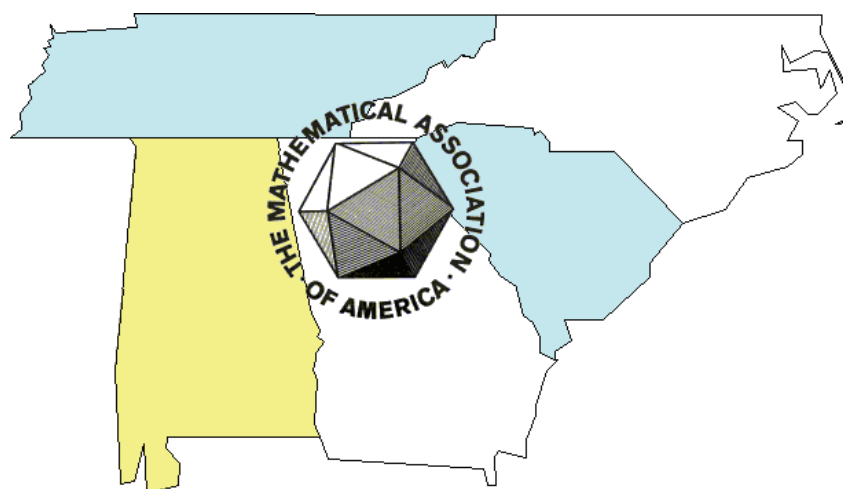# Southeastern Section Newsletter

IMPORTANT SECTION MEETING INFORMATION
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT WILMINGTON
WILMINGTON, NC
MARCH 12-14, 2015

Call for Papers: Deadline February 9
Meeting Information: Page 28

LOOK INSIDE!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Newsletter is published in April and November each year. The deadlines for items to be included in each issue are March 15 and October 15 respectively. Departmental News appears in the November newsletter only and is solicited from department liaisons.

Material may be submitted to the editor on paper or by email, although email is preferred. Currently the newsletter is produced using Microsoft Publisher, which can import plain text files or files produced by most word-processing software.

Editor: Kristen Abernathy, Department of Mathematics, Winthrop University, Bancroft Hall, Rock Hill, SC 29733; phone (803) 323-4681; abernathyk@winthrop.edu.

SECTION CALENDAR

December 1, 2014	Deadline for Nominations for the Section Distinguished Teaching Award
January 10-13, 2015	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX
January 16, 2015	Deadline for Nominations for the Section Distinguished Teaching Award for Beginning Faculty Members
February 6, 2015	Alabama State Dinner, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
February 7, 2015	65th Annual Meeting of the Alabama Association of College Teachers of Mathematics, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
February 9, 2015	**Deadline for Abstract Submission for Session Annual Meeting**
February 21, 2015	Sixth Biennial Mercer University Undergraduate Research in Mathematics Conference, Mercer University, Macon, GA
March 13-14, 2015	**Southeastern Section Annual Meeting, University of North Carolina Wilmington, Wilmington, NC**
April 2015	Tennessee State Dinner, Wilson County, TN
August 5-8, 2015	Mathfest, Washington, DC
January 6-9, 2016	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA
March 25-26, 2016	**Southeastern Section Annual Meeting, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL**
January 4-7, 2017	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
January 10-13, 2018	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
January 16-19, 2019	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD

FROM THE CHAIR

Astute members may realize that there is a new Chair for the section. Queen Harris left Georgia Perimeter College and the section to move to Arizona; she is entering a Ph.D. program in Biostatistics there. Since I was elected Chair-elect in March, and Queen had served over half her term, according to the By-Laws of the Section (and a vote of the Executive Committee), I will fill the remainder of her term as well as serving my own. This also means that Jeff Kniseley will have an unprecedentedly long term as Past-Chair!

The section Executive Committee met at Clayton State University on October 3 and 4 to discuss business and plan for the meeting at UNC Wilmington in March. One item that was put into motion was a streamlined process for initial nominations for the teaching awards. An initial nomination will only require one letter; from those, the committee will make a preliminary pruning and solicit additional information on "finalists." We hope this will make the process more palatable for nominators, and that we'll get many nominations of deserving individuals in the future. Send nominations to Sam Kaplan, skaplan@unca.edu.

We also discussed the upcoming election of a new section Governor. The committee suggested some individuals to take Martha Abell's place; the election will take place via electronic ballot from MAA headquarters in Washington in Spring, 2015.

Saturday morning was dedicated to planning the upcoming section meeting (March 12 – 14 in Wilmington, NC). The organizers there seem to have things well in hand. We're looking forward to a great time celebrating MAA's 100th anniversary.

We welcome new section officers (elected in March): Catherine Matos (Clayton State University), Secretary; Laurie Dishman (Cumberland University), Tennessee State Director; Ron Taylor (Berry College), Beginning Faculty Activities Coordinator; and Jon Ernstberger (LaGrange College), Project NExT Coordinator.

FROM THE GOVERNOR

The Board of Governors meeting at MathFest 2014 in Portland, OR, focused more on planning for the future and less on the financial concerns that have dominated past meetings. The MAA is pleased to announce that the Association is making progress on some of our recent initiatives. For example, we are working to make renewing memberships simpler. There is also the possibility of a payment plan to assist members in covering the cost of an annual membership in several smaller payments. MAA officials also mentioned the possibility of automatically renewing memberships if that is a preference.

Members need to login to the MAA website using his/her credentials to investigate the membership options to see which is the best match. The MAA continues to make improvements to the website to enable better communication with the mathematics community. In addition, the Association has made great strides in securing funding from the National Science Foundation (in excess of $4 million) to support programs that continue to make an impact on collegiate mathematics. The MAA also received a significant gift of $750,00 to support MAA America Mathematics Competitions to further our efforts to positively influence the broader mathematics community.

The MAA (along with several other organizations in the Mathematical Sciences) is no longer participating in the Combined Membership List. The CML had to be updated manually, which caused many errors, so most organizations are moving toward automated, more accurate systems. In the case of the MAA, members are encouraged to use the "Membership Lookup" feature within the MAA website. Note that once a member has logged in to the system, he/she can enter various elements of a search field. For example, when I entered my own name, I found my address (email and work), phone number, Section, SIGMAAs and MAA Committees. When I entered David Stone (with no institution name), I actually discovered that there is another David Stone in the New Jersey section. If I just enter Georgia Southern University, I generated a list of the faculty members who have a current MAA membership in my department.

One of my responsibilities as Section Governor is to recommend outstanding members of the MAASE for various MAA Committees. Because we have an abundance of qualified candidates, I was quite prolific with this over the past year! Please note that if you are considering membership on one of the MAA Committees, you will need to agree with the MAA's copyright assignment statement.

Copyright assignment statement rationale: MAA has long expected our members, and the broader mathematical sciences community, to use intellectual property generated from MAA committees and programs in responsible ways. This expectation led us to pay only modest attention to the copyright assignment, apart from our official publications. However, the rapid changes in on-line exchange of information has led to substantive changes in copyright law, as well as challenges to traditional concepts of fair academic use of materials. Under advice of legal counsel, MAA will now require that members serving on committees assign copyright of any work done through that committee to MAA. This will give MAA the means to control inappropriate use of intellectual property generated through Association activities. While in many cases, committee work may not lead to a product for which this agreement is relevant, having a uniform agreement in place makes this feasible to administer. The purpose of the agreement is to protect the valuable work of our volunteer professionals. Please see the following site to view the agreement.

http://www.maa.org/about-maa/policies-and-procedures/copyright-agreement

The Board of Governors again discussed our efforts to eliminate Implicit Bias from all that we do in the Association, and we should keep this in mind at the Section level. This includes efforts to promote diversity on our awards committees as well as in our pool of potential award recipients. It also comes into play in our nominations for officers. For more information, please see http://www.maa.org/sites/default/files/pdf/sections_archived/Sections_ImplicitBiasStatement.pdf

The Section should be reminded that we are allowed to nominate a past recipient of the Section Teaching Award as the Section's nominee for the national Haimo Award (which is given annually to three outstanding collegiate faculty members from across the MAA membership).   We are not required to nominate only that particular year's Section Award winner.

Note that we will have the opportunity to elect a new Section Governor in Spring 2015 for a three-year term beginning in Summer 2015. The MAA continues to discuss a reorganization of the Board of Governors so that a smaller

FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 3-4, 2014
Clayton State University
Catherine Matos, recording

Friday, October 3

Present: Pat Humphrey, Emily Hynds, Kristen Abernathy, Karen Briggs, Joe Rusinko, Bernie Mullins, Alice Pierce, Karen O'Hara, Virginia Watson, Martha Abell, Catherine Matos, Laurie Dishman, Jon Ernstberger

The meeting started at 7:12 pm.

REPORTS:

Most of the officer reports had been emailed to the executive committee prior to this meeting. (The reports themselves are available from the Secretary.) Several officers highlighted a few items that were contained in their respective detailed reports. Other officers gave oral reports. The contents of these verbal reports are briefly described below.

Briggs (Georgia State Director) informed the committee that the 2015 MAA State Luncheon for Georgia will be hosted by Mercer.

Dishman (Tennessee State Director) informed the committee that while they haven't yet finalized a date for the Tennessee State Dinner, they do have a speaker.

Pierce (VC of Two Year Colleges) highlighted her efforts to increase attendance and participation for two-year college faculty at the spring section meeting. Information about the meeting was emailed to affiliate presidents of North and South Carolina, as well as emails to GMATYC members and Georgia Perimeter College math faculty.

Hynds (Treasurer) informed the committee that reserves have decreases as intended, but not as much as it appears. Winthrop has not cashed their check for $1010 to cover expenses that they had not been able to recover from the company that managed online registration for the 2013 section meeting at Winthrop. She also discussed the Project NExT Fellow that the section sponsors. The section does sponsor a particular person, but the section would like to find out who it has been each year, so we can encourage him/her to attend the section meeting, participate in the section, etc.

Abell (Section Governor) updated the committee about the national MAA. As Section Governor, Abell can nominate people who want to serve on national committees. The MAA is in the process of reorganizing the board of governors, and may be reworking the liaison program, to update their purpose now that email exists. Additionally, she shared that the board would like for the sections to charge more for non-members to attend the section meetings.

Humphrey (Section Chair) updated the committee on the Section Lecturer. Yuliya Babenko will be talking at the Alabama and Tennessee State Dinners.

Abernathy (Newsletter Editor) reminded the committee that the deadline for sending reports to her for the newsletter is Monday, October 27th.

Governor's Report (continued from page 5)

decision-making body can be formed to address the business side of the Association. However, each Section will continue to have a Governor to serve an important role in the Association.

I hope that you will consider attending our upcoming national meetings, the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Antonio, Jan. 10-13, 2015, and MathFest in Washington, DC, August 5-8, 2015, which will be the MAA Centennial (with an extra day of meetings to celebrate)! I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our MAA-SE meeting March 13-14, 2015, at UNC Wilmington where you will have the opportunity to share your comments or concerns with your Section Governor to pass along to the Association.

Executive Comm. Minutes (continued from page 6)

Rusinko (Student Activities) updated the committee on student activities planned for the spring meeting. All student activities that occurred at the 2014 meeting are planned for the 2015 meeting at UNC Wilmington. Jennifer Royal will be organizing some sessions encouraging women and underrepresented groups to attend graduate school, as well.

