assure you that the spring meeting will be professionally rewarding and lots of fun at the same time.

The spring meeting will be a cooperative venture with SIAM, as was the 2003 meeting in Clemson, and those of us who were there in Clemson then know what a great meeting that was. The 2006 version should be just as good. The meeting will begin on Friday, 31 March, and end on the afternoon of Saturday, 1 April. I hope to see you there.

I also need to say something about the Chairs of the Section, and I do want a plural here, since the Section does have two chairs: Stephen Davis, the Past Chair, and Charlotte Knotts-Zides, the current Section Chair. The meeting of the Executive Committee at Wofford was Stephen's first as Past Chair, a title that he has accepted with real enthusiasm, and Charlotte's first meeting as Section Chair, a title that she has adopted with a similar level of enthusiasm and energy. Each of us in the Section owes a debt to Stephen for his hard work and great leadership during his tenure as Section Chair, and there is no doubt in my mind that Charlotte will do an equally fine job during her tenure as chair.

And now let me say a few things that I learned at the Board of Governor's meeting on 2 August, the day before MathFest began.

This was the first meeting of the Board that I attended that was not run by Ron Graham, whose term as President of the MAA ended in January 2005. The August meeting was run by the MAA's new President, Carl Cowen from the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (aka IUPUI). Past President Graham did not attend the meeting, but soon-to-be President-Elect Joe Gallian of University of Minnesota Duluth did attend as an observer. Like the Section, the leadership of the national organization has been and continues to be in good hands.

During the report from the Secretary, Martha Siegel, we learned that our own Dan Teague, from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, who is already on one national committee of the MAA, has just been appointed to the joint MAA-NCTM Committee on Mutual Concerns. Thus, Dan's

service at the national level continues beyond his tenure as a member of the Board of Governors. Johnny Lott, former president of NCTM, will serve as the chair of the Committee on Mutual Concerns.

Jim Tattersall, the tireless Associate Secretary in charge of scheduling national meetings of the MAA, reminded the Board that this summer's MathFest will be held in Knoxville, Tennessee. I certainly hope that the membership of the Section will be well represented at this meting on our "home field."

On a more sober note, the tragic floods in Louisiana came after MathFest, but it is worth noting that the damage done in New Orleans puts the Joint Winter Meeting there, scheduled for January 2007, in some jeopardy. I am sure that Jim will be doing some scrambling this fall to come up with contingency plans and that he will have a well thought out plan to present to the Board when we meet in January 2006.

Jim did point out that there are only a handful of cities that can host our Joint Winter Meeting. The options are limited by the availability of facilities and by an official policy to hold meetings in "the South," broadly defined. The cities on this short list are Baltimore, New Orleans, San Antonio, San Diego, San Francisco and Washington, DC. The policy notwithstanding, however, the Board accepted Jim's proposal to accept a very attractive bid from Boston, Massachusetts to host the 2012 Joint Meetings. Unless global warming progresses more rapidly than predicted, we will need to pack warm clothing for that meeting. However, the temperatures in Boston could not be much lower than those we endured during the last Winter Meeting in Washington, DC.

John Kenelly and the chairs of the Audit and Budget Committees reported that the financial condition of the national MAA continues to improve. Their assessment is supported by the external auditor's report on the 2004 finances of the national organization. This report included no "material weaknesses or reportable conditions." The national MAA ended 2004 with an operating surplus of almost $600,000; $200,000 of this was transferred to the building fund to provide for ongoing maintenance and repairs.

The Committee looking at the dues structure of the MAA will have a proposal for the Board of Governors in 2006. The new structure, if approved, will go into effect for the 2007 year. The new structure is promised to be both fairer and simpler than the current one. [If this turns out to be the case, perhaps the committee can turn its attention to the Federal Tax Code.]

Chris Stevens reported that the twelfth class of Project NExT contained 68 new fellows from 26 different sections. She added that there have 834 Project NExTers over the life of the project.
Barbara Faires who is heading up the MAA's strategic planning process told

the Board that the committees working on the three areas currently under consideration, i.e. Professional Development, the American Mathematical Contests, and Revenue, would issue preliminary reports in November of this year and final reports in November of 2006. It was reassuring to know that there were members of the Southeastern Section on each of the three committees. Barbara added that the next three areas to be considered as part of the MAA's ongoing strategic planning are Students, Governance, and Membership.

Don Albers, who heads up the MAA's publication program, noted that sales are running ahead of last year, with about $20,000 per month coming through Amazon. However, sales through the MAA directly are almost equal to those through Amazon. Don also noted that the MAA has published its first work of fiction, *Reality Conditions*, a collection of short stories by Alex Kasman. You can get more information about this book, and all of the MAA publications, from the MAA's Webpage.

The long awaited renovation of the Carriage House into a conference center should begin this spring and be finished before the end of 2006. The conference center will have two floors with a large room for an audience of 50 downstairs and breakout rooms and a lounge upstairs. It promises to be a wonderful facility that will get lots of use.

Finally, Lisa Kolbe who heads up the MAA's development program told the Board that there were 26 participants on this summer's trip to Mexico and reminded us that the next summer's trip is to China. The dates are 6 through 21 June, and the trip begins in Beijing and ends in Hong Kong. The proposed limit on participants is only thirty so if you are interested do not put off getting more information (which is available on the MAA's website) and making up your mind.

The list given above of activities at the national level is by no means comprehensive but is rather intended to give you some idea of how much is going on at the national level. I also hope that I have communicated my enthusiasm and confidence in the leadership of the national MAA, at both the staff and volunteer levels.

Let me conclude by saying again what an honor and privilege it is to represent the Section as its Governor. I hope that if you have any questions or concerns, you will not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Ben Klein

LOOKING FOR A GREAT MATHEMATICS SPEAKER?

Invite a 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.

David Anderson is the 2005-2006 Section Lecturer. He is available for the next two academic years. Contact him at anderson@math.utk.edu. Possible talks include:

- Rings and their graphs (A*)
- Nonunique factorization (A)
- The quaternions (or, how many solutions does a polynomial equation have?) (E, I, or A)

Bob Fray of Furman University was the 2004-2005 Section Lecturer. He is still available for the 2005-2006 academic year. Contact him at bob.fray@furman.edu.

***E is for Elementary:** intended for college students who are interested in mathematics, and for educated laymen in the general public. No college level training in mathematics is assumed.

I is for Intermediate: intended for students who have completed a year of calculus or other mathematics at a similar level.

A is for Advanced: intended for junior and senior mathematics majors.

Make your arrangements today!

Fall Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America met at Wofford College on September 16-17, 2005. The Friday evening session was called to order by Section Chair Charlotte Knotts-Zides, with the first order of business being the approval of the spring meeting (3/10/05) minutes. Charlotte then gave a report on the Section Officers Meeting at MathFest in Albuquerque, NM. Items discussed included: section annual reports can be found on the MAA website, the section is eligible for a Poyla lecturer in Spring 2007, many section by-laws are being revised with the splitting of the Secretary-Treasurer duties and standard methods of communication being the most common changes, funds are available for section Project NExT activities with Project ACCCESS, MAA books are now available at amazon.com, and section elections can now be conducted on-line. She also reported that there is interest in holding a joint section meeting with AMS.

Ben Klein reported that he has enjoyed serving as Section Governor in that he has been able to see the perspective of the MAA from the national level. He also reported that MAA Executive Director, Tina Straley, will remain in her position for five more years and that she has the organization headed in the right direction in terms of publications and finances. Vice-President for Two-Year Colleges, Virginia Parks, reported that the Section has a new Project ACCCESS Fellow (from Catawba Valley Community College) and encouraged someone from Section Project NExT to contact the individual. In her role as Secretary, Martha Abell discussed mailing labels and state dinners with the group. As Treasurer, she also gave a detailed report on the budget, showing a breakdown of 2005 section meeting expenses and income. Virginia Watson reported on the newsletter and asked for input for a theme article for the Spring 2006 edition. An article about undergraduate research programs and undergraduate conferences in the section was suggested. Jeffrey Clark requested that the newsletter highlight the section website's calendar of events. The State Directors reported on successful state dinners held in 2004-2005 and upcoming for this year. Several states are trying to have two state dinners this year.

Committee reports (given in absentia of each committee chair except Site Selection) included that of the Nominations Committee, which will be presenting a slate of officers for the positions of Chair-Elect, Vice Chair for Two-Year Colleges, Section Lecturer, Newsletter Editor and State Directors for North Carolina and South Carolina. The Section will also elect a Governor this year. The Executive Committee discussed possible nominations for these

offices to pass along to the Nominations Committee with the exception of Governor, which would be discussed at a special executive session Saturday morning. Mark Cawood reported that he would soon solicit candidates for the 2008 meeting, which will be held in South Carolina. There is also interest in our holding a future meeting with AMS (although it appears that this is not possible for 2008). The Teaching Award Committee sent an e-mail announcement to the section through the national office to ask for nominations. The Service Award Committee again encouraged members of the Executive Committee to make nominations. The next time the section will present a national service award is 2008.

Rob Harger, member of the Executive Committee for Section Project NExT, reported that the section's project has seven new fellows in Spring 2005. They also included three new Project ACCCESS fellows. They have yet to make plans for this year but typically select new members every other year. Jeffrey Clark, Section Webmaster, reported that the website has a revised format, which includes the section history written by John Neff and the report on minority participation in the section. He would like news from the State Directors to include on the website and would like help in identifying events for the section calendar. There was a brief discussion about the possibility of having a "members only" section on the website. Jeffrey reported that this is possible if needed.

Section Historian Joe Albree thanked Virginia Watson for the nice article about the section archives at Georgia Tech. He also reported that several section members are sending him materials such as past newsletters and section meeting programs for the collection. He encouraged each officer to send him a copy of his/her vitae and would like a copy from former officers as well. The suggestion was made to have the Historian lead a session or panel discussion at the section meeting to bring attention to the archives and history of the section. Section members wishing to make a contribution to the archives are encouraged to bring materials to the section meeting.

John Kenelly, MAA Treasurer, reported that the national organization, which received a clean report by an auditing agency, is in solid shape financially. He pointed out that the building permit has been received for the national conference center at MAA headquarters and that MAA is seeking a plan to simplify the dues matrix. There are also plans to create a "Century Club" to recognize longtime MAA members.

Under Old Business, Stephen Davis reported that there is interest at the national level for a demonstration of Math Jeopardy at a national meeting. The Southeastern Section would provide the participants and organize the rounds. The demonstration could lead to other sections hosting Math Jeopardy and having a national competition between section winners.

Under New Business, the group discussed revisions to the Section By-Laws to include two new officers to coordinate student and new faculty member activities in the section, respectively, as well as modifications to the offices of Historian and Webmaster. The revisions also included making the membership of the Teaching and Service Award Committees official. After a lengthy discussion, the changes were approved. The revised By-Laws will be circulated by e-mail for final review by the Executive Committee. Upon approval, they will be sent to the MAA Committee on Sections. Once approved at the national level, the revised By-Laws will be made available to the section membership by e-mail for review and approval at the section meeting. With no more discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Following a special executive session Saturday morning to make nominations for Section Governor and to discuss possible ways to encourage new members of the section and graduate students to attend the section meeting, the Executive Committee reconvened at 9:00 a.m. to discuss plans for the 2006 section meeting at Auburn University, March 31-April 1, 2006. The representatives from Auburn gave a PowerPoint presentation that outlined the meeting. Much of the work had been done at an organizational meeting in June 2005 at Auburn with several members of the Executive Committee. They announced that they are including faculty members from Tuskegee Institute and Auburn University at Montgomery on the organizing committee. They discussed the layout of the meeting, locations for presentations, plenary talks, TA Rush, Math Jeopardy, and other aspects of the meeting as well as a boxed lunch and social plans. The Executive Committee commended the organizers on their work thus far and assisted them in establishing the order of plenary speakers and selecting persons to preside over each general session. The group also discussed recruiting faculty to organize special sessions at the meeting and judging student presentations. The productive meeting concluded with lunch at 12:25 p.m.

