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The History of SIGMAAs (Special Interest Groups of the MAA). Preliminary report.

The SIGMAAs program of the MAA was initiated in response to the January 1999 MAA Board of Governors’ publication A New Agenda for the 21st Century, which itemized five priority action recommendations. One of those recommendations was “Facilitate the Formation of Special Interest Groups.” In late spring of 1999, an MAA Taskforce on Special Interest Groups was appointed and initiated an effort that laid the foundation for a program that has grown to include twelve such groups with a total membership of nearly three thousand members. Upon completion of its charge, the Taskforce was disbanded and replaced by a newly created MAA Committee on SIGMAAs in summer of 2001. In this talk the presenters will reveal the interesting history of the SIGMAAs program from its inception to the present. (Received August 27, 2011)