Ernstberger (Project NExT) reported that Keith Howard spoke to the NExT members at the last meeting and did a great job, speaking on topics including managing time and tenure items as well as a discussion of things to do in the classroom. He invited the committee members to encourage young faculty to apply to become new members in 2015.

Watson (Historian) updated the committee on the progress of transcribing interviews. She plans for interviews with senior members to come out in January in time for the 100th year celebration.

Humphrey updated the committee on the website. Gleason (Webmaster) has put up the website for the 2015 conference. One point that he made was that a major difference between a profitable meeting and one that breaks even is sponsorships, but that the publishing field is getting tighter. Problems with Paypal with the 2013 conference were solved.

Humphrey also led a brief discussion on the Teaching Award Committee. There was some question as to who should be chair, as the person who was supposed to chair has left the section. The teaching award committee, according to the bylaws, consists of the 3 previous winders and the state directors. However, no Teaching

Award was made last year. It was determined that Sam Kaplan, as the 2012 Award Winner, should chair the committee. It was discussed that the committee should streamline the initial application process. The committee was in favor of the initial application being a letter of recommendation, with finalists providing a full application. Mullins offered to email the members of the Teaching Award committee, so that they could put together a formal proposal for streamlining.

Matos (Site Selection) updated the committee on the call for colleges to host the 2017 meeting in Georgia.

Humphrey updated some issues for the Nominating Committee. We will need State Directors for South Carolina and North Carolina, Newsletter editor, NExT Coordinator and Vice Chair for Two Year Colleges. Kristen Abernathy stated that she would be willing to continue as newsletter editor. We will also need a section lecturer for next year.

Humphrey also informed the committee that we need nominations for Section Governor for a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2015. Abell pointed out that in some years the Executive Committee has been the nominating committee for the Section Governor. A motion was made to make the Executive Committee the nominating committee. Several worthy candidates were considered. Humphrey stated she would contact them to verify they are willing to serve.

NEW BUSINESS:

1.   The committee agreed to send Virginia Watson to MathFest to represent the section at the Section Officers' Meeting.
A few short items were discussed. The section Secretary is the only person from the section who can have emails sent out to section members from the MAA. While this has not been enforced to date, they may begin doing so. The subvention from the MAA was discussed. The official representative from the section must attend MathFest and sign in at the section officers' meeting in order for the section to be eligible for funding the following year. Additionally, by-laws revisions for the section are scheduled for 2016-2017 review. The copy of the by-laws on the website needs to be updated to reflect recent changes (this has been done). The section will be eligible for the Polya lecture in 2016-2017.

The committee discussed ways in which we encourage R1 universities and historically black schools to become more involved in the section meetings. The last time we had participation with R1s was the joint MAA-SE/

(Continued from Page 7)

SIAM meeting at Georgia Tech in 2002. The graduate student sessions with critiques went well last year. One idea was to do more to encourage graduate students to attend, since they will be likely to bring their professors. It was pointed out that they don't tend to attend the meeting because there are not really any research sessions. One solution was to let them design some of the sessions, contacting them directly to encourage them to do this. Another suggestion was to have a special section for undergraduates who participate in REUs, who might then have their mentors attend. However, we would want to avoid having students who worked together present in the same session, raising the difficulty of scheduling this type of session.

The committee discussed support of the Project NExT fellows for travel. While their school supports them, the committee did not want to potentially take school funding away from the fellow attending other conferences besides the MAA-SE conference. Rusinko and O'Hara will put together a form for the fellows to use for reimbursement for travel. Currently, there is no cap, but the issue will be revisited if it becomes a problem.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Saturday, October 4

Present: Pat Humphrey, Emily Hynds, Kristen Abernathy, Karen Briggs, Joe Rusinko, Bernie Mullins, Alice Pierce, Karen O'Hara, Virginia Watson, Catherine Matos, Laurie Dishman, Jon Ernstberger, Russell Herman

The meeting began at 8:20 am.

SPRING 2014 MEETING

Plenaries: As Rusinko was the only teaching award recipient last year, we will plan to have him talk for the entire session. Introductions for the Plenaries were decided on. Watson will introduce Babenko, Abernathy will introduce Rusinko, and Humphrey will introduce the MAA Officer.

A short discussion was had on who to invite to be the National Speaker. The committee decided on Hortensia Soto-Johnson, Linda Braddy, and Stephen Kennedy.

Short Courses for the Spring meeting at UNCW were voted on. Sarah Frick will organize the graduate student workshop. Two additional short courses were approved.

Special Sessions for the Spring meeting were discussed. Four special sessions have been proposed, and the com-

mittee felt that all were viable. The four sessions were accepted, with a note made to make sure not to schedule the special session on preparing students to teach undergraduate math should not be scheduled at the same time as the graduate student sessions, and that the session should be advertised to attract more graduate students to the conference.

General Plans

Herman (UNC Wilmington) presented plans for the 2015 meeting.

Much of the meeting will run in a manner similar to those in the past. The plans specific to UNC Wilmington were well thought out and needed little change. They are starting with last year's schedule for determining room and time requirements. Facility and meal planning looked reasonable and well-thought-out. Hotel rooms have been blocked out for the meeting. Some recommendations were made regarding interior signage and student help the week prior to the meeting.

There was a brief discussion on the registration fee, based on a recommendation from last year's site to raise fees. It was generally agreed that early registration fees did not need to be changed, but that raising the late registration fee might encourage more people to register early. A suggestion was made to bump late registration to $40 ($25 for students). Humphrey will contact Gleason about the fee bump.

There was a brief discussion on Friday evening activities for students. Russell has his students looking into activities to make suggestions. It was recommended not to plan anything for students, but to just give a list of options.

The committee brainstormed on some activities to include for the MAA Centennial. Approval from the MAA is not required, but we are supposed to inform them of what we plan to do. The committee planned to use the 100th anniversary logo on badges, and possibly include some relevant questions in the Jeopardy game. It was decided to split Rusinko's Teaching Award session with Watson, to allow her to give a talk on the history of the section.

The meeting adjourned at 10:49 am.

LOOKING FOR A GREAT MATHEMATICS SPEAKER?

Invite the Southeastern Section Lecturer to your campus!
Many think the Section Lecturer only delivers an address at the Annual Meeting of the Section, but this person also visits individual institutions within the Section.

Yuliya Babenko is the 2014-2015 Section Lecturer. Contact her at ybabenko@kennesaw.edu.

Make your arrangements today!

<u>STATE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>

From Bernadette Mullins, State Director of Alabama

The 2015 MAA Alabama State Dinner will be held on the campus of the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Alabama on the evening of Friday, February 6, 2015. The keynote speaker will be the 2014-2015 MAA Southeastern Section Lecturer, Dr. Yuliya Babenko of Kennesaw State University. Dr. Jim Gleason of the University of Alabama has generously agreed to serve as local organizer. Alabama MAA members have been invited to attend via a "save the date" email. An email with registration details will be sent closer to the time. Any interested member of the Southeastern Section is also welcome to attend.

On the following day, Saturday, February 7, 2015, the 65th Annual meeting of the Alabama Association of College Teachers of Mathematics (AACTM) will be held at the University of Alabama. Dr. Gleason will also serve as local organizer for that event.

From Karen Briggs, State Director of Georgia

Approximately 75 faculty and students attended the 2014 MAA Georgia State Luncheon held on Saturday, April 5, 2014 at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, GA in conjunction with the 2014 Eagle Undergraduate Mathematics Conference (EUMC). The keynote speaker was Dr. Hugh Howards of Wake Forest University, the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Teaching Award of the Southeastern Section of the MAA. The title of Dr. Howards' plenary talk was "Knots vs. Graphs an Epic Tale of Survival (and a New Direction to the Tale)." Many thanks go to Georgia Southern University for hosting the state luncheon and to all the volunteers who contributed to the event.

The 2015 MAA Georgia State Luncheon is set for 12:20 – 1:35 PM on February 21, 2015 and will be held in the President's Dining room, located in the University Center on the Macon campus of Mercer University. The luncheon will coincide with the Sixth Biennial Mercer University Undergraduate Research in Mathematics Conference (MUURMaC). Dr. Amy Langville of the College of Charleston will be the invited speaker. Dr. Langville does extensive work with undergraduate students, consults for search engine corporations and aerospace companies, and is the co-author of *Who's #1: The science of Rating and Ranking*. Her research deals with ranking and clustering items using matrix decompositions. The MUURMaC is open to all mathematicians and students interested in undergraduate research. Any undergraduate student interested in giving a 15 minute talk should forward their abstract to Dr. Yackel (yackel_ca@mercer.edu) with the subject line "Abstract". The deadline for submitting an abstract is January 30.

From Jim Solazzo, State Director of South Carolina

The Fall 2014/Spring 2015 South Carolina State Dinner was held at Coastal Carolina University on Monday October 20th, 2014. The speaker was Professor Michael Dorff from Brigham Young University. Professor Dorff is responsible for starting the Center for Undergraduate Research in Mathematics (CURM) which has a tremendous on impact on faculty and undergraduate students across the nation. Professor Dorff gave two talks: "What is the best job of 2014" and "Soap Bubbles and Mathematics". The talks were followed by "Math Jeopardy!" and dinner.

From Laurie Dishman, State Director of Tennessee

The 2013-14 Tennessee State Dinner was held on Saturday, November 9, 2013, at 12 noon in Franklin, TN. Our speaker was Dr. Harold Reiter (UNC Charlotte), the 2013-14 Section Lecturer. Dr. Reiter spoke about several student projects that had been very successful in his years of working with students from elementary school through graduate school. Those in attendance ranged from high school teachers to college professors and included a few students at the high school and undergraduate levels.

The 2014-15 Tennessee State Dinner will be held in April 2015 in Wilson County, TN. Dr. Yuliya Babenko (Kennesaw State University), the 2014-15 Section Lecturer, will be our speaker. Her topic will be accessible and interesting to undergraduate students and faculty members alike. Please watch for further announcements at a later date with the specific date, time, and location.

News from the Campuses
Fall 2014
MAA Southeastern Section

Agnes Scott College (Decatur, GA)

Agnes Scott College was one of 20 primary construction sites for the Mega Menger challenge to build the world's largest distributed fractal during October 2014. Under the coordination of Rachel Bayless and with contributions from several universities, middle schools, and high schools in the Atlanta area, Agnes Scott students and faculty spent the weekend of October 25-26 assembling a level 3 Menger Sponge that will be displayed in the college's Science Center. In other news, Jim Wiseman was promoted to Professor of Mathematics effective July 2014. Alan Koch will take over as department chair from Jim in January 2015. Rachel Bayless was selected as a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Fellow by the Science Case Network whose aim is to encourage SoTL research among faculty members in STEM fields. She also received a Holder Fund for Faculty Innovation Grant to start a Math in the City course at Agnes Scott. (Submitted by Larry Riddle)

Auburn University (Auburn, AL)

Personnel Changes

• New faculty members:

Dr. Ziqin Feng (tenure-track assistant professor)

Dr. Junshan Lin (tenure-track assistant professor)

Dr. Luke Oeding (tenure-track assistant professor)

• Retired faculty members:

Dr. Gary Gruenhage (full professor), with Associate Professor Emeritus status

Dr. Steve Stuckwisch (associate professor), with Professor Emeritus status

Dr. Frank Uhlig (full professor)

• New postdoctoral fellows:

Dr. Ana Mamatelashvili

Dr. Furuzan Ozbek

• New affiliated faculty members:

Dr. Guannan Zhang (Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN)

Dr. Habib N. Najm (Sandia National Laboratories, Livermore, CA)

Dr. Tomás Caraballo (University of Seville, Spain)

• Promotion:

Dr. Nedret Billor was promoted to full professor.