Martha Abell

Call For Nominations for the 2006 Southeastern Section Distinguished Service Award

The Southeastern Section presents a Section Distinguished Service Award at the annual spring meeting each year. A member of the Section who has made outstanding contributions at the Section level will be so honored at the 2006 meeting at Auburn University.

The Section Distinguished Service Award Committee encourages every member of the Section to submit a nomination to the committee chair for the 2006 award. Please send your nomination including a statement supporting the nomination to Theresa Early, via surface or email. [Theresa Early, 646 Calloway Gap Rd., West Jefferson, NC 28694, earlycurd@skybest.com.]

Nominations for the 2005 award may be carried forward for consideration for the 2006 award, if the nominator so desires. If so, a letter which updates the previous nomination is requested from the nominator.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: January 31, 2006

Previous Service Award Recipients

The Section Distinguished Service Award has been awarded in even-numbered years, beginning in 1990, then annually, since 1997.

April 1990	Trevor Evans, Emory University
April 1992	Bill F. Bryant, Vanderbilt University
April 1994	James G. Ware, University of Tenn. at 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

Announcements

Contribute to MAA-SE Student Activities
The Southeastern Section supports student activities at its annual meeting through:

- TA Rush and a student pizza lunch
- Undergraduate Student Poster Sessions
- Undergraduate Student Contributed Paper Sessions
- Reduced student registration fees

Further, student participation in the Association is encouraged by the State Directors through their organization of state dinners and coordination with MAA Student Chapters.

The Executive Committee of the Southeastern Section invites you to help sponsor these activities through a donation of $10 or more. Make your contribution by sending a check (payable to MAA-SE) to

Martha L. Abell, Secretary/Treasurer, MAA-SE
Department of Mathematics
Georgia Southern University
Statesboro, Georgia 30460

Alabama State Dinner
The annual Alabama State Dinner will be held Friday Evening, February 10, 2006 at Jacksonville State University. The tentative lecturer is Jeff Knisley, East Tennessee State University. He will speak on Mathematical Models in Neuroscience.

South Carolina State Dinner
The annual South Carolina State Dinner will be held this year in Columbia at Columbia College. The event will take place in the spring of 2006 - stay tuned for details. Feel free to contact John Harris (john.harris@furman.edu) if you have questions or suggestions.

New look for MAA Southeastern Website
Check out the new look of the MAA Southeastern Section Website at the address http://www.maa.org/southeastern.

Mathematical Treasure
Student activity
at SE Section MAA meeting

On March 30, 2006, the Thursday evening prior to the MAA-SE meeting in Auburn, there will be a student activity similar to the mathematical murder mystery held last year. Students participating in Mathematical Treasure will use mathematics to follow a trail of clues something like the trail followed in the movie National Treasure. This activity will be non-competitive and will give participants a chance to meet students from other colleges and universities. Also, student chapters attending will be asked to sign up to provide some type of snack. Any faculty members who would like to help with this event or any student chapters who would like to participate should contact Julie Barnes (jbarnes@email.wcu.edu). Details about time and location will be in the conference program.

Mathematics Position

The Mathematics Department at Charleston Southern University invites applications for an anticipated position (subject to funding) at the rank of Instructor or Assistant Professor of Mathematics to begin August 1, 2006.

The position requires a minimum of a Master's degree in Mathematics or Mathematics Education with preference given to candidates with experience in teaching and coordinating developmental mathematics.

Charleston Southern University is an independent comprehensive university, affiliated with the South Carolina Baptist Convention, with over 3,000 students offering 32 undergraduate majors and graduate degrees in Education, Business and Criminal Justice. The University has a strong institutional commitment to enhancing cultural diversity and encourages applications from minority groups. The University is committed to employing Christian faculty.

Review of applications will begin March 1, 2006. Send letter of application, statement of teaching philosophy, vita, unofficial transcripts, and names and addresses of three references to Chair, Mathematics Search Committee, Charleston Southern University, P. O. Box 118087, Charleston, SC 29423-8087.

Charleston Southern University is an affirmative action employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, disability or sex.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Department of Mathematics

The Department of Mathematics at the University of Alabama offers programs that lead to M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Mathematics. As part of the University of Alabama System, it also participates in a joint program that leads to a Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics. Most students admitted to these programs receive teaching assistantships; for the 2005-2006 academic year these assistantships will pay at least $11,000 and carry a full tuition waiver. Highly qualified applicants may be eligible for additional funding. Admission decisions are based on GRE scores, letters of recommendation and transcripts. The Department's strengths include algebra, analysis, fluid dynamics, optimization, numerical analysis and topology. The Department of Mathematics is committed to quality teaching and maintains an excellent learning and working environment for its students. For more information please visit our website *www.math.ua.edu* or contact:

Prof. Martin J. Evans, Graduate Program Director
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News From the Campuses

Appalachian State University (Boone, NC)

We welcome our two newest faculty members, professor Douglas Jones and assistant professor Carl Mummert! Dr. Jones fills our Distinguished Professor of Mathematics Education chair. Dr. Sarah Greenwald and Dr. Holly Hirst received a Tensor grant award from the MAA, and along with our other female faculty will be hosting a day of mathematics for selected high school, undergraduate, and graduate female students. Our congratulations go out to Dr. Sarah Greenwald as she is one of this year's recipients of the MAA Alder Award. Also, our faculty members Dr. Betty Long and Dr. Bill McGalliard both received a Rankin Award from the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the highest honor of that organization. (Submitted by Katie Mawhinney)

Armstrong Atlantic State University (Savannah, GA)

The Math Department is welcoming three new faculty member this year: Donna Bryant, Sungkon Chang, and Sean Eastman. Dr. Chang is a new Ph.D. number theorist from the University of Georgia. Dr. Eastman has just finished a PhD. in numerical analysis at Colorado State University. Sabrina Hessinger is serving in her second year of as regional Co-PI of the Partnership for Reform in Science and Mathematics (PRISM). This initiative has established Learning Communities with formal ties to University faculty at P-12 schools throughout Southeast Georgia. Numerous Science and Mathematics faculty are serving as associates in the program. Dr. Hessinger's successes were central in the NSF's decisions to fund the initiative for three more years.

Tim McMillan received the H. Dean Propst Award as the outstanding Armstrong faculty member for 2005. The award, named for a former Chancellor of the University System of Georgia and Armstrong Vice President, is given by the Armstrong Student Government Association. Paul Hadavas received a grant from the MAA PMET program that will fund a project to implement team teaching in existing pre-service teachers' courses at Armstrong.

We've had some notable student achievement this year at Armstrong. Jenny Seo was one of the winners of the Student Poster Competition at the joint meetings in Atlanta in January 2005. Jenny graduated and is in graduate school at Clemson University this year. An industrious problem-solving group evolved from our Putnam Seminar under Jim Brawner's direction. The group has submitted solutions of several problems to various MAA and Pi Mu Epsilon publications. Jonathan Kish has moved on to graduate studies at the University of Colorado. Jonathan was mentored at Armstrong by Professor Mark Budden. On February 18, 2006 the department will host our twenty-eighth annual High School Mathematics Tournament. Dale Kilhefner continues to spearhead this effort. (Submitted by Tim McMillan)

Appalachian STATE UNIVERSITY

Master of Arts Programs in the Department of Mathematical Sciences

The ***Master of Arts in Mathematics*** is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a teaching career at the college level. The course of study follows the American Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges (AMATYC) guidelines and provides an excellent mix of graduate level mathematics content with attention to pedagogy. Courses are offered during the regular academic year at the main campus in Boone. Students completing this program will have a solid foundation in mathematics as well as knowledge of teaching in the collegiate classroom. Graduates have become instructors at two- and four-year colleges and have continued their graduate education in Ph.D. programs to prepare for teaching at the university level. For admission, students must meet the requirements of the graduate school and be prepared to take courses at the master's level.

The ***Master of Arts in Mathematics Education*** is designed for practicing teachers who are interested in furthering their secondary school teaching careers. The course of study follows the State of North Carolina guidelines for M licensure in mathematics and provides an excellent mix of graduate level mathematics with a focus on issues in secondary school teaching. Courses are offered in Boone during the summer and in the evenings at regional locations during the fall and spring. Students completing this program will have a solid foundation in mathematics as well as knowledge of pedagogical issues. Graduates have continued their teaching careers, assuming leadership positions in their schools, regions, and disciplines. For admission to this program, students must meet the requirements of the graduate school and must have A licensure in mathematics.

Financial Aid: Assistantships for full time on-campus students are available for the 2006/2007 academic year. Awards range from $9,000 to $12,000 per academic year. A limited number of tuition waivers are available for out-of-state students who apply before February 1. Other scholarships and fellowships, including minority student grants, are available though the graduate school on a competitive basis.

Contact Information: Rick Klima and/or Greg Rhoads, Graduate Coordinators
Department of Mathematical Sciences
Appalachian State University
Boone, North Carolina 28608
KlimaRE@appstate.edu,RhoadsGS@appstate.edu
(828) 262-3050

Auburn University (Auburn, AL)

Overtoun Jenda and Pete Johnson ran an NSF-funded Research Experience for Undergraduates in Discrete Mathematics and Algebra at Auburn this past summer. They will have another such program next summer, and again in 2007. Wenxian Shen received a new NSF grant, titled "Dynamical aspects in nonautonomous and random differential equations and applications", which will fund her research for the next three years. Overtoun Jenda and Michel Smith, along with Gary Martin and Marilyn Strutchens from the College of Education, have received an NSF Noyce Scholarship grant of around $440,000. The purpose of the grant is to give full scholarships plus stipends to mathematics students who have completed their degrees and wish to enter the fifth year program to obtain a Masters in Education plus certification to teach in high schools.

During the fall, Geraldo De Souza hosted the NSF-funded 20th Auburn Miniconference on Harmonic Analysis and Related Areas. The Invited Principal Speakers were Guido Weiss from Washington University and Richard Gundy from Rutgers University. During spring semester, actuaries from ALFA Insurance in Montgomery visited the department, making presentations and conducting job interviews with students involved in the Actuarial Science Program. Several of the students were awarded summer internships. In March, Jack Brown received one of the Auburn Alumni Association's Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Awards. He also received the College of Sciences and Mathematics Outstanding Teacher Award during that same month. Kevin Meadows, a Math/Stat graduate student, received one of the (two) Outstanding COSAM Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards at the same COSAM Awards Ceremony. T.Y. Tam was a review team member (invited by the Provost of GSU) for the Department of Mathematics and Statistics of Georgia State University in February.

Wenxian Shen was appointed to the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Evolution Equations in March. Wenxian also delivered a plenary lecture at the International Conference on Non-autonomous and Stochastic Dynamical Systems in Sevilla, Spain, in September and was on the organizing committee of the First International Conference on Recent Advances in Bifurcation Theory and Applications of Dynamical Systems, held in Jinhua, Zhejiang Province, P.R.C., in June. Pete Johnson was a principal speaker at the 19th Clemson Mini-Conference on Discrete Mathematics in October and was "the" principal speaker at the Troy University Mathfest, in March. In January Olav Kallenberg was one of the plenary speakers at the "First Franco-Nordic Congress of Mathematics," held in Reykjavik, Iceland. Olav's new book, titled "Probabilistic Symmetries and Invariance Principles", was published this year by Springer. In May, Chris Rodger gave a keynote address in May at The CTS Conference on Combinatorics and its Applications, held in Hsin Chu, Taiwan, in honor of Frank Hwang, a long time Bell Labs researcher. Chris also gave the Lewis-Parker at the annual meeting of the Alabama College Teachers of Mathematics and gave an hour address at The Twelfth Biannual Italian Conference in Combinatorics, held in Acireale, Italy in September.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

The Department of Mathematics has 34 faculty members and 57 graduate students. The department provides close student-faculty interaction in a broad range of areas leading to master's and doctoral degrees. A distinguished faculty is active in research, both pure and applied, including the fields of algebra, classical and functional analysis, algebraic and differential geometry, ergodic theory and dynamical systems, combinatorics, algebraic topology, partial differential equations, representation theory, mathematical physics, and mathematical biology.

