

**AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
NOVEMBER 22-23, 2013**

**MINUTES**

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**AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
NOVEMBER 22-23, 2013**

**MINUTES**

A joint meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council (EC) and the Board of Trustees (BT) was held Friday-Saturday, November 22-23, 2013, at the AMS Headquarters in Providence, Rhode Island.

The following members of the EC were present: H el ene Barcelo, Ralph L. Cohen, Eric M. Friedlander, Bryna Kra, Carla D. Savage, and David A. Vogan, Jr. Tara S. Holm was unable to attend the meeting in person, but did attend portions of the meeting by phone.

All members of the BT were present: Ruth M. Charney, Mark L. Green, Jane M. Hawkins, William H. Jaco, Zbigniew H. Nitecki, Ronald J. Stern, and Karen Vogtmann.

Also present were the following AMS staff members: Thomas J. Blythe (Chief Information Officer), Graeme Fairweather (Executive Editor, Mathematical Reviews), Sergei Gelfand (Publisher), Robert M. Harington (Associate Executive Director, Publishing), Ellen H. Heiser (Assistant to the Executive Director [and recording secretary]), Robin Marek (Director of Development), Ellen J. Maycock (Associate Executive Director, Meetings and Professional Services), Donald E. McClure (Executive Director), Emily D. Riley (Chief Financial Officer), and Samuel M. Rankin (Associate Executive Director, Washington Office).

President David Vogan presided over the EC and ECBT portions of the meeting (items beginning with 0, 1, or 2). Board Chair Mark Green presided over the BT portion of the meeting (items beginning with 3).

Items in these minutes occur in numerical order, which is not necessarily the order in which they were discussed at the meeting.

<b>0</b>	<b>CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>
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**0.1**    **Opening of the Meeting and Introductions.**

President Vogan called the meeting to order and asked those present to introduce themselves.

**0.2**    **2013 AMS Election Results.**

Secretary Savage announced the following election results:

**President**

**Robert Bryant**, Duke University

Term is one year as President Elect (1 February 2014 - 31 January 2015), two years as President (1 February 2015 - 31 January 2017), and one year as Immediate Past President (1 February 2017 - 31 January 2018)

**Vice President**

**Susan Montgomery**, University of Southern California

Term is three years (1 February 2014 - 31 January 2017)

**Trustee**

**Robert Lazarsfeld**, Stony Brook University

Term is five years (1 February 2014 - 31 January 2019)

**Members at Large of the Council**

**Richard Durrett**, Duke University

**Lisa Fauci**, Tulane University

**Michael Larsen**, Indiana University

**Kristin E. Lauter**, Microsoft Research

**Jennifer Taback**, Bowdoin College

Terms are three years (1 February 2014 - 31 January 2017)

**Nominating Committee**

**Peter Constantin**, Princeton University

**Robert L. Griess Jr.**, University of Michigan

**David J. Wright**, Oklahoma State University

Terms are three years (1 January 2014 - 31 December 2016)

**Editorial Boards Committee**

**Anne Schilling**, University of California, Davis

**Daniel W. Stroock**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Terms are three years (1 February 2014 - 31 January 2017)

**0.3 Housekeeping Matters.**

Executive Director McClure mentioned some details about the schedule and arrangements for the events that took place during the current meeting.

<b>1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>
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**1.1 Draft Agenda for the January 2014 Council Meeting.**

The EC reviewed the draft agenda for the January 2014 Council meeting and suggested an addition to item 4.7.6 (Fellows Selection Committee) on the agenda draft. As proposed in the report of the Fellows Selection Committee, the EC recommended to Council that supporting nominators on Fellow nominations be asked to supply a one paragraph statement of support for the nomination.

The discussion topic for the April 2014 Council Meeting will be decided by email discussion in time to be included in the January 2014 Council Agenda.

<b>II EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE INFORMATION ITEMS</b>
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**II.1 Secretariat Business by Mail. Att. #3.**

Minutes of Secretariat business by mail during the months June 2013 – November 2013 are attached (#3).

<b>2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>
--

**2.1 Report on Committee on the Profession (CoProf). Att. #4.**

The ECBT received the attached report on the September 28-29, 2013 CoProf meeting (Att. #4).

**2.2 Report on Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee (MREC). Att. #5.**

The ECBT received the attached report on the October 14, 2013 MREC meeting (Att. #5).

**2.3 Report on Committee on Publications (CPub). Att. #6.**

The ECBT received the attached report on the September 27-28, 2013 CPub meeting (Att. #6).

**2.4 Report on Committee on Education (COE). Att. #29.**

The ECBT received the attached report on the October 24-26, 2013 COE meeting (Att. #29).

**2.5 Report on Committee on Meetings and Conferences (COMC).**

The ECBT was informed that the last COMC meeting was March 23, 2013 at the Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport Hotel. A report of that meeting was given at the May 2013 ECBT meeting. The next COMC meeting will be held on Saturday, March 8, 2014 at the Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport Hotel. The Chair of COMC for February 1, 2013 – January 31, 2014 is Paul Muhly of the University of Iowa.

**2.6 Report on Committee on Science Policy (CSP).**

The ECBT was informed that the summary report of the 2013 CSP meeting was provided to the ECBT at their last meeting in May 2013. The next CSP meeting will be March 13-15, 2014 in Washington, DC. CSP will host a joint panel discussion with the AMS Committee on Education at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Baltimore, MD on January 17, 2014 entitled "The Public Face of Mathematics." At this session, experienced spokespeople will share ideas and lead discussion about how the mathematics community can mobilize more members to become proactive in representing mathematics to the general public and to key audiences of leaders in discussions of public policy.

**2.7 Washington Office Report. Att. #7.**

The ECBT received the attached report on the activities of the Washington Office (Att. #7).

**2.8 Report from the President.**

President Vogan reported as follows:

- Several members of the AMS have expressed serious concerns about the AMS relationship with the National Security Agency (NSA), including both the grant review process and the advertising for NSA positions that appears in *Notices*. See, for example, Alexander Beilinson's Letter to the Editor that was published in the [December 2013 issue of the Notices](#). Vogan has consulted with various AMS officials and committees regarding the matter.
- Several members of the AMS have commented to him about this article that was published in the November 2013 *Notices*: "[Principles for implementing a potential solution to the Middle East conflict](#)," by Thomas L. Saaty and H. J. Zoffer. Vogan prepared a formal response that was posted on the AMS website:



- [www.ams.org/publications/david-vogan-letter](http://www.ams.org/publications/david-vogan-letter). Vogan has appointed an advisory committee to suggest possible changes the Notices Editorial Board might adopt in procedures for refereeing and acceptance of articles.

## **2.9 Report on Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC).**

The ECBT was informed that the LRPC met on November 22, 2013 and discussed the following STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education initiatives:

1. “Transforming Postsecondary Mathematics Education,” an effort being launched by a panel at the Joint Mathematics Meetings (JMM) on January 17, 2014. The organizers are Eric Friedlander, Mark Green, Phillip Griffiths, Tara Holm, and Uri Treisman and support is being provided by the Carnegie Corporation and the Sloan Foundation. The panel is co-sponsored by the AMS, MAA and SIAM.
2. “Integration of Strategies that Support Undergraduate Education in STEM” (ISSUES) is a project being led by the MAA with cooperation from many societies, including the AMS. The first step of this initiative is a workshop on January 30-31, 2014 to bring together representatives of the STEM disciplinary societies to draft a common statement of support for and examples of active-learning strategies in undergraduate education and to map out how the societies can coordinate their efforts in the future. The AMS will have at least one representative at the January workshop.
3. The Conference Board for the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) is planning a forum on undergraduate math education with a target date of October 5-7, 2014. Stephen DeBacker of the University of Michigan is representing the AMS on the forum steering committee. The plans are very preliminary at this point. There is a CBMS meeting on December 6 and the plans for the forum will be a major agenda topic.
4. The Association of American Universities (AAU) launched an initiative in 2011 to influence the culture of STEM departments at AAU institutions so that faculty are encouraged and supported to use teaching practices that more actively engage students in STEM education and which are proven by research to be more effective in helping students learn. Haynes Miller was recommended by the AMS to serve on the advisory committee for the AAU initiative.

### **2.9.1 Adding Member to Long Range Planning Committee.**

The ECBT agreed to enlarge the LRPC membership to include the third-year elected Trustee. Currently the Chair of the Board is a member of the LRPC. With the addition of the third-year elected Trustee, all members of the LRPC will serve for at least two consecutive years.

**2.10 2015 Individual Member Dues. Att. #8.**

The ECBT reviewed Att. #8, which presents the principles and procedures for setting individual member dues and information used by staff in formulating the recommendation that the 2015 dues rate for individual members be increased \$4 above the 2014 level.

The ECBT concurred with the staff and voted to recommend to the January 2014 Council that 2015 regular high dues be increased by \$4 (from \$180 to \$184).

**2.11 Report on AMS Student Chapters. Att. #9.**

The ECBT received the attached report on the student chapter program (Att. #9), which includes a list of the student chapters that have been approved by the Secretariat since the last ECBT meeting.

**2.12 Report on the Status of AMS Activity Groups. Att. #10.**

The ECBT received the attached report on the status of AMS activity groups (Att. #10).

**2.13 Approval of Proposals Submitted to Funding Agencies and Foundations. Att. #19.**

Board authorization is required for the planning, preparation, and submission of proposals of \$100,000 or more intended for submission to a government agency or private foundation.

It was reported that the following proposals, which were approved by the November 2012 BT, have been submitted:

1. Mathematics Research Communities (MRCs), 2014-2016, second renewal, \$1,377,171 requested, submitted to NSF January 2013. The proposal has been approved and funded for \$1,242,171.
2. Travel Grants for the 2014 International Congress of Mathematicians, \$319,500 requested, submitted to NSF April 2014. Funded for \$319,750.

The following proposal, which was approved by the May 2013 BT, has been submitted:

1. AMS-Simons Travel Grants, 2014-2018, first renewal, \$882,000. The proposal has been approved by the Simons Foundation.

The following proposals, which were approved by the May 2013 BT, are being prepared and will be submitted:

1. Private foundation proposal for support to accelerate the development of MathJax
2. NSF proposal for 2015 Summer Institute in Algebraic Geometry
3. NSF proposal Math In Moscow, support for student participants, renewal

Details are included in **Att. #19**, which also describes the following proposal that is being prepared and is planned for submission to NSF in early 2014:

1. CBMS2015: A Study of Undergraduate Programs in the Mathematical and Statistical Sciences in the United States.

The BT approved the preparation and submission of the CBMS2015 proposal.

On November 12, 2013 Ron Rosier (Executive Director of CBMS) asked the AMS for assistance with a pending proposal to the Infrastructure Program of NSF/DMS for “Supporting the Conference Series: NSF/CBMS Regional Research Conferences in the Mathematical Sciences.” The funding requested would cover three years of conferences and five years of publishing of the expository monographs resulting from the conferences. CBMS submitted the proposal to NSF last February and it has been recommended for funding by the Infrastructure Program. However, the NSF Division of Grants and Agreements wants a grant to be overseen by an organization better able in terms of staffing to administer the grant. Ron Rosier has asked the AMS to help in this way. The proposal has been modified slightly so that the award would be made by the NSF to the AMS and then a subaward would be made by the AMS to CBMS. AMS Associate Executive Director Jim Maxwell will serve as Principal Investigator, and Ron Rosier will be Principal Investigator of the subaward. The modified proposal has a five-year budget of approximately \$295,000 and 94% of this would pass through to CBMS. The BT approved the preparation and submission of this proposal.

## **2.14 Motions of the Secretary.**

The following motions were approved by acclamation:

*The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of the American Mathematical Society record their thanks to Bryna Kra for her service to the Society as a member of the Executive Committee during the past four years. The ECBT expresses its gratitude to Professor Kra for her thoughtful participation and hopes that she will continue to be available to serve the Society in other ways.*

*The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of the American Mathematical Society record their thanks to Ronald J. Stern for his service to the Society as a member of the Board of Trustees during the past five years. The ECBT expresses its gratitude to Professor Stern for his wisdom in contributing to the management of the Society and hopes to be able to draw upon his talents again.*

<b>2C EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES CONSENT ITEMS</b>
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**2C.1 May 2013 ECBT Meeting.**

The ECBT approved the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees held May 17-18, 2013, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, which had been distributed separately. These minutes include:

- ECBT open minutes prepared by the Secretary of the Society  
[www.ams.org/secretary/ecbt-minutes/ecbt-minutes-0513.pdf](http://www.ams.org/secretary/ecbt-minutes/ecbt-minutes-0513.pdf)
- ECBT "open" executive session minutes prepared by the Secretary of the Society  
[www.ams.org/ecbt/0513-ecbt-excesession-mins.pdf](http://www.ams.org/ecbt/0513-ecbt-excesession-mins.pdf)

See also item 3C.1 (May 2013 BT closed executive session minutes).

**2C.2 Funding Project NExT Fellows for 2015.**

Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) is a program of the Mathematical Association of America that provides training for young mathematicians beginning their careers. The AMS has provided funding for six fellows at \$2,500 each since 2002.

AMS's participation in this program is reviewed every two years; it was last reviewed by the November 2012 ECBT and it was agreed to continue (with annual approvals on the ECBT consent agenda) until the next review in November 2014. Approval for the program in year x is usually given in November of year x-2.

The ECBT consented to a commitment of \$15,000 for Project NExT in 2015.

**2C.3 Free AMS Membership for MRC Participants.**

In an effort to encourage Mathematics Research Communities (MRC) participants to become engaged with the AMS and its programs, the ECBT approved the recommendation that all MRC participants, including senior organizers, be granted one year of free membership in the AMS for the year following their first MRC summer workshop.

<b>2I EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES INFORMATION ITEMS</b>
---

**2I.1 Changes in Registration Fees for Conferences, Employment Center or Short Course.**

The Executive Director is authorized to make changes in the above-mentioned registration fees and then inform the ECBT. There have been no changes made since the May 2013 ECBT meeting.

**2I.2 AMS Congressional Fellow.**

The AMS is sponsoring Karen Saxe (Macalester College) as the AMS-AAAS Congressional Fellow for 2013-14. Karen is working in the offices of Senator Al Franken (D-MN).

The AMS again plans to sponsor a Congressional Fellow in 2014-15. The deadline for receipt of applications for that fellowship is February 15, 2014. An announcement and information on the application process has been sent to mathematical sciences department chairs, in addition to being publicized in the *Notices*, on the AMS website, in newsletters and through AMS social media outlets.

**2I.3 AAAS-AMS Mass Media Fellowship.**

The AMS sponsored Anna Haensch, who received her Ph.D. from Wesleyan University last spring, as the AMS-AAAS Mass Media Fellow this past summer. She held a position at National Public Radio (NPR). Her work there included writing about mathematical modeling of hormone levels and how they affect choosing a mate; mathematical algorithms that examine large data sets to better understand the relationship between cancerous cells and cancer drugs; muscle fatigue in long distance runners; and studying the genome of ancient vs. modern day leprosy.

The AMS plans to sponsor a Mass Media Fellow again in 2014. The deadline for receipt of applications for that fellowship is January 15, 2014. An announcement and information on the application process has been sent to graduate students in the mathematical sciences, in addition to being publicized in the *Notices*, on the AMS website, in newsletters and through AMS social media outlets.

**2I.4 Public Policy Award.**

The Washington Office will schedule an office visit soon to present this award to the first chosen recipient, Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-12-CA).

**2I.5 AWM-AMS Noether Lecturer Procedures. Att. #23.**

The Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) proposed that the AWM Noether Lecture become the AWM-AMS Noether Lecture. This annual lecture at the Joint Mathematics Meetings (JMM) is a very prestigious and well-attended event, with a thirty-two year history of distinguished speakers. The proposal was approved by the April 2013 Council.

Procedures for implementing the joint lecture have been agreed to by the AMS and AWM. Att. #23 is the Memorandum of Understanding stating the procedures.

**2I.6 Charge for the Beal Prize Committee. Att. #27.**

The oversight by the AMS of the Beal Prize includes appointment by the AMS of a prize committee. The charge of the prize committee, which has been recommended by the Committee on the Profession to the January 2014 Council for approval, is attached (#27).

<b>3 BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>
--

**3.1 Budget Review.**

The BT discussed items 3.1.1 through 3.2.5 and then voted to approve the 2014 budget as presented (subject to the discussion of item 3E.4 [Salary Increments for 2014] in closed executive session).

**3.1.1 Discussion of Fiscal Reports.**

The BT received and discussed various fiscal reports, as well as a memo discussing major variances between 2013 projections and the 2013 budget, and between 2013 projections and the 2014 budget. See 3.1.

**3.1.2 Capital Expenditures – 2013 and 2014 Capital Purchase Plans.**

The BT reviewed the 2013 and 2014 capital purchase plans and approved the 2014 plan as part of the 2014 budget. See item 3.1.

**3.1.3 Capital Expenditures - Approval of Specific Purchases.**

This agenda item is reserved for requests for authorization to make specific large purchases (items costing \$100,000 or more). It was noted that there was an estimated Ann Arbor facility renovation cost of \$125,000 included in the capital plan for 2013. Staff expects to carry this forward to 2014. The BT will be asked to approve this purchase when plans for the renovation are finalized.