Dr. Steve Stuckwisch was promoted to associate professor.

• Ph.D. students graduated:

Ms. Xiaoxia Xie is now a visiting assistant professor at Illinois Institute of Technology.

Mr. John Asplund is now a tenure track assistant professor at Dalton State College, GA.

Mr. Tim Chase is now a lecturer at Texas State University in San Marcos, TX.

Mr. Glenn Hughes is now a visiting assistant professor at DePaul University in Chicago.

Mr. Dawit Tadesse is now a visiting assistant professor at the University of Cincinnati.

Mr. Keith Brauss is now a visiting assistant professor at Lamar University in Beaumont.

Mr. Cadavious Jones is now a tenure track assistant professor at the Alabama State University.

Ms. Kelly Bragan is now a tenure track assistant professor at Tuskegee University.

Mr. Hank Harmon is now a tenure track assistant professor at South Puget Sound Community College.

Mr. Daniel Brice is now a tenure track assistant professor at Tuskegee University.

Departmental Awards

• AU received a 5-year NSF grant of $415,000 to launch an international collaborative research network (CRN) in mathematical sciences, under the leadership of Drs. Overtoun Jenda, Ash Abebe and Pete Johnson.

Dr. Ulrich Albrecht, Dr. Narendra Govil, Dr. Huajun Huang and Dr. Steve Stuckwisch involved in a $1.05 million grant awarded to the MTE-Partnership to begin the next phase of work to redesign secondary mathematics teacher

preparation programs, by The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.

• The Conference "Graduate Students Combinatorics Conference" was held in Auburn University and received NSF funding of $14,740, under the direction of Dr. Chris Rodger. Dr. Jessica McDonald was a keynote speaker.

Personal Honors and Awards

• Dr. Krystyna Kuperberg was awarded an NSF grant of $10,000 as the PI, to provide support for six researchers from the US to participate the Special Session entitled "Computer-assisted Formalization of Mathematics" at the 6th Podlasie Conference on Mathematics, held in Bialystok, Poland.

• Dr. Junshan Lin as a PI was awarded an NSF grant of $144,812, for "Modeling and Computation in Elastography".

• Dr. Ash Abebe as a Co-PI was awarded an NSF grant of $339,976, for "Infusing Data-Enabled Active Learning in Mathematics and Statistics Courses 2014-2017".

• Dr. Krystyna Kuperberg received the 2014 Outstanding Female Faculty Award given by the Society of Women in Sciences and Mathematics.

• Drs. Xiaoying Li, Junshan Lin, Jessica McDonald and Michel Smith received the level I AU Intramural Grants Program.

• Dr. Pete Johnson was awarded an Alumni professorship.

• Dr. Wenxian Shen received the 2013 Outstanding Teacher of Graduate Students Award.

• Dr. Nedret Billor received the 2014 Dr. Marie Kraska Award for Excellence in Teaching.

• Dr. Michel Smith elected as the Lewis-Parker lecturer for the 64th Annual Meeting of the AACTM.

• Dr. Xiaoyu Li received the 2014 Butz teaching award.

• Office manager Gwen Kirk was awarded the Auburn University's spirit of Excellence Award.

• Graduate students Brice Nguelifack received the 2014 Haynsworth Fellowship; John Asplund, Feng Bao, Joseph Chaffee and Zhongwei Shen received the 2014 Logan Fellowship; John Asplund, Brice Nguelifack and Zhongwei Shen received the Bennett Fellowship; John Asplund was selected as a recipient of the COSAM Outstanding GTA Award.

• Undergraduate students Adam Blumenthal and Bradley Fain received the 2013 Andrew C. Connor Memorial Award; Adam Blumenthal was selected as a recipient of the 2014 COSAM Dean's Undergraduate Student Research Award; Graham Gordon (a junior student majoring in Mathematics and Physics) was selected as a recipient of the 2014 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship.

Academic Activities

• Dr. Ming Liao published a new book "Applied Stochastic Processes" in CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group.

• Dr. Olav Kallenberg published a book "General Theory of Random Measures" in Springer.

Dr. Yongsheng Han gave plenary lectures as an invited main speaker, at the International Workshop on Harmonic analysis and its Applications in Partial Differential Equations, held in Capital Normal University of China.

• Dr. Wenxian Shen gave a plenary talk at the First International Conference on Dynamics of Differential Equations, at Georgia Institute of Technology.

• Dr. Wenxian Shen was invited as a main speaker of the International Workshop on New Mathematical Developments Arising from Ecology, Epidemiology and Environmental Science, at Beijing International center for Mathematical Research.

• Dr. Ash Abebe and Dr. Overtoun Jenda were invited as key-note speakers in SAMSA 2013 Conference, Cape Town, South Africa.

• Dr. Narendra Govil was invited as a plenary speaker at the 10th International Symposium of Geometric Function Theory and Applications, held in Băile Felix Spa, Romania.

• Dr. Tin-Yau Tam was invited to deliver a plenary lecture at the 2013 Shanghai International Conference on Matrix Analysis and Applications, held in Shanghai, China.

• Dr. Tin-Yau Tam gave a plenary lecture at the 2014 ILAS Conference in Seoul, Korea.

• Dr. Richard Zalik was invited to deliver a plenary talk at the International Workshop on Wavelets, Frames and Applications, in New Delhi, India.

• Dr. Tin-Yau Tam became the Editor-in-Chief of the Alabama Journal of Mathematics.

• Dr. Tin-Yau Tam joined the editorial board of Journal of Special Matrices.

• Dr. Richard Zalik joined the editorial board of the Poincare Journal of Analysis and applications.

• Dr. Narendra Govil joined the editorial board of the Journal of Complex Analysis and Applications.

(Submitted by Xiaoying Han)

Austin Peay State University (Clarksville, TN)

Congratulations to Dr. Samuel Jator for being selected as the Chair of the Mathematics Department.

APSU Mathematics Department has added new faculty. Jennifer Yantz, Ph.D. in Mathematics Education from MTSU in 2013 is on tenure track.

Several Austin Peay State University students took home awards for their outstanding research papers during the 2014 Tennessee Academy of Science Middle Division Collegiate Meeting for Undergraduate Research at Belmont University on April 12. APSU students David Griffin, Steven Purcell and Donald Hayes received second-place honors for their presentation, "Bernoulli's equation using an ideal fluid in the complex

plane." Dr. Ben Ntatin, associate professor of mathematics, mentored the students. Griffin, Kyle Hayes and Katie Rosenberg earned the third-place award for their presentation "The design of a satellite attitude control system." Dr. Ramanjit Sahi, associate professor of mathematics, mentored the students.

MAA 2014--Students, Dodji Kuwonu, Michael McAllister, Bruce Cain, Benjamin Hardin, and Brent Champion, mentored by Ben Ntatin and Samuel Jator and Faculty, Ramanjit Sahi, each presented talks at the MAA Southeastern Section 93rd Annual Meeting. APSU Math Team Dodji Kuwonu, David Zhang, and Ben Firth won 2nd place at the Math Jeopardy Contest. They were mentored by Ben Ntatin.

Earlier this summer Dr. Ben Ntatin, associate professor of mathematics, traveled to the Central American nation of Honduras to teach a couple college-level math classes at the Soto Cano Air Base.

APSU was a host site for the Middle Tennessee Region of the 57th Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association Annual Mathematics Contest for high school students in May. We will once again be a host site for this contest next May. We also host the annual APSU middle school mathematics contest in May of each year, rewarding and encouraging young students to study mathematics. (Submitted by Jim Vandergriff)

Birmingham-Southern College (Birmingham, AL)

Dr. Doug Riley was promoted to the rank of Professor. Dr. Jeff Barton became the new chair of the Mathematics Department, taking over the position from Dr. Doug Riley who diligently served the department. Dr. Jeff Barton was also recently awarded a book contract for a text on introductory mathematical modeling for the liberal arts.

Mathematics major Jim Crowder won two undergraduate research awards during the 2013-2014 academic year at the Biomathematics & Ecology: Education & Research Conference in Washington, D.C. and at the Kappa Mu Epsilon National Convention in Jacksonville, AL. Jim is now attending graduate school at the University of Alabama. Nine students conferred undergraduate degrees in mathematics in May 2014 from the college.

Dr. Jerome Goddard from Auburn University at Montgomery and Dr. Arthur Benjamin from Harvey Mudd College spoke at the Fall and Spring 2014 Kappa Mu Epsilon Math Honors Society Colloquiums, respectively. They were both enthusiastically received by the student body. (Submitted by Anne Yust)

Brevard College (Brevard, NC)

Since last reporting, we have awarded twelve BA Mathematics degrees, five of these with teacher li-

censure. Two of the latter have entered graduate school and the others have positions in high schools in the NC school system. Kathryn Rasmussen was awarded tenure, promoted to Associate Professor, and was named the United Methodist teacher of the year for outstanding teaching (campus wide.) In addition, she participated in AP Calculus grading, had a paper published in the Journal of the Optical Society of America B, and presented a talk at the ACA Summit. Charles Wallis, Clarke Wellborn, and Kathryn Rasmussen participated in several teaching circles. The college as a whole presently enjoys its highest enrollment since becoming a four-year degree awarding institution and the number of students in the mathematics program has followed suit. (Submitted by Clarke Wellborn)

The Citadel (Charleston, SC)

Isaac "Spike" Metts will retire at the end of the 2014-2015 academic year. He has been a faculty member, department head, and filled several administrative positions (including Dean of Undergraduate Studies) at The Citadel since 1972. Jeff Ragan, a long-term adjunct in our department and Associate Head Wrestling Coach, left us to begin teaching and coaching wrestling at the Woodward Academy in the Atlanta area. Jeff will start in a Ph.D. program at Georgia State University in the spring. Matt Schwartz joined our department as an adjunct mathematics teacher. The department will hosted its annual Math Jeopardy contests for students at The Citadel; the upperclassmen competition was in October and the freshmen competition was in November. The department hosted the Fall Workshop of the South Carolina Junior Academy of Science on November 1st. The department now offers a graduate certificate in Cybersecurity. (Submitted by Dave Trautman)

Clayton State University (Morrow, GA)

The Clayton State Mathematics Department is proud to announce that Kelli Nipper was promoted to the rank of Professor of Mathematics.

The department continues to have several active and successful undergraduate research groups. Students presented at the 45th Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory, and Computing in Boca Raton, Florida, and the 93rd Annual MAA-SE meeting held at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tennessee. Senior Andrew Schmidt presented at Boca Raton, as did Clayton State graduate Sarah Minion, who is working with Dr. Christian Barrientos. Dr. Chris Raridan escorted a group of undergraduates to the MAA-SE meeting, where Hung Hua, a junior at Clayton State, gave a presentation. (Submitted by Catherine Matos)

Clemson University (Clemson, SC)

The Department of Mathematical Sciences at Clemson University recently hired six new visiting lecturers: Sofya Alekseeva, Saba Alkaseasbeh, Abigail Bowers, Chris Johnson, Stefan Bock, and Rebecca Ramos. Dr. Bill Moss retired this summer and Dr. Hoke Hill retired this fall.

