



## **Governor's report, MAA Board meeting, January 9, 2015, San Antonio, Texas**

I found the character of the Board meeting different from previous ones. It was more upbeat, more joyful. Yes, the MAA is still bleeding money but the future looks more optimistic. This Board meeting was President Bob Devaney's last meeting as president. He reported that in his attendance at the Mathematical Congress of the Americas in Mexico in summer of 2013 there appeared to be interest in MAA activities. The next such Congress will occur in Montreal in 2017 (<http://mcofamericas.org>). The MAA would like to encourage our members to propose special sessions. This particularly important if you have any collaborators in the Americas (outside of the US).

Incoming president, Francis Su, had asked the Board members at the previous Board meeting to come up with three words that summed up the MAA, and from them he would select his favorite. The Governors' responses highlighted some big themes, including: community, teaching, making math accessible and inspiring, and bringing all aspects of our mathematical lives together. Here are the contributions made by Board members.

MAA: Building Mathematics Community  
MAA: Connecting People Connected to Mathematics  
MAA: Connecting, Collaborating, Cooperating for Mathematics  
MAA: Engaging mathematics; engaging mathematicians.  
MAA: Mathematics, Education, and Fellowship  
MAA: Making Arithmetic Attractive  
MAA: Maximizing Additive Adventures  
MAA: Research, Teaching, Service-All Connected  
MAA: MAA connects research, teaching, service  
MAA: Your Math Connection  
MAA: The Big Tent Math Association  
MAA: Making Math Accessible  
MAA: Expands my mathematical world  
MAA: Calienta la Mente  
MAA: Fires the Spirit  
MAA: Community, Creativity, Communication  
MAA: Integrating research teaching  
MAA: together promoting mathematical passions  
MAA: a mathematical community of vibrant, knowledgeable, and collaborative scholars.  
MAA: promoting the beauty, fun, and power of mathematics.  
MAA: Mathematically Energizing Communities  
MAA: Nurturing Mathematics Exploration  
MAA: Nurturing Mathematical Communities  
MAA: Mathematically Engaging the Community  
MAA: Empowering through Mathematics  
MAA: Creating Mathematical Capacity  
MAA: Math, People, Grow

(Continued on Page 2)

## Governor's Report (continued)

I underlined the contribution made by Tom Sibley, which Francis selected. Which one would you have selected, or better yet, which would have been your three words. (I recall the old remark: There are three kinds of mathematicians: those that can count and those that cannot.). As we prepare to be part of the MAA's centennial celebration it is good to keep in mind the impact that MAA has had on our careers and in the lives of our students.

The 2nd Century Campaign is ongoing, in celebration of the MAA Centennial. Please encourage your colleagues to join the MAA and to think about donating to the campaign. Here are the URLs:

<http://www.maa.org/membership> and <http://www.maa.org/donate>

Scott Chapman's term as editor of the Monthly ends on December 2016. Encourage your friends to apply. Also, serving on MAA committees is interesting and rewarding. You can always nominate yourself and the MAA encourages you to do so.

The Committee on the Undergraduate Program (CUPM) is available in draft form at the following website: <http://www.maa.org/programs/faculty-and-departments/curriculum-department-guidelines-recommendations/cupm>

The final version of the CUPM will be available sometime this year.

This is my last report as Governor of the Southwestern Section. See you at our April meeting in El Paso.

- Bill Velez

---

## 2015 MAA Southwestern Conference - April 18 and 19

The 2015 conference will be a joint conference with NMMATYC, and will be held at El Paso Community College, in El Paso, TX. There is a link on our Southwestern Section web page to the conference. Our banquet speaker will be Rick Gillman, Chair of the Committee on Sections - he will be able to fill us in on MAA's 100 year birthday. MathFest will be a "Big Birthday Party" August 5 - 8, in Washington, DC. At our conference we'll also do some celebrating! If you have any photos, memories, etc. of our section, please bring them to our April conference. We hope to have a historical strain throughout the conference!

Also, we are looking for presenters and presidors - the forms for presenters and presidors are on the conference web page - and participants (registration form is also on the conference web page). P<sup>3</sup> ??? You can now pay for your registration online. The cost of the registration includes two breakfasts, one lunch (Sat.) and the banquet (Sat. evening). We are also encouraging students to present - please note that students may choose to attend only the conference, if they plan to go to the banquet it will cost an extra \$15.