**3.2 Spendable Income, Operations Support Fund and Other Related Items. Att. #12.**

The Society uses its long-term investments for several purposes, and for that reason it divides its investments into various funds. The following five standing items deal with those funds – additions, transfers and spending. The description of the way in which the AMS uses its long-term investment portfolio is summarized in Att. #12.

### **3.2.1 Addition to Operations Support Fund (OSF).**

The BT approved the following recommendations from the Chief Financial Officer:

- Use the amount due operations from the long-term investment portfolio at 12/31/13 (estimated to be approximately \$2,079,000) to fulfill any obligation to maintain the value of true endowment funds at their original gift amount.
- Any remaining operating funds in the long-term investment portfolio should remain there and be officially added to the OSF.

### **3.2.2 Rebalancing of Economic Stabilization and Operational Support Funds.**

Under the policy adopted by the May 2006 Board of Trustees, at the end of each fiscal year the allocated values of the Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF) and the Operations Support Fund (OSF) are rebalanced such that the ESF always equals the target balance.

The amount and direction of the rebalancing required at each year end is principally dependent upon the return on the long-term investment portfolio. If the long-term investment portfolio maintains a positive return through year end, it is likely that the transfer will be in the direction of ESF to OSF in 2013.

### **3.2.3 Allocation of Operations Support Fund (OSF) Spendable Income.**

The May 2001 Board of Trustees approved the following (see item 2E.5 of those minutes):

*Income from reserves should be allocated to each year's budget to service and outreach programs of the Society (without specifying exactly which programs). The total amount should be approved by the May ECBT, when revenue projections for the following year are made.*

The income from the OSF for 2013 and 2014 (determined according to the guidelines approved by the BT) are \$1,438,000 and 1,776,000, respectively. Both the 2013 and 2014 amounts have been previously approved.

### **3.2.4 Appropriation of Spendable Income from Unrestricted Endowment. Att. #24.**

The May 2001 Board of Trustees approved the following (from item 2E.5 of the minutes of that meeting):

*Each year, the budgeting process will include recommendations for allocating spendable income from the Unrestricted Endowment for specific projects. The allocated income will be treated as revenue for operations, offsetting (part of) the expenses. These*

*recommendations will be brought to the Board for approval at its November meeting in the normal budgeting process. The goal will not be to use all the income from such funds each year, but rather to use some of the income every year for the support of mathematical research and scholarship. Using such income should be a regular part of our operations rather than an exceptional situation.*

The 2014 revenue budget currently includes \$242,400 of spendable income from true endowment funds whose use of income is unrestricted. The BT approved the appropriations as presented in [Att. #24](#).

### **3.2.5 Report on Changes in Appropriated Spendable Income and Use of EISF Funds. Att. #13 and Att. #14.**

The Executive Director has the authority to transfer spendable income that will not be used on an approved project to another approved project, in case additional support is needed.

The Executive Director reported as follows regarding recent changes in appropriated spendable income. See also [Att. #13](#) which shows amounts remaining from the appropriated spendable income from prior years.

- In 2011, support of \$60,000 for the Young Scholars Math Camp Conference was approved in the budget from the appropriated spendable income. This income was deferred to future years, as the conference did not occur until 2013. The conference required very little support, so there is approximately \$54,000 remaining in these funds. \$20,000 of these funds will be used in 2014 to fund additional Epsilon grants above and beyond the \$100,000 funded by restricted spendable income.
- The total amount of appropriated spendable income unspent from prior years is \$133,976. \$25,000 of the unspent funds will be used in 2014 to partially fund the Centennial Fellowship.

In 2012, the BT approved the creation of the Endowment Income Stabilization Fund (EISF) to be used to supplement the spendable income from endowment funds when the spendable income is not enough to support a prize or award. The BT approved the Chief Financial Officer's recommendation that the EISF be used to supplement the endowment funds outlined in [Att. #14](#).

### **3.3 Investment Committee Report.**

The Chair of the Investment Committee, Jane Hawkins, reported that the Committee met on November 22, 2013. The Committee made the following recommendations to the BT, which were approved:



- Move \$1,000,000 from the Cohen & Steers REIT Fund to the Vanguard REIT fund.
- Move funds from the Endowment Income Stabilization Fund, invested in the Vanguard Intermediate-Term Investment Grade Bond fund, to the intermediate-term portion of the operating portfolio.

**3.4 Audit Committee Report.**

The Chair of the Audit Committee, Jane Hawkins, reported that the Committee met on November 22, 2013 with representatives from the Society's auditing firm of CBIZ Tofias & Mayer Hoffman McCann P.C. to discuss audit planning and any changes in accounting pronouncements affecting the AMS; and with the Society's insurance agent from Starkweather & Shepley to discuss risk management issues.

**3.5 Report on the Personify Project. Att. #15.**

The BT received the attached report (#15) on the Personify association management software project.

**3.6 Trustees' Officers.**

The Board elected William Jaco, Chair of the Board for the term February 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015.

The Board re-elected Zbigniew Nitecki Secretary of the Board for the term February 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015.

**3.7 Trustees' Committees, etc. Att. #16.**

Board Chair Green made the appointments/assignments as shown on the attached list (#16).

<b>3C BOARD OF TRUSTEES CONSENT ITEMS</b>
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**3C.1 May 2013 BT Closed Executive Session Meeting.**

The BT approved the minutes of the closed executive session meeting of the Board of Trustees held May 18, 2013, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, which had been distributed separately.

**3C.2 Request for Support of Speakers at 2015 AAAS Annual Meeting.**

The BT authorized \$12,000 to support mathematics speakers at the 2015 AAAS annual meeting and agreed to permit the Secretary of Section A to over-commit funds up to 20%, with the understanding that the goal is not to exceed \$12,000.

**3C.3 Resolutions for Retirees.**

The BT approved the following resolution for each of the employees listed below who have recently retired (or will retire before the next BT meeting):

<b>Carol Couto</b>	<b>34 Years</b>
<b>James W. Maxwell</b>	<b>29 Years</b>
<b>Margaret R. Meenan</b>	<b>25 Years</b>
<b>Patricia Zinni</b>	<b>35 Years</b>

*Be it resolved that the Trustees accept the retirement of <name> with deep appreciation for <his or her> faithful service over a period of <x> years. The Board expresses its profound gratitude for this long record of faithful service. It is through the dedication and service of its employees that the Society is able to effectively serve its members and the greater mathematical community. The Trustees offer <name> their special thanks and heartfelt good wishes for a happy and well-deserved retirement.*

**3C.4 Recognition for Length of Service.**

The BT approved the following proclamations for the employees noted:

**20 years of service:**

**Sandra M. Breen  
Peter D. MacKay  
Karen A. Ouellette  
Gregory P. Rumowicz  
Elena M. Rusina  
Jeffrey J. Simons  
Jennifer Wright-Sharp**

*The Board of Trustees takes great pride in recognizing <name> for twenty years of faithful service. It is through the dedication and service of its employees that the Society is able to effectively serve its members and the greater mathematical community. The Trustees offer <name> their special thanks and their best wishes.*

**25 years of service:**

**Neil G. Bartholomew  
David M. Dalton  
Alan Harder  
Erol Ozil  
Peter B. Sykes**

*The Board of Trustees takes great pride in recognizing <name> who has devoted twenty-five years of service to the Society. The Board expresses its profound gratitude for this long record of faithful service. It is through the dedication and service of its employees that the Society is able to effectively serve its members and the greater mathematical community. The Trustees offer their special thanks and their best wishes to <name> for being such a loyal employee and wish him/her well in the future.*

**30 years of service:**

**Cheryl Norato  
Lori A. Sprague**

*The Board of Trustees takes great pride in recognizing <name> for the outstanding distinction of serving the Society for thirty years. The Board expresses its profound gratitude for this long record of faithful service to the Society. It is through the dedication and service of its employees that the Society is able to effectively serve its members and the greater mathematical community. The Trustees offer their special thanks and their best wishes to this loyal employee.*

**35 years of service:**

**Maryse A. Brouwers**

*The Board of Trustees takes great pride in recognizing Maryse A. Brouwers for the outstanding distinction of serving the Society for thirty-five years. The Board expresses its profound gratitude for this long record of faithful service. It is through the dedication and service of its employees that the Society is able to effectively serve its members and the greater mathematical community. The Trustees offer their special thanks and their best wishes to Maryse for being such a loyal employee and wish him/her well in the future.*

**40 years of service:**

**Kyle T. Antonevich  
Penelope Pina**

*The Board of Trustees takes great pride in recognizing <name> for the outstanding distinction of serving the Society for forty years. The Board expresses its profound gratitude for this long record of faithful service. It is through the dedication and service of its employees that the Society is able to effectively serve its members and the greater mathematical community. The Trustees offer their special thanks and their best wishes to <name> for being such a loyal employee and wish him well in the future.*

**45 years of service:**

**Barbara J. Veznaian**

*The Board of Trustees takes great pride in recognizing Barbara J. Veznaian who has devoted forty-five years of service to the Society. The Board expresses its profound gratitude for this outstanding distinction of faithful service. It is through the dedication and service of its employees that the Society is able to effectively serve its members and the greater mathematical community. The Trustees offer their special thanks and their best wishes to Barbara for being such a loyal employee and wish her well in the future.*

**3C.5 Retirement Plan Amendments. Att. #30.**

The BT approved the attached amendment to the AMS Retirement Plan (Att. #30), which will effect the following two changes:

- Exclude service award, computing benefit and bonus payments, as well as the value of gift cards from the definition of compensation. When the current Plan was implemented in 1989, the intent was to make pension contributions on regular compensation only. The only forms of additional compensation currently excluded from pensionable earnings are severance, overtime, and any program of deferred compensation or additional benefits payable other than in cash. These other payments were not envisioned at that time and over the years the Society has expanded the types of payments made to staff. Because those payments are not specifically excluded from the definition of compensation in the Plan language, pension contributions must be made on them. Excluding these additional payments will simplify the administration of the Plan and retain the original intent with regard to Society contributions.

- Allow the rehire of individuals scheduled to work less than 1,000 hours in a Plan Year and remove the requirement that the Society continue to make retirement contributions on behalf of those individuals upon rehire. Currently, if a past employee previously qualified to participate in the Retirement Plan is rehired, the Society is required to continue to make retirement contributions on behalf of the individual upon rehire. By changing the language to exclude individuals scheduled for less than 1,000 hours, the Society will have the flexibility to bring retired staff back to assist with special projects or provide support during staff transitions. Individuals hired to work less than 1,000 hours, who have not previously qualified for participation in the Plan, are currently excluded from participation in the Plan. They will continue to be excluded, unless they qualify for participation by working 1,000 hours or more in a Plan Year.

### **3C.6 Tax-deferred Annuity Plan Amendments. Att. #31.**

The BT approved the attached amendment to the AMS Tax-Deferred Annuity Plan (Att. #31), which will effect the following two changes:

- Exclude service award, computing benefit and bonus payments, as well as the value of gift cards from the definition of Compensation and Credited Compensation. This will remove the mandatory contribution requirement from these specific types of compensation. When the current TDA Plan was implemented in 1989, the intent was for employees to make mandatory contributions on regular compensation only. The only forms of additional compensation currently excluded from mandatory contributions are severance, overtime, and any program of deferred compensation or additional benefits payable other than in cash. These other payments were not envisioned at that time and over the years the Society has expanded the types of payments made to staff. Because those payments are not specifically excluded from Credited Compensation in the TDA Plan language, they are subject to the mandatory contribution requirement. Excluding these additional payments will simplify the administration of the Plan and retain the original intent with regard to employee contributions. Individuals will continue to be eligible to make voluntary contributions under the TDA Plan up to the maximum allowed by law.
- Remove the mandatory contribution requirement for individuals who have previously qualified to participate in the AMS Retirement Plan and are rehired and scheduled to work less than 1,000 in a Plan Year. These individuals will continue to be eligible to make voluntary contributions to the TDA Plan up to the maximum allowed by law.

<b>3I BOARD OF TRUSTEES INFORMATION ITEMS</b>
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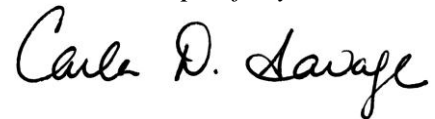
**3I.1 Small Changes in Fringe Benefits.**

The November 1996 BT authorized the Executive Director to approve changes in benefit plans (except for those changes which would significantly enhance or degrade the Society's financial health or relations with its employees) and asked that these changes be reported to the BT when appropriate. There were no changes to report at this meeting.

**3I.2 Retirement Plan Investment Committee Report. Att. #18.**

The BT received the attached report from the Retirement Plan Investment Committee (Att. #18).

*Respectfully submitted,*



*Carla D. Savage, Secretary  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
January 8, 2014*



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Carla D. Savage, Secretary

**SECRETARIAT  
Business by Mail  
June 1, 2013**

**MINUTES  
from the Ballot dated May 1, 2013**

There were five votes cast by Georgia Benkart, Brian Boe, Michel Lapidus, Carla Savage, and Steven Weintraub.

1. Approved electing to membership the individuals named on the list dated April 20, 2013.
2. Approved the request that the Sixth International Conference on Science and Mathematics Education in Developing Countries, Mandalay, Myanmar, November 1-3, 2013 be held in cooperation with the AMS.
3. Approved the minutes of the Secretariat Business by Mail from the ballot dated April 1, 2013.

Carla D. Savage



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**Carla D. Savage, Secretary**

**SECRETARIAT  
Business by Mail  
July 1, 2013**

**MINUTES  
from the Ballot dated June 1, 2013**

There were five votes cast by Georgia Benkart, Brian Boe, Michel Lapidus, Carla Savage, and Steven Weintraub.

1. Approved electing to membership the individuals named on the list dated May 20, 2013.
2. Approved the minutes of the Secretariat Business by Mail from the ballot dated May 1, 2013.

Carla D. Savage





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Carla D. Savage, Secretary

**SECRETARIAT  
Business by Mail  
August 1, 2013**

**MINUTES  
from the Ballot dated July 1, 2013**

There were five votes cast by Georgia Benkart, Brian Boe, Michel Lapidus, Carla Savage, and Steven Weintraub.

1. Approved electing to membership the individuals named on the list dated June 20, 2013.
2. Approved the minutes of the Secretariat Business by Mail from the ballot dated June 1, 2013.
3. Approved the petition from Boston College to establish a graduate student chapter.
4. Approved the petition from The University at Albany to establish a graduate student chapter.

Carla D. Savage



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**Carla D. Savage, Secretary**

**SECRETARIAT  
Business by Mail  
September 1, 2013**

**MINUTES  
from the Ballot dated August 1, 2013**

There were five votes cast by Georgia Benkart, Brian Boe, Michel Lapidus, Carla Savage, and Steven Weintraub.

1. Approved electing to membership the individuals named on the list dated July 20, 2013.
2. Approved the minutes of the Secretariat Business by Mail from the ballot dated July 1, 2013.
3. Approved the petition from Utah State University to establish a graduate student chapter.

Carla D. Savage



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Carla D. Savage, Secretary

**SECRETARIAT  
Business by Mail  
October 1, 2013**

**MINUTES  
from the Ballot dated September 1, 2013**

There were five votes cast by Georgia Benkart, Brian Boe, Michel Lapidus, Carla Savage, and Steven Weintraub.

1. Approved electing to membership the individuals named on the list dated August 20, 2013.
2. Approved the minutes of the Secretariat Business by Mail from the ballot dated August 1, 2013.
3. Approved the petition from Bryn Mawr to establish a graduate student chapter.
4. Approved the petition from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln to establish a graduate student chapter.
5. Approved a proposal from Rutgers University to host an AMS Eastern Sectional Meeting on November 14-15, 2015.
6. Approved the JMC's choice of Jan 6-9, 2021, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC as the location and date of the 2021 JMM.
7. Approved changing the date of the 2015 Southeastern Sectional Spring Meeting at the University of Alabama, Hunstville from March 20-22 to March 27-29.

Carla D. Savage



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Carla D. Savage, Secretary

**SECRETARIAT  
Business by Mail  
November 1, 2013**

**MINUTES  
from the Ballot dated October 1, 2013**

There were five votes cast by Georgia Benkart, Brian Boe, Michel Lapidus, Carla Savage, and Steven Weintraub.

1. Approved electing to membership the individuals named on the attached list dated September 20, 2013.
2. Approved the minutes of the Secretariat Business by Mail from the ballot dated September 1, 2013.
3. Approved a petition from Purdue University to establish a graduate student chapter.
4. Approved a petition from University of Minnesota to establish a graduate student chapter.
5. Approved a petition from Texas A&M University to establish a graduate student chapter.
6. Approved a request for the USA-Uzbekistan Conference on Analysis and Mathematical Physics to be held on the campus of California State University, Fullerton, May 20-23, 2014 to be held in cooperation with the AMS.
7. Approved a proposal from the University of Memphis to host the Fall 2015 Southeastern Sectional Meeting on Oct. 17-18, 2015.
8. Approved a proposal from Michigan State University to host the Spring 2015 Central Sectional Meeting on Mar. 13-15, 2015.

Carla D. Savage

**Committee on the Profession  
September 28-29, 2013  
AMS Headquarters  
Providence, RI**

The Committee on the Profession (CoProf) held its annual meeting on September 28-29, 2013, at the AMS Headquarters in Providence, Rhode Island. Abigail Thompson, University of California, Davis, chaired the meeting. Highlights of that meeting are provided below.