Recently the department has developed a strong group in applied mathematics, which currently has nine tenure track faculty. The primary focus of the applied mathematics program is applied sciences; applications currently represented include polymers and materials sciences, oceanic and atmospheric dynamics, fluid dynamics and nonlinear optics. Close ties have been established with applied sciences departments, both at UNC and at neighboring universities.

UNC is located in Chapel Hill, which is one vertex of the Research Triangle. Academic and cultural opportunities are enhanced by the proximity to Duke, North Carolina State, and the Research Triangle Park.

For additional information and on-line application forms, see our world wide web site at http://www.math.unc.edu. The Graduate School prefers the use of the on-line application form, however, if you must have a printed application or for additional information, contact:

Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Mathematics, CB #3250
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3250
(email: dgs@math.unc.edu)
UNC-CH is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Jo Heath organized a special session in Continuum Theory for the Spring Topology and Dynamics Conference held at Berry College in Rome, Georgia, in March. Jack Brown gave the "Dinner Lecture" at the annual meeting of the South Carolina MAA membership in February. In March, Narendra Govil gave a series of invited lectures at the University of West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. Narendra's book, titled *Great Mathematician Srinivas Ramanujan* (written jointly with Bhu Dev Sharma), has been published by Prabhat Prakashan, New Delhi, India. The book is written Hindi, which is the major language of India and is spoken by more than 200 million people in and outside of India. Yongsheng Han was one of the plenary speakers at the 10th Chinese Summer School in August. This is the annual meeting of mathematicians held in China that is comparable to our National AMS/MAA/SIAM Joint Meetings. He was also one of the plenary speakers at the comparable Summer School held in Taiwan in July.

Several mathematicians began visiting appointments in the department in August. Andrew Lelek is visiting from the University of Houston and working with the topology group. Vijay Gupta is visiting from the Netaji Subhas Institute of Technology, New Delhi, India, and working with Narendra Govil. Randy Tucker is visiting from DataSciResearch, Atlanta. He is working with the statistics group in teaching, consulting and research. In July, Gary Gruenhage gave a workshop (a series of four 45 minute lectures) on Convergence in Topology at the 20th Summer Conference on Topology and its Applications held at Denison University in Ohio. A. J. Meir was invited to visit the Austrian Academy of Sciences' Johann Radon Institute for Computational and Applied Mathematics (RICAM) where he participated, by invitation, in the workshop: "Control of Complex Fluids". The Department also hired one tenure-track faculty member, Peng Zeng, who finished his Ph.D. in Statistics at Purdue University in August. His research interests include Dimension Reduction, Design of Experiments, Bioinformatics, and related areas. We are in the process of recruiting an additional statistician to the department.

The department awarded 14 Master of Applied Mathematics degrees, three Master of Science degrees, and one Master of Probability and Statistics degree during the year. Two students finished their Ph.D.s during the year. Roberto Rubalcaba, whose work was supervised by Pete Johnson, received the Ph.D. last May and is now at the University of Alabama at Huntsville. Kumer Das, whose work was supervised by Jerry Veeh, received the Ph.D. in August and is now at Lamar University, in Beaumont, Texas. (Submitted by Jack Brown)

Auburn University at Montgomery (Montgomery, AL)

Professor Jimmy Nanney retired after a 35 year career at AUM. That makes him almost a charter member, since AUM was founded in 1967. Robert Underwood was promoted to the rank of Professor. We have two new faculty members. Enoch Lee comes to us with a Ph.D. in math and an M.S. in Computer Science, both from the University of Louisiana. His research interests include ring theory, number theory, cryptography and coding theory. Matthew

Ragland's Ph.D. is from the University of Kentucky. He is interested in algebra, set theory, topology, graph theory, and currently, finite group theory.

Our department hosted the annual Zassenhaus Group Theory conference on March 18-20, 2005. It drew 48 participants from 20 states and four nations. Two weeks prior to the Zassenhaus conference, we had our second "Sonia Kovalevsky Day" - a workshop for high school aged women. Dr. Joan Powell, working with volunteers in the department, both faculty and students, put the conference together. The Keynote Address was given by Dr. Tina Straley, Executive Director of the MAA. In February, AUM hosted the first round of the Alabama Statewide High School Mathematics Contest for its region. (Submitted by Rhodes Peele)

Austin Peay State University (Clarksville, TN)

We are please to welcome three new faculty members. Matthew Jones, Ph.D. in Mathematics from Georgia Institute of Technology, accepted a tenure track position in Mathematics. Ellen Smyth, M.A. in Mathematics from Tennessee Technological University, and Julia Warren, ABD in Mathematics from University of Memphis, were hired for a 1 year appointment. One of our students, Amber DeMore, was very active giving talks last year. She gave a talk at Western Kentucky University's 24th Annual Mathematics Symposium, at a symposium at Troy State University, and co-spoke (along with Benessa Defend) at the Southeastern Section Meeting of the MAA. She was also rewarded a Research Experience for Undergraduates position at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan. APSU was a host site for the Middle Tennessee Region of the 49th Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association Annual Mathematics Contest for high school students in April. We will once again be a host site for this contest next April. We also host the annual APSU middle school mathematics contest in April of each year, rewarding and encouraging young students to study mathematics. (Submitted by Jim Vandergriff)

Belmont University (Nashville, TN)

We welcomed two new members to the department this fall. Dr. Sarah Ann Stewart is in a tenure track position. She obtained her doctorate from Vanderbilt University and joins us after working at North Central Illinois University. Ms. Misty Waters just finished her Masters at Clemson University, and joins us as an instructor. Three faculty members, Dr. Mike Pinter, Ms. Barbara Ward, and Dr. Mary Goodloe, participated in the MAA PREP/SAUM workshop on Assessment of Learning in the Mathematics Major that began in March 2004. They will make a presentation on "Assessing a Math Inquiry Course" at the invited paper session on assessment at the 2006 Joint Meetings. Dr. Joyce Crowell is on sabbatical to conduct research on error correcting codes. The department hosted a luau, complete with leis, Hawaiian shirts, and music, for our majors and minors. This annual fall event gives students the opportunity to know the faculty and each other better, and gives the department the opportunity to convey useful information to the students.

A team of our computer science students were the site first place winners for the regional American Computing Machinery (ACM) programming contest last fall. Two students will be presenting results of their undergraduate research at the regional ACM meeting in Gatlinburg this fall. A team of math students participated in the MATH Challenge problem solving competition. The department was one host for the annual spring mathematics competition for middle and high school students sponsored by the Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association (TMTA).

Our new Institute for Computer Related Disciplines (ICoRD) now offers majors in Applied Discrete Mathematics, Web Programming and Development, and Neuroscience. The institute also offers several program enhancement tracks for those who are interested in these areas but do not wish to pursue a major. The director of the institute is Dr. Stephen Campbell. Dr. Glenn Acree is working with the Nashville Technology Council to develop an external advisory board for the institute.

Dr. Sharon Crumpton spoke at last spring's National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) meeting. Ms. Barbara Ward spoke at the National Joint Statistics Meetings. Dr. Stephen Campbell and Ms. Kay Geving presented an Excel workshop at TMTA. Drs. Glenn Acree, Stephen Campbell, and Mike Pinter gave a workshop on discrete mathematics at TMTA in coordination with Ms. Laura Beth Russell, a mathematics teacher from Franklin High School. A number of mathematics and computer science majors and minors made presentations at the Belmont Undergraduate Research Symposium (BURS) and at the Science Undergraduate Research Symposium (SURS). The department hosted a "Conversations at Belmont" for area high school teachers. This evening consisted of dinner and discussions on discrete mathematics. Ms. Kay Geving led a workshop on Geometer's Sketchpad at Hume Fogg, a Nashville area high school. The department hosted a summer workshop on discrete mathematics for high school teachers. (Submitted by Mary Goodloe)

Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute (Boone, NC)

We are please to announce the hiring of Mr. Sam Houston as a new instructor in our math department. Sam recently moved to North Carolina from Illinois where he had many years of high school and community college teaching experience. (Submitted by Mike Bradshaw)

Carson Newman College (Jefferson City, TN)

Kenneth Massey has joined our department as Assistant Professor. He is currently finishing up his Ph.D. from Virginia Tech. Kenneth is a bit of a celebrity in the sports world, as he is the developer and owner of the Massey Rating System, which is used by college football’s Bowl Championship Series as one of its six computer ranking systems. Dr. Sherman Vanaman is spending yet another year of his retirement filling in for a missing professor, this time for Dr. Henry Suters, who is on leave this year and is at home taking care of triplets born last winter. (Submitted by Thomas Bass)

Short Courses
MAA Southeastern Section
85th Meeting
Auburn University

There are four short courses, and these run from 8:30 to 11:30 on Friday. Pre-registration for these courses should be made through Martha Abell by Friday, 10 March 2006. An insufficient number of pre-registrants could lead to cancellation of one of the courses; on-site registration may be possible, subject to availability of spaces.

Cryptography, Security, and the Internet, Jeffrey Ehme (Spelman College)

It has become very common for people to transmit highly confidential information over the public forum that is known as the internet. People routinely use credit cards to make online purchases and this is (relatively) safe. In this short course we will look at the mathematics of public key cryptography that makes this possible. More specifically, we will consider the Diffie-Hellman key exchange, RSA and ElGamal, the Miller-Rabin algorithm for finding large primes, and some elliptic curve versions of these topics. No previous experience with any of the mentioned topics is assumed.

Problem-Solving with the Point-and-Click Interface in Maple 10, Dr. Robert J. Lopez, Professor Emeritus, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and Maple Fellow, Maplesoft

Participants in this hands-on short course will learn how to use Maple 10's new point-and-click interface to solve problems in algebra, calculus, linear algebra, and differential equations. A supplement to the "old" syntax mode of using Maple, the new interface permits significant mathematics to be implemented in a syntax-free environment where a number of ease-of-use features coalesce to a new paradigm for bringing a computer algebra system into the classroom.

As participants gain familiarity with Maple 10's new interface, questions about pedagogy that arise will be addressed. Dr. Lopez spent his last 15 years at RHIT implementing Maple in the classroom, and has spent the first two years of his retirement with Maplesoft, guiding the development of some of the ease-of-use features. By asking the right questions, participants will obtain full access to his experience with Maple in the educational environment.

Internet-based Multivariable Calculus, Tom Banchoff (Brown University)

Abstract unavailable at press time. Check the meeting website accessed from the southeastern section website located at http://www.maa.org/southeastern.

Teaching of Statistics in High Schools, Mark Carpenter (Auburn University)

Abstract unavailable at press time. Check the meeting website accessed from the southeastern section website located at http://www.maa.org/southeastern.

Registration form on back of this sheet

MAA-SE Short Course Registration Form

A printable version of this form is available on the meeting website accessed from the section website at

http://www.maa.org/southeastern

Name _____

Address _____

_____

E-mail/phone _____

Indicate your preference of course by checking the appropriate line; if you have more than one choice, indicate your first choice as 1, your second as 2, etc.

____ Problem-Solving with the Point-and-Click Interface in Maple 10

____ Cryptography, Security, and the Internet

____ Internet-based Multivariable Calculus

____ Teaching of Statistics in High Schools

Mail this completed form with a check **payable to the MAA** in the amount of $25.00 (non-refundable) before **March 10, 2006** ($30 after March 10 and on-site registration) to the Secretary-Treasurer :

Martha L. Abell, Secretary/Treasurer, MAA-SE
Department of Mathematics
Georgia Southern University
Statesboro, Georgia 30460
martha@georgiasouthern.edu
(912) 681-5132

85th Annual Meeting
Mathematical Association of America, Southeastern Section
30th Annual Meeting
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Southeast Atlantic Section
Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama
Friday – Saturday, 31 March – 1 April 2006

Meeting Announcement: The eighty-fifth annual meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America and the thirtieth annual meeting of the Southeast Atlantic Section of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) will be held on Friday and Saturday, 31 March – 1 April 2006 at Auburn University in Auburn, 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. Up-to-date information about the conference will be maintained at the conference web site, which is accessible through http://www.maa.org/southeastern.

