

American Mathematical Society

## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

Baltimore, Maryland

14 January 2014 at 1:30 p.m.

*Prepared March 16, 2014*

### **Abstract**

The Council of the Society met at 1:30 p.m.(EST) on Tuesday, 14 January 2014, in the Holiday Ballroom 1, 2, and 3 on the Second Floor of the Hilton Baltimore located at 401 West Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland, 21201.

These are the minutes of the meeting. Although several items were discussed in Executive Session, all actions taken are reported in these minutes.



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## 1 Call to Order

### 1.1 Opening of the Meeting and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 pm. President David Vogan, who presided throughout, called on members and guests to introduce themselves. Members present in addition to Vogan were Dan Abramovich, Alejandro Adem, Matthew Ando, H el ene Barcelo, Estelle Basor, Arthur T. Benjamin, Georgia Benkart, Brian Boe, Susanne C. Brenner, Ralph L. Cohen, Robert J. Daverman, Sergey Fomin, Eric Friedlander, Susan J. Friedlander, Allan Greenleaf, Jane Hawkins, Patricia Hersh, Tara S. Holm, Barbara L. Keyfitz, Michel Lapidus, Zbigniew Nitecki, Andrew Odlyzko, Ken Ono, Nataša Pavović, Victoria Powers, Amber Puha, Kenneth Ribet, Carla Savage, T. Christine Stevens, Christoph Thiele, and Steven H. Weintraub. Among the guests present were Robert Bryant (President Elect 2014), Graeme Fairweather (Math. Reviews Executive Editor), Sergei Gelfand (AMS Director of Publications), Robert Harington (AMS Associate Executive Director for Publications), Jesse Kenyon (Program Manager, AMS Secretary), Kristin Lauter (AMS Council MAL Elect), Robin Marek (AMS Director of Development), Ellen J. Maycock (AMS Associate Executive Director), Donald E. McClure (AMS Executive Director), Paul Muhly (Chair, Committee on Meetings and Conferences), Keith Taylor (CMS President), and Abigail Thompson (Chair, Committee on Profession). Georgia Benkart was the Associate Secretary with a vote at this meeting.

### 1.2 2013 Council Elections

The Society conducted its annual elections in the fall of 2013. Except for the new members of the Nominating Committee, those elected will take office on 01 February 2014. The newly elected members of the Council, the Editorial Boards Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Board of Trustees are listed in Section 4.1.1.

### 1.3 List of Council Members

A list of 2013 Council members can be found in Attachment A and a list of 2014 Council members can be found in Attachment B

### 1.4 Retiring Members

The terms of Eric Friedlander as Immediate Past President, Barbara Keyfitz as Vice President, Matthew Ando, Estelle Basor, James Carlson, Patricia Hersh, and T. Christine Stevens as Council Members at Large, and Bryna Kra on the Executive Committee will end on 31 January 2014. This will be their final Council meeting in their current positions.

The Council agreed that the Secretary should send thanks to each of them for sharing their wisdom with the Society and the Council and for their service to the mathematical community.

## 2 Minutes

### 2.1 Minutes of the April 2013 Council

The minutes of the April 2013 Council were posted and distributed by email prior to the meeting. They are available here: [April 2013 Minutes](#).

The Council approved the Minutes as distributed.

## **2.2 Minutes of the 05/2013 and 11/2013 Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT) Meetings**

The ECBT met in Ann Arbor, Michigan in May and again in Providence, Rhode Island in November. The minutes of those meetings have been distributed and are considered part of the minutes of the Council. They are also available at:

<http://www.ams.org/about-us/governance/ecbt-meetings/sec-ecbt-minutes>

## **2.3 Minutes of the April 2011 Council**

The header of Item 7.2 (AMS-NLMS Maclaurin Lecturer) of those minutes incorrectly spells the acronym as “AMS-NLMS”. “NLMS” should be replaced with “NZMS.”.The Secretary requests approval of this correction to the Minutes.

The Council approved this correction to the previous Minutes

## **3 Consent Agenda**

The following items were approved by consent. (Items on the Consent Agenda are considered automatically approved, unless brought to the floor for discussion, in which case they must be approved in the ordinary manner and reported in the appropriate section elsewhere in the Council Minutes.)

### **3.1 AWM-AMS Noether Lecture Committee**

At its April 2013 meeting, the Council approved a proposal of the AWM that the AWM Noether Lecture become the AWM-AMS Noether Lecture [Item 4.4.3]. The Secretary requests approval of the following charge to the committee:

#### **General Description**

- Committee is standing
- Number of members is four; two from each society
- Term is two years, staggered
- Terms are from 1 August to 31 July to match AWM terms

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 appointed members.