.....  
—Joanne Peeples, El Paso

---

# Southwestern Undergraduate Mathematics Research Conference 2015

The University of Texas at El Paso



SUNMaRC 2015 will take place at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), from February 27 to March 1, 2015.

## Conference Format

Registration will begin on Friday afternoon and will be followed by the opening dinner and an invited address. Saturday and Sunday morning will be filled by 15-minute presentations by students in parallel sessions. If participation is high, we may also consider having a poster session. Other invited speakers will also enlighten us both days. The Conference will close after lunch on Sunday.

## INVITED SPEAKERS

**Friday evening:** M. Zuhair Nashed, Professor of Mathematics , University of Central Florida

*Inverse Problems across the Undergraduate Curriculum*

**Saturday morning:** Niall Ives Gaffney, Director of Data Intensive Computing, Texas Advanced Computing Center, The University of Texas at Austin

*Data is the New Black: The Future of Data Driven Insight*

**Saturday evening:** Benedict H. Gross, Leverett Professor of Mathematics, Harvard University

*The function  $n \rightarrow n!$*

**Sunday morning:** Bruce T. Myers, Director of Hiring, Mathematics and Statistics, National Security Agency

*Mathematics Today at the National Security Agency*

## REGISTRATION

The registration deadline is February 6, 2015.

Please register, and if applicable, send your abstract for presentation before this deadline.

The registration fee is \$ 35.00 for students or faculty, payable in advance, before February 20, 2015.

If not paid by this date, registration will be canceled. For students coming in group with their mentors, we prefer to send a group invoice to their institutions, and get paid directly by their institutions before the deadline of February 20, 2015.

For students or faculty who would like to register individually and pay their own registration fees, please mail a check by the amount of the registration fee, payable to "The University of Texas at El Paso, c/o Math. Dept.", before the deadline of February 20, 2015, to the following address: The University of Texas at El Paso, Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, Attn: Maria Salayandia, 500 West University Ave., El Paso, TX 79968-0514.

<http://www.math.utep.edu/sunmarc2015/>

## Webmaster Needed!

Our section webmaster has moved to Colorado, so Allen is no longer in our section and we need a webmaster. You can find a job description at

<http://sections.maa.org/southwestern/news/jobopenings.html>

Allen is willing to help you get started, should you volunteer. The web site is up and going, so the main thing you would need to do is to keep it up to date.

## San Juan College

San Juan College Math Department has a new chair, Alicia O'Brien. Alicia has her master's in Math Education and is currently pursuing her Doctorate of Education with a concentration in math assessment and education reform. She comes to us from Pagosa Springs, CO. Welcome Alicia!

Additionally, Dr. Ramsi Bodine has taken over as math coordinator for the Student Success Center. Formerly working a Launch grant in remedial math, she brings her expertise assisting students with math difficulties to the larger venue. Congratulations, Ramsi.

— Pam Peters

## Other SW Section news:

The Southwestern Section's 2016 conference will be held at Northern Arizona University. Shannon Guerrero and Brian Beaudrie have agreed to be co-chairs.

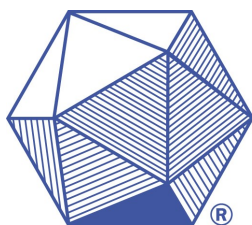
This spring we will be electing a new governor. First, thank you Bill Velez for being governor for the past three years. There will be three candidates - following the section's usual tradition, from New Mexico and El Paso - for you to vote for. Please watch your email from MAA, and please remember to vote (electronically).

Many of you met Chuck Straley at our last SW Section Conference, in 2014. Chuck recently retired from Wheaton College and moved to Yuma, to retire. Over Christmas Chuck suffered a stroke. According to the last email I received from his daughter, Beth, he is now in rehab, but still has a long way to go. She said that she is sure he'd love receiving cards. You can mail the cards to Chuck, % Chip Straley (Chuck's son) at 1213 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> ST., Yuma, AZ 85364.

—Joanne Peeples, El Paso

## Spring Conference

April 18 and 19, in El Paso, TX. It will be a joint conference with NMMATYC. The web page is <http://sections.maa.org/southwestern/>. We will be celebrating MAA's 100<sup>th</sup>. Register now!



MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

MAA100

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF ADVANCING MATHEMATICS