Southeastern Section Newsletter
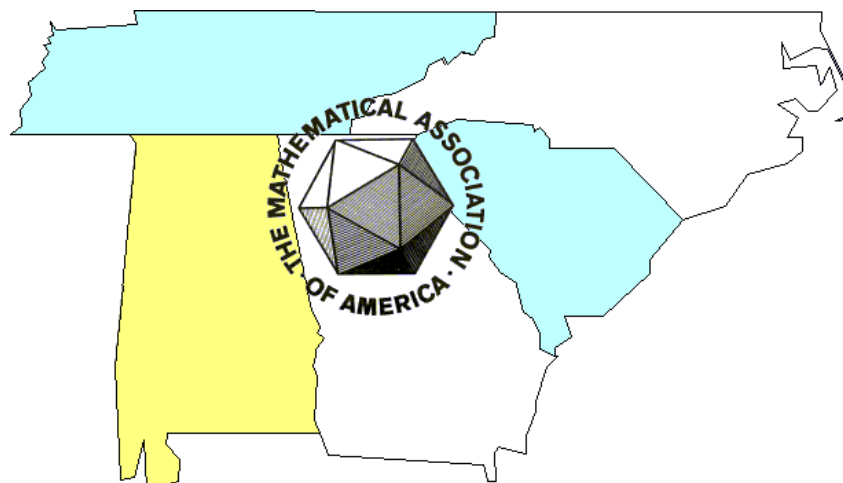
Fall 2016
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The Newsletter is published in April and November each year. The deadlines for items to be included in each issue are March 1 and November 1 respectively. Departmental News appears in the November newsletter only and is solicited from department liaisons.

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

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SECTION CALENDAR

January 4-7, 2017   MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

February 8, 2017   Deadline for Call for Papers

March 10-11, 2017   Southeastern Section Annual Meeting, Mercer University, Mercer, GA

July 26-29, 2017   MAA Mathfest, Chicago, IL

January 10-13, 2018   MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA

August 1-4, 2018   MAA Mathfest, Denver, CO

January 16-19, 2019   MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD

July 31-August 3, 1019   MAA Mathfest, Cincinnati, OH

FROM THE CHAIR

 The section Executive Committee met at Clayton State University on October 14 and 15 to discuss business and plan for the meeting at Mercer University in March. One item that you will all hear about later is another (minor) revision to the Section By-Laws. MAA has a policy that each section should revisit their by-laws and at least bring them up-to-date with the current template every ten years. Ours were last revised in 2013 (reorganizing officers and specifying when each should be elected were the major changes). The proposed set of By-Laws approved by the Executive Committee will be sent for approval by the Board of Governors at the JMM in Atlanta (it's in our section! – hope to see many of you there) in January. Following that, the revised By-Laws will be sent to Section members no later than 30 days before the business meeting on March 11.

You may have also heard by now that MAA is discontinuing the Department Liaisons program. This was instituted long ago to facilitate communication from the Washington DC office to members. However, with the technological advances of the past few years, it was felt that email communication directly to members was taking its place. This means there will be no Liaison's Lunch next March in Macon. Saturday morning was dedicated to planning the upcoming section meeting (March 10 – 11 in Macon, GA). The organizers there seem to have things well in hand. This year we are eligible for a Polya Lecturer, who will be Ken Ono from Emory University. Our Section Visitor will be Tim Chartier from Davidson College. We'll also have a presentation by Section Lecturer Carolyn Yackel from Mercer University. I'm sure we'll find all these plenary talks interesting and informative!

<u>FROM THE GOVERNOR</u>

The Board of Governors held their annual summer meeting on August 3rd, 2016, just prior to Mathfest, and as usual our agenda was packed**. The most important item on our agenda was the approval of the revised bylaws and articles of incorporation; the revised bylaws will go before you, the voting members of the MAA, for approval at the MAA business meeting at JMM on Saturday, January 7th, 2017.**   Please see the article "Changing Times, Changing Bylaws" by Matt Boelkins, First Vice President of the MAA, to be published in the October/November *MAA Focus* which describes the changes to the Board of Governors (which will be now be called the Congress) and to the Executive Committee of the Board (which will now be called the Board of Directors.) If you have any questions about these changes, please contact me at knottszidesca@wofford.edu.

You may recall that the mission statement of the MAA is "to advance the mathematical sciences, especially at the collegiate level." To do so requires us to change and adapt both to new technologies and to the newer generation of undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, and mathematicians outside of academia.   On the technology side, you may see a number of changes over the next year. A new Director of Marketing and Communications, Kristen Wesley, has been hired and you will see an increased use of social media, changes to emails from MAA, and a revamp of the website. In addition, a Social Media Task Force, appointed by MAA President Francis Su and including MAA-SE members Jenna Carpenter and Tim Chartier, noted that social media gives the MAA an opportunity to address diversity and inclusion through a variety of voices and perspectives; the task force in particular recommended an increase in MAA blogs as a means to cultivate community.

Another area affected by technology changes is publications. More mathematicians and students read journals and textbooks online, access news through apps, and participate in professional development opportunities via webinars. Subscriptions to journals, either through membership dues or through libraries, have been essential to the MAA; to keep up with changing technology, expect to see a Math News app in the near future with access to journals to which you subscribe.

Through all of these changes, I believe certain values we hold dear will never change: collegiality, mentorship, inclusivity, an emphasis on expository mathematics and on professional development, and the importance of Sections as a place to network and share ideas. I look forward to seeing each of you at the Joint Mathematics Meeting in Atlanta this January and at our next Section Meeting this spring!

Sincerely,

Charlotte Knotts-Zides

FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
October 14-15, 2016
Clayton State University
Catherine Matos, recording

<u>Friday, October 14</u>
Present: Pat Humphrey, Catherine Matos, Emily Hynds, Charlotte Knotts-Zides, Jon Ernstberger, Laurie Dishman, Hope Mcllwain, Virginia Watson, Jim Gleason, Wei-Kai Lai, Jeff Clark, Stacey Ernstberger, Jerome Goddard, Benjamin Wescoatt
The meeting started at 7:00 pm.

REPORTS:
Many of the officer reports had been emailed to the executive committee prior to this meeting. The reports themselves are available from the Secretary. Several officers highlighted a few items that were contained in their respective reports. Other officers gave oral reports. The contents of these verbal reports are briefly described below.
Goddard (Alabama State Director) informed the committee that the 2016 Alabama State Dinner was held on February 12, 2016 at Auburn University at Montgomery, and was well attended. The keynote speaker was the 2016 Southeastern Section Lecturer, Dr. Chris Raridan. The 2017 Alabama State Dinner will be held on February 3, 2017 at Samford University. They hope to feature a keynote address from the 2017 Southeastern Section Lecturer.
Wescoatt (Georgia State Director) – For the last while, Mercer University has hosted the State Lunch in conjunction with the Mercer University Undergraduate Mathematics Conference. Mercer University will not be hosting the GA State Lunch this year, as they are hosting the section meeting, and the MSF funding through MAA has dried up.
The North Carolina state report informed the committee that the MAA State Dinner would be held at Wake Forest with the speaker yet to be decided. Both of the professors honored with teaching awards from the MAA-SE were from North Carolina.
Dishman (Tennessee State Director) informed the committee that the State Luncheon was held on April 16, 2016. Section Lecturer Chris Raridan gave the talk at the lunch. Attendance was low, but typical for the event. They plan to work on brainstorming ideas to raise attendance for future luncheons.
Hynds (Treasurer) reported that the section continues to be in good financial standing. The 2016 Section Meeting at University of Alabama Birmingham was a success, and increased the Section's funds slightly. The Section has done a good job of using the Section Lecturer for the guest lecturer at State Dinners and Luncheons. She reported that the Project NeXT Fellow sent us a nice thank you note and photo to thank us for supporting them. Hynds announced that she will be stepping down as treasurer after this year. She also shared that a couple of our recent award winners haven't cashed their award checks. A brief discussion ensued as to how to deal with this. Gift cards were suggested as an alternative to checks. The committee agreed to use gift cards (Amazon or Walmart) for this spring's student award winners.
Knotts-Zides (Section Governor) gave the Governor's Report to the committee. She stated that they have revised the by-laws and the State Governors will be changed to a Board of Directors. It will be voted on at the business meeting at the JMM in Atlanta in Jan 2017. She stated the need for a smaller group that understands something about budgets and fiduciary duties, so an Executive Board will be created. She stated that the current Governors believe this is the right way to go. MAA memberships are up, but this is primarily due to departmental memberships, and therefore student memberships. The MAA's budget is down, and there is con-

Executive Comm. Minutes (continued from page 6)

cern about subscriptions to journals. Several questions were posed to the Executive Committee: (1) In what ways is MAA-SE using social media to connect with our community? We have a Twitter account that is active around the section meeting, but inactive much of the rest of the year. We need images or links to share on the feed throughout the year. We do have a YouTube feed. (2) Are there ways that the MAA-SE could use social media to promote diversity and inclusion? 40% of non-student members are 60+, and only 1 in 6 junior tenure-track faculty are MAA members. We need to be actively attracting junior faculty members. Knotts-Zides shared that Su suggested developing a collection of math problems that could be used in calculus, etc. The Executive committee had a short discussion on how the cost of membership is a deterrent, particularly to junior faculty. Incentives to join were discussed, with one possibility being free webinars for members. Knotts-Zides stated that Behind the scenes, MAA is truly advocating for good college teaching, but the average faculty member doesn't see that. Executive Committee members commented that junior faculty are more interested in smaller specialized meetings, so the MAA might want to focus more on those types instead of large meetings like the JMM. Committee members also commented that the MAA should do more with advocacy, which in turn can help create loyalty in members if they see MAA advocating for math education at all levels.