Eighteen undergraduate students participated in research experiences for undergraduates or internships during the 2014 Summer. Allegra Simone interned at Towers Watson in Chicago, IL.

John Garland interned at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, TN. Cierra Stanislaus and Sheena Frey interned at the Lincoln Financial Group in Greensboro, NC. Josh Doran interned at Michelin in Greenville, SC. Michael Swindell interned at Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Columbia, SC. Haley Podeschi interned at Greenville Memorial Hospital in Greenville, SC. Lauren McIntyre interned at IT Enterprise Data Management with TIAA-CREF in Charlotte, NC. Steven Auslander interned with Sears in Greenville, SC. Kaitlin Carter interned at State Farm Research Center in Champaign, IL. Sarah Malick worked as a software engineering intern at Blackbaud in Charleston, SC. Anthony Botro had an account manager analyst internship at Aon Hewitt in Atlanta, GA. Lindsey Moyer interned with the United States Liability Insurance Company in King of Prussia, PA. Rivers Jenkins interned with Hawkes Learning Systems in Charleston, SC. James McNally participated in the Interactive Marketing Analytics Xperience in New York, NY. Patrick Dynes participated in an REU at Williams College in Williamstown, MA. Kelly Moran participated in a Summer Research Experience at the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis in Knoxville, TN. Lastly, Alysse Edwards participated in an REU at Missouri State University in Springfield, MO.

Several events and conferences were held at Clemson University this year. Clemson hosted the 30th Southeastern Analysis Meeting on March 7-8, 2014. Dr. Mishko Mitkovski was the local organizer. The 3rd Annual Practice AP Statistics Exam, organized by Dr. Ellen Breazel, was given on April 5, 2014. The 4th Annual Practice AP Statistics Exam will be given in April 2015. The 11th Annual Clemson Calculus Challenge was held on April 25, 2014 with 262 students from 39 schools participating. The Clemson Calculus Challenge is organized by Drs. Shari Prevost and Terri Johnson, and the 12th Annual Clemson Calculus Challenge will be held on April 17, 2015. More information can be found at https://mthsc.clemson.edu/ccc/2015.html. The 29th Clemson mini-Conference on Discrete Mathematics and Algorithms, organized by Drs. Wayne Goddard, Neil Calkin, Svetlana Poznanovikj, and Michael Burr, was held October 16 - 17, 2014. Lastly, the Southeastern Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathe-

matics will be held November 15 – 16, 2014. The conference is organized by Drs. Emily Braley (Duke University), Jim Brown (Clemson University), Jenny Fuselier (High Point University), and Sarah Schott (Duke University). More information can be found at http://www.ces.clemson.edu/~jimlb/SECUWM/2014/SECUWM.html. (Submitted by Meredith Burr)

Elon University (Elon, NC)

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Elon University has enjoyed another year of successful student and faculty achievements.

Our students and faculty gave a total of 34 professional presentations at various national and regional venues. They also published a total of 13 research and education papers in a variety of math/stats journals.

We currently serve 107 majors and 120 minors in our programs, and we graduated 28 majors and 33 minors during the 2013-14 academic year. Additionally, 29 of our students were inducted into national honor societies, including 6 into Phi Beta Kappa and 13 into Pi Mu Epsilon. Three of our students are heading to graduate school (at Berkeley, Maryland-College Park, and North Carolina-Chapel Hill), one to medical schoool (at Maryland-College Park), and the rest have secured jobs at a variety of business, industry, and teaching posts.

The following students received external recognition for their research and teaching accomplishments. Nakhila Mistry '14 received a Fulbright Award to Sri Lanka for the 2014-15 academic year; she will attend graduate school after finishing her Fulbright travel. Leight Iler '14 received the Outstanding Mathematics Education Student award for the central region of the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics; she is the 16th Elon student to receive this award since its inception in 1986.

Three of our faculty received tenure this year: statisticians Kirstie Doehler and Laura Taylor and applied mathematician Karen Yokley. Each of these ladies joined Elon in 2008, and they have all made a tremendous impact on the teaching and undergraduate research environment at Elon during these past six years. Additionally, we hired two new faculty this year. Dr. Kristen Mazur joins us as an assistant professor, after finishing her Ph.D. in algebraic topology at the University of Virginia and spending a year in a visiting position at Lafayette College. Aaron Trocki joins us as he completes his Ph.D. in mathematics education from North Carolina State University.

After 31 years of dedicated service, Professor Janice Richardson has officially retired from Elon. Janice was the former director of the Teaching Fellow program at Elon, and for most of her career, she served as the department's coordinator of the teacher licensure program. In 2012, she was a Co-PI on Elon's

$1.2 million grant through NSF's Noyce Teacher Scholarship program. For her exemplary work, Janice received the "Excellence in Service Award" from Elon's School of Education.

We are currently inviting applications for two full-time lecturer positions to begin fall 2015. Interested parties can find out more about these positions as well as other departmental information on our webpage <http://www.elon.edu/math/>. (Submitted by Chad Awtrey)

Francis Marion University (Florence, SC)

For the 2014-15 Academic Year, Dr. Fangjun Arroyo was promoted to Professor of Mathematics. Dr. Nicholas Newman was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. Jeremiah Bartz, Assistant Professor, became a MAA Project NExT fellow, and an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree was conferred upon Francis Marion University founding faculty member Lucy Thrower.

Dr. Sharon O'Kelley is scheduled to present "Writing in Mathematics: Finding a Voice" at the annual conference of The Association of Teacher Educators in Phoenix, Arizona, in February, 2015. Dr. Bartz received a FMU Summer Research Stipend, co-authored a paper with S. Yuzvinsky entitled "Multinets in P^2" which has been accepted to appear in Experimental and Theoretical Methods in Algebra, Geometry and Topology, Proceedings in Mathematics & Statistics, Ed. Ibaldula, D. and Veys, W., Springer-Verlag, 2014, and presented "Induced Multinets in P^2" in Configuration Spaces: Geometry, Topology, and Representation Theory at Istituto Nazionale di Alta Matematica in Cortona, Italy in September 2014.

The Department of Mathematics is pleased to be able to host the eleventh annual Francis Marion Undergraduate Mathematics Conference on Friday, March 27, 2015 with funding from the MAA Undergraduate Research grant. Details will be posted online at http://departments.fmarion.edu/mathematics/conference/homepage.htm. (Submitted by Tom Fitzkee)

Furman University (Greenville, SC)

The Furman University Department of Mathematics ran its first ever study away May Experience course in May 2014. The Furman May Experience term is a mini-semester that falls between the end of the spring semester and the beginning of the summer sessions and is designed to give students the opportunity to engage in unique two-credit learning experiences. Mathematics faculty members Liz Bouzarth, John Harris, and Kevin Hutson designed a course titled *Math and the Mouse: Explorations of Mathematics and Science in Walt Disney World* and spent three weeks on-site in Orlando, Florida with twelve students investigating many of the complex systems that make Walt Disney World run smoothly.

The second annual Carolinas Sports Analytics Meeting (CSAM) was held at Furman University on April 12, 2014. This conference provides an engaging venue for undergraduates, faculty, and professionals to come together to discuss their research in the field of sports analytics. Organizers Liz Bouzarth, Tim Chartier (Davidson College), John Harris, and Kevin Hutson will host CSAM this spring on April 11, 2015 at Furman University.

Bryna Kra, Professor of Mathematics at Northwestern University, is the 2014-2015 Clanton Visiting Mathematician. In early September, she gave a lecture series on "Periodicity and Complexity in Higher Dimensions" and "Patterns and Disorder."

Liz Bouzarth coauthored publications titled "A regularization method for the numerical solution of doubly-periodic Stokes flow" in *Contemporary Mathematics* with K. Leiderman and H.-N. Nguyen; and "March MATHness in the Linear Algebra Classroom" in *IMAGE* with T. Chartier. She also gave an invited talk at the *Math in the City Workshop* held at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and spoke at the MAA Southeastern Sectional Meeting. On campus, Liz was recognized with the 2013 Phi Beta Kappa Francis Bonner "American Scholar" Award.

John Harris participated in the inaugural MOVES (Mathematics of Various Entertaining Subjects) Conference in New York City by giving a talk about the mathematics behind "Bobo's Favorite Card Trick."

Kevin Hutson published the following papers this year: "Identifying Influential Edges in a Directed Network: Big Event, Upsets, and Non-Transitivity" in *Journal of Complex Networks* with M.W. Berry, T. Chartier, and A.N. Langville; and "Balancing Faculty and Student Preferences in the Assignment of Students to Groups" in *Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education* with R. Forrester. He also gave talks at INFORMS and CSAM, as well as an invited address at the Arkansas Governor's School.

John Harris and Kevin Hutson worked with the NCAA to develop a custom ranking system to help seed Division-I Football Championship Series teams for the NCAA playoffs. John, Kevin, and Liz Bouzarth worked with ESPN to develop upset probabilities for teams in the NCAA Men's Basketball tournament as part of ESPN's "Giant Killers" series.

Doug Rall published the following papers this year: "Relating the annihilation number and the 2-domination number of a tree" in *Discrete Mathematics* with W. Desormeaux, M. Henning, and A. Yeo; "Identifying codes of the direct product of two cliques" in *European Journal of Combinatorics* with K. Wash; "Rainbow domination in the lexicographic product of

graphs" in *Discrete Applied Mathematics* with T. Su-menjak and A. Tepeh; and "On graphs having maximal independent sets of exactly *t* distinct cardinalities" in *Graphs and Combinatorics* with B. Hartnell. Doug also served as a joint doctoral program supervisor for his coauthor, Kirsti Wash, at Clemson University.

Nancy Shell and Hamp Sherard participated in the Annual Fall Conference of the South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Hamp also attended meetings of the Educational Materials Committee of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) and did additional editing work for NCTM's Real World Math, an online resource for middle and high school mathematics teachers.

Additionally, Liz Bouzarth, Sarah Frick, Tom Lewis, John Harris, and Kevin Hutson engaged in various summer research projects with undergraduate students. (Submitted by Liz Bouzarth)

Georgia College (Milledgeville, GA)

Prof. Doris Santarone was hired as an assistant professor effective Fall 2014. She previously served as a Lecturer at Georgia College and is finishing her Ph.D. in mathematics education from the University of Georgia with an expected graduation in Spring 2015.

Dr. George Cazacu published a paper entitled "Lyapunov Functions and Stability in Topological Dynamical Systems" that appeared in the European International Journal of Science and Technology (EIJST), Volume 3 Nr. 5, June 2014.

Dr. Brandon Samples published a paper entitled "Components of Springer fibers for the exceptional groups G2 and F4" that appeared in the Journal of Algebra, Volume 400, February 2014. (Submitted by Brandon Samples)

Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston Campus (Clarkston, GA)

Cindy Box and Michelle Rockward were promoted to Assistant Professor.