General Sessions There will be four general session speakers on Friday and Saturday:

- Lisa Fauci, Tulane University
- David Anderson, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- David Stone, Georgia Southern University
- Susanne Brenner, University of South Carolina

Call For Contributed Papers: The Program Chairperson invites and encourages submission of titles and abstracts for fifteen-minute (20 minutes between the start of one talk to the start of the next) contributed talks in all areas of mathematics by college and university faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates from across the section. **Titles and abstracts** should be sent to the program chairperson (Tom Barr, tombarr@rhodes.edu) before **Tuesday, 28 February, 2006** in order for the abstract and title to appear in the printed program of the meeting. It will be very helpful if individuals send this information in advance of this deadline. Talks will be organized into concurrent sessions, to the extent possible, by the general mathematical area indicated by the abstract. There will also be organizers of sessions for selected mathematical areas:

- Differential Equations, Keith Howard (Mercer University)
- Geometry, Andras Bezdek (Auburn University, bezdean@auburn.edu)
- Mathematical Biology, Laurie Heyer (Davidson College laheyer@davidson.edu) and Meghan Burke (Kennesaw State University, mburke@kennesaw.edu)
- Undergraduate papers, Luis Ceuva-Parra (Auburn University at Montgomery, schmipg@auburn.edu), Karen O'Hara (High Point University, kohara@linus.highpoint.edu)

These individuals will be soliciting papers as well as working with contributors.

Poster Session: Students are encouraged to present research and results of special projects. The session is scheduled for Saturday morning, concurrent with contributed talks. Please send abstracts or questions to Tim Chartier (tichartier@davidson.edu, Mathematics Department, Davidson College, Davidson, North Carolina 28035) by **Tuesday, 28 February 2006** to ensure that an easel will be available for your poster.

Short Courses:

- *Problem-Solving with the Point-and-Click Interface in Maple 10*, Robert J. Lopez (Professor Emeritus, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology)
- *Cryptography, Security, and the Internet*, Jeffrey Ehme (Spelman College)
- *Internet-based Multivariable Calculus*, Tom Banchoff (Brown University)
- *Teaching of Statistics in High Schools*, Mark Carpenter (Auburn University)

A fuller description of the short courses will appear in this newsletter and on the conference web page, which can be accessed through the Section web page http://www.maa.org/southeastern. Pre-registration for short courses is made through the section Secretary, Martha Abell, using the form in this newsletter.

Math Jeopardy Contest: Teams of three or four undergraduates will compete in a mathematical version of the well-known answer-question game. Competition is limited to the first twelve schools that register. Topics will include calculus (single and multivariable), linear algebra, differential equations, and discrete mathematics. To register a team or to find out more, contact Mike Mossinghoff (mimossinghoff@davidson.edu) or John Harris (john.harris@furman.edu).

Project NExT-SE: Project NExT-SE (New Experiences in Teaching) is the Southeastern MAA Section's instantiation of the na-

tional program for new and recent Ph.D.'s in mathematical sciences interested in improving the learning and teaching of undergraduate mathematics. Activities on Thursday afternoon are planned as well as sessions on Friday morning. Contact Julie Barnes (jbarnes@wcu.edu) or Rob Harger (rharger@highpoint.edu) and visit http://math.highpoint.edu/NExT-SE.

T. A. Rush and Career Fair: In this venue, students considering graduate school in mathematical sciences have opportunities to meet with representatives of various graduate programs. Narendra Govil (govilnk@mail.auburn.edu) and Edward Slaminka (slamiee@auburn.edu) will be organizing the T.A. Rush; representatives of graduate programs should contact him to register their participation ($25 fee payable to Auburn University). Concurrently, representatives of various employers of undergraduate majors in mathematical sciences will have displays providing information about career opportunities in their companies and will meet with students. Pat Goeters (goetehp@auburn.edu) and Joe Albree (aalbree@mail.aum.edu) will be organizing the Career Fair.

Chairpersons' Meeting and Liaisons' Luncheon: The Chairpersons' meeting, scheduled for 10:30 to 12:00 on Saturday, is an opportunity for discussion of issues confronting departments. Charlotte Knotts-Zides (knottszidesca@wofford.edu) and Michel Smith (smith01@auburn.edu) will convene the Chairpersons. MAA Liaisons will meet from 12:30 to 1:30 on Saturday, and will be convened by Ben Klein (beklein@davidson.edu). Boxed lunches will be provided for those liaisons requesting them through Ben before 25 March, 2005.

Exhibits: On Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, representatives of publishing companies and other vendors will have exhibits on the first floor of Parker Hall, in the vicinity of the registration desk.

Social Event: The site coordination committee at Auburn is planning a **reception** and **banquet** at the **Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center**.

(Pre-) Registration: Pre-registration for the meeting is encouraged; on-site registration will also be available. To pre-register complete the form found on the conference website accessed from the section website http://www.maa.org/southeastern.

Fees	**Pre-registered**	**After 10 March**
Faculty meeting registration	$25	$30
College/university students, emeritus faculty	$10	$15
High school teachers	$15	$20
High school students	free	free
Social Event	$22	
Boxed Lunch for Saturday	$10	

(Boxed lunch will be from Subway and must be reserved in advance.)

Hotel Information:
Participants should make their own arrangements directly with a hotel of their choice. Blocks of rooms have been reserved (until February 27, 2006) at special rate at the properties listed below for the nights of March 30, 31, and April 1, 2006. Please cite the group name MAA/SIAM Math Conference when making a reservation. Accommodations may vary, and there may be cancellation or early checkout penalties. Be sure to ask about these details when making your reservation. The following are the motels where rooms have been reserved for the conference:

- Comfort Inn (2283 South College Street, Auburn, AL-36832, Tel: 334-821-6699), $55 single king or two doubles.
- The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center (241 South College Street, Auburn, AL, 36830, Tel: 334-821-8200, 800-228-2876), $84 single king or two doubles
- Holiday Inn Express (2013 South College Street, Auburn, AL, 36830, Tel: 334-502-1090), $83.86 single king or two doubles
- Days Inn (333 South College Street, Auburn, AL, 36830, Tel: 334-887-3462, 1-800-444-6835) $60 king or two doubles,
- University Inn(129 North College Street, Auburn, AL 36830, Tel: 334-821-4632) $45 single king , $55 two doubles
- Hampton Inn, (2430 South College Street, Auburn, AL, 36832, Tel: 334-821-4111) $87 single king, $84 two doubles)

The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center, Days Inn, and University Inn are within walking distance; other motels are less than three miles from the site of the conference.

Transportation and Directions:
Auburn is about 100 miles from Atlanta airport, about 50 miles from Montgomery, and about 110 miles from Birmingham. There is a regular limousine service, Express 85, available between Atlanta airport and Auburn. See the website for driving directions.

Updates: Updates to this announcement and ultimately a tentative schedule of talks will appear on the conference web page, which is accessible through the section web page, http://www.maa.org/southeastern.

Charleston Southern University (Charleston, SC)

The Math Department has begun to institute what we are calling our "Bridge" program. It is an effort to improve our foundations algebra course, so as to better help our students bridge the gap between where they are and where they need to be in order to succeed in regular college-level math courses. Instead of meeting for three classes a week we will have five meetings a week. During the two additional meetings the students will be working with their regular instructor in a homework/tutorial environment. In addition to this change in the number of hours we will continue to use math majors to serve as tutors. We are working with a consultant to further refine and improve this program. (Submitted by Bob Tilidetzke)

The Citadel (Charleston, SC)

The department is pleased to have a new assistant professor, Elizabeth Stepp, who just received her Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky. She works in topology and mathematics education. Dave Trautman was promoted to full professor. Mei Chen has returned to the department after spending last year on sabbatical at the University of Connecticut and Utah State University. Hughes Hoyle and George Rudolph taught two one-week classes on Robotics for rising tenth-graders in the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics Summer Science Program in Hartsville, SC. And on Friday the thirteenth of May, Li Zhang gave birth to her son Max, thereby becoming the first member in the history of our department to have a baby. (Submitted by Dave Trautman)

Columbus State University (Columbus, GA)

In fall 2005, Renjin Tu returned from a sabbatical leave during which she studied biostatics at UCLA. Ron Linton joined to department. His Ph.D. is from Vanderbilt University and he currently works in algebra and genetic algorithms. Tim Howard was promoted to the rank of Professor of Mathematics. The CSU high school math tournament will be held on Saturday, March 4. It runs every year on the first Saturday in March. (Submitted by Tim Howard)

Davidson College (Davidson, NC)

The recipient of our award for the top sophomore mathematics major, the William Vinson Mathematics Award, was Mary "Mimi" Hobart '07. Frank Chemotti, our star senior math major received the William G. McGavock Mathematics Award. Several of our students participated in summer research projects. Nick Cain '06 and Mac Cowell '06 delved into synthetic biology and microarray data analysis under the guidance of Dr. Laurie Heyer. Gavin Taylor '06 carried out programming for a website dealing with Lehmer's problem that Dr. Mike Mossinghoff maintains. Michael Flake's review of the book, *How to Win More* was in the April 2005 Math Horizons magazine. Dr. Tim Chartier worked with Nick Dovidio '07 who created a graphical user-interface for the FOSPACK software and with Rebecca Steorts who prepared input for a commercial multigrid package.

On the faculty front, John Swallow is enjoying a year sabbatical in

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE **PROGRAMS IN MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS**

Programs: The Department of Mathematics and Statistics offers Master's degrees in Mathematics and Statistics and the Ph.D. degree in Mathematical Sciences. The doctoral program is designed to ensure that the student acquires knowledge in a broad spectrum of the mathematical sciences, in addition to expertise in a chosen field of concentration. Active areas of research include applied and computational mathematics, ordinary and partial differential equations, functional analysis and operator theory, topology, graph theory, functional equations, and statistics. The degree program for the M.S. in Mathematics is flexible enough to allow the student to prepare for employment or further graduate study. The M.S. in Statistics program is a blend of statistical theory and statistical methods, which provides the student with excellent training for professional employment in government or industry. Students in this program obtain sufficient theoretical background to qualify to teach elementary statistics or to enter a doctoral program in statistics.

Financial Support: Graduate Teaching Assistantships are available for a nine-month period with stipends of $13,000 for doctoral students and $11,000 for master's students. There is also the possibility of summer support. All Graduate Teaching Assistants receive a tuition waiver. Screening of applicants for Fall begins in February, while screening for Spring starts in October.

The University: Mississippi State University is a Land-Grant Institution with a Carnegie classification of Doctoral/research university-extensive and an enrollment of over 16,000, which includes more than 3,000 graduate students. The campus is located in northeast Mississippi adjacent to the city of Starkville and the Mississippi Research and Technology Park.

The Department: Currently, the Department has thirty-three faculty members, including twenty-four graduate faculty, approximately fifty undergraduate majors, and about forty full-time graduate students. The Department's faculty is active in research and publication. Computing resources include a departmental computer laboratory, two computer classrooms, and personal computers in all offices. All computers are higher-end, networked, and loaded with the latest versions of commonly used software packages in mathematics and statistics. The Department provides collaborative support for projects funded through the Engineering Research Center (ERC).

Correspondence: For further information contact: The Graduate Coordinator, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, P.O. Drawer MA, Mississippi State, MS 39762; Telephone: (662) 325-3414; Fax: (662) 325-0005; e-mail: Office@math.msstate.edu; URL: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/math. Students may apply online at http://www.msstate.edu/dept/grad/admissions.

Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disabili1ty, or veteran status.

France. Ben Klein and Stephen Davis both participated in the AP Calculus Reading, Ben as question leader and Stephen as an exam leader. Tim Chartier spent several weeks at the Center for Applied Scientific Computing at LLNL conducting research on MCR, one of the world's fastest supercomputers. Mike Mossinghoff did research at the new IRMACS center (Interdisciplinary Research in the Mathematical and Computational Sciences) at Simon Fraser University over the summer. Laurie Heyer was principal lecturer at the MAA North Central Section Summer Seminar, "Where Mathematics Meets Molecules."