***Regular agenda items:***

- **Annual review:** CoProf's annual review, conducted by a subcommittee, was on the topic of the increased communication and cooperation with other disciplines. The subcommittee made a number of recommendations in the following areas:
  - Cooperate in advocacy
  - Cooperate in interdisciplinary science and increase awareness
  - Cooperate in education
  - Get a bigger megaphoneCoProf accepted the report of the subcommittee, which agreed to continue to work by email to provide specific ways in which their recommendations could be accomplished.
- **2013 Information Statement on the Culture of Research and Scholarship in Mathematics:** The Committee on the Profession has been making a series of statements that highlight ways in which the traditions of mathematics differ from those in other disciplines, especially other sciences and engineering. This year, CoProf considered a statement concerning the undergraduate research in mathematics. The statement was revised and approved, and appears at the end of this report. It has been posted on the AMS web site.
- **Programs that Make a Difference:** Each year, CoProf recognizes at most two programs that: (1) aim to bring more persons from underrepresented backgrounds into some portion of the pipeline beginning at the undergraduate level and leading to an advanced degree in mathematics, or retain them in the pipeline; (2) have achieved documentable success in doing so; and (3) are replicable models. The deadline for nominations was September 13, 2013, for programs to be considered for the 2014 recognition. The subcommittee will make its decision and request that it be approved by CoProf before December 1. Three nominations were continued from last year; we received five new nominations. The one or two programs that are chosen will be featured in the May 2014 issue of the *Notices* and will be presented on a web site linked to the AMS home page. The program recognized in 2013 was the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics.
- **CoProf Panel at the 2014 JMM:** CoProf will have a panel on January 15, 4:30 – 6 pm, at the 2014 Joint Mathematics Meeting in San Diego. The panel, *Online Courses:*

*Benefits and Pitfalls*, will be moderated by Abigail Thompson, University of California, Davis.

**Panel description:** *Massive open online courses (MOOCs) are currently developing at a rapid pace. Their educational potential and possible effect on the structure of colleges and universities are hot topics in higher education. This panel aims to discuss the potential impact on students, faculty and mathematics departments. How is student learning in a MOOC different from in a conventional classroom environment? What kinds of support do students need at their home institutions? How will allowing students to take MOOCs for credit, in lieu of traditional courses, affect departments at the home institutions? How should the mathematics community respond to this trend? The panel will aim to discuss these and other questions concerning MOOCs.*

- **Reports:** The following staff reports were included in the CoProf agenda:
  - **Report on the Department Chairs Workshop**, written by Anita Benjamin of the Washington Office
  - **Report on Membership**, written by Diane Boumenot, manager of the Member and Programs Department
  - **Report on Employment Services of the AMS**, written by Diane Boumenot, manager of the Member and Programs Department
  - **Report on Student Chapters**, written by Diane Boumenot, manager of the Member and Programs Department
  - **Report on the Mathematics Research Communities**, written by Ellen Maycock, Associate Executive Director of Meetings and Professional Services

**Agenda items that have been endorsed by CoProf and will be taken to the Council for consideration:**

- **Best practices for prizes:** CoProf endorsed the *AMS Prize Committee Best Practices* document, which was written by the Prize Oversight Subcommittee and modeled after a similar document created by the American Chemical Society for their prize committees. The document, which is included at the end of this report, is intended to encourage practices that should be helpful towards maximizing fairness and thoughtfulness in prize decisions, including practices that encourage diligence and that may be useful in reducing unconscious bias.
- **Prize nominations for multiple years:** CoProf endorsed a recommendation to keep prize nominations active for multiple cycles subject to compatibility with the prize terms.
- **Beal Prize Committee charge:** CoProf endorsed the following charge to the Beal Prize Committee:

**General Description**

- Committee is standing
- Number of members is three. Members are appointed by the AMS President.
- Term is six years. A member can serve two consecutive terms, but not more.

### Principal Activities

The committee is responsible for overseeing determination of the validity of a claim that the Beal Prize Conjecture has been proved or that a counterexample has been found. The procedure for determining if an award of the prize is warranted shall be approved by the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT) and Council and documented in Minutes of the ECBT and Council. A recommendation by the prize committee to award the prize shall be made to the ECBT for its approval.

- **San Francisco Declaration:** CoProf recommended that the Council vote to endorse this declaration, which is included at the end of this report.
- **Joint Committee on Women items:**
  - **JCW charge:** CoProf endorsed the proposed charge for the Joint Committee on Women. This charge has already been approved by the governing bodies of the other societies participating in the joint committee.

The Joint Committee on Women serves primarily as a forum for communication among member organizations about the ways in which each organization enhances opportunities for women in the mathematical and statistical sciences. JCW disseminates information about effective mechanisms and best practices for these enhancements through media such as its website, society publications, and presentations at meetings of the member societies. The Committee also may recommend actions to the governing bodies of the member societies in support of these opportunities.

Areas of attention include, but are not limited to: attracting women to mathematical and statistical sciences, retaining and advancing women in their careers, creating a professional community that is welcoming and supportive regardless of gender, and supporting the adoption of practices that minimize the potential for bias.

- **JCW member from AMATYC:** CoProf endorsed the proposal that the Joint Committee on Women have a representative from the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges. This proposal has already been approved by the governing bodies of the other societies participating in the joint committee.
- **Welcoming environment policy:** The JCW has recommended that each participating society consider formulating a policy that would address the issue of sexual harassment at its meetings. CoProf recommended that a subcommittee be formed to discuss this recommendation, with one member each from CoProf, CoMC and CoWIM.
- **Fellows Selection Committee:** The Fellows Selection Committee presented a report to CoProf with several recommendations.
  - CoProf endorsed the proposal that no self-nominations be allowed.

- CoProf endorsed the following statement, which, if approved by the Council, would be added to the charge of the Fellows Selection Committee: "Current members of the Selection Committee may not participate in a Fellows nomination either as a principal nominator or as a supporting member."
- **Joint Committee on Mathematicians with Disabilities:** CoProf endorsed the proposal brought by the AMS Secretary that this committee be disbanded, as these issues are better addressed by other existing committees.

*Agenda items relating to prizes:*

- **Report from the Prize Oversight Subcommittee:** The Prize Oversight Subcommittee brought a number of ideas and recommendations to CoProf for consideration. Several of the recommendations were endorsed by CoProf and will be brought to the January 2014 Council meeting. Additionally, CoProf discussed the possibility of new prizes, and agreed to recommend to the Development Committee that the AMS consider establishing a mid-career prize named after an exceptional female mathematician with selection criteria having nothing to do with gender. CoProf also agreed that one or more new prizes should be established in specific areas of mathematics not currently being recognized. CoProf also discussed the recommendation that a prize canvassing committee should be created. CoProf requested that the Prize Oversight Subcommittee make specific suggestions on this topic.
- **Beal Prize procedures:** CoProf deferred taking action on a proposed set of procedures for the Beal Prize until an attorney has reviewed the procedures.
- **Review of the amount and frequency of research prizes:** CoProf has unanimously approved the following recommendation to the ECBT by electronic vote:
  - The Committee on the Profession makes the following recommendation:
    - that the Steele Prize for Lifetime Achievement be increased to \$10,000;
    - that the Prize Oversight Subcommittee continue to discuss the review of the amount and frequency of prizes in a careful manner.

*Other business:*

- **Adjunctification of academia:** There has been concern that academic departments now employ large numbers of faculty who are not in tenured or tenure-track positions. CoProf formed a subcommittee to consider this issue in mathematics. Based on the report that the subcommittee presented to CoProf, it was decided that the subcommittee should write up a best practices document that could be posted on the AMS website once it is approved by the Council.
- **Life membership formula.** An AMS member requested that the AMS consider altering its current formula for Life membership. A majority of CoProf members was satisfied with the current structure and no changes were recommended.



- **Endorsement of the Budapest Semester.** The AMS was asked to endorse the Budapest Semester in Mathematics. No process is currently in place for the AMS to make such an endorsement. CoProf agreed that this is an excellent program, but at this time will not move ahead with an endorsement.
- **CoWIM report:** The newly formed Committee on Women in Mathematics made a report to CoProf, which listed a number of topics that were being discussed by the committee. CoProf recommended that CoWIM discuss family leave policies for all faculty in addition to graduate students. Also, CoProf recommended that CoWIM should discuss the use of GRE scores for graduate programs.
- **Centennial Fellowship parameters:** At the May 2013 ECBT meeting, concern was expressed about the current level and the use of funding for the Centennial Fellowship. CoProf felt that these were acceptable and decided that no changes were needed.
- **Standing Committee on Members and Member Benefits:** At its meeting in September 2011, CoProf voted to establish a standing Committee on Member and Member Benefits, but no one was appointed to serve on the committee. At the 2013 meeting, CoProf members were appointed to this committee.

*Next meeting:* The Committee on the Profession will hold its next meeting on September 13 - 14, 2014, at Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport Hotel. The Committee selected the Society's activities in the area of increasing participation at all levels of under-represented groups (e.g. women, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans) as the topic of the 2014 annual review. This topic was last reviewed in 2005. A subcommittee will determine if the 2008 information statement should be updated. The topic for the 2014 information statement on the culture of mathematics has not yet been determined.

*Ellen J. Maycock  
Associate Executive Director  
October, 2013*

## **2013 Statement**

### **The Culture of Research and Scholarship in Mathematics: Undergraduate Research in Mathematics**

The role of undergraduate research in mathematics has features which distinguish it from similar activities in other disciplines. These differences should be understood in evaluating the participation of mathematics departments and individual mathematicians in undergraduate research.

Both demand and opportunities for undergraduate research (UR) in mathematics have increased steadily in recent years, and there is currently much excitement in the mathematics community about supporting these types of activities<sup>1</sup>, which include independent study on research projects during the academic year; organized and externally supported research activities during the summer; and informal summer research experiences run by individual faculty. These can be a powerful way to draw students into mathematics. Simultaneously, there is growing pressure from universities on faculty in all STEM disciplines to engage undergraduates in research, in order to recruit, and then retain, the best students.

One salient aspect of UR activities is that it primarily is a *teaching* effort on the part of faculty, not a research one.<sup>2</sup> Undergraduate research in mathematics is not an automatic side effect of faculty research and is usually a major undertaking for a faculty member. It usually takes 2-3 years to bring PhD students from a solid knowledge of the undergraduate curriculum to a level at which they can, even with considerable supervision, engage in mathematical research; bringing an undergraduate to the forefront of research is very unusual. Opportunities for such UR are unevenly distributed across subfields. While some UR activities have been spectacularly successful in having students participate in truly original research, and such outcomes are highly appreciated by the discipline, this is not considered the norm.

A related issue is that there is a difference between mathematics and laboratory disciplines, where students at various levels of knowledge and competency can contribute to a faculty member's own research program. In mathematics, such positive effects on faculty productivity, although not unknown, are rare.

In summary, UR requires concentrated and highly time-consuming faculty effort, which comes in addition to the duties of teaching, advising, and faculty research, and which often does not further the faculty member's research agenda. This means that, in deciding whether or not to supervise undergraduate students in research, a faculty member will need to weigh the benefits (to the students, the institution and possibly themselves) against the costs to their other professional obligations.

<sup>1</sup>See <http://www.ams.org/notices/201208/rtx120801112p.pdf>. The documents <http://www.ams.org/programs/edu-support/undergrad-research/PURMproceedings.pdf> and <http://www.ams.org/programs/edu-support/undergrad-research/REUproceedings.pdf> provide a non-exhaustive list of research experiences for undergraduates programs and information about how they run.

<sup>2</sup>Much of this Statement is informed by the responses to a CoProf survey. Of the department chairpersons contacted, 72% stated that undergraduate research is viewed as primarily a teaching effort, 16% as primarily a research effort, and 12% did not state an opinion.

## AMS Prize Committee Best Practices

The American Mathematical Society greatly appreciates the time and efforts of its prize selection committees and hopes that the procedures suggested below will help to maximize fairness of the selection process.

1. Prior to the Selection Committee deliberations, each committee member has an obligation to set aside sufficient time to consider each nominee in the pool. The committee itself should set aside sufficient time during its deliberations to consider each nominee in the pool and should apply consistent criteria for evaluating all candidates.
2. Prior to deliberating about particular candidates, the committee members should identify and agree upon the selection criteria that will be used in the evaluation process. The focus should be on what the candidate has done, not on who the candidate is. Committee members should identify the specific major contributions that nominees have made.
3. It is suggested that each committee member make a personal list of top nominees before hearing the recommendations of others to avoid undue influence. [If the committee members are nominating candidates, it is suggested that each committee member suggest at least one possible candidate and that all such suggestions are shared with the committee before any extensive deliberations take place; this may help ensure that no one committee member has undue influence on the process.]
4. Individually and collectively, selection committee members should strive to create short-lists via inclusive methods; i.e., select candidates who are outstanding rather than put forward reasons to eliminate candidates from consideration.
5. The committee should adhere to the attached AMS Conflict of Interest Statement.

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### Guidelines on Conflict of Interest for AMS Prize Selection Committees

*(as adopted by the January 4, 2007 AMS Council)*

It is difficult to draft legal rules regarding conflict of interest for prize committees. Individuals nominated for prizes are often so well known among the community that selection committee members may consider themselves colleagues. Nevertheless, a selection committee should avoid favoritism or the appearance of favoritism. And so some general guidelines on avoiding conflicts of interest are appropriate.

Selection Committee chairs and individual members need to consider the spirit of these guidelines, and members should recuse themselves or step down from the committee if they feel their participation might create an appearance of a conflict of interest.

Conflicts of interest (or the appearance of such conflicts) would most likely arise if:

1. the body of work (paper, significant piece of research, or the like) considered in the prize nomination was done by someone while a student or postdoc of the committee member;

2. the person nominated was a recent former student or postdoc of the committee member; or
3. the research being judged is in any way a collaborative effort between the committee member and the nominee.

Judging a nomination of a close friend may also create the appearance of a conflict of interest. Of course, no committee can seriously consider awarding a prize to one of its own members.

It is less clear what to do in cases where the nominee is a colleague -- a co-worker in the same department, for example. In such cases, the member of the selection committee and the chair should consider the circumstances and how they will appear to the community.

If the member of the prize selection committee feels there may be a conflict, he or she should consult with either the chair of the selection committee and/or the AMS Secretary. If after these discussions there does appear to be a conflict, the member should offer to recuse himself or herself, or to step down from the selection committee. If the possible conflict arises with the chair of the committee, then the AMS Secretary should consult with the AMS President and reach a consensus decision.

*The AMS thanks the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics for giving the AMS permission to adapt its policy.*

Direct questions about these Guidelines to the [AMS Secretary](#).

## *San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment*

### Putting science into the assessment of research

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There is a pressing need to improve the ways in which the output of scientific research is evaluated by funding agencies, academic institutions, and other parties.

To address this issue, a group of editors and publishers of scholarly journals met during the Annual Meeting of The American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) in San Francisco, CA, on December 16, 2012. The group developed a set of recommendations, referred to as the *San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment*. We invite interested parties across all scientific disciplines to indicate their support by adding their names to this Declaration.

The outputs from scientific research are many and varied, including: research articles reporting new knowledge, data, reagents, and software; intellectual property; and highly trained young scientists. Funding agencies, institutions that employ scientists, and scientists themselves, all have a desire, and need, to assess the quality and impact of scientific outputs. It is thus imperative that scientific output is measured accurately and evaluated wisely.

The Journal Impact Factor is frequently used as the primary parameter with which to compare the scientific output of individuals and institutions. The Journal Impact Factor, as calculated by Thomson Reuters, was originally created as a tool to help librarians identify journals to purchase, not as a measure of the scientific quality of research in an article. With that in mind, it is critical to understand that the Journal Impact Factor has a number of well-documented deficiencies as a tool for research assessment. These limitations include: A) citation distributions within journals are highly skewed [1–3]; B) the properties of the Journal Impact Factor are field-specific: it is a composite of multiple, highly diverse article types, including primary research papers and reviews [1, 4]; C) Journal Impact Factors can be manipulated (or “gamed”) by editorial policy [5]; and D) data used to calculate the Journal Impact Factors are neither transparent nor openly available to the public [4, 6, 7].

Below we make a number of recommendations for improving the way in which the quality of research output is evaluated. Outputs other than research articles will grow in importance in assessing research effectiveness in the future, but the peer-reviewed research paper will remain a central research output that informs research assessment. Our recommendations therefore focus primarily on practices relating to research articles published in peer-reviewed journals but can and should be extended by recognizing additional products, such as datasets, as important research outputs. These recommendations are aimed at funding agencies, academic institutions, journals, organizations that supply metrics, and individual researchers.

A number of themes run through these recommendations:

- the need to eliminate the use of journal-based metrics, such as Journal Impact Factors, in funding, appointment, and promotion considerations;
- the need to assess research on its own merits rather than on the basis of the journal in which the research is published; and
- the need to capitalize on the opportunities provided by online publication (such as

relaxing unnecessary limits on the number of words, figures, and references in articles, and exploring new indicators of significance and impact).

We recognize that many funding agencies, institutions, publishers, and researchers are already encouraging improved practices in research assessment. Such steps are beginning to increase the momentum toward more sophisticated and meaningful approaches to research evaluation that can now be built upon and adopted by all of the key constituencies involved.

The signatories of the *San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment* support the adoption of the following practices in research assessment.

### General Recommendation

1. Do not use journal-based metrics, such as Journal Impact Factors, as a surrogate measure of the quality of individual research articles, to assess an individual scientist's contributions, or in hiring, promotion, or funding decisions.