The goal of Complete College Georgia is to increase the number of young adults in Georgia with a college degree or certificate to 60% by 2020. Starting in Fall 2015, co-requisite classes will be added to support some students in our two entry level courses, Quantitative Reasoning and College Algebra. Fewer students will be placed in Foundations math courses (formerly known as Learning Support or Developmental math). Placement will be based on formulas determined by the University System of Georgia which include high school GPA, SAT/ACT math score, and/or COMPASS placement score.

The Betty and Davis Fitzgerald Foundation has awarded Georgia Perimeter College a $1 million dollar private gift to increase access and boost retention, trans-fer and graduation rates among some of the state's most underserved students. Among programs the Fitzgerald gift will fund immediately are a remedial math instruction initiative and expansion of services at the Learning and Tutoring Center on GPC's Clarkston Campus.

Each year, GPC students participate in the AMATYC Student Mathematics League (SML) Competition. The SML includes 165 colleges in more than thirty-five states involving over eight thousand community college math students. Georgia Perimeter College placed in 8th place nationally and 1st place in the Southeast Region. Three of our students placed in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place in the Southeast Region.

Clarkston, Decatur, and Dunwoody campuses sent teams to the University of North Georgia Mathematics Tournament (formerly Gainesville State College Mathematics Tournament). This was the 20th year that GPC has participated in this tournament. GPC came in second place overall and teams from Clarkston and Dunwoody placed second and third, respectively, in the Team Competition.

The DeKalb Early College Academy program at GPC was awarded a grant from the RGK Foundation. As part of the grant, they hosted the first annual Georgia Early College STEM Challenge Math Competition. Five of the early college programs around the state participated in the competition which was held at GPC Clarkston Campus on February 22, 2014.

The 28th Annual Georgia Perimeter College Math Conference will be held for the first time at our Newton Campus in Covington, Georgia on February 13-14, 2015. For further information about attending or presenting at the conference, contact susan.keith@gpc.edu or go to http://depts.gpc.edu/~gpcmathc/. (Submitted by Alice Pierce)

Georgia Southern University (Statesboro, GA)

The Department of Mathematical Sciences welcomes five new tenure-track faculty who joined the faculty this fall. Stephen Carden is an Assistant Professor of Statistics. He received his PhD from the Clemson University in 2014. Zhan Chen received his PhD in 2011 from Michigan State and is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Saeed Nasseh is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics and received his PhD from North Dakota State University in 2013. Mihai Tohaneanu received his PhD in 2009 from University of California-Berkeley and is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Jianqiang Zhao joins the department as an Associate Professor of Mathematics. He received his PhD from Brown University in 1999.

The Department of Mathematical Sciences also welcomes three new lecturers, Greg Michalski, Chasen Smith, and Masa Uchida who have been teaching in temporary positions in the department. We are very

pleased to have all three as permanent members of faculty now.

The 26th annual Mathematics Tournament for middle and high school participants held March 8, 2014 had nearly 800 participants. We should be just as successful with this year's tournament which is scheduled for February 28, 2015.

Hua Wang received the Georgia Southern University Award for Excellence in Contributions to Research and Scholarly Activity as well as the College of Science and Mathematics Award for Excellence in Research. He received one of only two university awards given each year and was recognized for his achievement at our fall convocation. Senior Lecturer Marshall Ransom won the College of Science and Mathematics Excellence in Instruction award. Both of the college awards were presented at the Fall College meeting in August.

Two faculty members in the Department of Mathematical Sciences, Dr. Colton Magnant and Dr. Hua Wang, have launched a new open source journal called Theory and Application of Graphs (TAG). TAG is a fully-refereed, entirely online, open-access, completely free journal supported by Georgia Southern University through Digital Commons. TAG publishes high level research articles in Graph Theory and related areas. Please see the website: http://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/tag/ for more information.

Please consider submitting works for publication in TAG. Also, please contact the editors with proposals for special issues, surveys, or dynamic surveys. Detailed submission information can be found at the website. (Submitted by Pat Humphrey)

Mercer University (Macon, GA)

The Department of Mathematics has two new faculty members this fall. Dr. Kedar Nepal, an assistant professor, comes to us from Oklahoma State University where he earned a Ph.D. in Mathematics Education. Nathan Walters, a visiting assistant professor, earned a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Georgia, specializing in capacity theory on algebraic curve. Before coming to Mercer, he worked as a data scientist in private industry.

Lynndsey Autrey and Steven Hussung are the co-recipients of the 2014 Riley Plymale Award for Excellence in Mathematics. This award is presented to the senior mathematics major whose work has been judged to be exemplary by the mathematics faculty. Lynndsey is now working toward a Master in Higher Educational Leadership at Mercer's Tift School of Education. Steven has been awarded a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation 2014 Graduate Scholarship and is now in the graduate program at Indiana University, Bloomington.

Lizzie Knapper, a mathematics major who graduated in May 2014, has been named a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and is pursuing the teacher education program at The Ohio State University.

Due to the efforts of David Nelson, the department has a new minor in Statistics. Six students who completed the requirements for that minor graduated in May 2014.

The Thirtieth Annual Mercer University High School Mathematics Contest will be held November 8, 2014. More information is available at http://www.mercer.edu/math/mathcontest/index.html. The Mercer Mathematics Department Cordially invites you to the Sixth Biennial Mercer University Undergraduate Research in Mathematics Conference on February 21, 2015. Professor Amy Langville, from College of Charleston, will be our plenary speaker. Information can be found at http://departments.mercer.edu/math/muurmac/index.html or by contacting Dr. Carolyn Yackel at yackel_ca@mercer.edu. (Submitted by Curtis Herink)

North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC)

NC State University has appointed Professor Ralph Smith a Distinguished Professor of Mathematics. The position of Distinguished Professor recognizes faculty members who have "achieved recognition well above the criteria for full professor and [are] considered one of the best scholars in their discipline." Smith was recognized for his research in modeling and control of smart material systems, including the development of an influential unified theory that describes hysteresis in ferroic materials. He is the fourth member of the Mathematics Department to be appointed to one of NC State's Professorships of Distinction. The others are Distinguished University Professor and Drexel Professor H. T. Banks, Drexel Professor Tim Kelley, and Distinguished Professor Steve Campbell.

Tom Gordon, who taught mathematics at NC State from the 1960's until 1985, passed away in Raleigh on July 24. He was 96. Col. Gordon, a World War II veteran, was one of four retired military officers who joined the NC State Mathematics Department during the 1960s after earning Master of Teaching degrees. Col. Gordon's degree was from Duke. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, he supervised new teaching assistants for many years.

Junior applied mathematics and physics major Mithi (Mia) De Los Reyes has been named the 2014 NC State Astronaut Scholarship winner. Astronaut Scholarships are awarded annually by the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation to one student at each of 27 leading US universities. They are intended "to ensure that the United States would maintain its leadership in science and tech-

nology by supporting some of the very best science and engineering college students." Mia also won a Goldwater Scholarship for her junior and senior years. Goldwater Scholarships support outstanding undergraduates in mathematics, science, and engineering, and are the premier awards of this type.

The National Science Foundation's Mathematical Discoveries web page features several NSF-funded projects each year to help demonstrate how "NSF's public investment in science, engineering, education and technology helps to create knowledge and sustain prosperity." The latest story describes mathematical modeling work by five mathematicians, including NC State Ph.D.'s Lea Jenkins (Clemson University) and Katie Fowler (Clarkson University), that is helping California berry farmers use water more efficiently during California's current drought. Dan Balbas, a berry grower, says, "You've got a given resource, so how do you maximize it to maintain sustainability and do the right thing from an economic and environmental standpoint, marrying the two. It's math. It really is math."

Mathematics Professor Alina Duca is one of 19 NC State faculty to win a 2013-2014 Outstanding Teacher Award. The award recognizes excellence in teaching at all levels, and confers membership in NC State's Academy of Outstanding Teachers.

Three NC State mathematics students have won National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships. Ph.D. student Melissa Strait, and Khalida Hendricks and Andre Washka, who earned undergraduate degrees in 2013, won the awards. Hendricks is currently a graduate student in physics at Ohio State, and Washka is a graduate student in statistics at Berkeley.

NC State has been awarded a five-year, $25 million federal grant to lead the new Consortium for Nonproliferation Enabling Capabilities, a group of universities and national labs that will conduct research and education relevant to preventing the spread of nuclear weapons. Nine NC State faculty are involved in the project, including Mathematics Professor Ralph Smith and Statistics Professor Alyson Wilson. At NC State the grant will annually support two undergraduates, 13 graduate students and five post-doctoral fellows. NC State was selected by the National Nuclear Security Administration over 22 competitors.

Graduate Student Ruth Davidson, who will receive her Ph.D. this year, has been awarded a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. Davidson's research concerns mathematical phylogenetics and geometric combinatorics. She is advised by Professors Patricia Hersh and Seth Sullivant. Davidson will use her NSF postdoc at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she will be affiliated with both the mathematics and computer science departments.

Assistant Professor Jonathan Hauenstein is one of 14 young U.S. mathematicians to win a 2014 Sloan Foundation Research Fellowship. Sloan Fellowships, which are awarded in science, mathematics, computer science, and economics, recognize early-career researchers "whose achievements and potential identify them as rising stars, the next generation of scientific leaders." Hauenstein is the first member of the NC State Mathematics Department, and only the second NC State faculty member in any area, to win a Sloan Fellowship since the program's inception in 1955. Past Sloan Fellows include physicist Richard Feynman and game theorist John Nash. Sloan Fellows have gone on to win 42 Nobel Prizes and 16 Fields Medals, the mathematics prize often considered equivalent to a Nobel Prize. Hauenstein is a leader in the emerging field of numerical algebraic geometry, which brings classical insights about the geometry of polynomials to bear on problems of numerical computation. He earned his Ph.D. at Notre Dame in 2009, and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Fields Institute in Toronto, Texas A&M University, and the Institut Mittag-Lefler in Sweden before joining the NC State Mathematics Department in 2012.

2013 Math Ph.D. graduate Jeff Willert has been named to a prestigious Nicholas C. Metropolis Fellowship in Computational and Computer Science at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. He will work on algorithms for multiphysics simulations on state-of-the-art supercomputers. Jeff's particular interests are in hybrid deterministic-Monte Carlo simulations for radiative transfer.

Professor Kailash Misra is one of fifty mathematical scientists from around the world who have been named Fellows of the American Mathematical Society (AMS) during the program's second year. Professor Misra was cited "for contributions to the representation theory of Kac-Moody Lie algebras and quantum groups, and for service to the mathematical community." He is the fourth member of the Mathematics Department to be named a Fellow of the AMS. (Submitted by Steve Schecter)

Presbyterian College (Clinton, SC)

Dr. Brian Beasley was on sabbatical in spring of 2014. His worked included activities such as: serving as a consultant/mentor for Project NExT; participating in a panel discussion on how to prepare for job interviews in mathematics after graduate school - sponsored by Clemson University's chapter of the Association for Women in Mathematics; giving a presentation on "Euler and the Ongoing Search for Odd Perfect Numbers" for math students at Anderson University and at Erskine College.

Dr. Greg Goeckel continued his service to the community as he volunteered time at Buena Vista Elementary School, and attended and presented his research

titled "Successfully Flipping a Mathematics Classroom" at the 2014 Hawaii Education STEM Conference.