McIlwain (Program Vice Chair) stated that there should be six to seven special programs and workshops at the 2017 section meeting, to be discussed tomorrow.

Lai (Vice Chair for Two-Year Colleges) stated that he will be focusing on ways to get faculty from two year colleges to come to the section meeting. Historically, the section has had a hard time getting these faculty to attend.

The committee was informed that newsletter submissions are due to Jessica Hamm by Nov 7.

Gleason (Webmaster) stated that he changed the website right before the meeting in spring to make it easier for someone else to take over. He is using a content-management system. We don't have access to the database part of the MAA's server, however, so we can't use a better content manager like WordPress. We are also not able to use any of the useful checkout resources. The MAA outsources their webpages, so there is no help available from that end.

Humphrey (Chair) inquired whether it would be rea-

sonable to have Project NeXT Director and Beginning Faculty Coordinator positions merged. Full discussion on this was postponed until later in the meeting.

Watson (Historian) shared that she has unearthed boxes of material that she received from Emily after last year's flood. She is going through them to get the material into the archives.

J. Ernstberger (Project NeXT Director) let the committee know that they had really great series of conversations about undergraduate education for non-stem majors at the MAA-SE meeting. Francis Su spent time with the NeXT Fellows at the meeting. He stated that they are taking new applications in December and January with notifications of acceptance in February so that new NeXT members can make the spring meeting. Faculty members can apply so long as they are not tenured yet (5 years or under). He asked committee members to encourage anyone in their departments that is eligible to apply. Emily Braley has replaced Karen O'Hara as a Director for Project NeXT. The directors have started talks about what will be doing in the coming year. They are hoping to crowd-source ideas this year for what Project NeXT fellows would find useful.

After the officer reports were finished, the committee addressed the issue of the Section By-laws. Humphrey stated that even though we revised the by-laws 3 years ago to formalize officer elections and split the secretary/treasurer, the MAA has a rule that revisions are done every 10 years. It is our turn in the revision cycle. Prior to the Executive Committee meeting, the Chair had pulled the MAA By-laws template and tried to merge our by-laws with the template without making many changes. Due to the timeline imposed by the MAA, the committee had to look at the by-laws at the fall meeting so that any changes can be voted on at the Business Meeting in March.

The Committee first looked at specific terms on officer positions. Lai suggested they be kept as is, as it takes at least one term to get the hang of many of the officer positions. A sentence was inserted to requires the section have a person other than the Governor attend MathFest each year, to ensure that we don't lose the section money from MAA. A statement that the Chair will fill vacancies as necessary for the Site Selection Committee was added.

The Chair stated that she would create a survey to contact departments with graduate mathematics programs and see if we can increase their participation in the section.

Next, the committee addressed needed nominations

(Continued from Page 7)

for the coming year. A Project NeXT Director is needed to replace J. Ernstberger, whose term is ending. A Treasurer is needed to replace Hynds, who will step down after the Section Meeting in March. Matos volunteered to continue as Secretary for a second term. The Tennessee State Director position also needs to be filled.

The committee discussed the earlier question of whether the Beginning Faculty Coordinator's duties could be merged with the Project NeXT Directors'. Discussed ensued. A motion was made to move Beginning Faculty Activities Coordinator's to the Project NeXT Directors. The motion carried. Project NeXT Directors will also be responsible for beginning faculty activities in addition to Project NeXT activities.

Chair-Elect J. Clark will chair nominations committee for these positions.

Next, the committee turned their attention to a proposal to set up a fund to support a cash prize of $500 or less in honor of Marcullus Waddill, who passed away in August 2016. Supporters have requested that the section teaching award be named for Dr. Waddill. Discussion ensued on the issue. If the section wants to pursue this, we will need to be more assertive in communicating with the MAA. For a permanent endowment, $25,000 is needed to fund the award. However, the Patterson Prize was funded with only $10,000 (but is not an endowment).

The MAA Liaison Program was dissolved shortly before the Executive Committee meeting. The committee will need to determine the impact of this on the section, if any. The email policy for sections has been revised and is now in our favor. This should eliminate some of the problems we've had with sending out emails to different states within the section during the busier spring semester.

Finally, the committee discussed proposals for the 2018 Section Meeting. Proposals were received from Clemson and Coastal Carolina. The Executive Committee voted in favor of selecting Clemson for the site of the 2018 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Saturday, October 15
Present: Pat Humphrey, Catherine Matos, Emily Hynds, Charlotte Knotts-Zides, Jon Ernstberger, Laurie Dishman, Hope McIlwain, Virginia Watson, Jim

Gleason, Wei-Kai Lai, Jeff Clark, Stacey Ernstberger, Jerome Goddard, Benjamin Wescoatt, Curtis Herink
The meeting was called to order 8:39 am.
SPRING 2017 MEETING
Short courses and workshops for the Spring meeting at Mercer University were voted on. Five special sessions and two workshops were approved. All proposals were approved, with two conditional approvals pending confirmation of at least 3 speakers for the session.

Introductions for the Plenary Sessions were decided. This is our year to have a Polya lecture, so modifications to the plenaries were necessary. Hope McIlwain will be the Plenary Chair for the Section Lecturer talk. Tim Chartier will be the Section Visitor this year. Pat Humphrey will introduce him and present the section awards. Section Governor Charlotte Knotts-Zides will introduce the Polya Lecturer. The committee decided to request Erica Flapan for the Polya Lecture.
It was suggested that we ask Teaching Award winners to give the Distinguished Student Lectures, which would remove the need for a 4th plenary session to accommodate the Polya Lecture. For future years, it was proposed that the Teaching Award winner give the 3rd Plenary talk, and the Beginning Teaching Award winner give a Distinguished Student Lecture. In years where the section has a Polya Lecture, both Teaching Award winners would give student lectures. Jeff Clark will introduce the Teaching Award winner talks.

General Plans:
Herink (Mercer) presented plans for the 2017 meeting at Mercer.
Much of the meeting will run in a manner similar to those in the past. The committee suggested a few changes as to which events to hold in which buildings on campus. Knight Hall will be used for Concurrent Sessions, with General Sessions in Willingham. It was suggested to use the two entrance rooms at the back of Willingham for the Poster Session, so that attendees can look at posters on their way to the general session. The Executive Committee meeting and Undergraduate pizza party will be held in rooms in the Connell Student Center. Vendors will be placed in the lobby or close to the plenary sessions.
Hotel rooms have been blocked. Jim requested information on when blocks are good through so that in-

formation can be put on the website.

There will not be a Friday evening banquet, but they are hoping show a movie Friday night around 8, especially if can get Ken Ono attend and bring his film. A trolley will be running 5:30pm to 11pm on Friday to transport people between the campus hotels, Willingham, and Macon's downtown area. A 3-hour commitment is needed to rent the trolley.
Julie Barnes will be coming down to Mercer on Sunday to scope out sites for the Treasure Hunt.
The water bottles included with registration went over well last year, so the committee decided to include them again this year.
Herink reported that they are working on internet access issues. Mercer's administration is on their side to help deal with IT. They are aiming to have an IT support person on campus during the meeting. Some classrooms have SmartBoards, but a portable projector will need to be acquired for the Executive Committee meeting.
Herink stated that the will print up programs, as was done at last year's meeting. The committee them discussed meeting refreshments. Coffee with light morning fare (fruit, granola bars) was suggested for the morning, with sodas and cookies added for afternoon refreshments. Refreshments will be set up in Willingham's lobby and in the halls of Knight. Herink will request Which Wich to be open 11-1:30 both days.
The committee next moved to discussion registration for the meeting. It was decided to end web registration on February 26th. Late registration will start February 8th, coinciding with the deadline for abstracts.
The Project NeXT Directors stated that, based on roundtable discussions from this year's meeting, they will be able to put together a set of useful activities for the 2017 meeting. Several suggestions were made as to possible people to replace Stacey Ernstberger as Director when her term ends in the spring.
The committee then discussed the MAA Book Table that is traditionally done at the section meeting. It was decided to simply put the discount code in the program for members to use, and use this year's book table to clear out the current inventory of old books, along with providing pamphlets highlighting new publications.
Humphrey asked if Section Governor Knotts-Zides would be willing to chair the Department Chairs meeting. Charlotte agreed to chair the meeting.
Jon Ernstberger initiated a discussion about social media. He requested that if anyone at your school maintains a blog, please send him a link to post on social media. He also requested appropriate photos, videos, etc. to put out via social media. A suggestion was made to broadcast plenary talks on Periscope or YouTube, however this would need to be cleared with each speaker. Stacy Ernstberger suggested a private Facebook group for Project NeXT questions, conversations, etc., rather than continuing the use of a mailing list. The committee expressed support for that idea, rather than reviving the listserv. Jim asked if we had a good quality video camera to record plenaries. Hope confirmed that they have access to good equipment. However, they will need to have a form to acquire permission from the speakers to record their talks.
It was requested that information sheets be provided for session chairs, outlining expectations and duties for the session chair. This is particularly important for undergraduate session chairs. It was suggested that the names of session chairs be printed in the program, so there is no doubt as to who is chairing each session. This information will be included in the person's registration packet and marked so that registration knows to tell them about any special instructions. Pat stated that she would find old information sheets to send to Hope.
Finally, it was stated that the registration table needs to be open starting Thursday late afternoon.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20.

