

2022 Annual Report Committee on the Profession (CoProf)

The Committee on the Profession (CoProf) held its annual meeting on September 17-18, 2022, at the American Mathematical Society (AMS) Headquarters in Providence, Rhode Island with a virtual option. Gail Letzter chaired the meeting.

Executive Summary: The agenda spanned a broad scope of proposals for consideration. CoProf tabled reviewing election processes and appointed four new subcommittees for its work in 2023. The subcommittees are: 2024 JMM Panel: What Makes Successful Research Careers, Joint Subcommittee with CoMC: Holding Meetings in Localities with Discriminatory Practices or Laws, Joint CoE Standing Subcommittee on Teaching Assistants and Instructional Faculty, and Mitigating the Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Profession. Members and Member benefits is a standing subcommittee of CoProf.

As the topic for its next annual review, CoProf decided to continue the work of the subcommittee, AMS Human Rights Activities/Membership in the Science and Human Rights Coalition for the Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) chaired by Gail Letzter.

Other Committee Activities: An overview of the Task Force work on Understanding and Documenting the Historical Role of the AMS in Racial Discrimination was given by Edray Goins. Action items from the subcommittee report are:

- Using the AMS to expand the Math Alliance's F-GAP (Facilitated Graduate Application Process) by finding more facilitators to match with the undergraduates. An expanded F-GAP would interact with admissions offices, Meyerhoff Scholars, etc. to catch the students earlier in their graduate application process.
- Creating a new program, similar to F-GAP, but for graduate students in their final year of school. This would help grad students gain skills to be competitive on the job market. The AMS would help match graduate students with facilitators.
- The AMS should rethink the partnership between the Math Alliance and the Joint Policy Board (currently consisting of AMS, American Statistical Society (ASA), Mathematical Association of America (MAA), and Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM)).
- AMS, CoProf, and Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) should partner to run the Career Paths Workshop, a collection of summer courses for students who have a math minor and are considering careers in say math finance, computational biology, etc.
- The AMS should partner with organizations such as the Math Alliance, National Association of Mathematicians (NAM), Association of Women in Mathematics (AWM), Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS), Conference for African-American Researchers in the Mathematical Sciences (CAARMS), etc. to write an Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of

Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science
(INCLUDES) grant to engage the math community.

A report from the standing subcommittee, Members and Member Benefits, was presented by John Voight. Their work included reviewing a new dues rate structure, discussing membership benefits of professional societies, determining ways to engage directly with early career mathematicians, and studying marketing materials.

In other business, CoProf discussed meeting ideas that would allow the committee to become more nimble and decided to hold a second meeting virtually mid-year. CoProf was also asked to consider studying how the AMS can better support mid-career mathematicians, which was added to the subcommittee discussion.

Council Items: Agenda items that were endorsed by CoProf and forwarded to Council for consideration:

- *Ivo and Renata Babuška Thesis Prize Criteria:* At the request of staff, CoProf reviewed and amended a proposal outlining the nomination, selection, and eligibility criteria for awarding a new prize. CoProf recommended this item and the prize description for approval to the Council.
- *Set of Prizes named after Elias Stein:* At the request of the Development Committee, CoProf reviewed the prize description for the creation of a set of three rotating honors in memory of Professor Elias Stein – one prize for a research article, one prize for an expository article, and one award for mentoring. CoProf recommended this item for approval to the Council.
- *The I. Martin Isaacs Prize for Excellence in Mathematical Writing:* At the request of staff, CoProf reviewed and amended the language for this prize to be awarded for excellence in writing in a primary American Mathematical Society research journal article published in the past two years. CoProf recommended this item for approval to the Council.
- *Stefan Bergman Fellowship:* At the request of the Development Committee, CoProf reviewed the prize description of the Stefan Bergman Fellowship to be awarded to a research mathematician conducting research in the areas of Real Analysis, Complex Analysis, or Partial Differential Equations to support the advancement of their research portfolio. The fellowships will be open only to AMS members who have not received tenure and have not held significant fellowship support. CoProf recommended this reimagined item for approval to the Council.
- *Early Career Fellowship Category:* At present, the AMS offers three mid-career fellowships at \$50k/year. Council asked CoProf to prepare a proposal to establish a new class of AMS Fellowships at \$25k/year for an early career mathematician that would be supported by the Bergman endowment. CoProf recommended this item for approval to the Council.
- *AMS Best Paper Prize Category:* At the request of the Prize Oversight Committee, CoProf was asked to consider recommending that Council creates a "best paper" prize category, associated to some subset of the primary academic journals: Communications of the AMS, Journal of the AMS, Mathematics of Computation, Memoirs of the AMS, Proceedings of the AMS, and Transactions of the AMS.

CoProf recommended that Council establish the AMS Best Paper Prize Category associated with the primary AMS journals.

- *Voting Rights on Policy Committees for Staff Mathematician Liaisons:* CoProf recommended that Council makes the following modifications to the policy committee charges: That policy committee staff mathematician liaisons be voting members of their respective Policy Committee, that the Executive Director be a member without vote, and the Secretary be a voting member.
- *Quorum for Policy Committees:* CoProf recommended that Council adopts as a quorum a simple majority of voting members for each of the six policy committees.

CoProf will hold a mid-year virtual meeting and its next annual meeting will be September 21-22 2023 at AMS Headquarters in Providence, Rhode Island.

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