

Governor's Report – Spring 2016

In culmination of several years of work and discussion the Board of Governors approved a new governance model for the MAA. The primary motivation for the change was the need for a small body to be empowered to make executive decisions more quickly than with the current Board of Governors structure. This model will now go back to a Governance Task Force for final details which will be brought back the Board and eventually to the general membership for a vote.

The governance model will consist of a 9 member Board of Directors and a 48-51 member Assembly.

Board of Directors

Membership

President (serving 4 years, one as president elect, two as president, and one as past president)
President elect or immediate past president
Vice President – 2-year term; national election
Chair of the Assembly - two-year term; elected by the Assembly from its members
Secretary - 4-year term; at most two terms
Associate Secretary - 4-year term; at most two terms
Treasurer – 4-year term; at most two terms
Chair of the Committee on Sections - 3-year term; at most two terms; elected by the Assembly
Director at Large - elected by the Assembly from its members for a 2-year term

Responsibilities

- I. Review and approve budget, manage assets, set dues and benefits of membership, fees a. Determine categories and privileges (including voting rights) of membership b. Establish member dues
- II. Develop and implement strategic plans.
- III. Executive Oversight (hiring and evaluating key professional staff, ED, CFO...) a. Debate and approve new MAA policies and changes to existing policies b. Consider proposals for Section bylaws changes c. Oversee MAA publications d. Oversee MAA prizes and awards e. Elect new MAA members upon written application from an individual or organization
- IV. Select secretary, associate secretary, treasurer, (search committee, applications, Board approves the recommendation and conditions of reappointment)
- V. The Board of Directors must have input from the Assembly before adding or dropping a program or project.
- VI. Select and appoint chairs of Councils for 4-year terms with at most one term.
- VII. Select candidates for the Nominating Committee

Assembly

Membership

29 Section Representatives with three-year terms
7 Council chairs selected by the Board of Directors for 4-year terms with at most one term
All members of the Board of Directors
3 – 6 members-at-large

Responsibilities

- I. Serves as a conduit of communication
- II. Approves strategic goals and priorities
- III. Approves changes to MAA bylaws in advance of action by the general membership
- IV. Elects Chair of the Committee on Sections
- V. Elects at-large Assembly members
- VI. Elects one of its members as an at-large member of the Board of Directors
- VII. Recommends programmatic and social policies for MAA
- VIII. Meets at least once each calendar year at a national MAA meeting

The Board approved the Budget Committee's recommendation that the 2017 dues continue with the same rate as the 2016 dues: member plus \$249; member \$175 (or \$15 per month); student \$35

The Board approved the recommendations of second five year terms for Executive Director Michael Pearson and Treasurer Jim Daniel.

President Francis Su's report centered on themes of membership, underrepresentation and the challenges to the MAA brought by the digital revolution. Membership in the MAA increased in 2015 for the first time in about 10 years, but enhancing the value of membership is an ongoing challenge. The breakout sessions focused on developing ideas of developing valuable Webinars which could entice increased membership.

There was discussion at the Board meeting (continued in greater detail in the Committee on Sections meeting) of the need for membership information and communication capabilities for Sections. There is recognition that the current Liaison system is not working well at the national level; Sections report different degrees of success with Liaisons at the section level. National will do mass e-mailings to section members with limitations (up to 2 per month, lead time needed), but clarification of email policy and the appropriate use of membership lists at the section level will be major topics of discussion at the summer 2016 MathFest meetings in the Committee on Sections.

A representative from the Association for Women in Mathematics joined the meeting of the Committee on Sections to discuss AWM's interest in enhancing connections between the MAA and the AWM, especially at the section level. AWM is moving to recognize AWM partners in the sections and is exploring opportunities for increased collaboration, including possibilities of speaker lists, helping with special sessions or setting up information tables at section meetings.

Respectfully,

Jim Conklin

