

Message from the Governor Donna Beers

For many of us, the trip to attend the Joint AMS/MAA Meetings in San Diego was the first time we had flown since September 11. This made the meeting especially poignant.

The Board of Governors meeting in San Diego was filled with many interesting developments and good news. Here are some highlights:

- Interesting statistics: As of December 31, 2001, the pre-registration for the San Diego Joint Meetings was 3992; also, the MAA's total membership as of this date was 32,558, which 10.70% higher than last year's figure of 29,411; and, 2001 MAA's paid membership was 26,033, which is 15.24% higher than last year's paid membership of 22,591.
- Summer MathFests: The following meeting sites were approved: MathFest 2004: Providence, MathFest 2005: Albuquerque. The Associate Secretary of the MAA, Jim Tattersall, asks everyone to forward him suggestions for future MathFest sites. Please be reminded that MathFests 2002 and 2003 will take place in Burlington and Boulder, respectively. Also, in January, 2003, the Joint Meetings of the AMS and MAA will take place in Baltimore.
- MAA Headquarters: The conversion to the new Association Management software has turned out to be more expensive than expected because of dependence on outside contractors. On the other hand, the software has turned out to be even more powerful than anticipated, so the long term benefit to the MAA is significant. The software is now being used to generate many MAA reports.
- Elections: After serving as Treasurer of the MAA since 1993, Gerry Porter of UPENN has stepped down; John Kenelly of Clemson University was elected by acclamation as the new Treasurer of the MAA. Also, Daniel Maki of Indiana University was elected to four-year terms on the MAA Audit and Budget Committees.
- Professional Development for Faculty: Project PREP (Professional Enhancement Programs) had a successful first year in 2001, offering six workshops in summer 2001. Plans are underway for another strong program in summer 2002. These will include an MAA workshop, Preparing Mathematicians to Educate Teachers (PMET), to prepare college faculty to educate future secondary school mathematics teachers, organized by Ed Dubinsky (see http://www.maa.org/pfdev/prep/dub_app.html); there will also be a professional development program for department chairs, to take place at Towson University, June 27-30. For details on these and other summer 2002 programs, see <http://www.maa.org/pfdev/prep/prep.html>.
- A new SIGMAA on the History of Mathematics has joined the growing number of MAA Special Interest Groups.
- News about Project NeXt: A brochure on Project NeXt has been printed for use with corporate and foundation fund raising. Plans for dissemination include members of the Corporate Foundation Alliance. For 2001-02, the MAA raised \$55,000 in addition to the support of the ExxonMobil Foundation. Currently NeXt Fellows are supported by ExxonMobil Foundation, Dolciani-Halloran

Foundation, Educational Advancement Foundation, the American Mathematical Society, and the GMAA fund.

- The American Mathematics Competitions (AMC): The 17th annual AMC 8 contest was held on November 15, 2001. There were 197,690 students from 2736 schools world-wide who registered for this year's contest. The 53rd annual AMC Contest 12 and the third AMC 10 will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2002. An alternate contest will be held fifteen days later on Wednesday, February 27. The 20th annual American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME) will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2002. An alternate AIME is scheduled for two weeks later on Tuesday, April 9. All students with a score of at least 100 (out of a possible 150 points) or in the top 5% on the AMC 12, the top 1% of the AMC 10 participants, and students in the top 5% of those participating in the USA Math Talent Search will be invited to take the AIME. The AKAMAI Foundation has contributed \$1,000 scholarships to the top 25 male and the top 25 female scorers, as well as to the top male and top female scorer from each state.
- News about CUPM (The Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics): CUPM has embarked on the ambitious project of studying the undergraduate program for the first decade of the twenty-first century. This has come to be something we expect from the MAA. One change: In the past, this study has been done by a number of MAA staff. This time, a broader community is engaged with the project, involving more committee members and getting more input from a wider cross-section. Stay tuned. Be looking for progress reports and be willing to provide feedback.
- NSF grants: The MAA has continued last year's track record of successful submissions to the NSF. A proposal to the new NSF Assessment program got funded, a submission for a supplement to the MathDL grant got funded, and a proposal for the MAA to conduct an NSF/DUE PI's meeting also was funded. This meeting will be held in Spring, 2002.
- The Board approved revisions to the Bylaws for the Metro New York and Louisiana-Mississippi Sections.

At home, in the Northeastern Section, Frank Morgan of Williams College has planned a joint meeting of the NES/MAA with the Seaway Section, to take place June 21-22, 2002 at Williams College. A spectacular slate of speakers has been arranged, including Thomas Hales, solver of the Kepler Conjecture; Sean McLaughlin, who proved the Dodecahedral Conjecture; and Thomas Garrity of Williams College whose research is in algebraic and differential geometry and in number theory. Later in the summer, please consider attending MathFest 2002, which will take place at the University of Vermont in Burlington from August 1-3. I look forward to seeing you at these and other upcoming mathematics events.