### For funding agencies

2. Be explicit about the criteria used in evaluating the scientific productivity of grant applicants and clearly highlight, especially for early-stage investigators, that the scientific content of a paper is much more important than publication metrics or the identity of the journal in which it was published.
3. For the purposes of research assessment, consider the value and impact of all research outputs (including datasets and software) in addition to research publications, and consider a broad range of impact measures including qualitative indicators of research impact, such as influence on policy and practice.

### For institutions

4. Be explicit about the criteria used to reach hiring, tenure, and promotion decisions, clearly highlighting, especially for early-stage investigators, that the scientific content of a paper is much more important than publication metrics or the identity of the journal in which it was published.
5. For the purposes of research assessment, consider the value and impact of all research outputs (including datasets and software) in addition to research publications, and consider a broad range of impact measures including qualitative indicators of research impact, such as influence on policy and practice.

### For publishers

6. Greatly reduce emphasis on the journal impact factor as a promotional tool, ideally by ceasing to promote the impact factor or by presenting the metric in the context of a variety of journal-based metrics (e.g., 5-year impact factor, EigenFactor [8], SCImago [9], *h*-index, editorial and publication times, etc.) that provide a richer view of journal performance.
7. Make available a range of article-level metrics to encourage a shift toward assessment based on the scientific content of an article rather than publication metrics of the journal in which it was published.
8. Encourage responsible authorship practices and the provision of information about

the specific contributions of each author.

9. Whether a journal is open-access or subscription-based, remove all reuse limitations on reference lists in research articles and make them available under the Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication [10].
10. Remove or reduce the constraints on the number of references in research articles, and, where appropriate, mandate the citation of primary literature in favor of reviews in order to give credit to the group(s) who first reported a finding.

#### For organizations that supply metrics

11. Be open and transparent by providing data and methods used to calculate all metrics.
12. Provide the data under a licence that allows unrestricted reuse, and provide computational access to data, where possible.
13. Be clear that inappropriate manipulation of metrics will not be tolerated; be explicit about what constitutes inappropriate manipulation and what measures will be taken to combat this.
14. Account for the variation in article types (e.g., reviews versus research articles), and in different subject areas when metrics are used, aggregated, or compared.

#### For researchers

15. When involved in committees making decisions about funding, hiring, tenure, or promotion, make assessments based on scientific content rather than publication metrics.
16. Wherever appropriate, cite primary literature in which observations are first reported rather than reviews in order to give credit where credit is due.
17. Use a range of article metrics and indicators on personal/supporting statements, as evidence of the impact of individual published articles and other research outputs [11].
18. Challenge research assessment practices that rely inappropriately on Journal Impact Factors and promote and teach best practice that focuses on the value and influence of specific research outputs.

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## **Report on the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee**

The 2013 meeting of the Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee (MREC) was held on Monday, October 14, in the Mathematical Reviews offices in Ann Arbor, Michigan. In attendance were committee members Andreas Frommer, Cameron Gordon, Jeffrey Lagarias, Barbara Keyfitz, Shigefumi Mori, Ronald Solomon (Chair), Donald McClure (AMS Executive Director), and Zbigniew Nitecki (AMS Associate Treasurer).

After the customary preliminaries, the meeting continued with informational items including overviews of the draft 2014 MR Operating Plan and the 2012 report of Projects and Activities. It was noted that new items for the Mathematical Reviews Database (MRDB) are currently processed at a rate of 450 items/day, with a planned increase to 500 items/day by the end of 2013. This will result in the addition of over 125,000 items to the MR database in 2013. The last issue of paper MR was published in December 2012, which will facilitate the transition from TeX to LaTeX. MR has added 33 new journals to the database in 2013, and currently downloads 1,193 journals compared to 1,158 in 2012. Staffing changes include the hiring of Chris Elmer and Steve Damelin as associate editors to fill the vacancies arising from Arthur Greenspoon's sudden passing and Darla Kremer's resignation. The total number of MR staff is now 75 (71.45 FTEs).

Of MR's over 15,000 voluntary reviewers, 75-80% have agreed to accept PDF versions of papers for review. Negotiations with publishers to allow this practice have been mostly successful, but negotiations with Taylor and Francis have stalled, and MR coverage of that publisher has temporarily ceased. A demonstration was given of the new Author Profile Pages, which will allow authors to edit their contact and personal information and upload a photograph. This enhancement of MathSciNet will be released before the end of 2013. Initially, access will be restricted to authors at subscribing institutions.

A synopsis of the committee's actions and discussion of agenda items follows.

Don McClure presented an article by Peter J. Olver from the Notices which indicated that Mathematical Reviews seems to contain fewer real reviews, but rather publishes "mere restatements of abstracts." Don then presented a survey that he had conducted using 400 articles from the MSN database, making for each a yes/no judgment of "value-added". The percentage of value-added reviews changed from 54.5% in 1991 to 47% in 2011; the sample did not include any database expansion items. The sample size was adequate for the finding to be statistically significant. The committee then had a discussion involving some of the following points and questions: there are issues with the amount of literature being published versus reviewers to review it; more needs to be done to educate reviewers so that they recognize that reviews are scholarly work and of considerable value to the community; defining "value added" reviews can be difficult, as some reviewers like to include the words "this is great" in every review; if an article is of poor quality, is it MR's job to point that out, or should the publisher be responsible?

Norman Richert presented information on the treatment of items for the MR Database. Of all of the regular items, about 20% are Indexed, meaning that they do not have a review. The

committee then discussed key issues such as: Could the 20% Indexed items be made into inhouse summaries instead? (It is estimated that approximately three additional staff members would be required to handle the processing of these summaries.) Does a summary add value to the database? Opinions on both sides were expressed.

The committee unanimously approved 19 journals for addition to the collection of Reference List Journals (RLJs). One additional journal, Communications in Applied Analysis, was rejected when it was determined that its editorial board includes several deceased members.

Don McClure noted that there has been growing interest in reviews of historical mathematical works. It was suggested that MR could solicit retrospective reviews of classic mathematical papers as a possible way to increase MR's visibility in the community, and add value to the MRDB. An editor suggested that outside help would be required for fairness. It was agreed that the potential for this project was sufficient to warrant further discussion.

Graeme Fairweather presented a number of examples of questionable publishing practices, including plagiarism, self-plagiarism, unwilling co-authors, the same paper published by different companies, and online publishers with questionable editorial boards, disappearing websites, and poor (if any) refereeing practices. Graeme then discussed the MR Policy on Indexing Electronic Journals. He noted that offending articles are checked to make sure that they are retracted and not simply withdrawn from websites. If MR finds that a publisher engages in questionable publishing practices, it is generally given a warning and MR coverage is terminated if the publisher fails to address the matter adequately.

Norman Richert demonstrated the processing and use of preliminary data in the MRDB. This data is gathered using metadata from the publisher. This process is currently being done for cover-to-cover journals, and is expanding to include non-cover-to-cover. MR is also soliciting reference lists directly from publishers, to expand on the contribution of pre-2000 reference list by the AMS.

The committee reviewed the MR Editorial Statement, and since there were no suggested changes to it, it was approved unanimously as it stands.

Graeme Fairweather discussed graphical representations of items covered in MathSciNet and zbMATH. The committee was informed that Graeme Fairweather and Don McClure have met with Gert-Martin Greuel at various meetings, and that they have begun discussions on arrangements for the joint reception at the ICM and the composition of a 2020 MSC advisory group. Professor Greuel has also expressed interest in having a jointly run special session at the ICM on Mathematics on the Web.

The date for the next MREC meeting is Monday, October 13, 2014.

*Graeme Fairweather*  
*Executive Editor*  
*October 25, 2013*

**American Mathematical Society  
Committee on Publications  
September 27-28, 2013  
Summary Report**

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A meeting of the AMS Committee on Publications (CPub) was held on Friday and Saturday, September 27-28, 2013, at the AMS Headquarters in Providence, RI. CPub chair David Marker presided over the meeting. A summary of the meeting is provided below.

**Discussion Topic: The Scholarly Kitchen: a five course tasting menu**

Associate Executive Director of Publishing Robert Harington led the Committee in discussion on topics selected from the *Scholarly Kitchen* blog (<http://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/>). Attendees engaged in discussion focused on peer review and the Clearinghouse for the Open Research of the United States (CHORUS).

**Updates on 2012 Actions**

The January 2013 Council approved the following 2012 CPub action items:

- Changes to the History of Mathematics Editorial Committee charge to remove London Mathematical Society as a co-publication partner.
- Expansion of the Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee to include the Executive Director and the Associate Treasurer as ex-officio non-voting members.

Additionally, the initiative to launch two new electronic-only open-access journals, initially discussed at CPub's 2012 meeting, was endorsed by the April 2013 Council. As a result, the Executive Director, the Associate Executive Director for Publishing, or the Publisher will report for the next two years at meetings of the Committee on Publications, the Council, and the Board of Trustees on the status of the new open-access journals. The first such report to the Committee was provided at this meeting (see Report on AMS Open Access Journals).

**AMS Translation Committees**

AMS currently has three committees responsible for editorial control of translated books: Committee on Russian Translations, Committee on Translations from Chinese, and Committee on Translations from Japanese. CPub considered a proposal to consolidate these committees; however, their current activity status is uncertain. The committee chairs will be contacted to inquire further about each committee's status.

**History of Mathematics Editorial Committee Charge**

The Committee discussed a request from the History of Mathematics (HMATH) Editorial Committee to change the wording of its charge, as specified under number 2 of the "Principal Activities" section, with the intention of further encouraging submission of manuscripts focusing on the pre-1750 period. No action was taken by the Committee, and the Publisher will discuss the matter further with the HMATH committee at the time of its next meeting.

**Review of AMS Member Journals**

A subcommittee of CPub conducted the 2013 review of the AMS member journals (*Bulletin*, *Notices*, and *Abstracts*). The subcommittee completed its review by analyzing the report of the most recent

review of the AMS member journals (conducted in 2009) and by collecting information from three main sources:

1. Comments solicited from the Chief Editors of *Notices* and *Bulletin* and the *Bulletin* Book Reviews Editor;
2. Surveys conducted of 500 randomly selected Regular AMS members (159 responses received) and 500 randomly selected Nominee members (35 responses received); and
3. Responses to questions submitted to AMS staff.

The subcommittee's report contained the following conclusions:

- *Bulletin* and *Notices* are healthy and in good shape; however, both could benefit from expansion of the breadth of mathematics covered and making expository articles more accessible to a wider audience.
- *Notices* should consider adding enhancements such as “sidebars” to provide explanations of technical terms.
- Development of a well-designed electronic version of *Abstracts* (for use on mobile devices and laptops) is strongly encouraged.
- Redesign of the online version of *Notices* that can easily be read on a laptop or tablet is highly desirable.
- Electronic delivery of *Notices* and *Bulletin* should include, as a default, the option to receive email notification of new issues with tables of contents included.
- Adding a “manage my subscriptions” link on the AMS website would be useful to members to better accommodate preferences for receiving print or electronic subscriptions.

The Committee endorsed the conclusions of the subcommittee, and copies of the 2013 Report of the CPub Subcommittee Reviewing AMS Member Journals will be sent by the CPub chair to the Chief Editors of the *Notices* and *Bulletin*.

### **Publishing Strategy Development**

Associate Executive Director of Publishing Robert Harington provided a summary of the work currently underway by the AMS Publishing Strategy Group (PSG), a group of key staff assembled earlier this year to develop a strategic plan for the AMS publishing program amidst the current and future challenges of a rapidly changing scholarly publishing environment. The project is collaborative in nature and aims to establish an ongoing strategy for the future of the AMS publishing program in accord with the needs of its membership and the larger mathematical community.

### **Report on Managing Editors Meeting**

Publisher Sergei Gelfand provided an oral report on the meeting of the Managing Editors of the four AMS primary research journals (*Journal of the AMS*, *Mathematics of Computation*, *Proceedings of the AMS*, and *Transactions of the AMS*), which took place just prior to the CPub meeting on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Discussion topics included: plans for implementation and suggestions for improvements to the new version of EditFlow, the Society's manuscript submission and review tracking system; journal backlogs; communication with the Editorial Boards Committee; the new open-access journals; and the current “Added after Posting” policy for articles in electronic journals.

Future Managing Editors' meetings will be held every three years when CPub's annual meeting takes place at the AMS Headquarters in Providence, RI. The next Managing Editors' meeting will be held in 2016.

### **Report on AMS Open Access Journals**

The resolution passed by the April 2013 Council approving the establishment of two new electronic-only open-access journals, *Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society, Series B* and *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society, Series B*, also states that the Executive Director, the Associate Executive Director for Publishing, or the Publisher will report for the next two years to the Committee on Publications, the Council, and the Board of Trustees on the status of the new journals. Executive Director Donald McClure provided the first such report to the Committee, and the following items were discussed: Article Processing Charges, procedures for allowing authors to choose between "green" and "gold" open access, and the status of the launch of the new journals.

### **www.ams.org as an AMS Publication**

Executive Director Donald McClure updated the Committee on the work of the Web Advisory and Web Editorial Groups (WAG and WEG) and recent development projects for [ams.org](http://ams.org). It is anticipated that within the next few years, CPub will discuss whether the AMS website should become part of its annual publication review schedule.

### **Report on Journal Backlogs**

The Committee receives a report on the AMS primary journal backlogs as a standing item on its annual meeting agenda. Associate Executive Director of Publishing Robert Harington reviewed the "Backlog of Mathematics Research Journals" report, which is published annually in the *Notices*, and the AMS Internal Backlog Report with the Committee and discussed plans for a new initiative aimed at reducing AMS journal backlogs.

### **Report on Mathematical Reviews**

The Committee regularly receives updated information about Mathematical Reviews (MR) from its Executive Editor, who is invited to attend all meetings of the Committee on Publications. Graeme Fairweather updated the Committee on MR activities since his previous report in 2012 and provided a demonstration of personalization features which will soon be available on [MathSciNet®](http://MathSciNet) Author Profile Pages.

### **Next Meeting**

The 2014 CPub meeting will be held Friday and Saturday, September 12-13, 2014, at the Chicago Hilton O'Hare in Chicago, IL. In accordance with its annual review schedule, CPub will conduct an evaluation of the AMS primary journals (*Journal of the AMS*, *Mathematics of Computation*, *Proceedings of the AMS*, and *Transactions of the AMS*) in 2014. The last review of the AMS primary journals was conducted in 2010. A subcommittee will be assembled to complete the review, which will be presented at CPub's 2014 meeting.

Sergei Gelfand, *Publisher*  
October 21, 2013



Washington Office Report  
October 21, 2013

**Federal Budget**

On October 1, 2013, Fiscal Year 2014 began with the U.S. federal government shutdown. Congress could not agree on a Continuing Resolution (CR) to keep the government running and closed government agencies. The Republican controlled House made modifying the Affordable Care Act a condition for funding the government and raising the U.S. debt ceiling. The debt ceiling needed to be raised so that the government did not default on its debt. Congress finally passed a bill which reopened the government on October 17.

Most federal government workers were furloughed during the shutdown. For example, ninety-nine percent of National Science Foundation (NSF) employees were furloughed, doors were locked, and the NSF Website and email were blocked. Deadline dates for grant proposal submissions will have to be changed and grant review panels will have to be rescheduled pushing funding decisions to later in FY 2014.

The legislation that reopened the government had several key points: the debt ceiling is suspended through February 7, 2014, with the suspension open to a vote of Congressional disapproval, which the President can veto; the government is reopened and funded through January 15, 2014 and establishes a House-Senate committee to deliver budget recommendations by December 13, 2013; the law tightens verification of income for those applying for federal subsidies under the Affordable Care Act; and, includes back pay for federal workers furloughed during the shutdown.

Chairs of appropriations subcommittees would like to decide the budgets for the agencies and programs under their jurisdiction rather than with a CR based on the FY 2013 discretionary budget cap of \$986 billion. Appropriations subcommittees played a role in the development of the FY 2013 budget and this benefitted certain agencies, including NSF. Under current law, the FY 2014 discretionary budget cap set by sequestration at \$967 billion will take effect around January 15, 2014. In developing spending for FY 2014 the House appropriations committee used the \$967 billion discretionary spending level, while the Senate appropriations committee used the Budget Control Act (BCA) level of \$1.058 trillion. As you can imagine, this difference in discretionary spending caps resulted in the House and Senate establishing different budget levels for many federal agencies. The Senate and House appropriations subcommittees will have to come to a compromise on the levels of spending for agencies and programs under their jurisdiction.

Compromising may be difficult since Democrats want to do away with sequestration caps while Republicans want to maintain the caps unless Democrats are willing to make changes in the level

of spending for entitlement programs such as Social Security and Medicare. Democrats are against any cuts to entitlement programs unless Republicans will consider changes in the tax code to raise more revenues.

The House Appropriations Committee has allocated \$6.995 billion for the FY 2014 NSF budget while the Senate Appropriations Committee has given NSF \$7.426 billion for FY 2014. The House and Senate NSF FY 2014 budget numbers are better than expected and greater than the final FY 2013 NSF budget of \$6.884 billion. As mentioned above, the Senate is using a discretionary cap of \$1.058 trillion compared to the \$967 billion cap used by the House, so this may account for much of the \$431 million difference between the House and Senate budgets for NSF.