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE SOUTHEAST SECTON!

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

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

LOOKING FOR A GREAT MATHEMATICS SPEAKER?

Invite the Southeastern Section Lecturer to your campus!
Many think the Section Lecturer only delivers an address at the Annual Meeting of the Section, but this person also visits individual institutions within the Section.

Carolyn Yackel is the 2016-2017 Section Lecturer. Contact her at yackel_ca@mercer.edu.

Make your arrangements today!

STATE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Jerome Goddard, State Director of Alabama

The 2016 Alabama State Dinner was held on February 12, 2016 at Auburn University at Montgomery and was a successful evening. The keynote speaker was the 2016 Southeastern Section Lecturer, Dr. Chris Raridan of Clayton State University, who presented an engaging talk on the importance of undergraduate research. Thirty people were in attendance. A special thank you goes to the local organizers at Auburn University at Montgomery.

From Benjamin Wescoatt, State Director of Georgia

The state dinner for 2016-2017 will be in April 2017, hosted by Valdosta State University. A more formal invitation will be forthcoming.

From Jason Parsley, State Director of North Carolina

The MAA state dinner will be held at Wake Forest University. More information will be available soon.

Dr. Stephen Robinson, from Wake Forest University, won the MAA-SE Distinguished Teaching Award. Dr. Chad Awtrey, from Elon University, won the MAA-SE Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Mathematics Faculty Member.

From Brian Beasley, State Director of South Carolina

Columbia College hosted the Fall Meeting of the Carolina Math Seminar on November 4. The Spring Meeting is scheduled to take place at Lander University next March or April, and the Fall Meeting in 2017 is scheduled to take place at Benedict College in October.

The Fall Conference of the South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics was held in Greenville on November 10-11.

The University of South Carolina will host the Palmetto Number Theory Series (PANTS) on December 3-4.

High school mathematics tournaments in 2016-2017 include the following:

> Francis Marion University Pee-Dee Regional Tournament, December 6;
> University of South Carolina Mathematics Contest, February 4;
> College of Charleston Math Meet, February 11;
> Furman University Wylie Mathematics Tournament, March 18;

Florence-Darlington Technical College Mathematics Competition, March 18;
Clemson University Calculus Challenge, April 21.
Coastal Carolina University Dr. Subhash Saxena Math Contest, date TBA.

More information concerning the 2017 MAA State Dinner will be available soon.

From Laurie Dishman, State Director of Tennessee

The State Luncheon was held on April 16, 2016. Section Lecturer Chris Raridan gave the talk at the lunch.

News from the Campuses
Fall 2016
MAA Southeastern Section

Agnes Scott College (Decatur, GA)
Two Agnes Scott math majors recently participated in the Budapest Semesters in Mathematics program. Senior Denisse Saucedo studied in Budapest during the summer 2016 program and junior Audrey Goodnight is currently in the fall 2016 semester program. In addition, math major Xinyao Li spent the spring semester of her junior year in the Math in Moscow program. Alan Koch was recently appointed as a co-director of the Center for Undergraduate Research in Mathematics located at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. One of Larry Riddle's fractal artwork was featured on the cover of the November issue of Math Horizons. Rachel Bayless and Jim Wiseman will be on leave for the spring 2017 semester. Jim will be working on topological dynamics and Rachel will continue her work on dynamical systems and ergodic theory. (Submitted by Larry Riddle)

Albany State University (Albany, GA)
Albany State University and Darton College (Albany, Ga) are consolidating under one umbrella "Albany State University". Faculty and Staff are changing around here at a fast pace. Our Graduate Math Program is quickly moving to an fully online program, as soon as it is approved by all approving personnel.
Leslie Jones, the Masters Enhancement Grant Manager, will be looking ahead towards retirement in December, 2016.
Dr. Li Feng, Graduate Math Coordinator, accompanied two of our Graduate Students to the MAA MathFest this past August, where they all presented research projects.
The Albany State University Department of Mathematics and Computer Science conducted a series of technology workshops for Dougherty County High School teachers to assist in preparing students for careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines.
Albany State University will be hosting their annual Graduate Research Symposium on April 5, 2017.
(Submitted by Leslie Jones)

Austin Peay State University (Clarksville, TN)
Tyler Turner was promoted to Senior Instructor and received tenure. Ellen Smyth was promoted to Master Instructor.

Congratulations to Ben Ntatin (Mentor) and the Jeopardy Team for a second place finish in 2016 MAA-SE Jeopardy contest.

Emily Stark completed an REU last summer.

Jennifer Yantz is working on a study of pre-service teachers with Audrey Bullock and Rebecca Darrough. Jennifer also recently presented at the TMTA conference with Rebecca Darrough. Audrey Bullock had a separate presentation at the same conference. Audrey Bullock is also presenting at the upcoming MSERA conference. Nick Kirby and Jennifer Yantz received a Tennessee Board of Regents course revitalization grant. They are conducting a study in his College Algebra classes.

Rebecca Darrough is currently conducting Algebra for All workshops for middle grade teachers (5th-9th) who are employed in the New York City schools. These workshops are developed by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM). Additionally, in the Summer of 2016, She worked with NCTM to conduct workshops for 6th grade teachers under the Algebra Readiness Initiative.

In September this year, Dr. Jackie Vogel began her tenure as president of the Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association, the state affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

APSU was a host site for the Middle Tennessee Region of the 60th Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association Annual Mathematics Contest for high school students in May. We will once again be a host site for this contest next May. We also host the annual APSU middle school mathematics contest in May of each year, rewarding and encouraging young students to study mathematics. (Submitted by Jim Vandergriff)

Brevard College (Brevard, NC)
Since last reporting, we have awarded eight BA Mathematics degrees, and five more are anticipated for this year. Kathryn Rasmussen once again participated in AP Calculus reading and she assumed responsibility for our Institute for Women in Leadership.
After 40+ years, Clarke Wellborn will be retiring this year. (Submitted by Clarke Wellborn)

The Citadel (Charleston, SC)
The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science hired Sybil Nelson as a Teacher-Scholar Visiting Professor. She received her Ph.D. in Biostatistics from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2016. Antara Mukherjee and Rigo Flórez were both tenured and promoted to associate professor. Li Zhang received a promotion to full professor. George Rudolph left after 13 years of service to take a job at Utah Valley University. The National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security designated The Citadel as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education. Shankar Banik of our department was the program leader for this designation. The Citadel also received a GenCyber Grant from the National Security Agency and the National Science Foundation for hosting a GenCyber Summer Camp "CyberCitadel: Cybersecurity Training for Middle and High School Teachers" in July 2016. Shankar Banik was the program director, George Rudolph was the Instruction lead, and Jennifer Albert, director of The Citadel STEM Center, was the recruitment and assessment lead for this grant. (Submitted by Dave Trautman)

Clemson University (Clemson, SC)
The Department of Mathematical Sciences at Clemson University added four new faculty as well as three visiting scholars for the 2016 – 2017 academic year. New assistant professors include Ling Ma, whose research is in statistics, Boshi Yang, whose research is in mathematical optimization and operations research, and Fei Xue, whose research is in numerical analysis. The department also welcomed Sharon Evans as a new lecturer in statistics. Visiting scholars for the year include Ke

Qi, Hiram Lopez Valdez, and Oleg Yordanov. The department had one retirement this summer: Senior Lecturer Laura Shick.

Many undergraduate students participated in REUs or worked in internships during the summer of 2016. James Steven participated in an REU at the University of Chicago, Luna Bozeman participated in an REU at Texas A&M University, and Sydney Paul participated in an REU at North Carolina State University.   Jarryd Boyle interned with Principal Financial Group, Jake Marshall interned with Nationwide, Kristen Savary interned with Cartegraph in Dubuque, Iowa, Lisa Shade interned with FireEye, Inc. in Reston, VA, Garrick Stott interned with TIAA in Charlotle, NC, and Matthew Trombley interned with Epic Games in Cary, NC.

In February 2016, over 12,000 teams from 13 countries competed in the 96-hour Mathematical or Interdisciplinary Competition in Modeling (MCM/ICM). The three-person ICM team of Clemson math sciences majors Ben Bodek, Rivers Jenkins, and James McNally won an honorable mention for their model and analysis of the refugee immigration crisis and policies.