#### **Principal Activities**

The Committee is charged with selecting the AWM-AMS Noether Lecture Speaker for the annual Joint Mathematics Meeting.

### **3.2 Books and Journals Donations Steering Committee**

As of Council action in 2012 (Item 4.6.3 Council Minutes, 03 January 2012), the Society no longer accepts journal donations. Journal names are no longer listed on the donation listing page. The Secretary recommends changing the name of this committee to the “Book Donations Steering Committee” to reflect its current mission.



### 3.3 AMS-MAA Joint Program Committee Name Change

The Secretary recommends changing the name of this Joint Committee to “AMS-MAA Joint Lecture Committee”. The recommended name more accurately describes the rather limited role played by this joint committee: selecting the two AMS-MAA Invited Speakers at the Joint Meetings.

## 4 Reports of Boards and Standing Committees

### 4.1 Tellers’ Report on the 2013 Elections [Executive Session]

The Society conducted its annual elections in the fall of 2013. The number of ballots cast was 3818, of which 3552 were web ballots and 266 were paper. The reports of the Tellers are attached (Attachment C).

#### 4.1.1 Teller’s Report on the Elections of Officers

Those elected will take office on 01 February 2014. The term of the President Elect is one year, followed by two years as President and then another as Immediate Past President. Terms of the newly elected Vice President and the Members at Large of the Council are three years, and the term of the Trustee is five years. The newly elected officers are:

President Elect	Robert L. Bryant, Duke University
Vice President	Susan Montgomery, University of Southern California
Members at Large	Richard Durrett, Duke University Lisa Fauci, Tulane University Michael Larsen, Indiana University Kristin E. Lauter, Microsoft Research Jennifer Taback, Bowdoin College
Trustee	Robert Lazarsfeld, Stony Brook University

#### 4.1.2 Tellers’ Report on the Elections to the Nominating Committee

The following people were elected to the AMS Nominating Committee. Their terms of office are 01 January 2014 - 31 December 2016.

Peter Constantin	Princeton University
Robert L. Griess, Jr.	University of Michigan
David J. Wright	Oklahoma State University

#### 4.1.3 Tellers Report on Elections to the Editorial Boards Committee

The following were elected to the Editorial Boards Committee. Their terms of office are 01 February 2014 - 31 January 2017.

Anne Schilling            University of California, Davis  
Daniel W. Stroock        Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Council approved the various Tellers' Reports.

## **4.2 Executive Committee and Board of Trustees**

### **4.2.1 Appointments of AMS Officers [Executive Session]**

The ECBT recommended the reappointment of four officers of the Society. Ralph Cohen, the Executive Committee member serving on the ECBT Nominating Committee, reported to the Council on the actions of the ECBT pertaining to the reappointments.

**4.2.1.1 Secretary of the Society** The first term of CARLA D. SAVAGE as Secretary of the Society expires 31 January 2015. The ECBT recommended reappointment for another two year term (01 February 2015 - 31 January 2017). The Council appointed her as Secretary for a second term.

**4.2.1.2 Associate Secretary for the Southeastern Section** The first term of BRIAN D. BOE as Associate Secretary for the Southeastern Section expires 31 January 2015. The ECBT recommended reappointment for another two year term (01 February 2015 - 31 January 2017). The Council appointed him as Associate Secretary for a second term.

**4.2.1.3 Associate Secretary for the Eastern Section** The third term of STEVEN WEINTRAUB as Associate Secretary for the Eastern Section expires 31 January 2015. The ECBT recommended reappointment for another two year term (01 February 2015 - 31 January 2017). The Council appointed him as Associate Secretary for a another term.

**4.2.1.4 Treasurer of the Society** The second term of JANE HAWKINS as Treasurer of the Society expires 31 January 2015. The ECBT recommends reappointment for another two year term (01 February 2015 - 31 January 2017). The Council appointed her as Treasurer for another term.

### **4.2.2 Dues Levels for the 2015 Membership Year**

Using principles adopted in 2005 and following advice from the AMS staff, the ECBT has recommended that individual member dues in 2014 be increased by \$4 for Regular members in the high income category. This would put the rate at \$138 for Regular members in the low income category and \$184 for Regular members in the high income category. Staff recommendation is that the cutoff between the two categories remain at \$85,000.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the staff recommendations; the motion carried.

