

Governor's Report

Robert Rogers, Spring 2008

The MAA Board of Governors met on January 5, 2008 at the Marriott in San Diego. Here are some of the action items from that meeting

- The budget committee proposed that the 2009 dues remain the same as the 2008 dues. This was agreed upon. That being said, it was also recommended that, that with input from the membership working group and the journals and communications working group, over the next year or two, serious study and consideration be given to fundamental changes in the pricing and nature of MAA membership. This is to address some possible trends in membership numbers, in particular, the decrease in the number of renewals. The committee on Marketing and Membership is looking into ways to increase retention rates as it is more economical to retain than it is to recruit.
- There was a proposal to form a strategic planning group for periodicals and communications. One of the main items of business would be to look into whether all of the MAA's print publications have online versions? Should these be available only to members? How should online journal access be packaged into membership? Given the speed at which the publishing business is changing, the recommendation is for the group to address such issues as soon as possible.
- The revised bylaws for the Seaway Section were approved. These bylaws were approved by the section at the business meeting on October 20, 2007. The major change in this was the splitting of the secretary-treasurer into two positions.

As a point of information, the treasurer John Kenelly, provided a report on the MAA's investment portfolio. Of particular note was his position on investing in Green Mutual funds. The advice of the investment committee's investment advisor is to take a cautious approach to toward these funds and the committee is following that advice.

These were the major topics of discussion that, in my opinion, are most directly related to the membership of the section.