Several undergraduates also earned awards from the Math Sciences department in spring 2016. Freshman award winners were Hanna McCall, Hayden Girard, Mary Mell, and Sloan Nietert. **Sophomore award winners were** Polly Payne, Andrew Shore, Luna Bozeman, and Jarryd Boyle. **Junior award winners** were Patrick Dynes, Jake Marshall, Alex Stoll, and Hannah Rollins. **Senior award winners** were Emily Thompson, Sarah Hicklin, Sarah Malick, and Katy Wrenn. Undergraduate Luna Bozeman also won the Clemson Michelin Scholarship for global engagement and was selected to attend a SAMSI undergraduate workshop.

Many events and conferences were held at Clemson University this year. The 31st Clemson Mini-Conference on Discrete Mathematics and Algorithms, organized by Drs. Michael Burr, Neil Calkin, Wayne Goddard, and Svetlana Poznanovik, was held October 21, 2016. The Clemson AP Statistics Practice Exam, organized by Dr. Christy Brown, was given April 30, 2016. Information on this year's practice exam can be found at: https://sites.google.com/a/g.clemson.edu/cjb2/ap-statistics-practice-exam. The 13th Annual Clemson Calculus Challenge was held on April 15, 2016 with 233 students from 34 schools participating. The Clemson Calculus Challenge is organized by Tim Parrott, and the 14th Annual Clemson Calculus Challenge will be held on April 21, 2017. More information can be found at https://mthsc.clemson.edu/ccc/2017.html.
(Submitted by Meredith Burr)

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

Our students and faculty gave a total of 55 professional presentations at various national and regional venues. They also published a total of 15 research and education papers in a variety of math/stats journals.

We currently serve 120 majors and 125 minors in our programs, and we graduated 29 majors and 42 minors during the 2015-16 academic year. Additionally, many of our students were inducted into national honor societies, including 4 into Phi Beta Kappa, 17 into Pi Mu Epsilon, and 14 into our newly-established chapter of the stats honor society Mu Sigma Rho. Six of our students are heading to graduate school, and the rest have secured jobs at a variety of business, industry, and teaching posts. Amanda Brown '10 received an Elon "Young Alumni Award" for distinguishing herself in her profession, and Peter Jakes '17 received an award for his presentation at MathFest 2016.

Here are a few highlights from our faculty and staff. Jeff Clark has been named chair elect of the Section. Crista Arangala received a PIC Math grant from the MAA, and she published a calculus lab manuel with Karen Yokley. Ayesha Delpish was named Associate Dean of Elon's School of Education. Qi Li was approved for continuance in his Lecture track. Andi Metts joined us as new Lecturer. Tracy McBane joined us as a new program assistant. Chad Awtrey received the Section's Distinguished Teaching Award for Beginning Faculty, was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor, and was named Elon's A.L. Hook Professor in Science and Mathematics. The department wished a fond farewell to Ms. Helen Walton, who retired from Elon after 32 years of exemplary service. Among other things, Helen played a pivotal role in establishing Elon chapters of the honor societies Phi Beta Kappa (in 2009) and Pi Mu Epsilon (in 2003).

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

Francis Marion University (Florence, SC)
Dr. Bill Whitmire, Professor of Mathematics, was elected President of South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics (SCCTM). Dr. Nicole Panza, Assistant Professor, was awarded a 2016 Project NExT Fellow. Dr. Sharon O'Kelley was promoted to Associate Professor and awarded of tenure for 2016-17. Sophia

Waymyers earned her Doctorate of Philosophy in Biostatistics and was promoted to Assistant Professor in October. Dr. Damon Scott, Professor of Mathematics, was awarded a sabbatical in Spring 2017 to work on an interdisciplinary project on an Ecliptic Calendar book. Francis Marion is scheduled to host its thirteenth Francis Marion Undergraduate Mathematics Conference in late March or early April 2017. (Submitted by Tom Fitzkee)

Georgia College and State University (Milledgeville, GA)
The Department of Mathematics is pleased to welcome one new faculty member this year. Dr. Rachel Epstein joins us as Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Rachel has a B.A. in Mathematics from Reed College and an M.S. and a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Chicago. Rachel comes to us from Swarthmore College where she served as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Prior to that, she was a Benjamin Pierce Fellow at Harvard University. She has taught a wide range of mathematics courses, both elementary and advanced. Her area of research is computability theory, also known as recursion theory, which is a branch of mathematical logic.

Dr. Marcela Chiorescu was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.
Dr. Ryan Brown was promoted to Full Professor.
(Submitted by Brandon Samples)

Georgia Southern University (Statesboro, GA)
The department welcomes the following new tenure-track assistant professors: Jimmy Dillies (Ph. D. from University of Pennsylvania), Heidi Eisenreich (Ph.D. from University of Central Florida), Ionut Emil Iacob (PH.D. from University of Kentucky), and Ha Nguyen (Ph.D. from Emory University).

We also welcome to the Department Jaime Hebert, the new Georgia Southern University President. He comes to us from Sam Houston State University in Texas, and holds all his degrees in Statistics from the University of Louisiana – Lafayette. Others in the section may recall he spent five years as an Assistant Professor of Mathematical Science at App State.

We hosted a successful Eagle Undergraduate Math Conference on February 22, along with the State Lunch. Ron Taylor from Berry College was the speaker who gave a talk titled Color Addition Across the Spectrum of Mathematics." About 100 students and faculty attended.

Doran Zeilberger (Rutgers Univesity) will be the speaker for the Distinguished Lecture this year on March 23.

If you are in our neighborhood, please attend! (Submitted by Pat Humphrey)

Kennesaw State University (Kennesaw, GA)

Professors Joshua Du and Taixi Xu both retired in 2016. Dr. Wendy Sanchez was promoted to the rank of Full Professor in 2016.

New full-time department members who joined us in 2016 are:
Babak Moazzez - Assistant Professor of Mathematics Christopher Holtzendorff - Clinical Assistant Professor of Mathematics Rebecca Shi - Lecturer of Mathematics Sandra Chandler - Lecturer of Mathematics

Sean Ellermeyer was named Interim Department Chair in July 2016. Sean Ellermeyer was awarded a KSU Foundation Prize in Research in the category of Interdisciplinary Research in August 2016.

The department will host the Annual Kennesaw Mountain Undergraduate Math Conference (KMUMC) in February 2017. (Submitted by Steve Edwards)

Lee University (Cleveland, TN)

The Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at Lee University invites applications for multiple full-time faculty positions in mathematics to begin in August of 2017. For more information check Employment opportunities on Lee's website, http://www.leeuniversity.edu.

Lee University has been awarded $155,467 over 5 years as part of a $2.6 million National Science Foundation grant to fund the project Collaborative Research: A National Consortium for Synergistic Undergraduate Mathematics via Multi-institutional Interdisciplinary Teaching Partnerships (SUMMIT-P) led by Dr. Susan Ganter at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Eleven colleges and universities, including Lee University, will form a consortium to renew the lower division undergraduate mathematics curriculum based on research about the needs of partner disciplines. Leadership team at Lee University includes Caroline Maher-Boulis, Bryan Poole, Jason Robinson and John Hearn.

> Editor's Note: This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. 1625142. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

The Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at Lee University has recently launched an internship program for math majors. Students in the program take an Internship Seminar and an Internship courses. The former equips students with knowledge that is not normally offered in traditional mathematics classes. In the later course students get the experience of a meaningful internship with one of the partner corporations in the area. The internship involves solving mathematical problems that arise in the company and making sense of data collected. For more information please contact Caroline Maher-Boulis, cmaherboulis@leeuniversity.edu

Three undergraduate students from Lee's Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics will give presentations/poster in the 2017 JMM. Chanda Hughes and Robert Chaney will present in BIG SIGMAA's session on their experience with the mathematics internship program at Lee. Nicholas Baker will present a poster titled "On the G-Rule for Ancient Egyptian Fractions and Its Extensions." This was research done during the summer of 2015 and was funded by the Appalachian College Association's Ledford Scholars program. Supervisor of the research is Dr. Maher-Boulis

Personal news items:
The Tennessee Higher Education Commission has approved funding the grant project *Career and Technical Content in High School Mathematics^2 (CATCH Math^2)* under their Improving Teacher Quality program. Dr. Caroline Maher-Boulis will be leading a team from interdisciplinary departments to provide a summer workshop for high school teachers emphasizing mathematical skills in careers. Grant amount: $74,856. (Submitted by Caroline Maher-Boulis)

Mars Hill University (Mars Hill, NC)

Three students graduated with a BS in mathematics in the 2015-2016 academic year, with 2 pursuing masters degrees in mathematics (one at Georgia Southern and one at ETSU). Mrs. Sarah Butrum (Associate Professor of Mathematics) retired at the end of the 2015-2016 academic year. The department hired Mr. Michael Kennedy as a full time Instructor of Mathematics. Mrs. Jennifer Rhinehart and Dr. Laura Steil were both promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. In addition, Dr. Laura Steil became chair of the department. (Submitted by Laura Steil)

Mercer University (Macon, GA)

Andrew Shealy, Jr., has joined the Mathematics Department as a lecturer. He earned the M.S. in mathematics at the College of Charleston. Before coming to Mercer, he taught mathematics at Ware County High School, earning the 2014-15 Teacher of the Year Award.