## **4.3 Editorial Boards Committee [Executive Session]**

Chairs of editorial committees with representation on the Council are appointed by the Council itself. The Editorial Boards Committee (EBC) recommended the reappointment of one such chair.

#### **4.3.1 Managing Editor, *Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society***

The Council reappointed Ken Ono as Managing Editor of the *Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society* for a four year term (01 February 2014 - 31 January 2018).

#### **4.4 Committee on Science Policy**

The AMS Committee on Science Policy (CSP) met in Washington, D.C., on March 14-16, 2013. Its annual report is attached (Attachment D) and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131113-007. Eric Friedlander, the committee chair, provided an oral report during the April 2013 Council Meeting.

#### **4.5 Committee on Meetings and Conferences**

The Committee on Meetings and Conferences (CoMC) met in Chicago, Illinois on 23 March, 2013. Its annual report has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 130329-001.

#### **4.6 Committee on Education**

The AMS Committee on Education (COE) met in Washington, D.C., on October 24-26, 2013. The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment E) and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131113-008. The meeting focused this year 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 mathematics departments from across the country. Tara Holm, the committee chair, provided an oral report.

#### **4.7 Committee on the Profession**

The AMS Committee on the Profession (CoProf) met in Providence, R.I., on September 28-29, 2013. The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment F) and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131106-005. Abigail Thompson, the committee chair, provided an oral report and introduced several CoProf recommendations for Council consideration.

##### **4.7.1 Dissolution of the Joint Committee on Mathematicians with Disabilities**

CoProf had been asked to consider a recommendation from the MAA that the AMS-MAA Joint Committee on Mathematicians with Disabilities be discharged, reasoning that the committee's role was better served by other existing committees. The MAA Board of Governors has voted to dissolve the committee, and is no longer appointing members. CoProf approved and recommended that Council discharge the committee with its thanks.

The motion carried.

##### **4.7.2 Best Practices for Prizes Document**

CoProf endorsed the AMS Prize Committee Best Practices document (see end of Attachment F), 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 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. CoProf recommended Council endorsement.

The Council voted to endorse the document.

#### **4.7.3 Prize Nominations to Remain Active for Multiple Years**

CoProf endorsed a recommendation to keep prize nominations active for multiple cycles subject to compatibility with the prize terms. This could make it seem more worthwhile to people to go to the trouble of making a nomination, in addition to being helpful in years when a particular prize has more than one truly extraordinary candidate. CoProf recommended Council endorsement.

The Council voted to endorse the practice.

#### **4.7.4 Joint Committee on Women Charge**

CoProf recommended to Council the following new charge to the AMS-ASA-AWM-IMS-MAA-NCTMSIAM Joint Committee on Women in the Mathematical Sciences, also known as the Joint Committee on Women (JCW). The proposed charge was co-written by Robert Daverman, former AMS Secretary, and Barbara Faires, MAA Secretary, and has been approved by all of the other organizations involved.

**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.**

The motion carried.

#### **4.7.5 Joint Committee on Women Member from AMATYC**

The AMS-ASA-AWM-IMS-MAA-NCTM-SIAM Joint Committee on Women in the Mathematical Sciences proposes to add representation from the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC). This proposal has already been approved by the governing bodies of the other societies participating in the joint committee. CoProf recommended the Council's approval.

The Council voted to approve the recommendation.

#### 4.7.6 San Francisco Declaration

The San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), initiated by the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB), is attached (Attachment G) with a preamble written by Donald McClure on behalf of CoProf. As of 10 December 2013, 423 organizations and 10,001 individuals have endorsed it. CoProf recommended that the Council endorse the declaration.

Council voted to endorse the declaration.

#### 4.8 Committee on Publications

The AMS Committee on Publications (CPub) met in Providence, R.I., on September 27-28, 2013. The committee considered a number of issues, none of which require Council action. The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment H) and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131118-010. Amber Puha, the designated representative of CPub chair David Marker and a CPub member, provided an oral report.

#### 4.9 Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee

The Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee (MREC) met in Ann Arbor, MI on October 14, 2013. The committee considered a number of issues, none of which require Council action. The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment I), and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131120-011. Barbara Keyfitz, the designated representative of MREC chair Ronald Solomon, provided an oral report.

