1003-14-236 **Laura Felicia Matusevich***, Department of Mathematics, University of Pennsylvania, 209 South 33rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6395, **Ezra Miller**, Department of Mathematics, University of Minnesota, and **Uli Walther**, Department of Mathematics, Purdue University. *Holonomic ranks in parametric families.*

I will discuss the behavior of the holonomic rank in a family of D-modules depending on parameters. As it turns out, rank is upper semicontinuous under mild hypotheses. Particular attention will be given to the case of A-hypergeometric D-modules, where much more detailed information can be obtained. (Received September 01, 2004)