The Carolina Mathematics Undergraduate Research Conference (CarMa), organized by Donna Molinek and Laurie Heyer and hosted by the Department of Mathematics was held last spring at Davidson College. The 2005 Bernard Lecture, Searching for the Shortest Network, was given by Ronald L. Graham, Jacobs Chair of Computer and Information Science University of California, San Diego in early September of this year. The lecture was preceded by the Bernard Society dinner and induction ceremony of new members. (Submitted by Donna Molinek)

Duke University (Durham, NC)

Professor Arlie Petters and assistant professor Anita Layton organized a conference this September celebrating the centennial of Einstein's celebrated papers. Duke math and physics professors Robert Bryant, Ronen Plesser, Kate Scholberg and Arlie Petters outlined several of the contributions of Einstein and their implications for modern physics. Professor Ted Newman from the University of Pittsburgh entertained the audience with anecdotes concerning several of the major figures in 20th century physics. The week was capped by the Duke Undergraduate Relativity Competition in which senior math & physics major Abhijit Mehta won $1000 for his first place finish and junior math and physics major Morgan Brown took home $500 for placing second.

With the support of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Clay Mathematics Institute, and the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute, professor David Morrison will participate in the program "Mathematical Structures in String Theory" at the Kavli Institute at UC Santa Barbara during the fall of 2005 and in the program "New Topological Structures in Physics" at MSRI in Berkeley during the spring of 2006.

Duke research associate Rachel Levy, recently of North Carolina State University, was awarded the SIAM student paper prize for her paper titled "Kinetics and Nucleation for Driven Thin Film Flow" at the annual SIAM meeting in New Orleans last July. The co-author is professor Michael Shearer of NCSU. Associate professor emeritus Richard Scoville died on November 26, 2004, of lung cancer. He had lived for 25,488 days. Scoville joined the department in 1961 and continued as a faculty member until he retired in 1998. He was the author or coauther of 38 professional articles in the fields of combinatorics and ergodic theory, many written jointly with the late professor Leonard Carlitz.

The team of senior Oaz Nir, sophomore Nikifor Bliznashki and Fresh-

man Lingren Zhang took third place in the W.L. Putnam Mathematical Competition that was held in December 2004. This is the tenth top-three finish for a Duke team since 1990. The team of juniors Pradeep Baliga, Adam Chandler and Matt Mian received the Outstanding designation and the MAA prize for their 50 page paper "The Booth Tolls for Thee" written just in four days for the COMAP sponsored Math Contest in Modeling. The students derived and justified a formula for determining the optimal arrangement of toll booths. The team presented their results at the MAA meetings in Albuquerque. The students and their faculty advisor, W. Garrett Mitchener, have been contacted for advice by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. At the MAA Albuquerque meetings, Pradeep Baliga finished first and Adam Chandler placed third in the US National Collegiate Mathematics Championship sponsored by the American Society for the Communication of Mathematics. The Duke Math Meet, an annual ARML style competition for high school students throughout the southeast, will be held on Saturday November 19. For more information see www.math.duke.edu/dumu/contests/2005/. (Submitted by David Kraines)

East Carolina State University (Greenville, NC)

This past year, the department added five new lecturers: Yalin Celiker, Vickie McGlohon, Teresa Obuchowska, Mark Rentmeesters and Darlene Worthington. (Submitted by Chris Jantzen)

Elon University (Elon, NC)

We welcomed Ayesha Delpish and Anthony Mancuso to our departmental faculty. The following students came to the section's annual meeting at Meredith College: Ryan Barnard, Carissa Berglund, Cheryl Borden, Matt Christian, Brittany Davis, Avery Edwards, Amber Gathje, David Runkle, Nathan Shemonski, and Briana Yoho, with Ryan, Cheryl, and Briana presenting papers. Jim Beuerle, Lisa Beuerle, Jeff Clark, Crista Coles, Todd Lee, and Ellen Mir attended from the faculty, with Jim and Jeff presenting papers. David Runkle was selected as the Outstanding Mathematics Education Student for the central region of the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics. (Submitted by Jeff Clark)

Emory University (Atlanta, GA)

The department hired Gideon Maschler, a differential geometer, as an assistant professor beginning this semester. He graduated in 1997 from SUNY Stony Brook; his previous position was at the University of Toronto. Topologist Aaron Abrams and algebraist R. Parimala -- both announced in last fall's newsletter -- have also started.

Vojtech Rodl received the golden Felber Medal from the Czech Technical University in Prague in September. Jim Nagy joined the editorial board of SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing in January. Eldad Haber received an NSF CAREER award. Professor of Computer Science Vaidy Sunderam started a three-year term as chair of the (joint math and computer science) department this September. (Submitted by Skip Garibaldi)

Francis Marion University (Florence, SC)

The Department of Mathematics is pleased to announce that Dr. James (Tommy) Ramey, Jr., was awarded the 2004-05 FMU Distinguished Professor Award. Dr. William (Hank) Richardson, Jr., was awarded promotion to Associate Professor effective fall 2005. The Department welcomed Mrs. Sharon Siegel (Master's of Mathematics Education from Georgia State University) as Instructor of Mathematics.

The Department of Mathematics also hosted the First Annual Francis Marion Undergraduate Mathematics Conference in April 2005 through an undergraduate mathematics conference grant from the MAA. The conference was attended by 29 students and 14 faculty members from seven institutions in the eastern Carolinas. The students made 12 presentations. The invited speaker was Dr. Joel Brawley, Alumni Distinguished Professor of Mathematical Sciences and Professor of Curriculum and Instruction at Clemson University. His talk, entitled "The Gambler's Ruin and Other Surprises in Probability", presented some rather counter-intuitive results from real world probability, including a discussion of the classical ruin problem as well as some research concerning video poker as it was played in South Carolina before the game was banned from the state in 1999. (Submitted by Tom Fitzkee)

Furman University (Greenville, SC)

It has been a good year in the Mathematics Department. We are happy to have Mihaela Dobrescu on our faculty this year. She completed her Ph.D. work at Louisiana State University this summer. We welcome Doug Rall and Tom Lewis back from sabbatical. In other news, Bob Fray has been elected president-elect of the Resource Modeling Association. John Harris was the speaker at the Undergraduate Student Activities session at Mathfest in Albuquerque, NM. Doug Rall worked with a number of collaborators in Europe during his sabbatical and had three papers published this year. Nancy Shell gave a talk at a regional conference of NCTM. Hamp Sherard gave the keynote lecture at the Greenville County Council of Teachers of Mathematics Fall Conference. He also served as chair of the editorial panel of the NCTM journal Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School.

We were pleased last year to have two of our majors participate in the Budapest Semesters in Mathematics program. Two additional majors will be participating in the program this year. Our department will host the Carolinas Mathematics Conference (CarMa) for undergraduates in the spring. The conference will coincide with activities related to our Clanton Visiting Mathematician program. The Clanton visitor this year will be Peter Winkler of Dartmouth College. His Clanton talks will be on Thursday, March 23rd, and the undergraduate conference will take place on Friday, March 24th. (Submitted by John Harris)

Gainesville College (Gainesville, GA)

The 12th Annual Gainesville College Mathematics Tournament for Two-Year Colleges is scheduled for April 8th, 2006 on the Oakwood, GA

campus of Gainesville College. With cash prizes for top students, generous scholarship offers for students interested in majoring in mathematics at Mercer University, this year should be even more exciting and students and colleges from across GA, NC, SC and TN are invited to demonstrate their excellence during a challenging and enjoyable day of competition. For more information, contact Jerry Graveman (jgraveman@gc.peachnet.edu) or Thomas Hartfield (thartfield@gc.peachnet.edu) or visit the tournament web site at http://www.gc.peachnet.edu/math/tournament/.

Dr. Danny Lau received tenure and Dr. Piotr Hebda was promoted to Professor. We also welcome Ms. Nicole Krochek as a new Instructor (Submitted by Gina Reed)

Georgia College & State University (Milledgeville, GA)

We are now the Department of Mathematics. Over the summer, the computer science faculty moved to the School of Business. Dr. Lila Roberts was awarded tenure. Dr. Hugh Sanders was promoted to Professor of Mathematics. Dr. Martha Allen was the recipient of the 2004-2005 university-wide GC&SU Excellence in Teaching Award. Dr. Amy Kelley was selected as a 2005-2006 ExxonMobil Project NExT Fellow. Last spring, math majors Allen Hoffmeyer, Tommy Lewis, and Joseph White won first place in the team math competition at the Mercer University Undergraduate Research Conference in Macon, GA. Dr. Lila Roberts recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation for a project entitled "An Accessible Online Resource for Mathematics Students and Instructors." The project will adapt selected materials from the Demos with Positive Impact (http://mathdemos.gcsu.edu) calculus collection so that they are accessible for students who have mild to severe sensory (visual and hearing) impairments. The major development goals of this project include: 1) adapting existing animations for captioning and audio and provide guidance on how to incorporate these resources into instruction, 2) addressing issues of text legibility for math displays, 3) adapting existing web pages so that they can be effectively used with screen readers.

The College of Arts and Sciences, Oconee RESA (Regional Educational Services Agency), six school districts (Baldwin, Hancock, Washington, Johnson, Putnam, Wilkinson) partnered to garner a grant called Science and Mathematics Alliance for Regional Teachers (SMART). The grant will help area middle school teachers and college faculty form learning communities to improve mathematics and science achievement in grades 6 through 8 with emphasis on the new Georgia Performance Standards. The grant is for three years and is funded for nearly $2 million dollars during that time. In connection with the grant, Martha Allen, Blair Dietrich, and Hugh Sanders led a Summer Institute in mathematics content for middle grades mathematics and special education teachers.

Georgia College & State University was selected to receive a three year, $174,000 PRISM Sub-Award grant designed to help Georgia College recruit and prepare pre-service teachers in the area of mathematics and science. The funds include money for a summer camp for future teachers with mathe-

matics and science programming as well as leadership training with emphasis on teaching. The grant will fund scholarships aimed particularly at minority students who are interested in teaching. In addition, this grant will allow partnership work among faculty in Liberal Arts and Science, The John H. Lounsbury School of Education, and area schools for updating pre-service teacher curriculum to meet Georgia Performance Standards and for examination of effective science and mathematics content pedagogy. Martha Allen and Hugh Sanders are participating in the PRISM Project program called "Collaboration in Excellence." The purpose of this activity is to open dialogue about excellence in P-12 teaching in science and math from the perspectives of content experts and teacher educators. Our department is also participating in a Math and Science Partnership with Houston County. During the year, our faculty are participating in Vertical Team activities and plan to provide instruction in a summer institute in 2006. (Submitted by Martha Allen)

Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston Campus (Decatur, GA)

Mary Ellen Davis was cited for her "unparalleled dedication" to students in winning the Cole Fellow award, GPC's top teaching honor. Virginia Parks was chosen as the GPC Alumni Association Outstanding Faculty Member, August 2005. Virginia Parks has been chosen as the southeastern regional winner of the 2005 American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) Teaching Excellence Award and will be recognized at the November 2005 meeting in San Diego. Dihema Longman is a new faculty member. Madelyn T. Gould retired after more than 25 years at GPC's Clarkston Campus. She celebrated by traveling with her husband (Ron Gould, Emory University) to Japan and Beijing. She is now engaged in genealogical research and documentation, gardening and Jack Russell Terrier control.

At the Student Mathematics League Test given by AMATYC (04-05) – Nationally GPC finished 3rd (of 158 participating colleges) and 1st in the SE region (of 26 participating colleges). GPC students that ranked high nationally (8,000 students took the test): Mitcham Costley ranked #7, Ben Wu #14, Max Bernardy #22, and Jackson Tanis #23. At the Gainesville College Mathematics Tournament (4/2/05), 19 GPC students from Clarkston, Decatur and Dunwoody campuses participated. GPC finished 1st overall, the Dunwoody Team #2 was first in the team competition. Some noteworthy individual results are: Aragaw Akalu (Decatur) had the highest score on the morning calculus test (of 53 participants), Jackson Tanis (Dunwoody) #2, Yuval Rooz (Dunwoody) #5 , and Moses Koda (Clarkston), #11.