The NSF Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) did not do well in the final FY 2013 budget allocation, receiving a 7.8 percent cut from the FY 2012 level, going from \$237.77 million to \$219.19 million. The FY 2014 Budget Request proposes a DMS budget level of \$244.54 million. Under current budget conditions, it is unlikely that DMS will be allocated a FY 2014 budget of \$244.54 million, since this budget is based on an overall NSF FY 2014 Budget Request of \$7.626 billion.

The report language for the Senate Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS) bill promotes support for federal long-term basic research and chastises NSF for continuing to prioritize new initiatives by cutting support for NSF core programs and infrastructure funding. The House CJS report language encourages NSF to achieve a sensible balance between support for newer cross-Foundation initiatives and longstanding core programs and activities. The House CJS committee also suggests that better standards and guidance on the administration of cross-Foundation initiatives are needed.

NSF seems to have lost some of its luster as the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology has been attacking NSF's peer review process and the quality of funded grants. The science community is waiting for the House Committee to reauthorize NSF. It is expected that this reauthorization will criticize NSF operations and have flat budget growth for the next two to three years. The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee is just beginning to address NSF reauthorization.

The FY 2013 budget for the Office of Science of the Department of Energy is \$4.621 billion. This budget is the result of the appropriation process, a 5.2 percent sequester cut plus rescission and a reallocation of funding within the Office of Science through a Congress-approved reprogramming request. Advanced Scientific Computing Research (ASCR) will receive \$417.78 million in FY 2013. For FY 2014 the House has allocated \$4.663 billion for the Office of Science and \$432.4 million for ASCR while the Senate Committee on Appropriations, allocated \$5.153 billion for the Office of Science and \$493.8 million for ASCR. The House and Senate are again using different discretionary budget caps.



## Open Access

In a February memo from the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), federal agencies with over \$100 million in annual research and development expenditures were asked to submit a draft plan to support increased public access to results of research funded by the federal government. The draft plan was due to OSTP no later than August 22, 2013. OSTP, in coordination with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), will review these plans. Once a plan is accepted, the agency will begin implementing its plan. Implementation will take place during FY 2014 with plans being operational beginning in FY 2015. This development of agency plans is part of the process on open access contained in Public Law 111-358.

Through the Government Affairs Task Force (GATF), a group of publishers have put together a framework to help federal agencies reach the goals of open access required by the America COMPETES Act of 2010, P.L. 111-358. This framework, the Clearinghouse for the Open Research of the United States (CHORUS) is a public-private partnership to increase public access to peer-reviewed publications that report on federally-funded research. CHORUS provides a full solution for agencies to comply with the OSTP memo on public access to peer-reviewed scientific publications reporting on federally-funded research; builds on publishers' existing infrastructure to enhance public access to research literature, avoiding duplication of effort, minimizing cost to the government and ensuring the continued availability of the research literature; and, serves the public by creating a streamlined, cohesive way to expand access to peer-reviewed articles reporting on federally-funded research. The CHORUS framework has been presented to some agencies, including NSF and the Department of Energy. Over seventy for-profit and non-profit publishers, including the AMS, have endorsed CHORUS. Information on CHORUS can be found at [www.chorusaccess.org](http://www.chorusaccess.org).

Over the past year, several Members of Congress have introduced additional bills on open access. The process underway based on P.L. 111-358 is favored by GATF, so members of GATF continue to schedule meetings with congressional staff to promote the OSTP process. A troublesome issue in the OSTP process and in these other bills as well, is the embargo period after which a publication based on federally funded research has to be made freely available. The OSTP embargo begins at twelve months and can be changed by agencies based on what is shown to be best for a particular field. All the recent bills have a strict embargo period of 6 or 12 months. GATF has worked hard to convince policy makers that one embargo period does not work well for all disciplines and recently commissioned a study measuring usage half-life to show this.

States are beginning to consider open access policies for their public universities. Recently, the Academic Senate of the University of California (UC) passed an open access policy ensuring that future research articles authored by faculty at all ten UC campuses will be made available to the public at no charge. Faculty at UCLA, UC – Irvine, and UC – San Francisco will begin depositing articles in eScholarship, a repository of UC, on November 1, 2013. Faculty on the remaining campuses will begin depositing articles in November 2014.

On August 9, 2013, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn signed the Open Access to Research Articles Act into law. The bill, initiated by mathematician and State Senator Daniel Biss, requires each Illinois public university to create an open access task force with the goal of making its research available to the public online and free of charge. These nine task forces, which are required by the law to include publisher representatives, will meet over the next year and will report by January 1, 2015 on suggested policies.

## **Education**

The publication of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) report, *Engage to Excel: Producing One Million Additional College Graduates with Degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)*, has stimulated renewed interest in undergraduate STEM education. The report emphasizes improving students' STEM education in the first two years of college and suggests that STEM educators should adopt teaching strategies that enhance student engagement.

The AMS Committee on Education (COE) has begun focusing its meetings on undergraduate mathematics education. Last year's meeting included ideas on broadening the view of the mathematics major; writing in mathematics courses; reforming calculus through oral reviews; developing tools for assessment through the Good Questions Project and the Mathematics Applications Inventory. The October 2013 COE meeting will focus on using technology and MOOCs to aid collegiate mathematics instruction.

The 2013 Department Chairs Workshop discussion topics were motivated by the PCAST report. Workshop leaders led sessions on what a mathematics major should look like today; the teaching of college level mathematics; remedial mathematics; and, producing a STEM competent workforce. Discussions focused on the preparation of graduate students to be college teachers; continuing pedagogical development for experienced faculty; pedagogical experiments with delivery of remedial courses; the types of research based pedagogy that exists and how to transmit this knowledge to new college mathematics teachers; and, what will a mathematics major need to know in the future for employment.

The NSF Division of Mathematical Sciences recently funded a July 2013 workshop: Investing in the Next Generation through Innovative and Outstanding Strategies (INGenIOuS). The purpose of the INGenIOuS program is to position mathematics and statistics departments to develop strategies for investments in the training of the next generation of undergraduate and graduate students. Workshop themes included recruitment and retention of mathematics and statistics students; internships; technology and MOOCs; job placement; documentation and dissemination; measurement and evaluation. Two areas that received a lot of discussion were better connections between business and industry and mathematics and statistics departments and the development of degrees that will train students to collect and analyze large data sets.

## **Coalition Activities**

The Washington Office continues to work with coalitions and ad hoc groups: the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF); the Government Affairs Task Force (GATF); the Task Force on American Innovation; NDD UNITED; and, small groups representing several professional societies and organizations. Issues of focus by one or more of these coalitions include federal funding for basic research; open access to publications based on federally funded research; caps on defense and non-defense discretionary spending; attacks on the Social, Behavioral and Economical Sciences directorate of NSF; and continuing education of new Members of Congress on the importance of federal support for STEM research and education.

The AMS continues to support the “Golden Goose” Award (named as a parody of the late Senator Proxmire’s Golden Fleece Award) which honors scientists whose federally-funded research-perceived by some at the time as obscure-has led to major breakthroughs and resulted in significant societal impact. This year AMS members Lloyd Shapley and David Gale, now deceased, and economist Alvin Roth were recognized for their work which led to the national kidney exchange and other programs such as the national matching program for new medical residents and hospitals.

*Samuel M. Rankin  
Associate Executive Director, Washington Office*



## **Determining the 2015 Individual Member Dues Recommendation to the Council**

### *The Guidelines.*

In May 2004 the Board of Trustees approved, and the Executive Committee recommended to the January 2005 Council, a new procedure for setting dues each year, replacing the (almost) automatic formula that was used for many years by a procedure based on a set of principles for setting dues. The new procedure was approved by the Council and was first used in setting dues for 2006. The procedure requires beginning the process of setting dues slightly earlier than before. To change the dues rate for year X+2, the discussions must begin in year X.

- In November of year X, staff makes a recommendation about dues, following the principles described below. The ECBT recommends a dues rate for year X+2 to the Council.
- In January of year X+1, the Council reviews the ECBT recommendation and sets the dues rate for year X+2.
- In May of year X+1, the Board of Trustees approves the dues set by Council.

The process for setting dues is meant to be guided by the following principles.

**Principle 1:** The total revenue from individual dues should exceed the total net direct costs of the following membership related areas: privilege journals, members-only services, membership development, membership administration and governance, as reported to the Board of Trustees.

**Principle 2:** When an increase in dues rates is deemed to be appropriate, the following factors should guide the Council and the Board of Trustees in establishing the new dues rates:

- The current rate of inflation.
- The recent rate of growth in faculty salaries.
- The rate of growth in the net direct costs of the membership related areas listed in Principle 1.

**Principle 3:** A single increase in dues rates substantially beyond the level of the factors listed in Principle 2 should be avoided in favor of several successive moderate annual increases.

### *Recommendation for 2015 Dues.*

There was no dues rate increase adopted for the year 2011. Since then, the dues rate has been increased by \$4 per year for the high regular dues rate. The dues rate for 2014 was increased from the 2013 rate to yield dues of \$180/\$135 (high/low). The cut-off salary for high/low rates remained at \$85,000. The table on the following page provides the information required under

Principle 1. It includes actual results for 2001-2012, projected results for 2013, budgeted results for 2014 and an estimate of 2015 results assuming no increase in dues, a \$4 increase in dues and an \$8 increase in dues.

Prior to the change in the process of setting dues, the net difference between dues revenue and net direct costs of membership was a positive \$569,000 in 2001. By the end of 2012, the difference had decreased to a deficit of \$76,000. The difference is projected to be a deficit of \$157,000 in 2013 although the budgeted deficit was \$228,000. The difference is budgeted to be a deficit of \$250,000 in 2014, which is a deficit that is \$51,000 greater than when 2014 dues were established.

**Dues Revenue and Net Direct Cost of Membership  
Activities (1,000's)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Individual Dues Revenue</b>	<b>Net Direct Cost of Membership Activities</b>	<b>Surplus (Deficit) of Revenue over Costs</b>
2001	1,413	(844)	569
2002	1,388	(960)	428
2003	1,369	(1,042)	327
2004	1,318	(1,189)	129
2005	1,345	(1,108)	237
2006	1,355	(1,112)	243
2007	1,364	(1,264)	100
2008	1,386	(1,523)	(137)
2009	1,368	(1,493)	(125)
2010	1,345	(1,240)	105
2011	1,317	(1,397)	(80)
2012	1,317	(1,393)	(76)
2013 Projected	1,304	(1,461)	(157)
2014 Budget	1,293	(1,543)	(250)
2015-\$180	1,293	(1,543)	(250)
2015-\$184	1,322	(1,543)	(221)
2015-\$188	1,350	(1,543)	(193)

Explanatory Notes:

Membership Activities under Principle 1 are:

- a) *Notices & Bulletin*,
- b) Membership development and administration, and
- c) Governance

The amounts are taken directly from the B-Pages, pages 5 and 7, as presented to the ABC.

None of the dues scenarios presented in the table above satisfies the requirements of Principle 1. An increase in dues of \$34.79, or 19.3%, to comply with principle 1, would not meet the requirements of Principles 2 and 3.

Principles 2 and 3 describe the factors to be taken into consideration for the determination of the amount of a dues increase. Shown in the chart at the end of this attachment are the economic data related to growth in faculty salaries and general inflation. The data on salaries relate to the general ability of members and potential members to pay dues with total personal income. It seems prudent for a membership organization to increase dues at the same or slower rate than its members' salaries increase. As of the end of 2012 (the last year of actual data), the cumulative dues increase as of 2013 lags the salary increase by more than five years. Similar results are seen if one uses the AAUP salary data, although the lag time and differences in the cumulative increases are about six months less than the results using the AMS survey.

The data on inflation relate to the ability of members and potential members to pay dues from discretionary income. Again, it seems prudent for a membership organization to maintain the cumulative increase in dues in line with general inflation in the absence of any significant financial needs. It should be noted that dues for year X are generally paid by members in the last quarter of year X-1, so the inflationary effect of dues on discretionary income felt by the individual member is likely somewhere in between the cumulative increase of year X (dues paid during dues year) and X-1 (dues paid in advance).

Principle 3 states that small increases in dues over time are preferable to a large increase in any one year. Although an increase of \$8 in dues for 2015 is the option closest to meeting the requirements of Principle 1, it is a significant increase not seen in over two decades. Without regard to the requirements of Principle 1, staff do not believe that the Society's current financial condition warrants such an increase.

Ultimately, the decision regarding 2015 dues comes down to a balancing act between the provisions of the principles, and the realities of the difficult financial times. Principle 1 precludes holding dues steady for 2015 at the 2014 rate but Principles 2 and 3 would be violated if the dues were raised by an amount sufficient to meet the requirements of Principle 1. While raising the dues by \$8 or \$12 would get the Society closer to meeting the requirements of Principle 1, only the \$4 increase is realistically in line with inflation assumptions.

Therefore, AMS staff members recommend that the regular high dues rate for 2015 be set at \$184, a \$4 increase over the dues for 2014.

*Ellen J. Maycock, Associate Executive Director  
Emily D. Riley, Chief Financial Officer  
October 2013*

Factors for Consideration in Setting Individual Dues Rates for 2015

Academic Year Beginning	Faculty Salaries Data		AMS Annual Survey		Inflation Data		Regular High Dues Rates				Dues Rev.	
	AAUP Reports	Cumulative Increase	Annual Inc. Grps 1-3 combined	Cumulative Increase	Calendar Year	Annual Increase CPI-U	Cumulative Increase CPI-U	Actual Dues	Cumulative Increase	Covert Dues	High/Low Cutoff	Total Dues Revenue (1000's)
1996	3.0%				1996	3.3%		120		117,637	45,000	1,414
1997	3.3%	3.3%	2.7%	2.7%	1997	1.7%	1.7%	124	1.7%	121,048	45,000	1,437
1998	3.6%	7.0%	3.8%	6.6%	1998	1.6%	3.3%	128	3.3%	124,679	45,000	1,380
1999	3.7%	11.0%	3.8%	10.7%	1999	2.7%	6.1%	132	6.1%	128,918	55,000	1,384
2000	3.5%	14.9%	5.0%	16.2%	2000	3.4%	9.7%	132	9.7%	128,918	65,000	1,413
2001	3.8%	19.2%	4.2%	21.1%	2001	1.6%	11.4%	136	11.4%	133,559	75,000	1,388
2002	3.0%	22.8%	3.3%	25.1%	2002	2.4%	14.1%	140	14.1%	138,501	75,000	1,369
2003	2.1%	25.4%	2.0%	27.6%	2003	1.9%	16.2%	144	16.2%	143,349	75,000	1,318
2004	2.8%	28.9%	2.2%	30.4%	2004	3.3%	20.0%	148	20.0%	148,796	80,000	1,345
2005	3.1%	32.9%	4.0%	35.6%	2005	3.4%	24.1%	152	24.1%	153,260	80,000	1,355
2006	3.8%	37.9%	3.5%	40.2%	2006	2.5%	27.2%	152	27.2%	156,478	80,000	1,364
2007	3.8%	43.2%	4.2%	46.1%	2007	4.1%	32.4%	156	32.4%	160,860	80,000	1,386
2008	3.4%	48.0%	1.6%	48.5%	2008	0.1%	32.6%	160	32.6%	166,973	80,000	1,368
2009	1.2%	53.8%	3.0%	53.0%	2009	2.7%	36.1%	164	36.1%	173,317	80,000	1,345
2010	1.4%	51.9%	0.7%	54.1%	2010	1.5%	38.2%	168	38.2%	179,210	85,000	1,317
2011	1.8%	54.6%	3.6%	59.6%	2011	3.0%	42.3%	168	42.3%	181,361	85,000	1,304
2012	1.7%	57.2%	1.3%	61.7%	2012	1.7%	44.7%	172	44.7%	183,900	85,000	1,293
					2013 proj	1.6%	47.0%	176	47.0%	187,210	85,000	
					2014 est	2.0%	50.0%	180	50.0%	190,393	85,000	
					<b>2015</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>53.0%</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>53.0%</b>	<b>190,393</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>1,293</b>
					<b>2015</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>53.0%</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>53.0%</b>	<b>190,393</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>1,322</b>
					<b>2015</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>53.0%</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>53.0%</b>	<b>190,393</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>1,350</b>

**Explanatory Notes:**

1. AAUP data: Percentage increase in average nominal salaries for institutions reporting comparable data for adjacent one-year periods.
2. CPI-U data: Based on the Dec. to Dec. annual change in the index, with estimates for 2013, 2014 and 2015.
3. Covert Dues: For the period 1990-1999, covert dues for Year N+1 were calculated by increasing the covert dues for year N by an amount equal to the AAUP percentage for Year N-1. A "holiday" was taken in applying the usual AAUP increase for 2000, and the formula was applied subsequent to 2000 using the AAUP figure for Year N-2. The formula approach is no longer used to determine the dues rate in any given year, but is presented here for informational purposes.
4. 2013 dues revenue reflects current projections and 2014 dues revenue is as budgeted. The three scenarios presented for 2015 dues assume a paying membership similar to that budgeted for 2014.
5. August 2012- August 2013 CPI-U is 1.5%.