Dr. Yuanting Lu is now an assistant professor.

Dr. Keith Howard has returned as chair of the department after serving a year as interim dean of Mercer's College of Liberal Arts.

The recipient of the 2016 Riley Plymale Award for Excellence in Mathematics is Soowhan (Jack) Yoon. The award is presented to the senior mathematics major whose work has been judged to be exemplary by the mathematics faculty. Jack is now a graduate student in mathematics at the University of Hawaii.

Dr. David Nelson was the winner of the SGA (Student Government Association) Professor of the Year Award.

Dr. Hope McIlwain was the winner of the college-wide Spencer B. King Award for Excellence in Teaching.

The Thirty-Second Annual Mercer University High School Mathematics Contest will be held November 12, 2016. More information is available at http://cla.mercer.edu/math/events/math-contest/.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Macon March 10-11, 2017, when Mercer University hosts the ninety-sixth annual meeting of the section.
(Submitted by Curtis Herink)

North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC)
The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) named Distinguished Professor Ralph Smith the 2016 winner of its Adaptive Structures and Materials Systems Award. Professor Smith was selected "for extraordinary contributions in the development of smart materials and adaptive structures through constitutive model development, modeling and nonlinear control, and uncertainty analysis; and for modeling research that has been validated across a broad range of smart materials." The award was presented at the Conference on Smart Materials, Adaptive Structures and Intelligent Systems in Stowe, Vermont, September 28-30.

The Milestones in Computer Algebra 2016 Conference, held July 16-18 at the University of Waterloo, celebrated the research of Professor Erich Kaltofen. Among 64 registrants, 35 spoke at the conference, including five invited speakers who surveyed Kaltofen's work in symbolic computation. Kaltofen's lecture "Remembrance of Things Past" described scientific correspondence with Robert McNaughton on theoretical computer science, Hans Zassenhaus on polynomial factorization, and David G. Cantor on Jacobians of hyperelliptic curves. The conference was funded by the Fields Institute in Toronto, the University of Waterloo, and the Maplesoft corporation, which presented Kaltofen with a model Gomboc, whose existence was proved with the help of the Maple

software.

Robert Ramsay, who taught mathematics at NC State from 1967 until his retirement in 2004, died in Raleigh on March 29, 2016. He was 75. Ramsay, a topologist, received his Ph.D. from the University of Miami in 1967. He served as Director of Undergraduate Programs from 1989 until 1999. Bob achieved brief fame in 1975 after an encounter with NC State football coach Lou Holtz. He was jogging around the track at a football practice, and Holtz, thinking he might be a spy, asked him to leave. Bob was arrested and made news nationwide. Some years later, when Bob was about to take a sabbatical at Stanford, Holtz, then coaching at Arkansas, sent him a photo captioned, "If I knew you were leaving, I'd have stayed."

The NC State University Council on the Status of Women named Assistant Professor Lorena Bociu the faculty recipient of its 2016 Equity for Women Award. Bociu was cited for her efforts to promote mathematical careers to female students. She organizes the annual event "Math Doesn't Bug Me" as part of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences' BugFest day, serves as faculty advisor for the Association for Women in Mathematics student chapter, and has served as a faculty mentor for 15 of the first year Women in Science and Engineering students. Her nomination letter cites the "huge impact on NC State" that she has already made as a pre-tenure faculty member.

Associate Professor of Mathematics Min Kang was named an Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor. This title recognizes long-term, distinguished service in undergraduate teaching at NC State. Each college is allowed to nominate just two faculty members per year for the award.

Assistant Professor of Mathematics Lorena Bociu won a National Science Foundation CAREER award, one of NSF's most prestigious awards for young faculty. The five-year grant will support development of a theoretical framework for sensitivity analysis and optimal control of biological and physical problems that involve either the interaction of a fluid with an elastic body, or the flow of a fluid through a deformable, porous medium. Bociu will focus in particular on the coupling between biomechanics and hemodynamics in the lamina cribrosa, a structure in the eye, in order to better understand the cause and progression of glaucoma, and to enable novel means for preventing or treating glaucoma.

Associate Professor of Mathematics Agnes Szanto was elected chair of the Algebraic Geometry Activity Group

of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. Her two-year term began January 1, 2016. The activity group brings together researchers who use algebraic geometry, broadly interpreted, in such areas as biology, coding theory, cryptography, computer graphics, quantum computing, control theory, geometric design, complexity theory, machine learning, optimization, robotics, computational geometry, and statistics.

Professor Loek Helminck was named to receive the American Mathematical Society's 2016 Distinguished Public Service Award. Helminck was honored for "his dynamic and public-spirited leadership of the Department of Mathematics at North Carolina State University, and for his work, both in his department and at the national level, to increase the diversity of the mathematical research community." Helminck served as Mathematics Department head from 2005 to 2015. Presented every two years, the AMS Distinguished Public Service Award recognizes a research mathematician who has made a distinguished contribution to the mathematics profession during the preceding five years.

Professor Ilse Ipsen was elected Vice President at Large of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM). Her responsibilities will include oversight of the SIAM activity groups and sections, and management of SIAM's prizes through chairmanship of the Major Awards Committee.

Mathematics Professor Patricia Hersh is one of 50 mathematical scientists from around the world who were named Fellows of the American Mathematical Society (AMS) during the program's fourth year. Professor Hersh was cited "for contributions to algebraic and topological combinatorics, and for service to the mathematical community." She is the sixth member of the Mathematics Department to be named a Fellow of the AMS. (Submitted by Steve Schecter)

Perimeter College at Georgia State University, Clarkston Campus (Clarkston, GA)
Congratulations to all of the following. Dr. William Griffin was promoted to Assistant Professor. Dr. Taylor Shapero was awarded a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. John Weber received the Excellence in Teaching Award at Perimeter College. Alice Pierce won the Club Advisor of the Year at Perimeter College for her leadership of the Clarkston Japan Society Club.

We said good bye to Dr. Allison Wolf who took a position at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. This fall, we welcomed Dr. Sahithya Reddivari to the department as a tenure-track Engineering instructor.

In January, the Board of Regents approved the consolidation of our school and Georgia State University. Georgia Perimeter College is now one of the colleges of Georgia State and is known as Perimeter College at Georgia State. We continue to award associates degrees, to be affordable, and to focus on quality teaching for students in the first two years of college.

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

Dr. Weber was also awarded a Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) Faculty Teaching Fellowship for 2016-17 to study student engagement during inquiry-based learning activities in the mathematics classroom.

A team of five Perimeter College students, faculty mentor Dr. John Weber, and one industry partner was selected as one of ten finalist teams for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and American Association of Community College (AACC) Community College Innovation Challenge (CCIC). The theme for the 2016 CCIC was to identify an innovative solution to an identified challenge at the nexus of food, water, and energy. All finalist teams attended the Innovation Boot Camp in Arlington, Virginia where they received professional development on entrepreneurship skills. The team designed a model for an Autonomous Technology Lake Algae Skimmer (ATLAS) that would utilize rechargeable batteries, solar cells, and Roomba motion technology to remove algae blooms from lakes without the need for human intervention. The collected algae can be converted to cattle feed or biofuels. The team was awarded the "People's Choice Award" for the display of their innovation during a reception at the Hart Senate Building.

The Math Club and Clarkston Computer Science and Engineering Club (CLACEC) co-sponsored an information webinar with NASA representatives regarding the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS) Program. In spring 2016, eight Perimeter College students participated. Seven of the students were selected to go on a trip to a NASA facility to meet with scientists and engineers and participate in a Mars Rover Design Competition.

Cindy Box and our colleague Todd Hendricks of Newton Campus are working on a project with Statistics instructors at the GSU Downtown Campus that is part of the Online Learning Initiative. They have developed a new delivery method using new course software to teach Elementary Statistics.

Each year, Perimeter College students participate in the AMATYC Student Mathematics League (SML) Competition which consists of two rounds, one per semester. The SML includes 165 colleges in more than thirty-five states involving over eight thousand community college math students. Perimeter College placed 2nd in the Southeast Region and individual students placed 2nd and 5th in the Southeast Region.

Clarkston, Decatur, and Dunwoody campuses sent teams to the University of North Georgia Mathematics Tournament. This was the 22nd year that Perimeter College (PC) has participated in this tournament. PC came in second place overall and a team from Dunwoody Campus placed 4th in the Team Competition. Students from Dunwoody Campus placed 1st, 3rd, and 5th in the Individual Competition.