In keeping with GPC's focus on improving retention and graduation rates, Clarkston Campus Mathematics/Computer Science/Engineering Department, under the leadership of Dr. Margaret Ehrlich (Department Chair), is piloting a retention program – "Go the Distance" – with efforts focused on the first three weeks of the semester to get students more engaged with their instructors and each other. Georgia Perimeter College is one of the six institutions (others: University of Georgia, Southern Polytechnic State University, Savannah State University, Fort Valley State University, and Bainbridge Col-

lege) in the newly formed Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Program (PSLSAMP). The goal of the program (funded by a $5 million National Science Foundation grant) is to increase the number of students from under-represented groups earning baccalaureate degrees in math, computer science, engineering, and science. Alice Pierce and Sandee House are working on this program at GPC, Clarkston Campus.

The 19th Annual Georgia Perimeter College Mathematics Conference will take place February 17 – 18, 2005. For information, go to www.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc. The Anant G. Honkan Scholarship program, to support purchase of textbooks and to encourage students to enroll in the engineering program at GPC, started in the spring 2005. Anant G.Honkan is an Associate Professor, Engineering at GPC. The first recipient of the award is Damien Kenney who is an engineering major and plans to transfer to Georgia Tech. (Submitted by Virginia Parks)

Georgia Southern University (Statesboro, GA)

This year Georgia Southern has the following new hires in tenure-track positions: Joy Darley (Math. Ed., Ph.D. from University of South Carolina), Mavis Pararai (Statistics, Ph.D. from Central Michigan University), and Jiehua Zhu (Mathematics, Ph.D. from University of Iowa). Patricia Humphrey and Laurene Fausett were promoted to Associate Professor, and Billur Kaymakcalan was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. We said Goodbye to Carol Nessmith who retired after 28 years in the department. David Stone won the College of Science and Technology Award for Excellence in Teaching, and Donna Saye won the College Award for Excellence in Service. We held another successful Mathematics Tournament for junior-high and high school students on January 22. There were over 900 students registered. This year's tournament will be held March 4, 2006. (Submitted by Patricia Humphrey)

Guilford College (Greensboro, NC)

The first J. R. and Margaret Boyd Scholarships were awarded to three mathematics majors this past spring. The scholarships honor the memory of former Professor J. R. Boyd and his wife Margaret. Professors Rudy Gordh, Jon Hatch, and Elwood Parker attended the 8th Annual Legacy of R. L. Moore Conference in Austin, Texas (April 29 - May 1). Rudy served on an invited panel to discuss aspects of discovery learning. The department is currently searching for a tenure-track position to begin in August 2006. (Submitted by Rudy Gordh)

Kennesaw State University (Kennesaw, GA)

Nancy Zumoff retired in January 2005 after 24 years. The department was saddened by the sudden death of Ron Biggers in April. A scholarship has been formed in his honor. Information about contributing can be found at the department website http://math.kennesaw.edu/. Dr. Louise Lawson joins the faculty as an Associate Professor. Marian Fox was promoted to Professor and

Jun Ji received tenure. Wendy Sanchez and Nickey Ice have been appointed co-editors of the Assessment Issues column in the NCTM News Bulletin. . Jennifer Lewis Priestley became a Certified SAS Professional this fall. Only about 5000 people worldwide have this distinction. (Submitted by Virginia Watson)

LaGrange College (LaGrange, GA)

Carol Yin was promoted to full professor after twelve years of service to the college. The department has two new faculty members: Simon Hwang and Jenny Langdon. After receiving his doctorate degree from University at Wisconsin at Madison, Professor Hwang spent three years as a post doctorate follow at the University of Southern California. His research area is in hyperbolic conservation laws. Professor Langdon completed her doctorate degree at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. She was a lecturer for the department of Mathematics and Statistics for four years before she completed her doctorate degree. During her tenure as a lecturer, she served as the director for introductory statistical courses. Her area of research is in dynamic equations on time scales. (Submitted by William Yin)

Lander University (Greenwood, SC)

The name of our Department has changed from the Division of Mathematics and Computer Science to the Department of Mathematics and Computing due to a reorganization of the colleges at Lander University. The new Department Chair is Dr. Andre Lubecke. Dr. Joe Cabri, long time math professor and tennis coach, will be retiring at the end of this year. Professors Beth Lundquist and Kevin Dove are the co-advisors of the Student Chapter of MAA. (Submitted by Pattie Blitch)

Mercer University (Macon, GA)

Clint Patrick and Jennifer Willis were the co-winners of the Riley Plymale Award for Excellence in Mathematics. This award is presented to the senior mathematics major whose work has been judged by the Mathematics faculty to be exemplary. The Mathematics Department has two new associate professors, Dr. Keith Howard and Dr. Margaret Symington. Keith is a native of Macon, GA, and holds degrees from Morehouse College, Georgia Tech, and Vanderbilt University. His specialties are differential equations and biological modeling, and he was previously on the faculty of Kenyon College in Ohio. Margaret holds degrees from Brown University and Stanford University. She is a symplectic topologist and comes to us from Georgia Tech. Frank Edge, who was a visiting instructor for the Mathematics Department last year, is now teaching in Mercer's Tift School of Education. The Twenty-first Annual Mercer University High School Mathematics Contest will be held November 12, 2005. Sonya Kovalevsky Day at Mercer University will be held February 25, 2006. (Submitted by Curtis Herink)

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Meredith College (Raleigh, NC)

Jackie Dietz is the Chair of the Council of Sections of the American Statistical Association for 2005. The grant Science, Technology and Mathematics Partnership (STAMP) with Tim Hendrix, PI, was funded by the Department of Education through the NC Department of Public Instruction. The STAMP project is a partnership among Roanoke Rapids Graded School District, Asheboro City Schools, and Meredith College. "Science, Technology and Assessment Integrated with Mathematics Partnership" will provide professional development for middle and high school teachers in science, mathematics, and technology during the three years of the grant. Jennifer Hontz will be serving as the MAA representative to the AMS-ASA-AWM-IMS-MAA-NCTM-SIAM Joint Committee on Women starting her three-year term at the conclusion of the January meetings in 2006. (Submitted by Jennifer Hontz)

North Carolina A&T State University (Greensboro, NC).

Dr. Gilbert Casterlow, Jr. has retired and was promoted to Professor Emeritus October 7, 2005. He ended his full time career as Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Director of Summer Sessions and Outreach. Before that he served as Professor of Mathematics and Mathematics education coordinator. The retirement dinner, where his life of academics and service was extolled, was widely attended by family, friends, professional colleagues, students, and former students. In terms of his health, Dr. Casterlow is doing well, and is on the mend. Dr. Katrina Staley was appointed as an Assistant Professor, beginning July 2005. Dr. Staley earned her Ph.D. in mathematics education from North Carolina State University. Dr. Yaw Kwei was appointed as an Assistant Professor, beginning July 2005. Dr. Kwei earned his Ph.D. from North Carolina State University. He moves from a visiting position to this current position.

Dr. Robert Mers is again serving as a member of the steering committee of the North Carolina State Employees Combined Campaign at North Carolina A&T State University in 2005, and as solicitor in the Department of Mathematics. On April 2, 2005 Dr. Janis M. Oldham was awarded the Dr. Etta Z. Falconer Award for Mentoring and Commitment to Diversity at the Infinite Possibilities Conference held at Spelman College. In the summer of 2005, the four undergraduate students, Ms. Angela Edwards, Mr. Bryahn Ivery, Mr. Dustin Lupton, and Mr. James Pender accompanied Dr. Giles Warrack to the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) in Newport, RI for a 10 week summer internship. The NUWC p.o.c. was Dr. Marcus L. Graham. The students prepared two reports: 1. Using Parametric and Nonparametric Smoothing Techniques to Improve the EM Algorithm and 2. Target Parameter Estimation When the Number of Targets is Unknown. Along with other interns the students made Powerpoint presentations of their work at a symposium in the Chaffee Auditorium at NUWC on July 21st, 2005.

Dr. Barbara Tankersley was selected as a Project NExT-SE fellow. She participated in related activities while at Meredith College. Dr. Tankersley gave a talk entitled "A Combinatorial Interpretation of the Catalan Triangle" at

the Mathematical Association of America Southeastern Section Meetings at Meredith College, 2005. Additionally Dr. Tankersley served as a member of the Selection Committee for EDGE 2005 (see below). She was moderator of the Pure Mathematics Session during the Infinite Possibilities held at Spelman College April 1, 2005. She will serve on the panel discussion for the National Center for Engineering and Technology Education (NCETE) Fall Meeting at California State University at Los Angeles October 2005.

On April 21, The Department of Mathematics held its 10th annual Math Awareness Day as part of the national observance of Math Awareness Month. The event was organized by Dr. Alexandra Kurepa as a student conference, with NCA&T graduate student presentations as well as undergraduate paper and poster sessions. On April 7, 2005 the Math department once again hosted high school students participating in the state high school math contest. NCA&TSU is a regional site. Dr. Bampia Bangura coordinated the effort. Dr. Bangura was assisted by the NCA&T Pi Mu Epsilon member, and faculty volunteers. From June 6 through July 1, North Carolina A&T State University's Math Department hosted EDGE 2005, a national program designed to increase the number of women students, including women from underrepresented groups, who successfully complete graduate studies in the mathematical sciences. The program provides an academic bridge from undergraduate to graduate school and communicates strategies that help women persist to the doctorate. This includes additional instruction in foundational proof-based math courses, talks by invited speakers, and a mini-courses. Among North Carolina A&T faculty involved, the local coordinators were Janis Oldham (math) and Patricia Shelton (math); Dr. Shea Burns (math) was one of the Algebra instructors; Dr. Gregory Gibson (math) conducted a LaTex workshop; and Michelle Linster (psychology) conducted a 'Difficult Dialogues' workshop. Dr. Ellen Kirkman of Wake Forest University was one of the Algebra instructors, and Dr. Greg Warrington of Wake Forest University was an invited speaker. Additional instructors and speakers came from Pomona College, St Joseph's College, Morehead State University, and other places. This year marked the first time that the EDGE program was hosted at a public university, having previously rotated among Spelman, Bryn Mawr, and Pomona Colleges in its first seven years. During that time more than 75 women students have participated in the EDGE program. This year, 14 students from colleges and universities across the US, who are entering graduate school in the fall of 2005, attended the four-week summer program at NC A&T. Dr. Farrah M. (Jackson) Chandler, 1999 College of Arts and Sciences Student of the Year at NC A&T and an EDGE 1999 participant, was the keynote speaker for the EDGE Program Reunion Banquet on June 18, 2005. (The reunion weekend is when the EDGE 2005 participants can hear from EDGE 2004 participants following a year of graduate school.). Dr. Chandler was awarded the doctorate in mathematics at North Carolina State University during the May 2005 Commencement, and is now on the faculty of University of North Carolina, Wilmington. The EDGE Program originated from a joint effort of the Mathematics Departments of Spelman College (GA) and Bryn Mawr College (PA). National

EDGE founders and directors are Dr. Rhonda Hughes, the Helen Herrmann Professor of Mathematics at Bryn Mawr College, and Dr. Sylvia Bozeman, Professor of Mathematics at Spelman College, and former Associate Provost for Science and Mathematics. (Submitted by Janis Oldham)

North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC)

From May 17 - 21, NCSU hosted the conference: Lie Algebras, Vertex Operator Algebras and their Applications: A conference in honor of Robert L. Wilson and James Lepowsky. Loek Helminck became Interim Department Head and Hien Tran became Interim Associate Department Head effective July 1, 2005. Ralph Smith became NC State's Associate Director of the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI) on July 1, 2005, following Tom Banks' retirement from that position. Rachel Levy has won one of three SIAM Student Paper Prizes, awarded at the SIAM Annual Meeting in July. Rachel presented her winning paper in the SIAM Student Paper Prize session at the meeting, and received a cash prize of $1,000, in addition to expenses of attending the conference. Three Math Department faculty are co-organizing special sessions at the annual AMS-MAA-SIAM Joint Mathematics Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, January 12-15 2006: Loek Helminck (Algebraic Groups, Symmetric Spaces, and Invariant Theory), Agnes Szanto (Symbolic-Numeric Computation and Applications) and Dimitry Zenkov (Contemporary Dynamical Systems). Irina Kogan is co-organizing a special session on Geometry of Differential Equations at the AMS Sectional Meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, October 21-23, 2005. (Submitted by Jeffrey S. Scroggs)

Pellissippi State Technical Community College (Knoxville, TN)

This fall the Mathematics Department welcomes Don Guldan, a full-time temporary math faculty member. He is a former Oak Ridge computer system administrator and earned the Master of Science in mathematics from the University of Kentucky. He has also completed course work toward the doctoral degree. Jonathan Lamb is acting Developmental Math Program Coordinator while Caroline Best is on leave to complete her doctoral program. Congratulations to Claire Suddeth who was promoted to the rank of Assistant Professor and to Carolyn Renier for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor. Seven faculty members received tenure: Rebecca Blackwell, Ashley Boone, Tony Crossland, Jonathan Lamb, Meg Moss, Nancy Pevey, and Linda Streebeck.

