

MAA VA-MD-DC General Membership Meeting
Frederic Community College, Student Center
April 13, 2019, 11:15am

Report of Section Representative

Jennifer Bergner summarized the word cloud generated last meeting where people were asked for one word when they think of the MAA. Plugged MathFest, Cincinnati OH. Then she plugged all kinds of great stuff: the MAA AMC (American math competitions); the USA Math Olympiad (April 17); the victory by the “girls” team in Kiev; the “math values blog” on the MAA website, the MAA video library. Finally, she introduced Michael Pearson, Executive Director at the MAA, who agreed to talk to us today about the two big changes: the smaller board of governance, and the ceasing of co-hosting of JMM.

Michael: JMMs have been 45% MAA and 45% AMS, and 10% other organizations, in terms of rooms/talks, etc. The MAA has subsidized \$300k the meeting every year. The AMS has contributed twice that (but gets revenue from “MathReviews”). The AMS didn’t want to raise registration fees. By the way, until 1998 the summer meetings were joint, and the AMS backed out of that.

Q&A

Q: What’s the financial history of MathFest?

A: It used to lose money, we’ve made some changes, and over the last 5–8 years, we’ve broken even.

Q: Will the MAA not schedule MathFest at the same time as ASA’s annual meeting?

A: We’ll try.

Q: Will there be MAA sessions at the JMM?

A: Yes, probably a single room plus project NExT activities.

Q: MAA loses \$300k at JMM, but overall how does that compare to MAA budget?

A: Total revenue is roughly 20% member dues, 20% meetings, 20% publications, 20% competitions, 20% programs/grants/NSF.

Q: When the bylaws were changed, congress was supposed to be consulted. Why didn’t that happen?

A: This didn’t appear to be the kind of strategic goal that congress would need to be consulted. This was basically a business decision, and it was viewed as consistent with the strategic plan that congress was consulted on.

Q: What is the congress?

A: It’s part of the governance structure. The board makes the main decisions. The old structure had some problems, e.g. governors thought they were supposed to represent the interests of their sections, and that’s the opposite of what a board is supposed to do.

Wrapping up

Jenn wrapped up by reminding us of upcoming things: we have a new membership structure for non-tenure track faculty, a new social network “MAA-Connect”, that registration is open for MathFest, and the first annual Martin Gardner talk will take place there.

See you at the next two regional meetings:

- Norfolk State University Fall 2019
- Salisbury University Spring 2020

Don’t forget to nominate people for the service award by August 15 and the teaching award by January 15.

Treasurers Report

Phillip Poplin showed us the budget through March 4, 2019. The Subvention check was a little above \$2000. We paid for part of the speaker out of the IBL fund because they were talking about IBL. Numbers so far: 91 faculty, 117 students (2 grad) preregistered, 21 students from Hood. Pre-registration numbers showed 0 high school teachers, and 3 people from private sector/businesses.

Q&A

Q: do we collect data on students, who is paying for their registration?

A: we don't collect official data, but my observation is the vast majority get paid by their schools.

Section NExT

The new faculty coordinator, Alex Misiats, reminded us about Section NExT lunch reminder, and to make nominations for the next group of NExT "Fellows". Then he announced the new graduating class:

- Neal Bushaw, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Alex Misiats, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Van Nguyen, Hood College
- Lisa Schneider, Salisbury University
- Ryan Shifler, Salisbury University
- Kevin Sinclair, Shenandoah University

Teaching award.

Ethan Duckworth read the citation for the winner of the John Smith Teaching Award. The winner was Dr. Della Dumbaugh from the University of Richmond. She received a plaque and her picture is now on the section's webpage.

Chairs report

David gave us the good news that the report was very short: mostly to thank the former members of office, and run elections for new office holders. He thanked Jennifer Bergner, Leigh Lunsford, Minah Oh for being nominee committee.

The new office holders are:

- Section representative: Jenn Bergner is stepping down; Bonita Saunders is the new representative.
- Webmaster: Brian Heinhold re-upping, elected by acclamation.
- Treasurer: Phillip Poplin, confirmed to finish the term for Mitch.
- Newsletter Editor: Margarate Rahmoeller re-upping, elected by acclamation.
- At Large: Jeb Collins won contested election by a show of hands.

David again stated that we would like to increase inclusivity in the meetings: high school, industry, underrepresented groups, and thanked the students, faculty and interpreters from the school for the deaf.

New business

Motion to send a letter of appreciation, to Hood and FCC. Motion passed.