Dr. Clint Harshaw and Gonzalo Asis (2014) presented their research titled "The Effect of Rule Changes on Competitive Balance in NHRA Professional Classes as Measured by the Gini Coefficient and the Resulting Lorenz Curve" at the Southern Sport Management Conference in Nashville, TN. The work was co-authored with Dr. Clay Harshaw of Winston-Salem State University.

The following new members of Pi Mu Epsilon were inducted into the society at the induction ceremony: Chris Andrews (2015), Sarah Beasley (2015), Rafael Berghaus (2015), Catherine Ellis (2014), Mariel Fridy (2015), Emily Hutson (2014), Reid McCandless (2015), Alison Stelling (2015), Thomas Valente (2015), and Abby Waldron (2015). The new officers of Pi Mu Epsilon are Andrew Hane (President), Reid McCandless (Vice-President) and Sarah Beasley (Secretary-Treasurer). (Submitted by C. Clinton Harshaw)

Sewanee: The University of the South (Sewanee, TN)

Professor Emeritus David Johnson of the University of Kentucky, a member of Sewanee's Class of 1961, gave the Department's 2013 Homecoming Lecture on "Topology of Multidimensional Spheres."

Past MAA President Paul Zorn of St. Olaf College gave the 2013-14 Sherwood Ebey Lecture, titled "Extreme Calculus," to a broad Sewanee community audience. He also spoke to math and computer science students and faculty about some of the mathematics he revisited during his service as Editor of *Mathematics Magazine*.

Professor Emily Puckette served as one of five University faculty members who implemented a successful new advising system for incoming first-year students. The goals of their work were to help students choose first-semster classes that would be excellent choices for them and to improve advising from a faculty perspective. Preparations for the new system began in Fall 2013 with an Advising Task Force that included Mathematics and Computer Science Department Chair Doug Drinen.

The Bridge Program in Mathematics and Science, a three-week residential program for high school students interested in math and science and who could potentially bring added diversity to the Sewanee campus as college students, was held in June 2014. Associate Professor Drinen directed its mathematics component.

The 2014 McGriff-Bruton Mathematics & Computer Science Research Internship was awarded to Peter McCarthy, a sophomore computer science major, who did research on wireless sensor networks with Associate Professor Stephen Carl.

During his sabbatical leave in the fall of 2013, As-

sociate Professor Matthew Rudd gave talks on his research at Wake Forest University, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, McGill University, and the University of Cologne. In November 2013, he and David Hartenstine of Western Washington University spent two weeks working together at the Oberwolfach Research Institute for Mathematics. In December, he was an invited speaker at the conference on Quasilinear Partial Differential Equations and Game Theory, held at Uppsala University at the conclusion of a semester-long program at the Institut Mittag-Leffler. Some of the results of this research were published in a special issue of *Communications on Pure and Applied Analysis* devoted to emerging trends in nonlinear partial differential equations.

Professor Catherine Cavagnaro's sabbatical work included assisting on an Air Force Office of Scientific Research project that studied the risk incurred by a variety of military strategies. She also wrote a manuscript that detailed an application of differential equations with aircraft longitudinal stability. Sewanee Junior Erica Dai worked with Professor Cavagnaro to develop a model for a gliding aircraft to study the optimal method of landing after engine failure.

During her spring 2013 sabbatical leave, Professor Emily Puckette developed a statistics modeling course for students in physical, natural, and social sciences that will be offered this coming spring.

Professor Joel Cunningham is chairing the MAA Committee on Departmental Review and is a member of the steering committee for the Association's Second-Century Capital Campaign.

Associate Professor Doug Drinen and Professor Emily Puckette had leading roles in the development of a new college-wide general education curriculum that was implemented in 2013-14.

Professor Emeritus Thomas Banchoff of Brown University, who is also a Past MAA President, will serve as a Brown Foundation Fellow at Sewanee for the spring semester of 2015. He will teach an upper-level multidimensional geometry seminar. (Submitted by Joel Cunningham)

Southern Polytechnic State University (Marietta, GA)

Dr. Sarah Holliday was promoted to Associate Professor and was appointed Chair of the Mathematics Department. Lakmali Weerasena was hired as a Lecturer and Vinavtee Kokil was hired as an Instructor. The really big news is that Southern Polytechnic State University will be consolidating with Kennesaw State University in Fall 2015. (Submitted by Steven Edwards)

Southwestern Community College (Sylva, NC)

The department added a full-time position at our Macon campus in August which was filled by Ms. Elaine Merritt.   Mr. Terry Tolle will retire in January 2015 after teaching for 30 years @ Southwestern Community College. We are happy to announce that Ms. Vicki Todd, who will be completing her MS in Mathematics in December will be hired as his full-time replacement. (Submitted by Hilary Seagle)

Spelman College (Atlanta, GA)

Dr. Nagambal Shah retired in May as professor emerita of mathematics after 42 years. This fall, Spelman College is piloting its first fully online course, Math 115 Precalculus I, taught by Jeffrey Ehme. Viveka Borum and a colleague in the Education Studies Program received an NSF Robert Noyce grant to prepare students for careers in STEM education at the secondary level. Mohammed Tesemma is on sabbatical leave for the fall semester. Tasha Inniss is on leave for another year and is currently a program director at the National Science Foundation. We welcomed two Spelman graduates back to the department as instructors this fall: Arianne Ross, who received her masters from Iowa State University and Carmen Smith, who is completing a doctorate in biostatistics from the University of Iowa. (Submitted by Yewande Olubummo)

University of North Carolina Wilmington (Wilmington, NC)

UNC Wilmington, Wilmington, North Carolina, will host two conferences in 2015. UNCW will host the MAA Southeastern Section Spring 2015 Meeting March 13-14. UNCW is located in the southeastern region of North Carolina, near the historic district of Wilmington on South College Road, four miles from the Cape Fear River and five miles west of Wrightsville Beach and the Atlantic Coast. The webpage is http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/conference2015.

UNCW is also the local host for SRC (Southern Research Conference), which is also hosted by SRCoS on June 7-10, 2015 in Carolina Beach. The webpage is http://www.uncw.edu/src2015. This conference is also supported by NSF, ASA, NISS and SAMSI. We are members of SRCoS (pronounce "Circus"), which stands for Southern Regional Council of Statistics. This council represents Southern Universities that have statistics programs, and is responsible for guiding curricular issues in statistics.

Several department faculty (Dr.Yaw Chang, Dr. Wei Feng, Dr. Michael Freeze and Dr. Xin Lu) organized an international mathematics conference held July 7-11 in Madrid, Spain. The Conference on Dynamical Systems, Differential Equations and Applications was the 10th of a series started two decades ago by the American Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS).

More than 2,500 scientists and mathematicians representing more than 100 countries participated in the conference.

Dr. Susan Simmons received a grant from DNER to establish a statistical model to estimate visitation on Rachel Carson Island (joint with Troy Kling, one of our undergraduate students). She is also on a Gates Technology Grant from NC State (in collaboration with East Carolina University).

Dr. Mark Lammers had an article featured on the cover of IEEE SPL http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?tp=&arnumber=6877754&tag=1

Dr. Gabriel Lugo and several university colleagues have received an NSF Grant of $299, 974 for the project entitled "INCISE (Integrated Certificate in STEM Education)."

We had several promotions and retirements this year. Dr. Michael Freeze, Dr. Dijana Jakelic, and Dr. James Blum were promoted to full professor. Dr. Alison Toney was promoted to associate professor. Dr. Kenneth Spackman, Dr. Dargan Frierson, and Dr. John Karlof are scheduled to retire after several decades of service to the university.

The Master Program is doing well. We have graduated sixteen students this year. They have all placed into jobs in industry, teaching at local community colleges, and several moving on to postgraduate study. (Submitted by Russ Herman)

University of South Carolina Aiken (Aiken, SC)

Promotion to Professor: Tieling Chen, Koffi Fadimba, Zhenheng Li
New faculty: Bethany Fralick
Retirement: Mike May
We are developing an Industrial Process Engineering Program to prepare engineering students who have the technical knowledge and skills in mathematics, science, engineering and management to analyze and solve problems in today's team oriented business environment. This new program builds on our current pre engineering so that students who want to transfer to another institution may continue to do so. We expect to offer year 3 courses starting fall of 2015 and year 4 courses starting fall 2016. (Submitted by Reginald Koo)

University of South Carolina Beaufort (Beaufort, SC)

On October 10th, Assistant Professors of Mathematics, Dr. Swati Debroy and Dr. Kasia Pawelek, together with two faculty members from the Spanish Department hosted a conference, "Gateway to Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies." http://www.uscb.edu/academics/academic_conferences/graduate_studies_conference/index.php

There were 212 participants and 23 poster presentations.

Dr. Debroy supervised the following poster presentations:

"Estimating the effect of ezemetibe and interferon-alpha on Hepatitis C viral RNA in vitro" by Austin Mishoe

"Mathematical model to estimate underreporting of deaths due to visceral leishmaniasis in Bihar, India" by Austin Mishoe

"Duration of SIL treatment in HCV patients using mathematical model" by Demetrius Rhodes

"Systemically applying research to address visceral leishmaniasis in poor communities" by Peter Mize

Dr. Pawelek supervised the following poster presentations:

"Within-host models of influenza virus infection: The role of macrophages" by Cristian Salmeron

"Stability analysis of a model of equine infectious anemia virus infection" by Trong Ducle

"Modeling dynamics of mosquito populations and assessing abatement strategies for West Nile Virus" by Patrick Niehaus

"Modeling the impact of control strategies on mosquito population in Beaufort County, SC: Can the community stop the spread of West Nile Virus (WNV)?" by Patrick Niehaus (Submitted by Akira Iwasa)

Wake Forest University (Winston-Salem, NC)

Several Wake Forest faculty have received college-wide awards. Stephen Robinson was named Taylor Professor. This Wake Forest Professorship award is an endowed chair position and is among the highest honors the institution can bestow on its faculty members. The selection criteria included: exceptional skill and sustained dedication in the classroom; outstanding commitment to student learning and growth beyond the classroom; a wide-reaching and significant record in scholarly and creative work; and sustained exemplary service to the department, the discipline, the College, the University, and the broader scholarly community. Jennifer Erway received the Reid-Doyle Prize for Excellence in Teaching; each year a faculty member who is still in the early part of his or her career is recognized with the prize. Jeremy Rouse received a Teaching Innovation Award given by the Wake Forest Teaching and Learning Center.

Jason Parsley is on a research leave for the 2014-15 academic year. Robert Erhardt is on a research leave for the fall 2014 semester, and Jennifer Erway is on a research leave for the spring 2015 semester. The department has two new Teacher-Scholar Postdocs: Jason Gaddis from University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and University of California, San Diego, and Maurico Rivas from Sam Houston University. Justin Allman from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill is a Visiting Assistant Professor for the 2014-15 academic year. Three previous Teacher-Scholar Postdocs have left Wake Forest University for tenure-track jobs: Andrew Conner at St. Mary's College of California, Brian Pigott at Wofford College, and John Webb at James Madison University.   Three retired faculty, John Baxley, Fredric Howard, and Robert Plemmons, have returned to teach part-time as leave replacements this year.