## AMS Graduate Student Chapters in 2013

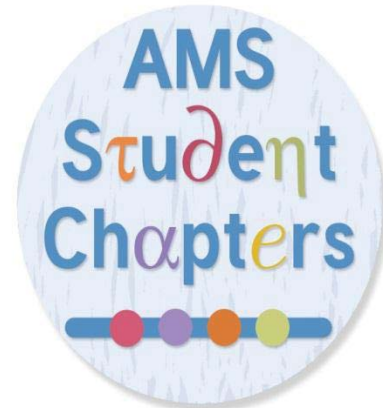
The AMS Graduate Student Chapters were launched during 2012/13. About a dozen schools were invited to petition for a chapter, and petitions were received from the following schools:

- Brown University
- Oklahoma State University
- Tufts University
- Wesleyan University

Each petition was reviewed and approved by the AMS Secretariat. Each of these chapters received \$500 in funding for uses that encourage mathematical activity for and among graduate students, and encourage graduate students to relate to the AMS.

Recently, eight more chapters have been approved:

- Boston College
- Bryn Mawr College
- Purdue University
- Texas A&M University
- University at Albany
- University of Minnesota
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Utah State University



Twelve more departments have submitted petitions that are in the approval process, one more department is in the process of submitting a petition, and further inquiries have been received.

Feedback in annual reports from last year indicates that chapters are sponsoring speakers, events and meetings. The Chapters are helping to make students more aware of their AMS membership, and increasing the necessity for advising faculty to keep their memberships up to date, and for institutional members to nominate their graduate students in a timely way.

A web page has been built for the chapters (<http://www.ams.org/programs/studentchapters>), and as more chapters come on board, staff will help the chapters find a convenient forum for discussions and announcements among themselves.

*Diane Boumenot, Manager  
Membership and Programs Department  
October, 2013*



## AMS Activity Groups

A proposal for AMS Activity Groups was approved by the January 2013 Council. The goal is to use electronic communications to facilitate exchanges of information and updates on current research trends, and support collaborations and mentoring relationships among AMS members in research subareas. The Activity Groups will be limited, for the time being, to AMS members only.

Staff recommended a web software product called Higher Logic. The site will be tested in early November 2013 by a few private groups, the four groups of 2013 MRC (Mathematics Research Communities) participants. Technically, these private groups aren't Activity Groups, but they will test the software before the public launch.

For discussions that focus on something other than research subareas, the software can easily accommodate Community Forums. Community Forums will be open to the full mathematics community. These will be established with the same application procedure, approval process, and moderator activity as the Activity Groups. When the "Communities" section of the software is opened, two choices will appear: Activity Groups and Community Forums. Should a need arise for a community related to the AMS that is not open to all members, for instance for committees, staff will establish those.

Activity Groups and Community Forums are essentially grassroots organizations and fully depend on membership to organize and run them. AMS Members will need to propose Activity Groups and Community Forums, and thereby commit to serve as moderators. Each group will need approval. There is an application process currently being assembled, and at this time, the approval process has yet to be determined, but must be speedy to keep up with the expectations of web users. Activity Groups and Community Forums may only be proposed by AMS members. Once approved and in place, Activity Groups will be open to all AMS members and Community Forums will be open to all in the mathematics community.

To meet the recommendation, approved by the January 2103 Council, of "at least two test groups run for some period to work out any wrinkles before opening up the formation of and enrollment in Activity Groups to the full AMS membership" we need to launch some pilot groups on mathematical topics as soon as possible. Pilot groups would be open to members who wanted to join them, which will be a more robust test of the software and its intended functionality.

The Higher Logic software has many features and could serve additional purposes in the future, such as providing an online place for AMS committees to do their work. Screen shots of some main pages follow this page. Staff are becoming more familiar with the software and are exploring how it is used in other organizations. They hope to showcase it at the AMS booth in the 2014 JMM exhibit hall, so members can begin proposing new groups.

*Diane Boumenot, Manager  
AMS Membership and Programs  
October, 2013*

AMS Community Network - Main Page

The screenshot shows the AMS Community Network main page. At the top is a navigation bar with links: HOME, COMMUNITIES, DIRECTORY, GLOSSARY, PARTICIPATE, and MY PROFILE. Below this is a header with the AMS logo and 'Community Network' text. A 'Welcome, Diane' message is visible in the top right. A large green banner with the text 'Build Community Connect with your colleagues.' is prominent. Below the banner are several content sections: 'What's New' with announcements, 'Join The Discussion' with quick links and a 'Manage Your Preferences' section, and 'My Activity Groups' with a 'Welcome' message and a list of groups. A 'RECENT SHARED FILES' section is also visible at the bottom.

Initially, the "slides" here will focus on joining an existing group, or proposing one.

Communities... button, Quick Links and Latest Discussions will help users navigate to their chosen groups quickly.

Announcements from Activity Group or Community Forum moderators will show here to group members, after joining.

Account settings include:  
*privacy settings*  
*picture*  
*subscriptions to group discussions if desired*  
*contact data*

AMS Community Network - Activity Groups - Activity Group Page (Community Forum page would be similar)

An Activity Group main page includes:

- Latest Discussions
- Latest Shared Files
- Announcements
- Upcoming Events
- Quick Links

Tabs in an Activity Group include:

- Discussions
- Library
- Blogs
- Events
- Members

The screenshot displays the interface of an Activity Group page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs: "Recent Activity", "Discussions 1", "Library 2", "Blogs 0", "Events 1", and "Members 28". Below this, the page is organized into several content sections:

- Latest Discussion Postings:** Features a post titled "Welcome" by Tim McMahon, dated Sep 4, 2013 2:49 PM. The post content includes "Mathematics Research Communities (MRC), a program..." and a "More" link.
- Latest Shared Files:** Lists two documents: "Moduli Spaces and Arithmetic Dynamics by Joseph..." and "MRC program introduction", both by Tim McMahon. The second document includes the text "An introductory article giving background information about the MRC program appeared in the February..." and an "Add Document" link.
- Announcements:** Contains a "Call for 2015 Proposals" by Tim McMahon, dated 8/29/2013 11:18:13 AM. The text states: "The American Mathematical Society invites individuals and groups of individuals to serve as organizers of summer conferences of the Mathematics Research Communities program to be held in Snowbird, Utah, in the summer of 2015." It includes a "Call for 2015 Proposals" link.
- Upcoming Events:** Lists "Mathematics Research Communities - 2014" from Jun 8 - 30 in Snowbird, UT, United States. It includes links for "View the community calendar" and "Add Event".
- Quick Links:** Provides links to "Laura DeMarco", "Adam Epstein", "Sarah Koch", "Moduli Spaces and Arithmetic Dynamics by Joseph H. Silverman", and "MRC 2013".

**Applications for new groups.** There will be two, one for Activity Groups and one for Community Forums.

**Text for top of applications:**

Proposal for an Activity Group

*AMS Activity Groups provide a focused forum for AMS members interested in exploring a **targeted area of research mathematics**. The intent is to use electronic communications in facilitating exchanges of information and updates on current research trends, and support collaborations and mentoring relationships among AMS members in research subareas. The use of electronic media allows easy communication between members regardless of geographic location. The hope is that this will decrease mathematical isolation and raise awareness of current trends in research and research activity in a broad section of the mathematical community.*

*AMS members may propose a new Activity Group, and by doing so, agree to serve as Moderator. Two additional co-moderators must be entered on the application below.*

Proposal for a Community Forum

*AMS Community Forums provide a focused forum for individuals interested in exploring a **topic related to the discipline and profession of mathematics**. The intent is to use electronic communications in facilitating exchanges of information and updates on current trends, allow community members to discuss the issues they face at different stages in their careers, and provide resources and expertise to those who seek them.*

*AMS members may propose a new Community Forum, and by doing so, agree to serve as Moderator. Two additional co-moderators must be entered on the application below.*

**Application questions will be:**

About you: Last name, First name, Institution, email

Name two co-moderators who are members of the AMS

Last name, First name, Institution, email

Last name, First name, Institution, email

About the Activity Group (or Community Forum):

Group name (100 character maximum)

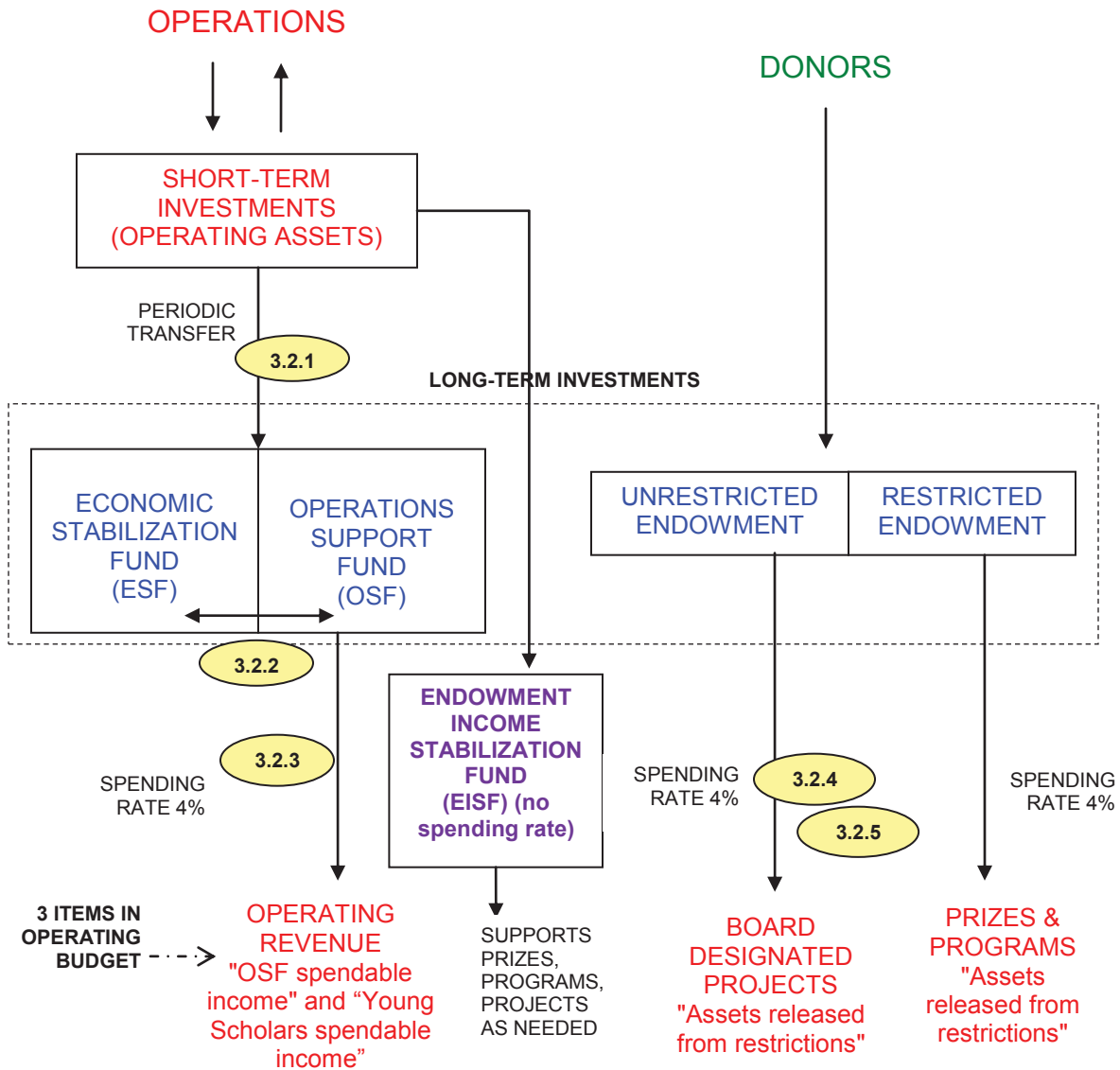
Description (Description will appear publicly after approval. 1000 characters maximum.)

MSC most closely related – select up to 4: (four pulldown menus; first is required)

Please allow 1 to 2 weeks for approval. If approved, Moderators will receive instructions about how to login and manage the group. Once established, any AMS member may join an Activity Group.

## AMS Long-term Investments Cliffs Notes

(For details, see section D of Fiscal Reports)



**ESF** = 75% annual operating expenses + unfunded medical liability (APBO)

**OSF** = remainder of quasi-endowment (spending on 3-yr rolling average)  
 Rebalanced annually, December 31

**EISF** = Created 12/31/12 from amounts the Long Term Portfolio owed to Operations. The fund supplements prizes, programs, board designated projects when endowment funds from 4% spending rate are not adequate. Invested in an intermediate term investment.

**Note:** Spendable income from true endowment funds held in Temp Restricted net assets and 'released' to operations as related expenses are incurred.

Values as of:	12/31/12	12/31/11
ESF	\$ 25.9 M	\$24.4 M
OSF	53.8 M	45.1 M
EISF	.5 M	
Unrestricted	6.2 M	5.6 M
Restricted	4.9 M	4.4 M





**Assets Released from Restrictions - Unrestricted Use True Endowment Funds  
Actual vs. Budgeted Amounts Used for Projects - 2009-2012, and 2013 Budget**

Project	2013 Budget	Balance Remaining*		2012		2011		2010		2009	
		Actual	Bud	Actual	Bud	Actual	Bud	Actual	Bud	Actual	Bud
Discoveries and Breakthroughs											
Book/Journal Donations											
What's Happening											
AAAS Mass Media Fellow			20,000								
AAAS Congressional Fellow	94,000	8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	9,821	10,000	8,500	12,000	8,500	12,000
IMR Database & projects & various digitization projects		87,196	90,000	89,856	90,000	88,251	84,466	78,263	90,000	78,263	90,000
Mathematics Research	20,000	50,000	70,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
Communities		10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
Young Scholars											
Young Scholars Camp Conf							60,000	20,000	20,000	25,000	25,000
Mathjobs											
High School Outreach											
Project Next											
Fellows of the AMS											
Activity Groups	25,000	15,000	15,000	5,654	10,000	10,994	24,000	15,631	24,825	15,631	24,825
International Meetings	25,000	15,300	15,300	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
SACNAS Sponsorship	12,000										
MathJax Development	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
USA Science and Eng Festival	15,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
AMS Archives							5,000				
National DAF							7200				
	201,000	223,696	260,300	204,110	266,400	257,066	266,466	251,143	276,825	251,143	276,825

\*Balance Remaining = the amounts that have been released from the unrestricted endowment less the amounts used.



**American Mathematical Society  
Endowment Income Stabilization Fund (EISF)  
2013 Expected Usage**

**Recommendations for 2013 use of EISF funds**

Veblen	2,243
Wiener	257
Satter	294
Centennial	848
Exemplary Department Award	566
Art Exhibit Prizes	113
Subtotal	4,321
Centennial Fellow Expenses	42,000
<b>Total Requested EISF Funds</b>	<b>46,321</b>

Prizes, Awards, Scholarships	2012 Temporarily Restricted Balance	2013 Spendable Income	2013 Amount Available for Spending	Budget	2013 Actual Usage Thru 9/30	Balance on 9/30/13	Comments
Steele	68,081	19,779	87,860	17,500	26,624.00	61,236	\$6506 funded Moore
Birkhoff	8,447	2,484	10,931	0		10,931	
Veblen	3,426	1,318	4,743	5,000	6,986	(2,243)	
Wiener	3,426	1,318	4,743	5,000	5,000	(257)	
Bocher	2,269	1,339	3,607	0		3,607	
Conant	4,033	1,319	5,352	1,000	2,338	3,014	
Cole Number Theory	2,257	1,364	3,622	5,000		3,622	
Cole Algebra	258	1,364	1,623	0		1,623	
Satter	2,735	1,971	4,706	5,000	5,000	(294)	
Doob	5,233	1,631	6,863	0		6,863	
Robbins	7,436	1,518	8,953	5,000	6,430	2,523	
Eisenbud	2,755	1,431	4,187	0		4,187	
Moore		0	0	5,500		0	Funded by Steele
Morgan	12050	1,435	13,485	2,000	1,200	12,285	
Albert Whiteman	16066	3,432	19,498	0		19,498	
Arnold Ross Lectures	6409	2,555	8,964	3,000	2,273	6,691	
Trijtzinsky	9181	15,903	25,084	21,000		25,084	
C.V. Newsom	17505	7,400	24,906	0		24,906	
Centennial *	358	3,794	4,152	5,000	5,000	(848)	
Menger	2282	3,595	5,877	4,500	387	5,490	
Ky Fan Fund (China)	22662	13,124	35,787	16,400	18,000	17,787	
Gross	0	358	358	0		358	
Epsilon Fund	111626	60,773	172,399	75,000	78,030	94,369	
Einstein Lecture	2935	3,680	6,615	4,500	293	6,322	
Exemplary Dept Awd	776	3,657	4,434	5,000	5,000	(566)	
Art Exhibit Prizes	156	731	887	1,000	1,000	(113)	

\*Funds from contributions and the endowment combined will be about \$42,000 short for funding the Centennial fellow.