The Math Department hosted the Fourth Annual Conference of the Tennessee Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (TMATYC) on April 22-23, 2005. Our conference co-chairs were Judy Ahrens, TMATYC Contest Chair, and Bobby Jackson, TMATYC East Vice President. Over 120 faculty from Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and Tennessee attended the conference. The 24 sessions covered a wide variety of subjects and were well received. Winners of the state math contest were recognized for their accomplishments. The keynote address by Ms. Danielle Donehew, Director of Basketball Operations for the Lady Vols, was both entertaining and

thought provoking.

The Fourth Annual Pellissippi State Middle School Math Bowl was held on April 8 with about 300 students participating. For the past two years this competition has also served as a testing site for the Tennessee Middle School Mathematics Competition. Jonathan Lamb was chair of this event. (Submitted by Catherine Williams.)

Presbyterian College (Clinton, SC)

On March 30, 2005 the Presbyterian College Chapter of the MAA held its annual mathematics competition. For the third year in a row, T.Q. LeBlanc placed first. Second place went to Matthew Oswald, and third place to Ashley Harris. Three students completed Honors Research in Mathematics last spring: Tammy Harris, Michael Smith, and Heather Cheatum. Progress continues on implementing the department's MAA-PMET grant integrating the history of mathematics throughout the math major curriculum. (Submitted by Clint Harshaw)

Southern Polytechnic State University (Marietta, GA)

Professor Donald Young retired in January. Professor John Gordon retired at the end of Spring 2005. Taixi Xu was hired as Assistant Professor for Fall semester 2005. William Griffiths and Paul Johnson were hired as Instructors. (Submitted by Steve Edwards)

Spelman College (Atlanta, GA)

We hosted the Infinite Possibilities Conference from April 1-2, 2005 (http://www.ipc2005.com). This unique gathering was inspired in part by the legacy of Etta Z. Falconer, former Callaway Professor of Mathematics at Spelman, who was the 11th African American woman to obtain a Ph.D. in mathematics and who served for over 35 years. The conference was co-organized by two former students of the late Dr. Falconer, Leona Clark, Ph.D. and Tanya Henneman, Ph.D. It was believed to be the first national conference to focus on the achievements and needs of women mathematicians from underrepresented minority groups. The keynote speaker was Evelyn Boyd Granville, the 2nd African American women to obtain a Ph.D. in mathematics (from Yale, in 1949). The conference closed with the Etta Z. Falconer Banquet, at which Dr. Falconer's life and accomplishments were highlighted. In addition, the first Dr. Etta Z. Falconer Award for Mentoring and Commitment to Diversity, and the first Etta Z. Falconer Endowed Student Scholarship, were awarded at this banquet. The conference was preceded by the inaugural annual Etta Z. Falconer Mathematics Lecture, given by Lincoln University of Missouri President, Carolyn Mahoney, the 25th African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in mathematics. Highlights from the three days of events can be found at http://www.spelman.edu/academics/programs/mathematics/index.shtml. (MAA/AWM have also elected to recognize Dr. Falconer's legacy with their new annual Falconer Lecture, which was inaugurated at Mathfest in August.)

From July 17-23, 2005, Spelman College hosted a DIMACS work-

shop on the Mathematics of Medical Imaging. This workshop was attended by 20 faculty members from across the country and was organized by Dr. Fred H. Bowers (Spelman College), Dr. Asamoah Nkwanta, (Morgan State University), and Dr. Fred S. Roberts, Director of DIMACS, Rutgers University. Dr. Lawrence Shepp, a leading researcher in the area of tomography, was one of the main lecturers. Jeffrey Ehme directed a six week summer REU at Spelman College. This was a MAA activity funded by the NSA, NSF, and Moody's. The focus of research was Cryptographic Mathematics. Students found large primes, factored numbers, constructed elliptic curves, and analyzed various cryptosystems. Jeff also gave a short course on Public Key Cryptography at the Spring 2004 sectional meeting. During Nov. 5-7, 2005, Spelman will be co-hosting (with Morehouse) a MSRI Workshop on Modern Mathematics: An Introduction to the 2006-06 Programs at MSRI. These expository presentations describe the focus on upcoming research programs at MSRI. Current department chair Colm Mulcahy now writes a bimonthly feature for MAA Online called Card Colm (http://www.maa.org/news/cardcolm.html), in which he explores mathematical card trick principles. (Submitted by Jeffrey Ehme)

Spring Hill College (Mobile, AL)

We are doing fine since hurricane Katrina. The campus suffered minor damage and we have over 100 "guest" students, displaced from other schools, enrolled for the fall semester. Charles Cheney remains as chair of the department for yet another year! The curriculum committee has accepted his new Statistics course for inclusion in the colleges offerings and he again graded papers for the AP tests over the summer. Jeanette Monroe continues to work on her doctorate at the University of Southern Mississippi in the area of computational mathematics. Daniel Cyphert will be on sabbatical for the spring semester. It is rumored he will be testing his theories in Minimal Time Trajectories by sailing in the Gulf of Mexico. Contact him by "porpoise mail". (Submitted by Daniel Cyphert)

Troy University (Troy, AL)

We hosted the "TROY MathFest 2005: Celebrating Mathematics in Alabama", a one-day primarily undergraduate statewide math conference held in March 2005. Events included: 20 presentations by students and faculty from various schools in the state, a 1-hour invited lecture by Peter D. Johnson, Jr. of Auburn University, calculus competition, and a graduate school information booth showcasing the various math graduate schools in the state of Alabama. There were about 60 total participants. This conference was supported by an NSF-RUMC grant.

The department continued its math and science seminar, which features presentations by students and faculty of Troy University and one presentation by Professor Curt Lindner of Auburn University. In total, we had 21 presentations. Two Troy University students gave presentations at the 24th Mathematics Symposium at Western Kentucky University; one student gave a presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Alabama Association of College

Teachers of Mathematics; one student gave a presentation at the 83rd Meeting of the Alabama Academy of Science; four students gave a presentation at the TROY MathFest 2005. One student had his solution to a problem published in the *Alabama Journal of Mathematics*; another had his research in hypergraph theory published in the *Computer Science Journal of Moldova*. Troy campus had 13 new initiates into our chapter of Pi Mu Epsilon (Alabama Eta Chapter).

For events in 2005-06, we (tentatively) plan to hold the 3rd TROY MathFest in early March 2006. This again would be a statewide, primarily undergraduate math conference. We will also continue our math seminar.

Dr. Vitaly Voloshin was selected the Phi Kappa Phi Distinguished Scholar Award, an award given annually to a single faculty member. (Submitted by Diane Porter)

University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, AL)

Dr. Jim Gleason joined the mathematics department as an assistant professor in August 2005. He completed his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2002, after which he spent three years as a postdoc at the University of Tennessee. During that time he wrote seven papers in the area of Operator Theory which have been accepted for publication by journals. However, at the end of his time at Tennessee he decided to change his research emphasis to mathematics education. As part of his new position at UA, he will be overseeing the courses and requirements for future teachers. We have three visiting professors from abroad in the fall of 2005: Professor Nattakorn Sukantamala, Chiang Mai University, Thailand Professor Vagif Guliyev, Baku State University, Azerbaijan and Professor Hasi Wulan, Shantou University, China. The department had six graduate students successfully complete their Ph.D. degree this fall: Drs. Minqing Gong, Younbae Jun, Frank Rogers, Dohyoung Ryang, Fei Wang, and Xiaoli Yang. (Submitted by Zhijian Wu)

University of North Alabama (Florence, AL)

Dr. Cindy Stenger, Associate Professor of Mathematics, had an abstract, "Where did the tennis balls disappear to? Things you can see from over there, behind infinity, you can not see from here," published in the proceedings of the 2005 Yearly Conference of the Mathematics Teachers in Israel, p. 18.

Dr. Gary Childs, Associate Professor of Mathematics, has been awarded the Elizabeth Gaines Mann Professorship of Mathematics for the 2005 – 2006 academic year. This honor recognizes outstanding teachers in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. It includes both a 3-hour course load reduction and a stipend to support scholarly activity. Dr. Childs' research interest is in differential equations. (Submitted by David Muse)

University of North Carolina at Asheville (Asheville, NC)

Patrick Bahls joins the math faculty of UNCA at the rank of Assistant Professor. Bahls's specialties are in geometric and combinatorial group theory and its applications to topology. His lecture notes volume, *The Isomorphism*

Problem in Coxeter Groups, appeared earlier this year from Imperial College Press. After receiving his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in 2002, Bahls spent the last three years as a VIGRE Research Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. The 2006 UNCA Department of Mathematics Patsons Lectuure will feature Joe Gallian, Professor at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, and President-elect of the MAA. Prof. Gallian will speak on Thursday, March 30, 2006. All interested parties are cordially invited to attend. (Submitted by Patrick Bahls)

University of North Carolina Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)

An international conference "Probability and Mathematical Physics", celebrating the 65th birthday of Stas Molchanov, was held at Centre de Recherches Mathematiques (CRM) in Montreal (see the website http://www.math.mcgill.ca/jaksic/molchanovfest.html). Department member Boris Vainberg was one of the organizers and speakers. Several other department members also participated including Kingwood. Chen, Jason Holt, Yuri Godin, and Joe Quinn.

Two department members, Zongwu Cai and Yanqing Sun were promoted to Full Professor.

New tenure track faculty, all at assistant professor, are Jaya Bishwal, Oleg Safranov, Shaozhong Deng, and Weihua Zhou. Visiting faculty are JianGuo (Steve) Xin, Mohammad Darefshe (Iran), Jennifer Brown, and Oleg Pavlov. Professor Mingxin Xu is spending the Fall 2005 semester as the SAMSI New Researcher Fellow at NC State.

The department's Pi Mu Epsilon chapter initiated 19 new members. Yuanan Diao has given a very interesting talk on an alternative and surprising solution to Olbers' Paradox. David Royster has accepted a visiting appointment as a Program Officer in the Elementary, Secondary and Informal Education division at NSF through July 2007. He can be contacted at NSF as follows: David Royster, Program Director, Elementary, Secondary, and Informal Education**,** National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd**,** Arlington, VA 22230. Charles Burnap was a finalist for the Bank of America University Teaching award. This was the second time he has been a finalist. Yuanan Diao has a reassignment of duties in the fall semester.

The math department's high school Super Competition attracted 187 Comprehensive mathematics student participants from 19 schools and 102 Algebra II participants from 17 schools. Greg Warrington from Wake Forest was the featured speaker. The talk, entitled The Mathematics of Juggling, was most entertaining.