The 30th Annual Mathematics Conference at Perimeter College-Georgia State University will be held on the Clarkston Campus on February 17-18, 2017. This year's theme is "Making Connections". This theme is timely as math educators from K12 to college are making sincere efforts to connect classroom curricula with real-world applications. For further information about attending or presenting at the conference, contact Ashraful Chowdhury at achowdhury13@gsu.edu. (Submitted by Alice Eiko Pierce)

Sewanee: The University of the South (Sewanee, TN)
Gaston Swindell Bruton Professor of Mathematics Frederick Croom retired at the end of the 2015-16 academic year after forty-five years of distinguished service to the University. He published successful textbooks in point-set and algebraic topology and served the University as a senior administrator from 1984 to 2001, first as Associate Dean of the College and then as Provost. In 2015 he received the University Alumni Association's Distinguished Faculty Service Award.

Dr. Anne Duffee joined the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science as new faculty member in August 2016. She holds a B.A. from St. John's College in Maryland and a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Alabama. Her research is primarily in harmonic analysis, and her dissertation centered around two integral operators: the harmonic and geometric maximal operators.

In October 2015, Elizabeth Tilly, C'18, of Kenya and Davis Easley, C'18, of Tennessee, received the Robert Hooke Prize for Achievement in Calculus, and in May 2016 Momo Wang, C'16, received the Robert Hooke Prize for Achievement in Mathematics. These prizes

honor statistician and former Sewanee Professor of Mathematics Robert Hooke, who wrote the popular book, *How to Tell the Liars from the Statisticians*.

In November 2015, Fahd Arshad, C'02, Head of User Experience (UX) Design for Financial Products at Bloomberg LP, gave the 2015 Homecoming Talk on "UX and Design Thinking at Bloomberg: How a liberal arts computer science education prepared me to innovate at a FinTech titan." This talk celebrated the many contributions of Professor of Computer Science Linda Lankewicz, who retired in May 2015.

The Department's 2015-16 Ebey Lecture, honoring Professor Emeritus Sherwood F. Ebey, was presented by The Convolution Brothers (Professors Miller Puckette of the University of California at San Diego, Cort Lippe of the University of Buffalo, and Zack Settel of the University of Montreal). This computer music ensemble mixes vocalizations with real-time audio processing via PD and Max/Msp software environments. The trio came together at IRCAM, the Institut de Recherche et Coordination Acoustique/Musique, in Paris where they worked as researchers and composers.
Professor Emily Puckette was a panelist in the August 2016 MathFest session on "Revising Guidelines on the Recruitment, Retention, Development, and Evaluation of Faculty."

Three computer science students participated in summer research projects with professors Stephen Carl and Lucia Dale.

Seven students graduated in 2016 with majors in Mathematics and five students graduated with majors in Computer Science.
(Submitted by Joel Cunninham)

Spring Hill College (Mobile, AL)
The Spring Hill College Mathematics Department recently hosted MAA President Dr. Francis Su for the 31st Annual Rimes lecture. The Rimes lecture, established in 1986 to honor William J. Rimes, S.J., a distinguished chemistry professor and a former president of the College, explores the influence of science upon society. Dr. Su presented "Mathematics and Meaning " to more than 200 students and faculty on Nov

3. The mathematics department thanks Dr Su for sharing his deep appreciation for mathematics with our students.
(Submitted by Lindsey Bosko-Dunbar)

Union University (Jackson, TN)

George Moss (Ph.D. Virginia Tech) is currently serving as Chair of the Mathematics Department at Union. Former Chair Bryan Dawson (Ph. D. North Texas) is on research leave for the Fall semester 2016. Bryan's research centers around the use of infinitesimals in the pedagogy of undergraduate calculus. His expository article *0.9999…. = 1 An Infinitesimal Explanation* appeared in the November 2016 issue of Math Horizons. (Submitted by Matt Lunsford)

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill, NC)

Undergraduate news:

In April 2016, four undergraduates presented research projects at UNC-CH's Celebration of Undergraduate Research. Grace McLaughlin won first prize for her work with Professor Laura Miller on "The Effects of Moon Jellyfish Upside-Down Jellyfish Motion on Stratified Density Layers".

Last year, UNC-CH undergraduates participated in the Virginia Tech Regional Math Contest and the Putnam Exam. The team earned 13th place on the Putnam Exam.

Graduate student news:

Graduate students Michael Strayer and Aaron Barrett have created an AMS Graduate Student Chapter at UNC and they are organizing the Triangle Area Graduate Mathematics Conference at UNC-CH in the fall. Graduate student Caroline Yang is starting an AWM chapter.

Graduate student Nick Battista was selected to the Emerging Leaders in Science and Society (ELISS) class of 2016, a 15-month leadership development program that prepares students to cross disciplinary boundaries for the benefit of society. He is the first mathematician to be selected to this program, now in its fourth year.

Faculty news:

Congratulations to Professor Justin Sawon for winning an NSF Career Award for his work on hyperkahler manifolds together with his educational initiatives. Congratulations also to Professor Peter Mucha who won UNC's first Outstanding Postdoc Mentor Award and to Professor Chris Jones for being selected as the Martin Kruskal Lecturer for SIAM.

Three new faculty members joined the department in 2016: Assistant Professors Yaiza Canzani, David Rose, and Jiuzu Hong, with research interests in analysis, representation theory and topology, and representation theory and algebraic geometry, respectively.

Four faculty members retired last year: Professors Joe Cima, Jim Damon, Karl Petersen, and Sue Goodman. All had been with the department for decades and we will miss them.

We regret to announce the passing of Joe Burton Linker, Jr., age 92, in July 2016. He was a former instructor and long-time supporter of the Math Department.

Service and outreach projects:

Professor Idris Assani traveled to Benin, Cameroon, and Burkina Faso in November 2016 to work on a project led by the World Bank to partner with existing universities on applied research projects including water management, waste management, and agricultural research. The partnership also supports high quality college education and encourages students to pursue STEM degrees.

Graduate students Katrina Morgan and Francesca Bernardi organized two week math day camp for high school girls that took place on campus in June 2016. The program was funded by a MAA Tensor Grant for Women and Mathematics.

Since January 2016, the Math Department has sponsored a new math enrichment program for kids in grades 1 - 12: the Chapel Hill Math Circle. The program meets on Saturday mornings during the school year and is staffed by faculty, grad students, and undergraduate volunteers.

The Math Department hosted a Julia Robinson Math Festival in May 2016. Over 200 kids and their families worked problems and participated in building giant polyhedra. The Math Department also participated in the April 2016 UNC Science Expo, which enticed local kids to investigate mathematical games, fluid dynamics, and hands-on geometric constructions.

Recent Conferences:

Recent conferences included a workshop on Moduli and Geometric Invariant Theory in November 2015, a Dynamical Systems Conference in January 2016, co-hosted by Duke and NC State, two PDE mini-school in February 2016 and October 2016, and a conference on Symplectic Varieties and Geometric Representation Theory in October 2016.

(Submitted by Linda Green)

University of North Carolina at Wilmington (Wilmington, NC)

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of North Carolina Wilmington moved into a new building a year ago. It features several new computer equipped classrooms, applied learning labs, and sandboxes for students to study.

This year we also welcomed our new department chair, Dr. Zhuan (John) Ye. Dr. Ye came from the from the Department of Mathematics at Northern Illinois University. His research interests include Nevanlinna theory of one and several complex variables, complex dynamical Systems, random analytic functions, and complex fractional calculus.

Dr. Gabriel Lugo, a member of our department, became the President of the UNC Faculty Assembly in July. He represents the faculty of the 17 constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina in upholding and exercising the principles of academic freedom, shared governance, tenure and the curriculum. Dr. Lugo had previoulsy been honored with the J. Marshal Crews Distinguished Faculty Award, a Distinguished Professor of Mathematics Award, Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Award and was a Carnegie U.S. Professor of the Year nominee. He had recently served as UNCW Faculty Senate President for four years.

UNC Wilmington hosted several conferences in past two years, including the MAA Southeastern Section conference. This summer, several of our faculty and studentsplayed a major role at The 11th AIMS Conference on Dynamical Systems, Differential Equations and Applications. It was held July 1st thru July 5th, in Orlando, Florida. The organizing committee: included Xin Lu (chair), Yaw Chang, Wei Feng Michael Freeze, and Jonathan Rowell (UNC Greensboro). Dr. Lu was recognized with a major award for his leadership of the event. (Submitted by Russ Herman)

University of North Georgia at Gainesville (Oakwood, GA)
Dr. Minsu Kim received a promotion to "associate professor" and Professor Gina Reed received a Presidential Summer Scholars Award. UNG Gainesville has formed a SIAM student chapter and will hold the 23rd annual Math Tournament on Saturday April 1st, 2017. The 2016 Tournament was attended by 133 students and 26 proctors from 15 different campuses.
(Submitted by Gina Reed)

Wake Forest University (Winston-Salem, NC)
Sarah Mason was promoted to Associate Professor. We have two new faculty: Assistant Professor John Gemmer, an applied mathematician with Ph.D. from University of Arizona and postdoc at Brown University, and Teacher-Scholar Postdoc Fellow Robert Won, an algebraist with Ph.D. from University of California, San Diego. We regret to report the passing of Professor Emeritus Marcellus Waddill.

