

Seaway Section
Mathematical Association of America
Colgate University
April 17-18, 2015

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Present: Charlie Ragozzine, John Maceli, Gary Towsley, Ryan Ganter, Jonathan Cox, Sandeep Bhargava

The Executive Committee Meeting commenced at 3:25 p.m.

Minutes of the Fall 2015 were approved with a spelling correction (*Jon Kleinberg*, not *John Kleinberg*).

Chair's Report: The balance increased from \$16,138 on 9/15/2014 to \$16,710 on 3/1/2015.

First Vice Chair's Report: As of April 17, there were 188 people registered for the meeting, including at least 94 students. A Project NExT Workshop titled "What is Mathematics Now?" was held on Friday afternoon. Elizabeth Wilcox will lead a hands-on sculpture activity prior to the Friday evening banquet. The speaker at the Friday evening Banquet is Gary Towsley who will describe some of the history of the Seaway Section and changes it has undergone over the years. Keynote speakers at the meeting include the past president of the MAA, Robert Devaney, and two MacArthur fellows, Jeffrey Weeks and Jon Kleinberg (Gehman Lecture), the latter also being a Nevanlinna Prize winner. A few large sized posters highlighting some of the section's historical artifacts will be on display. T-shirts that commemorate the 75th anniversary of the section and the 100th anniversary of the national organization were made and will be distributed.

Preliminary information on future sites: The Fall 2015 will be at St. Lawrence University, the Spring 2016 at SUNY Geneseo, and the Spring 2018 will likely be at the University of Toronto, Mississauga.

Treasurer's Report: There was a net gain of \$1,040 from the Alfred University meeting in Fall 2014. Part of the increase in the balance was accounted for by proceedings from book sales and a slightly lower overhead at the Alfred meeting in Fall 2014.

A motion was passed to allow nominations for the Clarence F. Stephens Distinguished Teaching Award to be kept on file and available for consideration for three years. In general, department members were to continue being encouraged to nominate their colleagues and for applications to be well-written.

A successor is being sought to take over the editor responsibilities from Margaret Morrow for the Seaway Current newsletter.

The section Governor provided a report on the Governors' Meeting at the Joint Mathematics Meetings. An increase from \$169 to \$175 would take place for the yearly membership dues. A new kind of departmental membership was being considered involving one free faculty membership, unlimited student memberships, and electronic access to the MAA journals. The MAA president Bob Devaney reported that there was a lot of interest among our South American counterparts in working with the MAA at the Mathematical Congress of the Americas. The Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics would revisit and update course curricula in a shorter two to three year timeframe. There is also a group looking at rethinking the role of the semi-annual Governors' meeting due to the large cost associated with it. The MAA currently has an operating deficit of about \$500,000.

A motion was passed to match the MAA's funds for the governor to attend the Joint Math Meetings and MathFest and for the section representative to attend MathFest. This amounts to the section spending \$500 for each of the two annual meetings that the section governor attends and \$250 for the summer MAA meeting that the section representative attends.

The session moved without pause to the Extended Executive Committee.

Extended Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Also in attendance: Jeff Johannes, Elizabeth Wilcox, Jane Cushman, Matt Koetz

The Program Committee reported on the program at this meeting and went over the venues for the next two meetings (see above).

The Student Program Committee reported that there was an Integration Bee being held on Friday night and 36 student talks in the program on Saturday.

The Randolph Lecturer for the Fall 2015 meeting had not been confirmed yet.

The Gehman Lecture Committee reported that Jon Kleinburg was the Gehman lecturer this meeting.

The Educational Policies Committee had nothing to report.

The Distinguished Teaching Award Committee reported that Margaret Morrow was selected as the recipient of the award.

The Nominations Committee reported that the Jonathan Cox, the Program Chair, must be replaced in another year. Executive Committee members are encouraged to think about who the next Program Chair will be.

The Seaway Current is looking for a new editor to replace Margaret Morrow.

Seaway NEXt/PFF held a workshop on Friday afternoon titled, "What is Mathematics Now?" that had 15 participants.

There was no report from the Webmaster.

The extended executive committee was informed about the earlier motions that

(i) extended the pool of candidates for the Clarence F. Stephens Distinguished Teaching Award to three years; and

(ii) matched funds from the National MAA to help the Section Governor attend the Joint Mathematics Meetings and MathFest, and a section representative attend MathFest.

Jeff Johannes reported that the local organizing committee for the Spring 2016 meeting at SUNY Geneseo would experiment with having a plenary speaker at the close of the meeting on Saturday afternoon.

The Extended Executive Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.