This year's Gentry Lecturer was Dr. Maria Chudnovsky from Columbia University. She gave two lectures on October 28, 2014. (Submitted by Ellen Kirkman)

Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC)

Winthrop welcomed three new faculty this year: Dr. Mary Pat Sjostrom, Dr. Jessie Hamm, and Dr. Arran Hamm. Jessie Hamm was selected as a Project NExTer. We also said goodbye to two retirees last May: Dr. Heakyung Lee and Dr. Carlos Caballero.

Winthrop University was awarded an NSF-REU grant and successfully hosted its first REU program this summer. We had eight participants from across the nation spend nine weeks working on various research projects in differential equations (under mentor Kristen Abernathy) and algebraic geometry (under mentor Joe Rusinko). Three undergraduate participants won awards for their presentations at Mathfest. Hannah Horner (Whitman College) and Alexander Middleton (Winthrop University) won the Janet L. Andersen Award presented by BioSIGMAA for their presentation "A Nonlinear Model of Cancer Tumor Treatment with Cancer Stem Cells" and Heather Gronewald (Southwestern University) won the Pi Mu Epsilon award for her presentation "Computing Cophylogenetic Invariants."

Drs. Joe Rusinko and Trent Kull were awarded an NSF grant to host a conference on Mathematical Phylogeny during the summer of 2014. Leading expert Dr. Mike Steel of University of Canterbury served as the principal lecturer.

Dr. Kristen Abernathy was selected to participate in the Preparation for Industrial Careers in the Mathematical Sciences (PIC Math) program. She attended a faculty training workshop at Brigham Young University over the summer and is teaching a research course on mathematics and video games in the spring. (Submitted by Kristen Abernathy)

MAA Online   **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE MAA-SE AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING BY A BEGINNING COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICS FACULTY MEMBER**

COMPLETE NOMINATION PROCESS

Brief Description: The MAA Southeastern Section (MAASE) established this award to honor beginning college or university faculty whose teaching in the Section has been extraordinarily successful and whose effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics is shown to have influence beyond their own class-rooms. An awardee must have taught full time in a mathematical science in the Southeastern Section for at least two years, but not more than a total of seven years in any collegiate institution. Each year at most one college or university teacher is to be honored with this MAASE section award. Nominations for the award may be made by any member of the MAASE section.

A complete nomination packet should consist of a nomination form, a narrative, additional documentation, and letters of recommendation as described below. Please mail, fax or email the completed packet to arrive by Friday, January 16, 2015 to:

Ron Taylor
Department of Mathematics & Computer Science
Berry College
Mount Berry, GA 30149

Questions may be directed to Ron at rtaylor@berry.edu or at 706-290-2677.

Eligibility and Guidelines for Nomination

Eligibility
Teaching is intended to include classroom instruction as well as activities outside the classroom, such as working with student groups, preparing students for mathematical competitions, directing undergraduate students in research in mathematics, directing students in the preparation of honors theses, preparing teaching materials used by others, etc.

Nominees must:
      Hold the terminal degree required by SACS to be a full time faculty member in a collegiate institution,
      Be college or university teachers currently in the MAA-SE who have taught full time in a mathematical science in the Southeastern Section for at least two years, but not more than a total of seven years in any collegiate institution (In determining eligibility, we do not count time spent in a postdoctoral position where nearly all the nominee's time was spent on research, and the nominee did very little or no teaching (e. g. three semester courses a year or less).), and
      Hold membership in the Mathematical Association of America

Guidelines for nomination
Nominees for the award may be made by any member of the MAA-SE section.
Nominees should:
      Be recognized as extraordinarily successful in their teaching
      Have effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics that can be documented
      Have had influence in their teaching beyond their own classrooms

A nomination for this award should consist only of the materials requested below, and should not include any other materials, such as curricula vitae or other items. Please prepare all nomination materials on one side only of 8.5 by 11 inch paper, with a type size no smaller than 12 points (pica).

Nomination Packet:

Nomination Form
A completed **Nomination Form** is the first part of the packet. Please see Page 24 of this newsletter for the nomination form.

Narrative
Please describe the nominee's extraordinary success in teaching by providing a narrative of the nominee's background, experience, teaching style, special contributions, other teaching awards, and any additional evidence of the nominee's unusual achievement in teaching. Note especially effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics and influence beyond the nominee's own classrooms. The narrative should not exceed five double-spaced pages.

Additional Documentation
Please submit no more than three pages of further evidence to document the nominee's extraordinary teaching success. This documentation will vary greatly from institution to institution, but may include summaries of peer or student evaluations, comments on teaching, possible increases in numbers of majors in mathematics (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), possible student success in mathematics competitions (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), success in research in mathematics conducted by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, production of superior quality honors theses by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, development of curricular materials successfully used by colleagues, adoption of the nominee's teaching methods or techniques by experienced colleagues, service as a respected adviser for a student group, etc.
Nominators should bear in mind that the selection committee might view a nomination more positively if it is accompanied not just by carefully chosen testimonials from a few selected students and faculty, but also by reports, comments and criticism which is representative of the whole spectrum of opinion among students and faculty on the nominee's teaching.

Letters of Recommendation
Please include no more than five letters of recommendation, as follows:
- Two letters from the nominee's present or former students.
- Two letters from the nominee's colleagues (one of whom could be the department chair).
One additional letter from any one qualified to comment on the nominee's extraordinary teaching success.

MAASE Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Mathematics Faculty Member

NOMINATION FORM
To be submitted by January 16, 2015

PLEASE TYPE

Nominee's Name (First name first):	
College or University Affiliation:	
College or University Address:	
Nominee's email address:	
Is the nominee a current member of the Mathematical Association of America? (only members of the MAA are eligible for the Award)	Year joined_____
Nominee's number of years teaching experience in a mathematical science (at least two years, not more than seven)	Number_____ Year_____ to Year_____
Graduate Degree earned in mathematical sciences:	Degree_____ Area of Specialty_____
List the years and where the nominee taught full time in a mathematical science in the Southeastern Section (at least two needed)	Years_____ Location_____

Please describe on no more than one page of 12 point type, double-spaced, the unusual personal and professional qualities of the nominee that contribute to his or her extraordinary teaching success, and attach.

Name of nominator (First name first):	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email address:	
Signature:	
Date:	/ / /

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:
THE 2015 SOUTHEASTERN SECTION
DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Nominations for the 2015 Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics are now being accepted. The Southeastern Section selection committee will choose the winner of this award from the pool of nominees in two stages. From the initial applicants, the committee will choose a group of finalists. Nominators of finalists will be contacted for more detailed information about the candidate's teaching. The winner will be honored at the Spring 2015 meeting of the Section at UNC Wilmington in Wilmington, NC.

A nomination form is attached. Each member of the Section is encouraged to consider submitting a nomination to **Sam Kaplan** (*skaplan@unca.edu),* chair of the selection committee. Please submit a nomination form by **December 1, 2014**. The selection committee will contact nominators of finalists to solicit a complete packet.

Previous Teaching Award Recipients:
The section has presented the Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics each year since 1992. Past recipients are:

- 1992   Anne Hudson, Armstrong State University
- 1993   Robert Bryant, Duke University
- 1994   John Neff, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 1995   Sylvia Bozeman, Spelman College
- 1996   Carl Pomerance, University of Georgia
- 1997   Harold Reiter, Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte
- 1998   Ben Klein, Davidson College
- 1999   Joel Brawley, Clemson University
- 2000   Theodore Shifrin, University of Georgia
- 2001   Johnny Henderson, Auburn University
- 2002   Ronald Harshbarger, University of South Carolina, Beaufort
- 2003   Sue E. Goodman, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2004   Jeff R. Knisley, East Tennessee State University
- 2005   David Stone, Georgia Southern University
- 2006   William "Mac" Priestly, the University of the South
- 2007   David Sumner, University of South Carolina, Columbia
- 2008   Ronald Gould, Emory University
- 2009   Hugh Howards, Wake Forest University
- 2010   Martin Jones, University of Charleston
- 2011   Barry Spieler, Birmingham-Southern College
- 2012   Sam Kaplan, University of North Carolina at Asheville
- 2013   Ron Taylor, Berry College
- 2014   No award given

__Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics__
__Nomination Form__

Please type.

Nominee's Name (first name first): _____

College or University Affiliation: _____

College or University Address: _____

City: State: ZIP: _____

Nominee's number of years teaching experience in a mathematical science: _____

Has the nominee taught at least half time in a mathematical science during the current academic year or during the previous year if on approved leave or sabbatical? ____

In the space below, please describe briefly the unusual personal and professional qualities of the nominee that contribute to his or her extraordinary teaching success.

Name of nominator (first name first): _____

Address of nominator: _____

Telephone:_____   Email: _____

Nominator's Signature: _____   Date: _____

Send to: Dr. Sam Kaplan, (skaplan@unca.edu) 828-232-5192
One University Heights, CPO#2350   Department of Mathematics   Asheville, NC 28804
We're willing to help! If you would like assistance, please contact Dr. Kaplan before December 1.

Ninety-fourth Annual Meeting
Mathematical Association of America, Southeastern Section
University of North Carolina, Wilmington

Friday – Saturday, March 13-14, 2015

Meeting Announcement: The ninety-fourth annual meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America will be held on Friday and Saturday, March 13 - 14, 2015 at the University of North Carolina--Wilmington in Wilmington, NC. The Association invites all interested persons to participate and asks that department chairpersons, faculty, and members of the Section help in publicizing the meeting. Attendees may pre-register (and pay!) online through the meeting website at http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/conference2015/. On-site registration will also be available. Up-to -date information about the conference (program, registration, accommodations, transportation, etc.) is maintained at the conference web site, which is also accessible through the Section web site http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/.

General Sessions: There will be three general sessions with four speakers on Friday and Saturday:

- **Joseph Rusinko**, Winthrop University, 2014 Section Teaching Award for Beginning Faculty Recipient, and **Virginia Watson,** Section Historian.
- **Yuliya Babenko,** Kennesaw State University, 2014-2015 Section Lecturer
Linda Braddy, MAA Deputy Executive Director

General sessions will be held in Warwick Center.

Short Courses and Workshops: There are three excellent workshops available on Friday morning at no additional fee, for which participants must preregister. These are:

- *Fifty Years of Geometric Programming,* Elmor Peterson, Systems Science Research and Consulting
- *Teaching Numerical Analysis using the free software SAGE MATH,* Razvan Mezei, Lenoir-Rhyne University
- *Graduate Student Career Development Workshop*, Sarah Frick, Furman University.

A fuller description of the workshops, including abstracts, is given at the end of this announcement as well as on the conference web site.