Kenneth Berenhaut was awarded our URECA (Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities) Center Award for Excellence in Mentored Scholarship, and Stephen Robinson won the SE MAA teaching award. Jeremy Rouse was awarded a research leave for the fall semester 2017.

This year's Gentry Lecturer is Mark Newman, Anatol Rapoport Distinguished University Professor of Physics in the Department of Physics and the Center for the Study of Complex Systems at the University of Michigan. Professor Papoport is an expert on networks, and he will speak on November 30 and December 1, 2016.

WADE into Research (Wake Forest/Davidson Experience in Number Theory Research), an NSF funded REU ran this past summer, and will run again next summer (dates yet to be determined). The program is directed by Jeremy Rouse (Wake Forest University), and Kate Thompson (formerly at Davidson College, now at DePaul University). (Submitted by Ellen Kirkman)

Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC)
We had a couple of personnel changes over the past academic year. Iris Coleman retired after 30+ years of serving in the department as a lecturer. Kristen Abernathy was promoted to the rank of associate professor. Duha Hamed, who received her Ph. D. in statistics last year, was hired at the rank of assistant professor.

Kristen Abernathy received two awards during the past academic year. Kristen received the MAA-SE Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning Faculty Member Award and the Winthrop University Outstanding Junior Professor Award.

We held the third year (out of three) of our NSF-REU this summer. Eight students from across the nation spent nine weeks working on various research projects in differential equations under mentors Zach Abernathy and Kristen Abernathy.
We successfully completed another year of our WISE program and through this program along with departmental support provided 21 teacher candidates and alumni with partial funding to attend the South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics Annual Conference.

We held our second annual Sonia Kovalevsky Day which was led by Jessie Hamm. It was a successful event in which roughly 30 local middle school girls attended the Graph Theory-themed day designed to promote mathematics appreciation among this demographic. (Submitted by Arran Hamm)

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

COMPLETE NOMINATION PROCESS

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

A complete nomination packet should consist of a nomination form, a narrative, additional documentation, and letters of recommendation as described below. Please mail, fax or email the completed packet to arrive by Friday, <u>January 20, 2017</u> to:

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

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

<u>**Eligibility and Guidelines for Nomination**</u>

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

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

Guidelines for nomination
Nominees for the award may be made by any member of the MAA-SE section.
Nominees should:
- Be recognized as extraordinarily successful in their teaching
- Have effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics that can be documented
- Have had influence in their teaching beyond their own classrooms

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

Nomination Packet:

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

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

Additional Documentation
Please submit no more than three pages of further evidence to document the nominee's extraordinary teaching success. This documentation will vary greatly from institution to institution, but may include summaries of peer or student evaluations, comments on teaching, possible increases in numbers of majors in mathematics (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), possible student success in mathematics competitions (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), success in research in mathematics conducted by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, production of superior quality honors theses by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, development of curricular materials successfully used by colleagues, adoption of the nominee's teaching methods or techniques by experienced colleagues, service as a respected adviser for a student group, etc.
Nominators should bear in mind that the selection committee might view a nomination more positively if it is accompanied not just by carefully chosen testimonials from a few selected students and faculty, but also by reports, comments and criticism which is representative of the whole spectrum of opinion among students and faculty on the nominee's teaching.

Letters of Recommendation
Please include no more than five letters of recommendation, as follows:
- Two letters from the nominee's present or former students.
- Two letters from the nominee's colleagues (one of whom could be the department chair).
- One additional letter from any one qualified to comment on the nominee's extraordinary teaching success.

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

NOMINATION FORM
To be submitted by January 20, 2017

PLEASE TYPE

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

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

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

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:
THE 2017 SOUTHEASTERN SECTION
DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Nominations for the 2017 Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics are now being accepted. The Southeastern Section selection committee will choose the winner of this award from the pool of nominees in two stages. From the initial applicants, the committee will choose a group of finalists. Nominators of finalists will be contacted for more detailed information about the candidate's teaching. The winner will be honored at the Spring 2017 meeting of the Section at Mercer University.

A nomination form is attached. Each member of the Section is encouraged to consider submitting a nomination to **Mo Hendon** (*mhendon@uga.edu),* chair of the selection committee. Please submit a nomination form by **January 20, 2017**. The selection committee will contact nominators of finalists to solicit a complete packet.

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

1992   Anne Hudson, Armstrong State University
1993   Robert Bryant, Duke University
1994   John Neff, Georgia Institute of Technology
1995   Sylvia Bozeman, Spelman College
1996   Carl Pomerance, University of Georgia
1997   Harold Reiter, Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte
1998   Ben Klein, Davidson College
1999   Joel Brawley, Clemson University
2000   Theodore Shifrin, University of Georgia
2001   Johnny Henderson, Auburn University
2002   Ronald Harshbarger, University of South Carolina, Beaufort
2003   Sue E. Goodman, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
2004   Jeff R. Knisley, East Tennessee State University
2005   David Stone, Georgia Southern University
2006   William "Mac" Priestly, the University of the South
2007   David Sumner, University of South Carolina, Columbia
2008   Ronald Gould, Emory University
2009   Hugh Howards, Wake Forest University
2010   Martin Jones, University of Charleston
2011   Barry Spieler, Birmingham-Southern College
2012   Sam Kaplan, University of North Carolina at Asheville
2013   Ron Taylor, Berry College
2014   No award given
2015   Maurice Herndon, University of Georgia
2016   Stephen Robinson, Wake Forest University

<u>Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics</u>
<u>Nomination Form</u>

Please type.

Nominee's Name (first name first): _____

College or University Affiliation: _____

College or University Address: _____

City: State: ZIP: _____

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

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

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

Name of nominator (first name first): _____

Address of nominator: _____

Telephone:_____ Email: _____

Nominator's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Send to: Dr. Maurice Hendon , (mhendon@uga.edu)   706-542-4803
University of Georgia   Department of Mathematics   Athens, GA 30602
We're willing to help! If you would like assistance, please contact Mo Herndon before January 20.

Ninety-Seventh Annual Meeting
Mathematical Association of America, Southeastern Section
Mercer University

Meeting Announcement: The ninety-seventh annual meeting of the Mathematical Association of America, Southeastern Section will be held Friday and Saturday, March 10 - 11, 2017 at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. The Association invites all interested persons to participate. Attendees may preregister and pay online through the meeting website at http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/2017Conference/?2017_Conference___Conference_Registration.

On-site registration will also be available in December 2016. Up-to-date information about the conference (program, registration, accomodations, transportation, etc.) will be available on the conference website at http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/2017Conference/?2017_Conference.

General Sessions: There will be four general sessions with five speakers.
- **Ken Ono,** Emory University, Pólya Lecturer
- **Carolyn Yackel**, Mercer University, Section Lecturer 2016-2107
- **Tim Chartier**, Davidson College, Section Visitor
- **Stephen Robinson,** Wake Forest University, 2016 Section Teaching Award Recipient, and **Chad Awtrey,** Elon University, 2016 Section Teaching Award for Beginning Faculty Recipient

General Sessions will be held in Willingham Auditorium.

Short Courses and Workshops: There are two workshops available at no additional change, but for which participants must pre-register. These are:
- *Speed Interviewing Marathon for Students,* Jenna Carpenter (Campbell University)
- *Workshop for the Directors of Mathematics Tournaments,* Chuck Garner (Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology), Mo Hendon (University of Georgia), and Chasen Smith, (Georgia Southern University).

Abstracts for the workshops are included at the end of the announcement as well as on the conference website.

Call for Contributed Papers: The officers of the Section invite the submission of titles and abstracts for 15 minute contributed papers in all areas of mathematics by college and university faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students, and others. Abstract submissions can be made through the conference website or by sending the information to the Program Chair (Hope McIlwain, mcilwain_mh@mercer.edu). The abstract submission deadline is **Wednesday, February 8, 2017**. Talks will be scheduled in concurrent sessions and organized by the general mathematical area as indicated by the abstract.

There will be several special sessions on selected mathematical topics. Abstracts are included at the end of the announcement as well as on the conference website.
- *Special Session on Mathematics and Art*, Organizer, Carolyn Yackel (Mercer University)
- *Special Session on Presentations by Beginning Faculty*, Organizer, Ron Taylor (Berry College)
- *Special Session on Research on Teaching and Learning in Collegiate Mathematics*, Organizer, Kedar Nepal (Mercer University)
- *Special Session on Supervising Undergraduate Research Projects*, Organizer, Lee Raney (University of North Alabama)
- *Special Session on Strategies for Attracting and Retaining Students in Mathematics and Science*, Organizer, Maria Siopsis (Maryville College)

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

Undergraduate Poster Session: Students are encouraged to present research and results of special projects in poster format. The session is scheduled for Saturday morning, concurrent with contributed talks. Abstracts should be submitted through the conference website no later than **Wednesday, February 8, 2017.** Contact organizer Sarah Mason (masonsk@wfu.edu) if you need additional information.