#### 4.10 Fellows Selection Committee

The Fellows Selection Committee completed its work of selecting the AMS Fellows for 2014 and has prepared a report which is attached (Attachment J). The report has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 130916-004. Included in the report are recommendations for modifications of the Fellows nomination process which CoProf was asked to consider endorsing and forwarding to Council. The report was also reviewed by the Executive Committee at its November 2013 meeting. The recommendations follow.

##### 4.10.1 Self-nominations for Fellows

The "Proposal for a Fellows Program of the AMS" (Attachment K), approved in the 2011 Election, does not explicitly forbid or allow self-nominations. Self-nominations were allowed in 2013. The Fellows Selection Committee recommends that self-nominations no longer be allowed. CoProf endorsed the recommendation.

The motion passed.

##### 4.10.2 Clarification of the Fellows Selection Committee Charge

The April 2012 Council adopted the following charge for the Fellows Selection Committee:

**The Selection Committee names new Fellows each year after a nomination process, which is carried out under the direction of the Secretary with logistical support from the AMS staff. Each January the Council provides a guideline for the number of Fellows to be selected. The Selection Committee will consider both the quality of the nominees and diversity of**

**every kind. Current members of the Selection Committee may not make nominations for Fellows. It should comply to the extent possible with the guideline for the number of new members provided by the Council. It should complete its deliberations early enough in the Fall so that Fellows-elect can make arrangements to attend the induction ceremony at the Joint Mathematics Meetings held the following January.**

The Fellows Selection Process (Section III in Attachment K) refers to a “nominator” and “three additional members who support the nomination.”

The Fellows Selection Committee recommends that the sentence, “**Current members of the Selection Committee may not make nominations for Fellows.**” be replaced by “**Current members of the Selection Committee may not participate in a Fellows nomination either as a principal nominator or as a supporting member.**” CoProf endorsed this change.

The recommendation was approved.

#### **4.10.3 Supporting Nominators**

In the Fellows Selection Proposal, the only mention of supporting nominations is in Item III.E.4. of Attachment K, which says that a nomination package must include (in addition to items 1-3):

4. The signature of the nominator and three additional AMS members who support the nomination, with at least two of these individuals current Fellows.

In 2013 Fellows nominations were submitted online and supporting nominators were emailed a link where they could confirm their support.

The Fellows Selection Committee recommended that Supporting Nominators be asked to write a one paragraph statement of support for the nomination. The Executive Committee endorsed this recommendation. It was moved and seconded to amend the proposed request to Supporting Nominators to read “Please explain in a sentence or two why you are supporting this nomination. Your remarks will be very helpful to the selection committee”.

The amendment carried, as did the amended motion.

#### **4.11 Report from the AMS-ASA-MAA-SIAM Joint Data Committee**

The 2012 and 2013 annual reports of this committee are attached (Attachments L and M), and have been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Numbers 130627-002 and 131210-019, respectively.

#### **4.12 Report from the Representative to the Canadian Mathematical Society**

The 2013 report from T. Christine Stevens, the Council representative to the Canadian Mathematical Society, is attached (Attachment N), and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 130706-003.

#### **4.13 Report from the AMS Committee on Women in Mathematics (CoWiM)**

The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment O), and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131205-018.

#### **4.14 Report from the MRC Advisory Board**

The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment P), and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131108-06.

#### **4.15 Report from the Joint Committee on Women in the Mathematical Sciences (JCW)**

The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment Q), and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131113-016.

#### **4.16 Report from the Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE)**

The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment R), and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131212-020.

#### **4.17 Report from the Library Committee**

The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment S), and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131125-012.

#### **4.18 Report from the Arnold Ross Lecture Series Committee**

The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment T), and has been filed in the Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131201-015.

#### **4.19 Report from the AMS-AAAS Liaison Committee**

The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment U), and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131118-009.

#### **4.20 Report from the Short Course Subcommittee**

The annual report of this committee is attached (Attachment V), and has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131127-013.

## **5 Old Business**

### **5.1 Report on Open Access Journals [Executive Session]**

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.

Robert Harington, Associate Executive Director for Publishing, provided an oral report.

## 6 New Business

### 6.1 Guidelines for the Fellows Selection Committee on the Number of New Fellows

Each year the January Council must provide a guideline for the number of Fellows to be selected that year. The process is laid out in the Fellows Proposal (Attachment K) that was submitted to the membership. In particular, see Item I.C, and footnotes 1 and 5 of that document. There are currently 29,477 members and 1125 Fellows in the inaugural class.

