

**TO: Members of the MAA-NJ Section**  
**FROM: Mark S. Korlie, Secretary**

**RE: Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on January 31, 2004**  
**Middlesex County College, Edison, NJ**

**In Attendance:** Reginald Luke, Cathy Liebars, Michael Jones, Karen Clark, Bonnie Gold, Theresa Michnowicz, Larry D'Antonio, Carol Avelsgaard, Hieu Nguyen, and Mark Korlie

## **1. Reports**

### **(a) Minutes from the last executive committee meeting**

Mark Korlie distributed the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on September 20, 2003 at Middlesex County College. The committee unanimously accepted it. He also distributed copies of the Section's book sale report for the Fall 2003 meeting; the amount for total sales was \$997.03.

### **(b) Treasurer's Report**

Karen Clark distributed the Treasurer's Report for Fall 2003. For the Fall 2003 meeting, the Section lost \$705.99. As of January 31, 2004, the balance in the checking account was \$4,270.25. The Committee voted unanimously to accept the Treasurer's Report.

### **(c) Report by Chair and Governor**

Reginald Luke distributed the Governor's Report for the Joint Mathematics Meetings held in Phoenix, AZ, January 7-10, 2004. In addition to the MAA Board of Governors' Meeting report, the report included the following list: members of the NJ-Section appointed to serve on MAA committees, workshops organized by members of the NJ-Section, and presentations given by members of the NJ-Section.

### **(d) Section Officers' Meeting report**

Cathy Liebars attended the Section Officers' Meeting held at the 2004 Joint Mathematics Meetings in Phoenix, AZ. She gave a brief report about the meeting.

### **(e) Awards Committee**

Theresa Michnowicz reported that the Section Award Committee nominated Barbara Osofsky, Rutgers University, for the MAA Certificate of Meritorious Service Award for contributions to the MAA at the national or sectional level. Amy Cohen and Reva Narasimhan were nominated for the MAA-NJ-Section Meritorious Service Award.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to accept the nominations. Amy Cohen will receive the NJ-Section Meritorious Service Award at the Spring 2004 meeting; Reva Narasimhan will receive the NJ-Section Meritorious Service Award at the Spring 2005. The MAA Certificate of Meritorious Service Award

will be presented at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in January 2005, but the MAA Board of Governors must first approve it at MathFest 2004.

**(f) Nominations Committee**

Theresa Michnowicz reported the following nominations on behalf of the Nomination Committee.

Chair Elect: Mark Korlie, Montclair State University

Vice Chair for Speakers: Hieu Nguyen, Rowan University

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to accept the above nominations.

**2. Spring 2004 Meeting at Rutgers University**

Contact persons/Liaisons at Rutgers University:

Amy Cohen [acc@math.rutgers.edu](mailto:acc@math.rutgers.edu), Office Tel: 973-445-3098 (Main contact person)

Richard Bumby [bumby@math.rutgers.edu](mailto:bumby@math.rutgers.edu)

Diane Apadula [dapadula@math.rutgers.edu](mailto:dapadula@math.rutgers.edu)

**(a) Garden State Undergraduate Mathematics Conference (GSUMC) Issues**

**Problem Solving Competition**

Hieu Nguyen distributed a tentative schedule for GSUMC. The problem solving competition will include team and individual problem solving sessions. The contest organizer, Tom Hagedorn, The College of New Jersey, will lead the problem solving competition. The questions for the competition will involve high school mathematics, introductory mathematics courses that a math major would take, calculus, linear algebra, and differential equations.

A call for volunteers to be graders for the problem solving competition will be included in the flyer.

**Publicity and Registration**

Information about the GSUMC will be included in the flyer. The web site <http://www.rowan.edu/mars/depts/math/maa-nj/gsumc.html> contains detailed information about the GSUMC. Hieu Nguyen will develop an online registration form for the conference.

*Update:* Hieu Nguyen has developed online registration forms for the GSUMC. The forms are available at <http://www.rowan.edu/mars/depts/math/maa-nj/gsumc.html>.

**Student paper and poster**

There will be students contributed papers and posters sessions. The students poster session will be held in large classrooms.

**Career workshop**

The career workshops will begin at 1 p.m., immediately after lunch. The three career workshops are:

Industry Workshop: Greg Coxson, Lockheed Martin

Graduate School Workshop: Stephen Greenfield, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

K-12 Education Workshop: Suzanne Reynolds, Kean University

The Executive Committee agreed that the career workshops be presented in one session, not concurrently.

*Update:* Reva Narasimhan sent out an e-mail to members of the executive committee on February 2, after the Executive Committee Meeting, stating that “the workshops are scheduled for 50 minutes to run in parallel from 1:00-1:50 as listed in the preliminary program. That is what I have told the presenters.”

### **Awards and Prizes**

Awards will be presented to winners of the math problem solving competition. Hieu Nguyen will find a trophy that will be kept by the problem solving winning team’s institution for one year. The winning team will also get a plaque with the names of its members, which will be kept permanently at the team’s institution.

### **Other issues**

Hieu Nguyen will find out about the cost of printing t-shirts for the GSUMC. If the cost is reasonable, the Section will purchase them for the meeting.

Undergraduate students who register in advance and a faculty member accompanying a problem solving team will receive free lunch. Otherwise, the fee is \$6 for students and \$12 for faculty and other professionals.