Math Jeopardy Contest: Teams of three or four undergraduates will compete in a mathematical version of the well-known answer-and-question game. Competition is limited. There is a $25.00 registration fee for each team. *This fee can be paid with the sponsor's meeting registration.* Topics will include calculus (single and multivariable), linear algebra, differential equations, and discrete mathematics. The preliminary rounds for Math Jeopardy will be scheduled for Friday morning from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. To register team members so their names may be included in the program, or to find out more, m contact Ron Taylor (rtaylor@berry.edu) or Karen O'Hara (kohara@highpoint.edu).   The registration deadline is **Wednesday, February 8, 2017.** *There is a limit of 36 teams; schools will be initially limited to one team. If fewer than 36 teams register by the deadline, schools may register additional teams.*

Project NExT-SE: Project NExT-SE (New Experiences in Teaching) is the Southeastern MAA Section's version of the national program for new and recent Ph.D.s in mathematical sciences interested in improving the learning and teaching of undergraduate mathematics. All national and section Project NExT fellows are invited to attend! Activities are planned for Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. Contact Emily Braley (barley@math.duke.edu), Jon Ernstberger (jernstberger@lagrange.edu), or Stacey Ernstberger (sernstberger@lagrange.edu) for more information.

Treasure Hunt: On Thursday evening (March 9, 2017), there will be a Mathematics Treasure Hunt for students and their advisors. Students will use mathematics to solve clues and look for a "treasure." This is a fun, non-competitive event that will give students an opportunity to meet and work with students from other colleges and universities. Check-in is between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the lobby of the Connell Student Center with the event starting at 7:30 p.m. It is also greatly appreciated if math club advisors would be willing to help with this event. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help, please contact Julie Barnes (jbarnes@email.wcu.edu).

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

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

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

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

Pre-Registration: Pre-registration for the meeting through the conference website (http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/2017Conference/) is encouraged; on-site registration and materials pick up will be available in the lobby of the Connell Student Center on Thursday March 9 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday March 10 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Registration Fees	Pre-registered	After February 8, 2017
Faculty	$25	$40
College/University Students	$15	$25
Emeritus Faculty	$15	$25
High School Teachers	$15	$25
High School Students	Free	Free
Workshops	Free but pre-registration is required	

Workshop Abstracts

- *Speed Interviewing Marathon for Students,* Jenna Carpenter (Campbell University)
  Employers suggest that communication skills are a critical component when considering a mathematics major for a job. An important time to demonstrate good communication skills is during the job interview. This session for undergraduate students and graduate students will start with an overview of best practices and tips on job interviewing, then guide participants in several speed interviewing sessions of 10 minutes each, where they can practice what they have learned and hone their interviewing skills. Speed interviewing sessions will include individual feedback for participants, as well as opportunities to network with fellow interviewees.

- *Workshop for the Directors of Mathematics Tournaments,* Chuck Garner (Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology), Mo Hendon (University of Georgia), and Chasen Smith, (Georgia Southern University).
  We estimate that there are over 40 math tournaments for high school students at colleges and universities each academic year in our section. There is virtually no coordination or collaboration between the tournament organizers and directors, and very little collaboration with local teacher organizations, such as NCTM Affiliate groups (like the Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics which oversees Georgia's State Math Championship). This workshop is offered as a step toward collaboration by sharing what works with your tournament and to ask colleagues for help with what doesn't. We also propose a more coordinated effort to voluntarily introduce targeted mathematical topics at tournaments, and to establish a more firm line of communication with regional and state-level teacher organizations. Although we will facilitate the discussion towards math tournaments for high school students, directors of tournaments for other student populations are encouraged to join in.

Special Session Abstracts

- *Special Session on Mathematics and Art*, Carolyn Yackel (Mercer University)
This session will include talks about the relationship between mathematics and art. Specifically encouraged are research talks, discussion of how mathematics is used in the creation of specific art pieces or designs, examples of the use of the intertwining of these topics in the classroom, demonstrations of mathematically based performance art (juggling, dance, etc.) with an accompanying lucid description of the mathematics, and presentations by students.

- *Special Session on Presentations by Beginning Faculty*, Ron Taylor (Berry College)
Beginning faculty in the section are encouraged to present their research.

- *Special Session on Research on Teaching and Learning in Collegiate Mathematics*, Kedar Nepal (Mercer University)
Any proposals that are research based and are related to undergraduate mathematics teaching (all levels) are welcome. Examples of proposals include innovative teaching practices, use of technology in the classroom, inquiry-based learning, student thinking, any scholarship of teaching and learning that may offer practical applica-

tions,etc.

- *Special Session on Supervising Undergraduate Research Projects*, Lee Raney (University of North Alabama)
At many colleges and universities, faculty are now not only encouraged, but often required, to supervise undergraduate research projects in mathematics. As the benefits of undergraduate research are increasingly realized, many of us strive to find undergraduate research problems and projects that are not only fun, valuable, and interesting to students and the mathematical community, but are also framed at an appropriate level. This session is devoted to talks from faculty about any and all aspects of undergraduate research in mathematics of all levels, including their experiences with undergraduate research, interesting research problems and their solutions, student success stories, and best practices. Talks from junior and early-career faculty are especially encouraged.

- *Special Session on Strategies for Attracting and Retaining Students in Mathematics and Science*, Maria Siopsis (Maryville College)
I am particularly interested in special programming that happens outside of the classroom. At Maryville, we are running a program funded by an NSF grant that includes a summer bridge experience, special first year seminar and early experience with research.

Lodging

Participants should make their own arrangements directly with a hotel of their choice and be sure to mention that you will be attending MAA-SE. A limited number of rooms are blocked in the hotels below. Reservation deadlines vary with hotel as noted below. Prices are Pre-Tax.

Hotel Name	Cost per night for a double queen room	Reservation instructions	General Location
Hilton Garden Inn 478-741-5527	$119	Reserve at by calling 877-782-9444 or online at http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com/en/index.html. Use the group code MAA. Reserve by February 23, 2017.	On the edge of Mercer's campus
Towneplace Suites 478-812-8522	$129	Call hotel directly. Mention MAA Southeastern Section Spring 2017 Meeting. Reserve by February 6, 2017.	On the edge of Mercer's campus.
Candlewood Suites 478-254-3530	$79	Call hotel directly. Mention Mathematical Association of America. Reserve by February 16, 2017.	Near I-75 exit 169 and about 8 miles from campus.
Comfort Suites 478-314-5130	$89	Call hotel directly. Mention Mathematics Section. Reserve by February 6, 2017.	Near I-475 Exit 9 and about 10 miles from campus
Holiday Inn Macon North 478-803-8200	$104	Call hotel directly. Mention MAA Southeastern Section Spring 2017 Meeting. Reserve by February 10, 2017.	Near I-75 Exit 169 and about 8 miles from campus.
Macon Marriott City Center 478-621-5300	$119	Call hotel directly. Mention Mathematical Association of America Southeastern Section. Reserve by February 16, 2017.	Near I-16 Exit 1A and about 5 miles from campus
Residence Inn 478-475-4280	$104/$114	Call hotel directly. Use group code MAO. Reserve by February 9, 2017..	Near I-75 Exit 169 and about 8 miles from campus

Student Activities
MAA SE Section Meeting
March 10-11, 2017

Treasure Hunt

Thursday evening

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

Math Jeopardy

- Preliminary and semifinal rounds Friday morning
- Finals Saturday noon

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

Distinguished Lectures for Students

Friday morning

Check your program for additional information.

Math T-shirt Contest

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

Graduate School & Career Fair

Friday noon

Is graduate school in your future? Need a job? Meet with representatives of graduate programs and employers.
· Pizza lunch (free for students)
· Networking
· Door prize raffle for students

Undergraduate Student Research Posters and Talks

Poster Session Saturday morning
Talks throughout meeting

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

For Graduate Students

Friday

Graduate Student Professional Development workshop and Critiqued Presentation session. Contact Karen O'Hara (kohara@highpoint.edu) for details.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION OFFICERS 2015-2016

Chair: Pat Humphrey (Georgia Southern University)
                                              phumphre@georgiasouthern.edu

Past Chair: Jeff Knisley (East Tennessee State University)
                                              knisleyj@etsu.edu

Vice-Chair
For Two-Year Colleges: Wei-Kei Lai (University of South Carolina Salkehatchie)
                                              laiw@mailbox.sc.edu

Secretary: Catherine Matos (Clayton State University)
                                              CatherineMatos@clayton.edu

Treasurer: Emily Hynds (Samford University)
                                              eahynds@samford.edu

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Section Lecturer: Carolyn Yackel (Mercer University)
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State Director of Tennessee: Laurie Dishman (Cumberland University)
                                              ldishman@cumberland.edu

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                                              jgleason@as.ua.edu

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                                              vwatson@kennesaw.edu

Directors of Project NeXt-SE: Jon Ernstberger (LaGrange College), Stacey Ernstberger (Lagrange College), and
                                              Emily Braly (Duke University)
                                              jernstberger@lagrange.edu , sernstberger@lagrange.edu , and
                                              braley@math.duke.edu (respectively)

MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION COMMITTEES 2017-2018

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

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

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

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