



Mathematical Association of America Southwestern Section

Newsletter

Volume 25 Issue 2 | Spring 2012

Section News

Governor Elections in Progress

Elections for a Section Governor are in progress through March 14, and members should have received an email with voting instructions around February 9. The candidates are William Yslas Vélez of the University of Arizona and Anne Dudley of Glendale Community College. Please vote!



MAA National News

Board of Governors Report

The Board of Governors of the MAA met for its usual daylong meeting on 3 January 2012 in Boston, MA, prior to the

Joint Mathematics Meetings. One of the action items at this meeting was the approval of the 2013 dues: \$199 for the regular rate (a \$5 increase) with *The Monthly*, \$179 with either *CMJ* or *Mathematics Magazine*; \$194 e-membership (which includes all three journals); regular discounted rates are 20% less; retired rates are 50% less than regular rates; undergraduate and graduate student rates will be \$32. Currently, about 27% of regular, regular-discounted, and retired members hold e-memberships; it's over 96% with student members.

In other matters the Board approved recommendations that were contained in the final report of the Strategic Planning Working Groups on SIGMAAs. The upshot of the recommendations was to ensure better alignment among the fees charged to be part of a SIGMAA, the costs involved in running a SIGMAA, the benefits to the members of the SIGMAA, and the benefits to the greater mathematics community and to the mission of the MAA. Also, changes in committee charges were approved, many of them dealing with financial-

(continued on next page)

Conference Time!

**MAA Southwestern Section / ArizMATYC / SunMaRC Joint Conference
March 30–April 1, Pima Community College Downtown Campus, Tucson**

The deadline for registration is Wednesday, February 29 (on-site registration is available at a higher price). Additional information is available at the conference web-site <https://sites.google.com/site/2012march30/>.

Remember that MAA-published books are sold at a discount at our Section conferences, and the Section gets a portion of the proceeds. Check out the MAA table and the other vendors at the conference!

related committees to ensure that timely financial decisions can be made, especially given the volatile economic environment in which we continue to live.

Further, guidelines for the Haimo Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics were modified to allow a Section nominee for the award to be the current recipient of the Section Award for Distinguished Teaching or a previous recipient of such an award. The change also allows the previous award to have been given by a Section other than the one submitting the current nomination. Guidelines for the Alder Award were modified so that exceptions to the 7-year limit since receiving a Ph.D. could include maternity, paternity, family, or medical leaves. And, the minimum award for the Euler Book Prize was increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

This is my last official report as Governor of the Southwestern Section. I greatly appreciate the opportunity that I've had to serve our Section in this capacity. Currently, the election process for a new governor is underway. We have two great candidates on the ballot: Anne Dudley from Glendale Community College and William Y. Velez from the University of Arizona. The next Board meeting will be on 1 August 2012 in Madison, WI, prior to MathFest, where the new Governor will be seated. —*Tom Gruszka, WNMU*

Department News

Arizona Western College

In November, the construction of 6 experimental solar arrays was completed on campus and Arizona Western College is now completely solar powered.

New mathematics faculty include Robert Senzer at our Parker campus and

Brett Peterson and Aman Ghebremicael at our San Luis campus. —*Dan Russow*

Fun Math Stuff

Mathematical Music Redux

UTEP's Larry Lesser, who gave full-length math song concerts at the banquets of the 2008 MAA MathFest and the 2005 MAA Southwestern Section meeting, has struck again. Lesser was commissioned by Annalisa Crannell to write a mathematical parody of the song "One!" (from the musical *A Chorus Line*) for the finale song of *MAA: The Musical!*, which debuted August 3, 2011 at the opening banquet of the MAA MathFest meeting. This lyric and two others by Lesser are featured in [an article in the current issue](#) of *Journal of Humanistic Mathematics*.

You'll have to visualize the creative choreography (there are photos in the [MAA MathFest 2011 photostream on Flickr](#)), but a sound recording of "One!" (mastered by edloe from Francis Su's iPhone) of that MathFest debut performance is available as an MP3 file [here](#). The pianist is Bud Brown and the singers are Jennifer Beineke, Art Benjamin, Annalisa Crannell, Alissa Crans, Matthew DeLong, Dan Kalman, Jenny Quinn, Norm Richert, Francis Su, and Talithia Williams. —*Larry Lesser*

MAA Southwestern Section Newsletter **Volume 25 Issue 2 | Spring 2012** **Published electronically on 15/17 February 2012**

This electronic newsletter is published twice annually, usually around October 15 and February 15. Please send news items about your department and announcements to the editor:

Allen Stenger

29 Cielo Montana

Alamogordo, NM 88310

StenBiz@gmail.com

Section web site: <http://maa.org/Southwestern>