## Report on the Personify Project

Since going live in January 2013, Personify has been used for processing of orders, fulfillment of subscriptions, tracking of inventory, maintenance of committees by the Secretary's office, and other business functions. Personify is being used for the Society's online bookstore for establishing web accounts, PCI-compliant checkout and the sending of transaction notifications to customers and members. Data is being synchronized between Personify and our legacy publication tracking application (PUBL). Since the last report, the Computer Services Division (CSD) has worked with other departments on a number of major additions to the use of Personify at the Society, including:

- Meeting registration is being done using Personify. In order to implement Personify's Meeting module, a number of changes were required, including modifications to the web account module, creation of a "guest" login to eliminate the need for creation of an AMS web account, modifications to the web-based registration form, and creation of a number of outputs such as email acknowledgements and confirmations, printed confirmations, badges, and management reports. In addition, a process was created for printing badges in bulk for preregistration and at the meeting for onsite registration. For the first time, the Society is offering preregistration for Sectional Meetings. There have been a number of preregistrations for the fall meetings and it is expected that this will improve registration onsite. For the Joint Meeting, online registration also includes a link to Passkey for hotel reservations.
- Member renewal notices were created using Personify and the online membership renewal process modified to use the new web account and Personify checkout modules
- Subscriptions renewal proformas were created and distributed. In addition to our print and electronic subscription products, Personify is being used to create renewal proformas for MathSciNet Consortia and eJournal Consortia, a process that was manual in our old system.
- The nightly production workflow, the Daily Job Stream, has been improved and enhanced. It currently includes 45 programs and is started and monitored by CSD.
- A number of new reports have been written or improved to help in the management of the tasks Personify helps perform, including accounts receivable and fraudulent bookstore sale detection.
- Our intranet-based Sales Analysis application has been enhanced to work with Personify. Sale and credit data from our old system has been loaded into a new Personify-based repository, a program was written to add data from Personify's commerce tables into it, and the intranet application modified to make use of this new repository.
- Work has been done to implement Higher Logic's community software and integrate it with Personify. Data exchange has been established and verified. This software will be used when Activity Groups are launched in 2014. Prior to that it will be tested using the Math Research Communities as a test group. Eventually, it may be used for communication between members of AMS Committees.
- The Society has begun using Informz for some mass emails and is implementing the link between Personify and Informz. When this is completed, there will be a single web page for members and customers to use for the maintenance of email correspondence from the Society.

The first year of the use of Personify at the Society is almost complete. The second year will be devoted to refining, enhancing, and expanding the use of Personify and exploring the possible use of new modules. In addition, we will begin contemplating and planning when to upgrade to the most recent version.

*Tom Blythe  
Chief Information Officer  
October 2013*



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
STANDING COMMITTEES**

**AGENDA AND BUDGET COMMITTEE**

*(as of February 1, 2014)*

**David Vogan, Chair** (ex officio - President)  
Jane Hawkins (ex officio - Treasurer)  
William Jaco (ex officio - Chair of BT)  
Zbigniew Nitecki (ex officio - Associate Treasurer)  
Carla Savage (ex officio - Secretary)

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

*(as of February 1, 2014)*

**Jane Hawkins, Chair** (ex officio - Treasurer)  
Ruth Charney (ex officio – third-year Trustee/incoming Chair of BT)  
William Jaco (ex officio - Chair of BT)  
Zbigniew Nitecki (ex officio – Associate Treasurer)

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

*(as of February 1, 2014)*

**Jane Hawkins, Chair** (ex officio - Treasurer)  
Mark Green (February 1, 2014 - January 31, 2015)  
Zbigniew Nitecki (ex officio - Associate Treasurer)  
Rob Taylor (June 1, 2010 - January 31, 2016)

**LIAISON COMMITTEE**

*(NOT A BT COMMITTEE, BUT LISTED HERE FOR CONVENIENCE)*

*(as of February 1, 2014)*

**David Vogan, Chair** (ex officio - President)  
Jane Hawkins (ex officio - Treasurer)  
William Jaco (ex officio - Chair of BT)  
Carla Savage (ex officio - Secretary)

**RETIREMENT PLAN INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

*(as of February 1, 2014)*

**Tammy King Walsh, Chair** (ex officio – Director of Human Resources)  
Mark Green (ex officio – fifth-year Trustee)  
Zbigniew Nitecki (ex officio – Associate Treasurer)  
Emily Riley (ex officio – Chief Financial Officer)

**SALARY COMMITTEE**

*(as of February 1, 2014)*

**Jane Hawkins, Chair** (ex officio - Treasurer)  
William Jaco (ex officio - Chair of BT)  
Zbigniew Nitecki (ex officio - Associate Treasurer)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
STANDING COMMITTEES**

**DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

*(as of February 1, 2014)*

**William Jaco, Chair (ex officio - Chair of BT)**

Mark Green (ex officio – fifth-year Trustee)

Jane Hawkins (ex officio - Treasurer)

Donald McClure (ex officio - Executive Director)

Carla Savage (ex officio - Secretary)

David Vogan (ex officio - President)

**LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*(as of February 1, 2014)*

**David Vogan, Chair (ex officio - President)**

Hélène Barcelo (ex officio - third-year member of EC)

Ruth Charney (ex officio – third-year Trustee/incoming Chair of BT)

Jane Hawkins (ex officio - Treasurer)

Tara Holm (ex officio - second-year member of EC)

William Jaco (ex officio - Chair of BT)

Donald McClure (ex officio - Executive Director)

Carla Savage (ex officio - Secretary)

**ECBT NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

*(as of February 1, 2014)*

**Ruth Charney, Chair (ex officio - third-year member of BT)**

Hélène Barcelo (ex officio - third-year member of EC)

Ken Ono (ex officio – Chair of Council Nominating Committee)

*NOTE: When the position of Secretary is under consideration, the Treasurer is a member of this Committee. When the position of Treasurer is under consideration, the Secretary is a member of this Committee.*



## **TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS TO POLICY COMMITTEES**

### **COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Ruth Charney (February 1, 2014 - January 31, 2015)

### **COMMITTEE ON MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES**

Karen Vogtmann (February 1, 2014 - January 31, 2015)

### **COMMITTEE ON THE PROFESSION**

Robert Lazarsfeld (February 1, 2014 - January 31, 2016)

### **COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS**

William Jaco (February 1, 2014 - January 31, 2015)

### **COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE POLICY**

Mark Green (February 1, 2014 - January 31, 2015)

**TRUSTEE LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS TO DIVISIONS FOR 2014**

<b>Division (Director)</b>	<b>Board Liaisons</b>
<b>Executive Director</b> (McClure) Development Human Resources	William Jaco Karen Vogtmann
<b>Computer Services</b> (Tom Blythe) Information Services Information Technology	Robert Lazarsfeld Zbigniew Nitecki
<b>Editorial</b> (Sergei Gelfand) Acquisitions	Robert Lazarsfeld Karen Vogtmann
<b>Finance</b> (Emily Riley) Facilities and Purchasing Fiscal Printing and Distribution	Zbigniew Nitecki Jane Hawkins Karen Vogtmann
<b>Mathematical Reviews</b> (Graeme Fairweather) Acquisitions Administration Associate Editors Cataloging Copy Editors Information Technology Reviewer Data Services Slavic Languages	Ruth Charney Zbigniew Nitecki
<b>Meetings and Professional Services</b> (Ellen Maycock) Meetings and Conferences Membership and Programs Public Awareness	Ruth Charney William Jaco
<b>Publishing</b> (Robert Harington) Production Creative Services Electronic Prepress Sales and Member Services	Mark Green William Jaco
<b>Washington Office</b> (Sam Rankin)	Mark Green Jane Hawkins

## **Report of the AMS Retirement Plan Investment Committee**

This document provides a summary report of the 2013 activities of the AMS Retirement Plan Investment Committee.

The Committee is a standing committee created by action of the Board in May 2011. The Committee consists of four members: Director of Human Resources (Chair), Chief Financial Officer, Associate Treasurer of the AMS, and fifth year elected member of the AMS Board of Trustees. In November 2011 the Committee was charged with the primary responsibility for choosing and monitoring plan funding options in a prudent manner insuring that the Society fulfills its Plan Sponsor responsibilities and with making reports to the Board concerning its activities at least annually.

For the 2013 calendar year the following individuals served on the Committee: Tammy King Walsh (Chair), Emily Riley (elected Secretary), Zbigniew Nitecki and Ronald Stern.

Staff members on the Committee continued to gather educational information on fiduciary responsibilities. A draft Request for Proposal (RFP) for outside independent investment advisory services has been prepared and will be reviewed by Angell Pension, the third-party retained to assist with administration of the Society's retirement plans. The Committee will meet before year end to review the RFP. It is expected that the RFP will be sent out shortly after the Committee meets with selection of investment advisory services slated for the 1st quarter of 2014.

*Tammy King Walsh,  
Director of Human Resources and  
Chair of the AMS Retirement Plan Investment Committee  
October 28, 2013*



# Proposals to be submitted

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## Proposal for support to accelerate the development of MathJax

- A request to partially support software development by the MathJax Consortium for two years
- Expected to be submitted to the Sloan Foundation and to request about \$200,000

The MathJax Consortium was established in 2009 as a joint venture of the AMS, SIAM, and Design Science, Inc. One of the original leaders of the project, Robert Miner of Design Science, passed away in fall 2011. Because of changes in personnel and business priorities, Design Science withdrew from the venture at the end of February and the AMS became the Managing Joint Venturer in March 2013. The project is now run out of the Computer Services Division in Providence. It has been generously funded by a number of sponsors, seven of whom now contribute \$20,000 per year and eleven of whom contribute at a more modest, but still significant level. See [www.mathjax.org/sponsors/](http://www.mathjax.org/sponsors/).

Don McClure and Jim Crowley, Executive Director of SIAM, are initiating discussions with the Sloan Foundation about a proposal that is being prepared by Peter Krautzberger, the current project manager, and the two Executive Directors. The funds would allow the project to support additional developers to accelerate the project and broaden efforts in directions such as (1) improving native support of MathML in standard browsers, (2) achieving the ability of MathJax to pass 100% of the MathML test suite, (3) integration of MathJax into nonproprietary e-book standards such as ePub3, and (4) adding accessibility features such as integration with emerging text-speech capabilities in browsers.

## 2015 Summer Institute in Algebraic Geometry

- July 27 – August 13, 2015
- Location: University of Utah
- Proposal to NSF for \$200,000 to \$250,000

During the period 1953 – 1999, the AMS held a series of yearly Summer Research Institutes supported by grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Each was a 3-week long institute focused on one (relatively broad) area of mathematics. Typically, the scientific program was arranged by a group of volunteer organizers. The logistics were handled by the AMS Meetings and Conferences Department. The grant provided travel funds for some of the participants, and also covered the expenses of the AMS staff members. Algebraic Geometry was the topic in 1954, 1964, 1974, 1985, and 1995. In 2005, the AMS agreed to continue the tradition of managing a Summer Institute for Algebraic Geometry once every ten years, even though the yearly series had been discontinued. Attendance at these Summer Research Institutes in Algebraic Geometry grew significantly, from 28 in 1954 (which was joint with Several Complex Variables) to 83 (1964), 270 (1974), 310 (1985), 430 (1995) and 518 (2005).

The 2005 Summer Institute was supported in three ways. The grant from the National Science Foundation for the 2005 Summer Institute was \$135,000. Of this, \$103,497.20 was dispersed for participant travel, housing and meal expenses (\$82,572.90 went to junior mathematicians and graduate students). Approximately \$30,000 was used to pay the expenses of AMS staff. The National Security Agency provided \$15,000 (its usual amount of support for an individual conference), and the Clay Foundation reimbursed the expenses of several speakers each week (for a total of around \$20,000).

In January 2012, the Board of Trustees agreed (via email) that the AMS should once again handle the logistics for a Summer Institute in Algebraic Geometry in the summer of 2015. AMS staff members have been working with a group of organizers to begin making the arrangements for this event. The Director of Meetings and Conferences, Penny Pina, has negotiated a contract with the University of Utah, which has offered us favorable rates and concessions. This location was the first choice of the Institute organizers. The organizers have recently learned that they have been awarded a grant of \$100,000 from the Clay Mathematics Institute to fund travel and subsistence for invited speakers and young international mathematicians, and some audio-visual expenses.

Final decisions about the budget for the grant proposal to NSF will be made during the winter of 2013-14, after consultation with the organizers and the appropriate program officer at NSF. Assuming an increase in expenses of 4% per year for a ten-year period, the budget for the 2015 Summer Institute should be in the range of \$200,000 to \$250,000.

#### Organizing Committee:

Brendan Hassett, Rice University  
Mircea Mustata, University of Michigan  
Martin Olsson, University of California, Berkeley  
Mihnea Popa, University of Illinois, Chicago  
Richard Thomas, Imperial College

#### *Ex officio:*

Nick Woodhouse, Clay Mathematics Institute  
Ellen Maycock, AMS

### **Travel Support for the *Math in Moscow* Program**

The Independent University of Moscow (IUM) is a small, elite institution of higher learning that focuses primarily on mathematics. It was founded in 1991 at the initiative of a group of well-known Russian research mathematicians, who now comprise the Academic Council of the University. Since April 2001, the National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded four continuing grants to the American Mathematical Society (AMS) with funds to be used to support mathematically talented U.S. undergraduates for a semester of study at the *Math in Moscow* program of the IUM. Based on the success of the existing Travel Support for the *Math in Moscow* Program, the AMS is requesting a continuation of funding for three years, in the amount

of about \$320,000. These funds will be used to underwrite a substantial part of the typical cost for a semester of study in the program for ten undergraduates per (academic) year.

The *Math in Moscow* program is a fifteen-week-long research experience for mathematically talented students. This program consists primarily of courses in mathematics and theoretical computer science, and provides an academically enriching experience because it allows mathematically talented students to meet and work with other students who share a talent and interest in mathematics, as well as the chance to work with some of the world's leading mathematicians. The program provides an experience of mathematics that the students would not find in the U.S. This is because students experience the field of mathematics as it is practiced in the Russian tradition, the main feature of which has always been the development of a creative approach to mathematics, with the emphasis being on problem solving rather than memorizing theorems. Indeed, for the Independent University, discovering mathematics under the guidance of an experienced teacher is the central principle of its program, and the *Math in Moscow* program emphasizes in-depth understanding of carefully selected material rather than broad surveys of large quantities of material.

In addition to the academically enriching experience that the *Math in Moscow* program provides, there is another strong rationale for supporting such a program. It is a way to build vital scholarly connections between the Russian and U.S. mathematics communities, which are certainly in the best interest for the future scientific research of both countries. Creating ties between mathematicians in our two communities, both young and old, will promote scientific cooperation far into the future.

## **CBMS2015: A Study of Undergraduate Programs in the Mathematical and Statistical Sciences in the United States**

- 2015 CBMS Survey and Report
- Approximately \$650,000
- To be submitted in early 2014 to the Directorate for Education & Human Resources, National Science Foundation

The proposed project (CBMS2015) carries out a comprehensive stratified random sample survey of the nation's undergraduate mathematical and statistical sciences programs at two-year and four-year institutions in the fall of 2015. A report of the survey findings will be published online in the spring or summer of 2017. The project continues a cross-sectional survey of undergraduate programs that has been done every five years since 1965. The project is coordinated by the Conference Board for the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) and will be managed by the AMS.

*Ellen J. Maycock*  
*Associate Executive Director*  
*November 7, 2013*





## Memorandum of Understanding between the AMS and the AWM concerning the AWM-AMS Noether Lecture

This is an agreement between the American Mathematical Society (AMS) and the Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) to establish a partnership jointly sponsoring the one-hour, expository Noether Lecture delivered at the annual Joint Mathematics Meeting. The Noether Lecture honors women who have made fundamental and sustained contributions to the mathematical sciences.

The two societies adopt the following model for determining the lecturer, a model which is similar to that followed for the AWM-MAA Falconer Lecture and the AWM-SIAM Kovalevsky Lecture:

A joint selection committee, consisting of four members with staggered terms of two years, will review the nominations. Two members will be appointed by AWM, and two by AMS. The chair of the committee will be in the second and final year of service on the committee and will rotate between the AWM and the AMS. The lecture will be both jointly determined and jointly sponsored. AWM and AMS agree to share the expenses of the Lecture. It is expected that the AWM will incur all expenses up front and then submit a bill to the AMS for one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) the total.

Specifically, the AMS will

- \* Share the cost of travel, two nights' accommodation, a plaque, and a \$500 honorarium.
- \* Waive the JMM registration for the Noether Lecturer.
- \* Have two representatives on the selection committee in staggered, two year terms.
- \* Chair the committee every other year.
- \* Announce the call for nominations in the Notices and on the AMS website

Specifically, the AWM will

- \* Share the cost of travel, two nights' accommodation, a plaque, and a \$500 honorarium.
- \* Prepare the plaque.
- \* Be responsible for expenses in preparing the program.
- \* Have two representatives on the selection committee in staggered, two year terms.
- \* Chair the committee every other year.
- \* Announce the call for nominations in the AWM Newsletter and on the AWM website
- \* The AWM president or designee will introduce the Noether Lecturer

Ruth Charney  
President  
Association for Women in Mathematics

Donald E. McClure  
Executive Director  
American Mathematical Society



# Appropriated Spendable Income

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Each year, the Board approves a list of designated projects that are paid for (in part) by spendable income from the unrestricted endowment. Those projects are selected to represent a variety of activities all of which are consistent with the mission of the Society.

Here are brief descriptions of the projects for 2014 appropriations.

## **Fellows of the American Mathematical Society (\$20,000)**

The selection and induction of new Fellows are expected to incur total expenses of approximately \$40,000 in 2014. The budgeting of some revenue from unrestricted endowment will offset part of the recurrent expenses.

## **AMS Activity Groups (\$50,000)**

A program of AMS Activity Groups gained final approval at the January 2013 Council meeting. Ongoing support of Activity Groups will rely of collaboration and professional networking software licensed from Higher Logic™. The allocated funding will offset part of the 2014 expense, estimated to be \$80,000.