North Carolina director of the American Math Competitions Harold Reiter reported that more than 5000 North Carolina students took either the AMC 10 or AMC 12 last February. More than 300 of these qualified for the second round AIME, and seven of these qualified for the USA Mathematical Olympiad. (Submitted by Harold Reiter)

University of North Carolina at Greensboro (Greensboro, NC)

Maya Chhetri has been promoted to the rank of associate professor. New faculty member: assistant professor Gregory Bell, received Ph.D. in 2002 from University of Florida. On October 15, 2005, Department of Mathematical Sciences at UNCG hosted a Regional Undergraduate Mathematics Conference organized by Jan Rychtar and funded by Mathematical Association of America NSF-RUMC Program (DMS-0241090. Our student, Christian Sykes, received Waldemar J. Trjitzinski Scholarship from AMS. Professors Alex Chigogidze and Jerry Vaughan are Principal Investigators for an NSF conference grant for the fortieth annual Spring Topology and Dynamical Systems Conference, to be held at UNCG March 23-25, 2006. Some information is already available at http://www.uncg.edu/mat/stdc/. Jerry Vaughan gave a talk at the previous Spring Conference held at Berry College, Rome (Mount Berry), GA, March 17-19, 2005. The title of talk was Heredity of \tau-pseudocompactness. Last winter (2004) "The Encyclopedia of General Topology," Edited by J. Nagata, K. P. Hart and Jerry E. Vaughan was published by Elsevier (Amsterdam). (Submitted by Igor Erovenko)

University of North Carolina Wilmington (Wilmington, NC)

Members of the Mathematics and Statistics Department have been very active this year. Dr. Russell L. Herman received two university teaching awards this year. In May he received a 2005 Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Award. In August he received a Distinguished Teaching Professorship Award. Dr. Michael Freeze was awarded tenure and promotion to associate professor. Dr. Xin Lu has been on a Faculty Research Reassignment for Fall 2005. Dr. Mark Lammers received the UNCW Cahill Award for research on Signal Processing and Time Frequency Analysis.

We have welcomed three new faculty members this past year: Dr. Alina C. Iacob, Dr. Farrah J. Chandler, and Ms. Sonia B. Parker. Dr. Alina C. Iacob, Assistant Professor in Mathematics, joined our faculty this year. She obtained her Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Kentucky and holds a B.A. in Mathematics from the University of Bucharest, Romania. Her research areas are in homological and commutative algebra. Dr. Farrah J. Chandler, Assistant Professor in Mathematics, joined our faculty this year. She obtained her Ph.D. in Mathematics from North Carolina State University. She also holds a M.S. in Mathematics from North Carolina State University and a B.S. in Mathematics Education from North Carolina A&T State University. Her research interests are in Lie Groups and their related symmetric spaces. Ms. Sonia Brinson Parker, Lecturer in Mathematics, joined the faculty in January. she received her M.S. in Mathematics from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. She also holds a B.S. degree in Mathematics with a minor in Physics from Fayetteville State University.

There have been several program changes over the last several years. We had introduced a Statistics major and a Five-Year program that enables a student majoring in mathematics to receive a Bachelors and a Masters degree in a five year period. This year we began offering a Post-Baccalaureate Cer-

tificate in Applied Statistics. It is intended to help fill the need for qualified personnel trained in the proper use of statistical methodology.

In the Summer 2005, an enrichment program in mathematics, science and technology for middle grade students called the Seahawk Academy, had its first debut. Its mission is to increase the number of post-secondary school students interested in science, mathematics, technology, and education; accelerate academic achievement in science, math, & technology; close the achievement gap; and, increase the numbers of underrepresented groups choosing to enter the fields of science, mathematics, technology, and education.

UNCW will host the T3 Regional Conference sponsored by Texas Instruments on March 31 - April 1 2006. These conferences are designed to help teachers integrate TI and other technologies into the mathematics classroom and are useful for both new and experienced users of technology. This year Dr. Leo Edwards will be the Keynote speaker. For more information, visit www.uncw.edu/mat/ti3.

Our students were also active this year. The Mathematics and Statistics Club was resurrected in 2004. The club has become an active student group, going to local mathematics events and consistently raising funds to support future activities. Every Spring the Department of Mathematics and Statistics hosts the UNCW High School Mathematics Contest. The contest is open to all students, however it is mainly geared towards 19 counties in the region. Contest questions and results are posted at the department web site.

Dr. Gabriel Lugo, Dr. Russ Herman and their colleagues from other UNCW departments received an NSF grant of $124,485 for "Increasing and Retaining STEM Majors through Virtual Learning Communities". This is a grant in support of their investigations of using mobile technology in mathematics and science classrooms. They have also worked to move the iLumina digital library, part of the NSDL, into the university library collection. iLumina is a partner in the Math Gateway Project.

The Department web site went through a major upgrade and contains information about the faculty, the department seminar series and additional information related to these news items. It is located at www.uncw.edu/math.
(Submitted by Russell Herman)

University of South Carolina (Columbia, SC)

The 18th South East Regional Meeting On Numbers (SERMON) was held in the Mathematics Department at USC on April 15-17, 2005. The conference had 25 speakers, including two fifty minute invited talks, one by Trevor Wooley (University of Michigan) and the other by Florian Luca (Mathematical Institute UNAM). There were approximately 50 participants. The organizing committee, consisting of Michael Filaseta, Robert Murphy, Ognian Trifonov, and Gang Yu, invites you to visit the website
http://www.math.sc.edu/~filaseta/SERMON2005/SERMON2005.html
to obtain more information about the conference.

On April 9, 2005, the USC Department of Mathematics hosted its 19th Annual High School Math Contest. We welcomed 129 students and their

teachers from 22 South Carolina high schools. This year's committee for the written exam consisted of contest organizer Bob Murphy, along with Professors Lincoln Lu, David Sumner, Li-Yeng Sung, Ognian Trifonov, and Gang Yu. The Department of Mathematics was chosen by the Mathematical Association of America to participate in its proposal to the National Science Foundation for Curriculum Renewal Across the First Two Years (CRAFTY). Debra Geddings and Mary Ellen O'Leary will take the lead role in the department's participation in this project. The department has also been awarded a two-year grant by the National Science Foundation for Project MET (Mathematics for Elementary Teachers).

Several undergraduates have received special recognition. The Academic Excellence Award went to Jenny Lake. The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award was awarded to Jeremy Wolfe. Ashley Enlow received a Knowles Science Teaching Foundation Fellowship (2005-6). Jae Jun Kim received a National Science Foundation Research Fellowship (in Physics). Mary Ellen Kustin received the James Bruce Coleman Mathematics Scholarship. DeVita Lane received a Knowles Science Teaching Foundation Fellowship (2005-6). Jason Owens received a Tau Beta Pi Scholarship. And Andreea Savu received the John Culver Woody Scholarship (of the Actuarial Foundation).

Matthew Boylan joins the department this fall as our first "Palmetto" Assistant Professor. Ralph Howard, along with Stephen Dilworth, organized the 16th annual Southeast Geometry Conference that was held at the department March 11–12, 2005. Thirteen talks were given at the conference. For further information, see http://www.math.sc.edu/~howard/SEGC16. Colin Bennett has been elected by the faculty of the new college to serve a three-year term on the Academic Planning Council of the College of Arts and Sciences. (Submitted by David Sumner)

University of the South (Sewanee, TN)

Grace Kennedy, currently majoring in Mathematics and French, attended the Program for Women in Mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, May 16-27. She then participated in a two-month REU at Trinity University and presented some of her work at the Young Mathematicians Conference at Ohio State August 12-14. Two of our students gave talks at the annual Sewanee-Rhodes-Hendrix Undergraduate Symposium in Mathematics, which was held at Rhodes this past spring. Stephen Carl received his Ph.D. degree in computer science from Wright State University earlier this year. We wish to report, in the hope that others might be encouraged to try something similar, that a practice beginning here quite casually has evolved into a nice tradition. Our Annual Homecoming Lecture series began in 1996 when a returning alumnus volunteered to give such a talk, and the idea caught on among our graduates. Each year since then, an alumnus or alumna, often a student currently in graduate school, has given a talk on the Friday afternoon of Homecoming weekend. This year's presentation was by Elena Eneva, Class of '00, who received a master's degree in computer science at Carnegie-Mellon. She talked about what's going on where she works at Yahoo! There were

barely enough chairs in the classroom to accommodate the audience she drew. (Submitted by William Priestley)

The University of Tennessee at Martin (Martin, TN)

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics welcomed Dr. Steve Elliott to the faculty this fall. Steve received his bachelor's degree from the United States Military Academy, his masters and Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky. Steve and his wife Holly are settling into the Martin community. Temporary faculty for the 2005-6 year include Jerry Brown, Jeff Wolski, and Anna Marie Lovelace. We will host the Math Counts Contest on February 4, 2006, the Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association Middle School contest on April 6, 2006 and the TMTA High School contest on April 18, 2006. The department will serve as hosts for the 54-th Annual Conference of the Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association, September 22-23, 2006.

Paul Foote passed away on May 7, 2005. Paul served as a mathematics faculty member from 1951-1982 and department chair from 1969-73. (Submitted by Bill Austin)

The University of West Alabama (Livingston, AL)

The department of mathematics at the University of West Alabama has a new faculty member. Dr. Younbae Jun is a valuable addition to our department. Professor Jun completed his Ph.D. at the University of Alabama. Ms. Hazel Truelove is coordinating the involvement of the mathematics department with the Science Olympiad to be held at the UWA campus in November, 2005. (Submitted by Thomas Ratkovich)

Valdosta State University (Valdosta, GA)

Denise Reid was promoted to the rank of Professor. Two new faculty members were hired. Chunlei Liu joined us from Troy University and Sherry Feng joined us from the University of Texas at Dallas. Jin Wang will be on sabbatical during the Spring semester of 2006.

The 10th Sonia Kovalevsky High School Mathematics Day was held on Thursday, April 21, 2005. There were 35 students and ten teachers from seven schools attending. The workshops were: Beginning Cryptology: Encryption, Decryption; Modular Arithmetic, Exploring 3-D Shapes; and Fibonacci Art with Fibonacci Numbers. There was also a career speaker and a mathematics competition. This was supported by a grant from the Association for Women in Mathematics. Pi Mu Epsilon held its annual mathematics competition in the Spring of 2005. This contest was won by Josh Sutherland. The 10th Annual VSU Mathematics Technology Conference was held on February 25, 2005. The keynote address was given by Dr. Douglas Meade from the University of South Carolina. There were about 75 participants who attended the 22 presentations and workshop. The 11th Annual VSU Mathematics Technology Conference is scheduled for February 24, 2006. (Submitted by David W. Boyd)

Wake Forest University (Winston-Salem, NC)

Miaohua Jiang, James Kuzmanovich, and Robert Plemmons are all on research leaves during 2005-6. Hugh Howards is the Fall 2005 Director at Wake Forest's Casa Artom, Wake Forest's house in Venice. Among the courses Hugh is teaching is the course: "The Mathematics of the Art, Architecture, and Music of Italy and Europe". Number theorist Filip Saidak is a new visiting professor. Filip received his Ph.D. from Queens University, and he comes from a postdoctoral appointment at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Daniel Watson is a new instructor. Professor Arthur T. Benjamin of Harvey Mudd College will deliver the Gentry Lectures on March 30 and 31, 2006. The Wake Forest University Mathematics Contest will be held March 25, 2006. The building in which the department resides was renamed Manchester Hall in October 2005. (Submitted by Ellen Kirkman)

Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, NC)

This fall, the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science was happy to welcome several new faculty members. Lori Koban, our new assistant professor of mathematics, comes to us from Binghamton University. Bill Kreahling, our new assistant professor of computer science, comes to us from Florida State University. Jeffery Lawson, previously of Trinity University in San Antonio, joins us as an associate professor of mathematics. Wendy Doubé, from of Monash University in Australia, joins us as a visiting assistant professor of computer science. Retiring from our department are Ralph DeVane and Mike Dolan.

This spring, our department will host two contests and one undergraduate research conference. The Computer Science High School Programming Contest will take place on April 4th, and the High School Mathematics Contest will take place on April 6th. The Second Annual Smoky Mountain Undergraduate Research Conference for the History of Mathematics (SMURCHOM II) is scheduled for April 15th. Please contact Sloan Despeaux at despeaux@wcu.edu if your students are interested in attending or presenting 15-minute talks on the history of mathematics. (Submitted by Sloan Despeaux)