In 2013 the Fellows Selection Committee reviewed 62 nominations and selected 50 Fellows for 2014. Footnote 5 of the Fellows Proposal states, "It is anticipated that during a transition period of approximately 10 years about 75 new Fellows will be added each year." However, in view of the number of nominations received in 2013, the Executive Committee recommended 60 as the target number of new Fellows selected in 2014.

The recommendation was approved by the Council.

### 6.2 Chief Editor, *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society* [Executive Session]

Susan Friedlander is the current Chief Editor of the *Bulletin*, and her term ends on January 31, 2015. Under the procedure established in 2006, a committee consisting of the President, Secretary, Executive Director, and two members of the Council (appointed by the President) is required to recommend to the Council a Chief Editor of the *Bulletin* for the three years 2015-2017. Dan Abramovich and Kenneth Ribet were appointed to the Council posts on this special committee. The committee had discussions by email, phone, and electronic bulletin board and unanimously recommended that SUSAN FRIEDLANDER be reappointed as Chief Editor for the term 01 February, 2015 - 31 January, 2018). The report of the committee has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Committee Report Number 131209-021.

Council made the appointment.

### 6.3 Beal Prize

The Beal Prize was established in 1997. It is not an AMS prize per se, but the AMS provides stewardship of the prize fund and oversees the process for determining if the prize should be awarded. Initially the amount of the prize was \$50,000. In 2000 it was increased to \$100,000.

In May of 2013, following discussions with the donor, D. Andrew Beal, the ECBT approved the increase of the prize to \$1,000,000. Attachment W includes a summary of a Memorandum of Understanding governing the increased prize, a proposed charge for the newly structured Beal Prize Committee, and proposed procedures to be followed by the prize committee for overseeing consideration of a claimed solution or counterexample for the Beal Prize Conjecture.

#### 6.3.1 Beal Prize Committee

The oversight by the AMS of the Beal Prize includes appointment by the AMS of a prize committee. The charge of the prize committee was reviewed by CoProf at its September meeting. CoProf recommended that the Council approve the charge included in Attachment W.



The charge was approved.

### **6.3.2 Procedures for Determination of an Award of the Beal Prize**

Prior to the recent increase in the amount of the Beal Prize, the requirements for the prize to be awarded were simply that the results be published in a refereed publication and that the work be accepted by the mathematics community. The procedures to be followed for deciding when the prize should be awarded needed to be revisited and stated in greater detail. To rewrite the procedures, we consulted with the Clay Mathematics Institute about their experience with the Millennium Prizes. The rewritten procedures were reviewed and they incorporate suggestions by the Society's legal counsel. The proposed procedures were approved by the ECBT on November 23, 2013. Council was asked for its approval of the Procedures included in Attachment W.

The procedures were approved.

## **6.4 Comments from the Representative from the Canadian Mathematical Society**

Keith Taylor, President of the Canadian Mathematical Society (CMS) was invited to address the Council. He spoke of how the CMS feels a strong alliance with the AMS, facing similar issues on a smaller scale. He mentioned two upcoming meetings in Canada which he hoped would draw large US participation: the AMS Eastern Sectional Meeting at Dalhousie in October 2014 and the Mathematical Congress of the Americas to be held in Montréal in 2017.

# **7 Announcements, Information and Record**

## **7.1 Budget**

The Board of Trustees adopted the budget for 2014 as presented at its 23 November 2013 meeting.

## **7.2 Executive Committee Actions**

There were no special actions of the Executive Committee to report.

## **7.3 Advisory Committee on *Notices* Editorial Policy**

In light of the response to publication in the November 2013 *Notices* of the article by Saaty and Zofer, President David Vogan, Jr. appointed an advisory committee to suggest possible changes the *Notices* Editorial Board might adopt in procedures for refereeing and acceptance of articles. The president has shared the report of the committee with the *Notices* Editorial Board, the Committee on Publications, and the Council. The members of the committee are Dan Abramovich (Council MAL), Sergei Gelfand (AMS Publisher), Steven Krantz (*Notices* Chief Editor), David Marker (former CPub Chair), Steven Strogatz (*Notices* Editorial Board), David Vogan, Jr. (President, CPub Member) (Chair), and Chuck Weibel (CPub Chair).

## **7.4 Next Council Meeting**

The next AMS Council Meeting will be held Saturday, 26 April 2014, in Chicago, Illinois, starting at noon with a working lunch. As usual, a significant component of the Council meeting will be the actual nomination of candidates for election in 2014 to AMS offices, as proposed by the Nominating Committee.