## **(b) MAA-NJ Section Meeting**

### **Speakers**

The speakers are:

- Mercedes McGowen, William Rainey Harper College, IL (Presider: Donna Cedio-Fengya)
- Fred Roberts, DIMACS, NJ (Presider: Michael Jones, Montclair State University)
- John H. Conway, Princeton University, NJ (Presider: Christopher Simons, Rowan University)

### **Lunch Discussions**

The Lunch Discussions Tables include the following.

- How does the teaching of mathematics differ from "doing" mathematics? led by Mercedes McGowen, William Rainey Harper College
- How can mathematical scientists contribute to homeland security? Led by Fred Roberts, DIMACS
- Using Technology in the Undergraduate Classroom, led Karen Clark and Tom Hagedorn, The College of New Jersey
- Popular and Recreational Mathematics, led by Michael Jones, Montclair State University
- What happening in BIG SIGMAA? Report from the Joint Mathematics Meeting, led by Greg Coxson, Lockheed Martin
- Statistical Demonstrations, High-tech and Low, led by Mark Bailey, SAS

- How much calculus should we be teaching in a calculus-based probability course? Led by Chris Lacke, Rowan University
- POMSIGMAA: What is Mathematics? Led by Bonnie Gold, Monmouth University
- (title to be announced), led by Larry D'Antonio, Ramapo College

### **Contributed papers sessions**

The sessions for contributed papers are:

- History of Mathematics, organized by Francine Abeles, Kean University, and Larry D'Antonio, Ramapo College
- Popular and Recreational Mathematics, organized by Michael Jones, Montclair State University
- Technology in the Mathematics Classroom, organized by Karen Clark and Thomas Hagedorn, The College of New Jersey
- SIGMAA Session on Statistics Education, organized by Dex Whittinghill, Rowan University
- General Contributed Papers, organized by Theresa Michnowicz, New Jersey City University

Each session will have at most 5 speakers. Each speaker will have 15 minutes, which include questions and answers session, for his presentation. There transition period after each presentation is 5 minutes.

The Deadline for submitting items for the flyer is February 15.

### **Exhibitors**

Cathy Liebars will coordinate the publishers' exhibits.

### **Registration**

Hieu Nguyen will develop an online registration for the meeting.

### **Other issues**

Whenever the meeting is held jointly with the GSUMC, the maximum number of helpers from host institutions that will receive free lunch is 8 (4 students and 4 faculty/staff members). Otherwise, the maximum number is 6 (3 students and 3 faculty/staff members).

FEES: Same as before.

No registration fee for students.

MAA member preregistration: \$12 (\$15 at the door)

Non-MAA member preregistration: \$15 (\$18 at the door)

Students pay half the cost for lunch.

## **3. Fall 2004 Meeting at The College of New Jersey**

### **(a) Speakers**

The three speakers for the Fall 2004 Meeting are

- David Holmes, The College of New Jersey

- Joseph O'Rourke, Smith College
- Frank Farris, Santa Clara University, CA (MAA National Speaker)

**(b) Workshops**

Cathy Liebars will organize the workshops. Hieu Nguyen reported that Joseph O'Rourke, Smith College has agreed to conduct a workshop. An additional one or two workshops will be chosen from the list: Webwork (Karen Clark has volunteered to conduct it), Origami (Tom Hall may conduct it), and PMET (Preparing Mathematicians to Educate Teachers).

**4. Future meetings**

The Fall 2005 Meeting will be held at Monmouth University.

The Spring 2005 Meeting will be held at Middlesex County College.

**5. Review of past meeting**

The Committee agreed that the Fall 2003 Section meeting held at Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) was successful. Overall, the arrangements and sites for the meeting's activities were very good.

**Evaluation forms**

Cathy Liebars suggested that the Section should consider using evaluation forms at the meetings. The Committee agreed to use a simple form for evaluation.

Questions/statements on the form may be like the following. What was good? What was bad? Comments for future meetings:

**Speaker Dinner vs. Fruit Basket**

If an invited speaker did not go to the dinner honoring invited speakers, a fruit basket will be sent to his/her home.

**6. Roles/Responsibilities**

**Book Sale Responsibilities**

The Committee voted unanimously to add the book sale responsibilities to the Public Information Officer's responsibilities. However, Theresa Michnowicz reminded the Committee that the Public Information Officer's position is not an elected position. The MAA may have an issue with the Public Information Officer serving as the Book Sale Coordinator, because there is money involved. The Committee will revisit this issue at a future meeting.

**Workshop Organizer**

Reva Narasimhan will be stepping down as Workshop Organizer effective April 1, 2004. An announcement will be posted on the Section web soliciting a volunteer to serve as Workshop Coordinator.

**Secretary**

A call for nomination for the Section's Secretary position will be posted on the Section web. A brief summary of the Secretary's responsibilities will be included in the nomination announcement.

**7. Other Business**

**Section Bylaws**

Mark Korlie will send out the Bylaws to members of the Executive Committee. He will also contact the MAA to get information about the most recent version of the Section Bylaws.

Members of the Bylaws Revision Committee are Theresa Michnowicz, Bonnie Gold, Reginald Luke, and Mark Korlie.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting**

The Section 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting will be held in Spring 2006. Members of the Committee to host the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting are Larry D'Antonio, Theresa Michnowicz, Carol Avelsgaard, and Mark Korlie (Chairperson).

**8. Next Executive Committee Meeting**

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2004, The College of New Jersey, at 11:00 a.m.