## **AAAS Congressional Fellow (\$96,000)**

For several years now the AMS has supported a congressional fellow. Fellows are placed in a congressional office (or equivalent) and spend a year serving that office. Fellows do NOT represent the AMS, but they provide mathematical expertise, in addition to gaining government expertise themselves. The goal is to build a cadre of knowledgeable mathematicians who can serve the interests of mathematics, either inside or outside government.

## **Mathematics Research Communities (\$10,000)**

The MRC program is funded (mainly) by a grant from the National Science Foundation, which pays for participant support and the basic cost of operation. We found in the past three years, however, that having a budget for extras not covered by the NSF grant greatly enriched the program. MRC promises to be a gem in the Society's outreach programs, and investing some extra money in those extras will pay great dividends in the future. Two specific items that the 2014 funding will help support are (i) modest support for follow-up collaboration by participants of MRCs in prior years and (ii) partial support by the AMS of participants from abroad.

### **Centennial Fellow (\$25,000)**

The revenue from donations to the support of the Centennial Fellowship is no longer adequate to fully support one Fellow. This appropriation will supplement funds from (i) current donations and (ii) spendable income from the small endowment fund in order to support the Centennial Fellow.

### **SACNAS Sponsorship and Participation (\$10,000)**

The AMS continues to support the work of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS). The AMS sponsors a scientific session at the SACNAS annual meeting and participates in the meeting with the *Who Wants To Be A Mathematician* game.

### **AMS-AAAS Mass Media Fellow (\$11,000)**

For the past 14 years, the AMS has supported a graduate student participant in this widely recognized program run by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The student is placed in a media outlet during the summer and gains experience while providing scientific expertise. The former media fellows frequently contribute to the work of the Public Awareness Office.

### **MathJax Development and STIX Font Project (\$10,000)**

MathJax is server-based software for rendering LaTeX expressions into mathematical expressions that can be displayed by standard web browsers. MathJax development is supported jointly by the AMS and SIAM. In 2013, the AMS became the managing member of the MathJax joint venture. Since its release in 2010, MathJax has gained a broad group of users and financial supporters. A current priority for ongoing development is to adapt MathJax to the ePub3 standard for electronic books. This holds great promise for displaying mathematics with free flowing text, which is important for the quality of display of mathematics on small screen devices. The AMS is also leading an effort by the STIPUB partners to complete a version of the STIX font that is suitable for production of high quality publications.

### **What's Happening in the Mathematical Sciences, Volume 10 (\$10,000)**

Volume 9 of *What's Happening* was published in early 2013. The goal of this series is to shed light on topics on the leading edge of mathematical research in a way that is accessible to a scientifically literate reader. With Volume 10, we will explore ways that we can expand individual member benefits and broaden the distribution of the high-level content of *What's Happening* through electronic distribution.

*Don McClure, Executive Director  
Emily Riley, Chief Financial Officer*

# Beal Prize Committee

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## General Description

- Committee is standing
- Number of members is three. Members are appointed by the AMS President.
- Term is six years. A member can serve two consecutive terms, but not more.

## Principal Activities

The committee is responsible for overseeing determination of the validity of a claim that the Beal Prize Conjecture has been proved or that a counterexample has been found. The procedure for determining if an award of the prize is warranted shall be approved by the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT) and Council and documented in Minutes of the ECBT and Council. A recommendation by the prize committee to award the prize shall be made to the ECBT for its approval.

## Authorization



**American Mathematical Society  
Committee on Education Meeting  
October 24-26, 2013  
Washington DC**

**Summary**

This year's Committee on Education (COE) meeting began with a dinner on Thursday evening where an overview of the upcoming meeting was presented. The meeting focused this year is on online tools in undergraduate mathematics education and their current and potential impact on colleges and universities. The meeting itself consisted of presentations and discussions over a day and a half. Attendees included a large number of chairs of departments of mathematics from across the country. Tara Holm, Chair of COE, introduced the speakers and facilitated the meeting:

**The Lion in the Path**

**Hunter Rawlings** (Association of American Universities - AAU) spoke to the group about an AAU initiative aimed at improving teaching and learning in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. He cited recent studies that have shown that students learn best when they are actively engaged rather than simply a part of a lecture course.

The overall objective of AAU's Undergraduate STEM Education Initiative is to influence the culture of STEM departments at AAU universities to support and encourage faculty to utilize evidence based teaching practices that will engage their students. This five year project has a number of facets including a web-based interactive tool for faculty/administrators, the development of a set of measures/metrics to aid institutions in the evaluation of their use of evidence-based teaching practices, and the creation of a STEM Network to provide a forum to facilitate communication among member universities.

Thirty-eight of sixty-two member institutions sent in proposals to be part of this initiative, and eight project sites have been established thus far. The AAU also works within coalitions and in other collaborative ways to improve undergraduate STEM education.

**Clicks and Mortar? Online learning in the context of traditional universities and colleges**

**Rebecca Griffiths** (Ithaca S+R) began by reviewing statistical information related to failure and withdrawal rates in post-secondary mathematics courses and other challenges faced by math departments today. She went on to talk about how online learning technology can provide opportunities to address these challenges, including: 1) enabling students to actively engage in problem solving rather than passively listening to lectures; 2) allowing students to learn at their own pace utilizing practice problem solving and instant feedback; 3) providing more flexibility; 4) enabling at least equivalent student outcomes with lower cost per student; 5) facilitating collaboration; and 6) providing learning data to improve instruction.

Study results comparing online, hybrid and face-to-face teaching vary widely. However, what seems to be constant across studies is that certain subgroups of students tend to fare worse in online-only environments. So while hybrid formats can be good for all students and potentially save money in the long run, online-only formats work well for some students but not for others.

What remains largely unknown is the efficacy of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and whether technology will actually reduce costs across programs/institutions or produce better learning outcomes.

### **The Evolution of MOOCs in Mathematics**

**Robert Ghrist** (University of Pennsylvania) gave attendees a very broad introduction to the calculus MOOC (massive open online course) that he has been running for the past year. He spoke about the design and the curriculum of the course, outlining course chapters and showing examples of the course videos. The homework sets are open and collaborative. It is a complete second semester calculus course. The course is free and the majority of people who signed up are either those in industry who want to get a refresher or college students looking for a different perspective.

Ghrist emphasized that MOOCs are not just a delivery platform but rather a tool to provide a different approach to teaching and learning, and his course is an example of the degree of innovation possible with MOOCs. Although there are only a handful of MOOCs that have been developed in mathematics, there is much optimism for the potential returns.

### **Learning about proofs by evaluating them**

**Keith Devlin** (Stanford University) began his presentation with a brief history of MOOCs. He described the typical components including video lectures, in-lecture quizzes (machine-graded), on-screen or downloadable written materials, peer-evaluated work assignments and collaborative group work.

Devlin developed a MOOC at Stanford University based on a course he teaches in the traditional way. He shared the concept and design of his “Introduction to Mathematical Thinking” course and presented examples of its format. He also talked about some of the key challenges in MOOCs including the importance of community building, group interaction, peer evaluation, accreditation and appropriate metrics.

### **Enhancing Mathematics Education Through Technology – Myth or Reality**

**William “Brit” Kirwan** (University of Maryland System) spoke about what makes good pedagogy and the changes that are occurring in the ways education is delivered to students. Advances in cognitive science and technological innovation are paving the way toward more interactive classrooms. He did not suggest that traditional learning be cast aside but rather enhanced with the strategic use of technology.

The University of Maryland System is experimenting with course re-design. They are using a technology enhanced design in some 40 courses across the system, combining online and in-person education. The University of Maryland, Baltimore County is especially engaged in this project and is getting very good results.

Kirwan acknowledged the challenges involved in getting faculty engaged in these efforts, but the evidence of advanced teaching and learning outcomes as a result of these course transformations supports their embrace.



**Renovating Introductory Probability and Statistics at MIT:  
Changing the pedagogy, syllabus and technology all at once**

**Jeremy Orloff** (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) discussed how MIT used a two-year Davis Foundation grant to bring active learning to their mathematics department. They did not create a MOOC but rather used some new technologies to renovate an introductory class in probability and statistics. He discussed in detail the changes they made both inside and outside of class, including the space and setup of the classroom.

The grant required them to study their changes to the course. Besides realizing the tremendous amount of work and subject expertise required to re-design the course, they found that the format has its limitations but that there is evidence that student achievement increased. MIT is planning to revise the class and run it again next spring.

**Online learning in Liberal Arts Environment: Creating a Digital Community**

**Tina Garrett** (St. Olaf College) presented some background information on liberal arts institutions and spoke about the challenges of applying online learning to a liberal arts education effectively. She discussed an Associated Colleges of the Midwest (ACM) initiative to bring online technologies to courses at liberal arts colleges. The pilot program sought to create an online calculus course that all 14 ACM colleges could offer to increase access and flexibility, develop new technologies and techniques and reduce costs.

Garrett and Chad Topaz (Macalester College) developed and taught the summer course, “Calculus: A Modeling Approach.” Garrett described the course design and showed examples of the course page, screencasts, checkpoint quizzes, exam questions and the online forum. She also talked about the faculty experience and student feedback.

Although the project had some positive outcomes, there are no plans yet to offer the course during the regular school year.

**Mathematical Preparation of the Future Workforce**

**William “Bus” Jaco** (Oklahoma State University) presented information on the INGenIOuS (Investing in the Next Generation through Innovative and Outstanding Strategies) Project, which seeks to develop strategies for training the next generation of mathematical sciences workforce. The project is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) through grants to the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) and the American Statistical Association (ASA) and participation by the American Mathematical Society (AMS) and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM).

The effort was comprised of six key themes, each focused on a unique topic: recruitment and retention; technology and MOOCs; internships; job placement; measurement and evaluation; documentation and dissemination. A product of the project is six white papers on each of these topics and the culmination was a three-day workshop held in July 2013.

Jaco shared statistics about the increasing importance of the mathematical sciences in the workplace and the challenges facing mathematics educators to fully prepare our future workforce. The project report, due out soon, will have implications for the training of the mathematical sciences workforce and should help inform future investments by funding agencies.

**General Discussion**

The meeting was organized purposefully to allow discussion time on topics of general concern and interest which resulted in participation by those attending in conversations related to some general aspects of teaching and curriculum development, innovations, delivery methods and departmental issues.

*Submitted by Anita Benjamin  
Assistant Director, AMS Washington Office  
November 13, 2013*

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE  
AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL  
SOCIETY RETIREMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, American Mathematical Society (the "Institution") adopted the American Mathematical Society Retirement Plan (the "Plan") for the benefit of its employees, originally effective as of January 1, 1989; and

WHEREAS, the Plan was thereafter amended from time to time, including a complete restatement effective as of January 1, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Institution wishes to further amend the Plan, to ratify and confirm the intent of the Institution and to document the operation of the Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the power reserved to the Institution in Article IX of the Plan, the Plan is hereby amended as follows, effective as of January 1, 2014:

**FIRST:** The first paragraph of Section 1.6 of the Plan is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

"1.6 "COMPENSATION" shall mean wages and other compensation which is reportable on Form W-2 paid to a Participant by the Employer for the Plan Year but, except as otherwise provided in the Plan, exclusive of compensation paid prior to the Participant's entry into the Plan, and exclusive of severance payments, overtime, any program of deferred compensation or additional benefits payable other than in cash. Compensation shall include up to six (6) months of payments made to the Participant under the Employer's short-term disability program or from a state short-term disability plan, but excluding any such amount in excess of the Participant's regularly scheduled wages at the time the disability commenced. Compensation shall include elective contributions that are made by the Employer on behalf of a Participant that are not includible in gross income under Code Sections 125, 132(±)(4), 402(e)(3), 402(h)(1)(B) or 403(b). The following are excluded from Compensation for purposes of contributions under the Plan: service awards, gift cards, computing benefits, and bonuses."

**SECOND:** Section 4.2 of the Plan is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

**"4.2 ELIGIBILITY FOR ALLOCATION OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS.** To be eligible for a share of Employer contributions for a Plan Year, an Employee must be qualified as a Participant under Section 3.1 and must be expected to be credited with at least 1,000 Hours of Service in the Plan Year. A Participant who is expected to complete at least 1,000 Hours of Service during the Plan Year but does not will cease receiving contributions when it

becomes apparent that he will not have 1,000 Hours of Service, but prior contributions will remain in the Participant's Account. A Participant who is not expected to be credited with at least 1,000 Hours of Service during the Plan Year, but is, will receive a contribution following the close of the Plan Year."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Institution, by its duly authorized officer, has caused this Amendment to be executed this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

**AMERICAN  
MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

This amendment was drafted by Angell Pension, the third-party administrator for the Society's retirement plans.

Tammy King Walsh, Director, Human Resources

**FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE  
AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL  
SOCIETY TAX-DEFERRED ANNUITY  
PLAN**

WHEREAS, American Mathematical Society (the "Institution") adopted the American Mathematical Society Tax-Deferred Annuity Plan (the "Plan") for the benefit of its employees, originally effective as of June 8, 1975; and

WHEREAS, the Plan was thereafter amended from time to time, including a complete restatement effective as of January 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Institution wishes to further amend the Plan, to ratify and confirm the intent of the Institution and to document the operation of the Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the power reserved to the Institution in Article IX of the Plan, the Plan is hereby amended as follows, effective as of January 1, 2014:

**FIRST:** The first paragraph of Section 1.5 of the Plan is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

"1.5 *Compensation* means the amount paid by the Institution to a Participant that must be reported as wages on the Participant's Form W-2, plus compensation that is not currently includable in the Participant's gross income because of the application of Code Sections 125 or 403(b) through a salary reduction agreement. The following are excluded from Compensation for purposes of contributions under the Plan: service awards, gift cards, computing benefits, and bonuses, severance pay, and overtime. See also the definition of Credited Compensation in Section 4.1. Such definition shall be construed in conjunction with this Section 1.5 and the rules and limitations set forth in the remaining paragraphs of this Section 1.5 are also applicable to Credited Compensation."

**SECOND:** Section 1.8 of the Plan is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

"1.8 *Eligible Employee* means any common law employee of the Institution. However, (1) an independent contractor is not an Eligible Employee; and (2) a Leased Employee cannot be a Participant in his or her capacity as a Leased Employee, and Compensation the leasing organization pays to the Leased Employee is not Compensation for purposes of contributions under the Plan.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, employees who normally work fewer than 20 hours per week are excluded from participation in the Plan; provided: (1) for the employee's

initial eligibility computation period, the Institution reasonably expected the employee to work less than 1,000 Hours of Service in such period; and (2) for each subsequent eligibility computation period, the employee worked fewer than 1,000 Hours of Service in all preceding eligibility computation periods. The eligibility computation periods for this purpose are as set forth under Section 1.26.

For purposes of Mandatory Plan Contributions, the following employees are excluded: (1) any employees who are customarily employed on a part-time, temporary, or irregular basis, provided the employee has never completed a Year of Participation Service under Section 1.26; (2) any employee whose employment is incidental to his or her educational program; (3) student interns; and (4) Employees hired on a temporary basis to handle specific projects or tasks.

"Leased Employee" means an individual (who otherwise is not an Employee of the Institution) who, pursuant to an agreement between the Institution and any other person (the "leasing organization"), has performed services for the Institution (or for the Institution and any persons related to the Institution within the meaning of Code

§144(a)(3)) on a substantially full time basis for at least one year and who performs such services under primary direction or control of the Institution within the meaning of Code

§414(n)(2). Except as described below, a Leased Employee is an Employee for purposes of nondiscrimination testing under the Plan and the "Compensation" of the Leased Employee includes Compensation from the leasing organization which is attributable to services performed for the Institution.

A Leased Employee is not an Employee if the leasing organization covers the employee in a safe harbor plan and, prior to application of this safe harbor plan exception, 20% or fewer of the NHCEs, excluding those NHCEs who do not satisfy the "substantially full-time" standard of Code §414(n)(2)(B), are Leased Employees. A safe harbor plan is a Money Purchase Pension Plan providing immediate participation, full and immediate vesting, and a nonintegrated contribution formula equal to at least 10% of the employee's compensation, without regard to employment by the leasing organization on a specified date. The safe harbor plan must determine the 10% contribution on the basis of compensation as defined in Code §415(c)(3) including Elective Contributions.

The Plan must apply the provisions of this Section 1.8 concerning Leased Employees in a manner consistent with Code §§414(n) and 414(o) and the regulations issued under those Code sections."

**THIRD:** The definition of Credited Compensation in Section 4.1 of the Plan is hereby amended in part deleting the reference to Section 1.7 of the American Mathematical Society Retirement Plan and substituting therefor a reference to Section 1.6 of the American Mathematical Society Retirement Plan as restated effective as of January 1, 2013.

**FOURTH:** The definition of Credited Compensation in Section 4.1 of the Plan is hereby amended in part by adding a new sentence at the end thereof to read as follows:

"Notwithstanding the foregoing, for both exempt and non-exempt employees, the following are excluded from Credited Compensation for purposes of contributions under the Plan: service awards, gift cards, computing benefits, severance pay and bonuses. See also the rules and limitations under the definition of Compensation in Section 1.5 of the Plan."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Institution, by its duly authorized officer, has caused this Amendment to be executed this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

**AMERICAN  
MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

This amendment was drafted by Angell Pension, the third-party administrator for the Society's retirement plans.

Tammy King Walsh, Director, Human Resources