Call For Contributed Papers: The officers of the Section invite and encourage submission of titles and abstracts for fifteen-minute (20 minutes between the start of one talk to the start of the next) contributed papers in all areas of mathematics by college and university faculty, graduate students, undergraduates, and others. **Due to the growth in both student and professional papers, there will be contributed papers sessions and special sessions for undergraduates Friday morning.** With this expansion, we hope to better utilize the Friday morning time period for all attendees. Abstract submissions can be made through the meeting website beginning in December or by sending the information to the Program Chair (Sarah Raynor, raynorsg@wfu.edu). The abstract submission deadline is **Monday, February 9, 2015**. It will be very helpful if individuals submit their information in advance of this deadline. Talks will be scheduled in concurrent sessions and organized, to the extent possible, by the general mathematical area indicated by the abstract. There will also be several special sessions (descriptions are included in this Newsletter) for selected mathematical areas:

- *Special Session on Critiqued Presentations by Graduate Students.* Organizer, Sarah Frick (Furman University)
- *Research in Mathematics Education.* Organizer**:** Benjamin Wescoatt (Valdosta State University)
- *Distance and Digital Learning in Higher Education Mathematics.* Organizer: Jon Ernstberger (LaGrange College)
- *History of Mathematics.* Organizers: Abdel Naser Al-Hasan (Newberry College), and Paul Baker (Catawba College)
- *Preparing Students to Teach Undergraduate Mathematics***.** Organizer: Jack Bookman (Duke University)

Guidelines for Titles and Abstracts: Abstracts are expected to deal with theory, application, teaching, history, or philosophy of mathematical sciences; they should indicate what the presenter intends to communicate in the allotted time. For multiple authors, the presenting author's name should be clearly designated; please identify undergraduate and graduate student presenters/authors. The use of special symbols should be considered judiciously; however, if an abstract includes LaTeX formatting, this can be rendered when compiling the abstracts for publication.

Undergraduate Poster Session: Students are encouraged to present research and results of special projects in poster format. The session is scheduled for Saturday morning, concurrent with contributed talks. Abstracts should be submitted through the meeting website no later than **Monday, February 9, 2015** to ensure that space will be available for your poster. Contact organizers Christopher Raridan (christopherraridan@clayton.edu) and Antara Mukherjee (mailto:mmukherjeea1@citadel.edu) if you need additional information.

Math Jeopardy Contest: Teams of three or four undergraduates will compete in a mathematical version of the well-known answer-and-question game. Competition is limited. There is a $25.00 registration fee for each team. *This fee can be paid with the sponsor's meeting registration.* Topics will include calculus (single and multi-variable), linear algebra, differential equations, and discrete mathematics. The preliminary rounds for Math Jeopardy will be scheduled on Friday morning from 8:00-12:00. To register team members so their names may be included in the program, or to find out more, contact Ron Taylor (rtaylor@berry.edu). *There is a limit of 36 teams; schools will initially be limited to one team. If fewer than 36 teams register by the deadline, schools may register additional teams.*

Project NExT-SE: Project NExT-SE (New Experiences in Teaching) is the Southeastern MAA Section's version of the national program for new and recent PhD's in mathematical sciences interested in improving the learning and teaching of undergraduate mathematics. All national and section Project NExT members are always invited to attend! Activities are planned for Thursday afternoon (beginning about 2:00 pm) and Friday morning. Contact Karen O'Hara (kohara@highpoint.edu) or Jon Ernstberger (jernstberger@lagrange.edu) for more information.

Treasure Hunt: On Thursday evening (March 12), there will be a Mathematics Treasure Hunt for students and their advisors. Students will use mathematics to solve clues and look for a "treasure." This is a fun, non-competitive event that will give students an opportunity to meet and work with students from other colleges and universities. It is also greatly appreciated if math club advisors would be willing to help at this event. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help, please contact Julia Barnes (jbarnes@email.wcu.edu).   Check-in is between 7:00pm and 7:30pm in the lobby of Leutze Hall with the event starting at 7:30pm.

Graduate School and Career Fair: In this venue, students considering graduate school in mathematical sciences have opportunities to meet with representatives of various graduate programs. In addition, those seeking jobs in industry, business or government in the mathematical sciences can meet with potential employers. Faculty mentors are also welcome. Pizza will be served free to students, and a raffle will be held for students visiting the exhibits. Representatives of graduate programs should contact Joseph Rusinko (rusinkoj@winthrop.edu) for more information, if needed. The $25 table fee can be paid with conference registration through the website.

Math T-shirt Contest:
The best mathematics T-shirt at the meeting will be recognized with an announcement, a certificate, and a featured picture in the fall newsletter. Get your Math Club organized now for a great T-shirt in the spring.

Chairpersons' Meeting and Liaisons' Luncheon: The Chairpersons' meeting, scheduled for Saturday morning, is an opportunity for discussion of issues confronting the departments. Pat Humphrey (phumphre@georgiasouthern.edu) will convene the Chairpersons.   MAA Liaisons will meet at lunch time on Friday, convened by Section Governor Martha Abell (martha@georgiasouthern.edu). A box lunch will be provided for those liaisons attending. Please e-mail by February 15 if you are planning on attending.

Exhibits: On Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, representatives of publishing companies and other vendors will have exhibits in the lobby Warwick Center.

Friday Evening Events: Tickets (approximately $20) for the conference dinner will be available for purchase at the time of online registration. Musical entertainment will be provided at the banquet.

Pre-Registration: Pre-registration for the meeting through the conference website http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/conference2014/ is encouraged; on-site registration and materials pick up will be available in the lobby of Warwick Center on Thursday 2:00 - 3:30 PM and 6:15 - 8:30 PM; Friday 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM; and Saturday 7:30 - 10:30 AM.

Fees	Pre-registered	After March 1
Faculty meeting registration	$25	$35
College/university students, emeritus faculty	$15	$15
High school teachers	$15	$20
High school students	free	free
Conference Dinner	$25 (approx.)	
Workshops	free (but preregistration required)	

Transportation and Lodging

Directions
The conference will take place at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, Wilmington, NC. off I
-40. Wilmington is about 126 miles southeast of Raleigh, 200 miles southeast of Charlotte NC, 10
miles west of the Atlantic Ocean, 80 miles northeast of Myrtle Beach, SC, and 420 miles east of Atlan-
ta, GA.
For detailed directions, CLICK HERE or go to UNCW site.

Parking
In order to park on campus, you will not need a parking permit. However, there will be designated
parking lots in which you have to park. Failure to do so may result in a parking ticket. The main park-
ing lot is Lot M as shown in the map above. A PDF Version is available. Other parking spaces will be
posted before the conference depending on the event time and day.

Hotels
Participants should make their own arrangements directly with a hotel of their choice and be sure to
mention that you will be attending MAA-SE. Rooms are blocked in hotels listed below, most within 5
minute drive of the campus for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 12-14. Reservation deadlines
vary with hotel as noted below. Prices are Plus Tax.

Hotel	Rate	Code	Deadlines
Fairfield Inn & Suites	$79		2/15
Wingate	$89	LKMA	2/15
Town Place Suites	$79		2/15
Hampton Inn – University	$89	560053030	2/09
Hampton Inn & Suites - Landfall	$99	560053030	2/09
Holiday Inn Express	$82-$92		2/20
Courtyard Marriot	$99-109		2/19
Hilton Garden Inn	$99-109		2/19

Updates: Updates to this announcement and ultimately a tentative schedule of talks will appear on the
conference web page, which is accessible through the section web page.

Student Activities
MAA SE Section Meeting
March 13-15, 2014

Undergraduate Student Research Posters and Talks

Poster Session Saturday morning
Talks throughout meeting

Present your research in a talk or with a poster. Abstracts for talks and posters can be submitted through the meeting web site. Prizes will be awarded for best talks and posters.

Graduate School & Career Fair

Friday noon

Is graduate school in your future? Need a job? Meet with representatives of graduate programs and employers.

- Pizza lunch (free for students)
- Networking
- Door prize raffle for students

For Graduate Students

- Graduate Student Professional Development workshop and Critiqued Presentation session (Friday). Contact Sarah Frick (sarah.frick@furman.edu) for details.

- Surviving and Thriving in Graduate School: Ensuring success for students from all backgrounds (Friday afternoon). Contact Jennifer Royal royal_j@mercer.edu for details.

Math Jeopardy

- Preliminary and semifinal rounds Friday morning
- Finals Saturday noon

Teams of 3-4 undergraduate students compete in this classic game, with clever questions (oops, answers) from calculus and other courses in the first two years of the mathematics curriculum. Register in advance by contacting Ron Taylor (rtaylor@berry.edu)

Math T-shirt Contest

Show off your geek chic. A prize will be awarded to the undergraduate math club or Jeopardy team with the best mathematically-themed T-shirt. Pictures will be taken following the second general session on Friday.

Treasure Hunt
Thursday evening

Arrive early to the meeting for fun activities and mathematical puzzles. Meet students from all over the Southeastern Section of the MAA. Contact Julie Barnes (jbarnes@email.wcu.edu) to participate.

Distinguished Lectures for Students
Friday morning

Jason Parsley (Wake Forest University)
Ellen Eischen (University of North Carolina)

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION OFFICERS 2014-2015

Chair: Pat Humphrey (Georgia Southern University)
                                        phumphre@georgiasouthern.edu

Past Chair: Jeff Knisley (East Tennessee State University)
                                        knisleyj@etsu.edu

Vice-Chair   Alice Pierce (Georgia Perimeter College)
For Two-Year Colleges: Alice.Pierce@gpc.edu

Secretary: Catherine Matos (Clayton State University)
                                        CatherineMatos@clayton.edu

Treasurer: Emily Hynds (Samford University)
                                        eahynds@samford.edu

Section Governor: Martha Abell (Georgia Southern University)
                                        martha@georgiasouthern.edu

Section Lecturer: Yuliya Babenko (Kennesaw State University)
                                        ybabenko@kennesaw.edu

Newsletter Editor: Kristen Abernathy (Winthrop University)
                                        abernathyk@winthrop.edu

Program Chair: Sarah Raynor (Wake Forest University)
                                        raynorsg@wfu.edu

Student Activities Coordinator: Joseph Rusinko (Winthrop University)
                                        rusinkoj@winthrop.edu

Beginning Faculty Coordinator: Ron Taylor (Berry College)
                                        rtaylor@berry.edu

State Director of Alabama: Bernie Mullins (Birmingham-Southern University)
                                        bmullins@bsc.edu

State Director of Georgia: Karen Briggs (University of North Georgia)
                                        karen.briggs@ung.edu

State Director of North Carolina: Patrick Bahls (University of North Carolina, Asheville)
                                        patrick.bahls@gmail.com

State Director of South Carolina: Jim Solazzo (Coastal Carolina University)
                                        jsolazzo@coastal.edu

State Director of Tennessee: Laurie Dishman (Cumberland University)
                                        ldishman@cumberland.edu

Webmaster: Jim Gleason (The University of Alabama)
                                        jgleason@as.ua.edu

Historian: Virginia Watson (Kennesaw State University)
                                        vwatson@kennesaw.edu

Directors of Project NeXt-SE: Karen O'Hara (High Point University) and Jon Ernstberger (LaGrange College)
                                        kohara@highpoint.edu and jernstberger@lagrange.edu (respectively)

MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION COMMITTEES
2014-2015

Section Teaching Award: Sam Kaplan (Chair)
                                    Ron Taylor
                                    State Directors

Section Service Award: Charlotte Knotts-Zides (Chair)
                                    Ellen Kirkman
                                    Ray Collings
                                    Jim Vandergriff
                                    John Mayer

Nominations: Ellen Kirkman
                                    Chris Raridan
                                    Laurie Heyer
                                    Antara Mukherjee
                                    Brian O'Connor
                                    David Dempsey

Site Selection: Cathie Matos (Chair)
                                    Trent Kull
                                    Andrew Hetzel

Southeastern Section MAA Website
http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/maase/