

MAA Fall 2004 Business Meeting at Canisius College

By Leonard T. Malinowski

Cheri Boyd opened the meeting and her first order of business was to thank the local organizing committee for all their work. The local organizing committee is comprised of Dr. James Huard, Dr. Rose Marie Castner and many students from Canisius College.

The minutes of the spring 2004 business meeting were presented and approved. The Treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$9300.67 as of June 30, 2004. The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

The section governor, Luise-Charlotte Kappe, reported on her attendance of Mathfest 2004 in Providence and meeting students representing both the United States and Canada in the International Mathematics Olympiad. Her report included the need for the colleges within the section to help identify new faculty members within their mathematics departments who are possible new member of the MAA for the section to enlist.

Margaret Morrow, the program chair, stated that the spring 2005 meeting for the section is scheduled for Queens University in Kingston, Ontario on April 1-2. Contributed talks need to be sent to Margaret by Feb. 20th. In the future, contributed talks will be listed on the website.

Cheri Boyd gave the executive committee report. The section is still attempting to have a meeting at West Point with the Metropolitan section. Other sites being considered for future meeting include Ithaca, Plattsburgh, and Rochester. Cheri announced that Joe Straight is resigning as the Editor of the Seaway Current, the section's newsletter. Joe is willing to act as a consultant to anyone who is willing to take on this position.

Among issues discussed by the executive board is the need for the section to create a permanent historical archive. A new national award, the Alder Teaching Award, is designed to recognize distinguished teaching by newly beginning college faculty. The section does not currently have any award to

recognize relatively new members of the profession for their outstanding achievements but this will be considered in the future.

Other issues include how to make the section's Educational Policy Committee more effective. Many things are now occurring at the State Education Department in terms of the development of new state standards. The State Education Department is only allowing one month's time to review and respond to these developments. This need for a quick and appropriate response may require a new mode of operation for the Educational Policy Committee within the section.

There was no old business or new business at this meeting. However, Richard Escobales expressed how happy Canisius College was to host this MAA section meeting. Just prior to adjournment, Cheri Boyd thanked the local organizing committee for their efforts in making all the arrangements.