In addition, there will be a Council discussion period about MathSciNet: Is it still a competitive product? What can be done to make it more valuable to mathematicians? The Council discussions were started in 2002. Previous discussion topics were: the role of the AMS in graduate and postdoctoral mathematics education (2002, 2003); membership, specifically, retention of nominee members and providing access to the Notices at certain periods as a members-only benefit (2004); the composition of the Council itself (2005); how to engage young mathematicians in the profession (2006 and 2011); what the AMS is doing concerning mathematics education, broadly considered (2007); international programs and the AMS (2008); improving the employment prospects of young Mathematicians (2009, 2010); additional steps the AMS might take to promote diversity (2012); and the role of online materials, especially MOOCs, in college/university education (2013).

### **7.5 Future Scientific and Governance Meetings**

See the listing of future meetings in Attachment X.

## **8 Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:22 p.m.

*Carla D. Savage, Secretary  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
March 16, 2014*

## **ATTACHMENTS**



## 2013 AMS GOVERNANCE

### 2013 COUNCIL

#### *Officers*

President	David A. Vogan, Jr.	Massachusetts Inst. of Technology	2014
Immed. Past President	Eric Friedlander	University of Southern California	2013
Vice Presidents	Barbara Lee Keyfitz	Ohio State University	2013
	Andrew M. Odlyzko	University of Minnesota	2014
	Christoph Thiele	Universität Bonn	2015
Secretary	Carla D. Savage	North Carolina State University	2014
Associate Secretaries	Georgia Benkart	University of Wisconsin	2015
	Brian D. Boe	University of Georgia	2014
	Michel Lapidus	University of California, Riverside	2015
	Steven H. Weintraub	Lehigh University	2014
Former Secretary	Robert J. Daverman	University of Tennessee	2014
Treasurer	Jane M. Hawkins	University of North Carolina	2014
Associate Treasurer	Zbigniew Nitecki	Tufts University	2015

#### *Representatives of Committees*

Bulletin Editorial	Susan J. Friedlander, Chair	University of Southern California	2014
Colloquium Editorial	Peter Sarnak, Chair	Princeton University	2017
Executive Committee	Tara Holm	Cornell University	2016
Executive Committee	Bryna Kra	Northwestern University	2013
Journal of the AMS	Sergey Fomin, Chair	University of Michigan	2016
Math Reviews Editorial	Ronald M. Solomon, Chair	Ohio State University	2016
Math Surveys & Monographs	Ralph L. Cohen, Chair	Stanford University	2014
Mathematics of Computation	Susanne C. Brenner, Chair	Louisiana State University	2015
Proceedings Editorial	Ken Ono, Chair	Emory University	2013
Transactions and Memoirs	Alejandro Adem, Chair	University of British Columbia	2016

#### *Members at Large*

Dan Abramovich	Brown University	2014
Matthew Ando	University of Illinois	2013
Hélène Barcelo	Mathematical Sciences Research Institute	2014
Estelle Basor	American Institute of Mathematics	2013
Arthur T. Benjamin	Harvey Mudd college	2014
James A. Carlson	Clay Mathematics Institute	2014
Jesus De Loera	University of California, Davis	2015
Allan Greenleaf	University of Rochester	2015
Natasa Pavlovic	University of Texas at Austin	2015
Patricia Hersh	North Carolina State University	2013
Tara S. Holm	Cornell University	2013
Victoria Powers	Emory University	2014
Amber L. Puha	California State University, San Marcos	2015
Kenneth A. Ribet	University of California, Berkeley	2015
T. Christine Stevens	Saint Louis University	2013

### 2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Hélène Barcelo	Mathematical Sciences Research	2015
Ralph L. Cohen	Stanford University	2014
Eric Friedlander	University of Southern California	<i>ex officio</i>
Tara S. Holm	Cornell University	2016
Bryna Kra	Northwestern University	2013
Carla D. Savage	North Carolina State University	<i>ex officio</i>
David A. Vogan	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	<i>ex officio</i>

### 2013 TRUSTEES

Ruth Charney	Brandeis University	2016
Mark L. Green	University of California, Los Angeles	2014
Jane M. Hawkins	University of North Carolina	<i>ex officio</i>
William H. Jaco	Oklahoma State University	2015
Zbigniew Nitecki	Tufts University	<i>ex officio</i>
Ronald J. Stern	University of California, Irvine	2013
David A. Vogan	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	<i>ex officio</i>
Karen Vogtmann	Cornell University	2017

### 2013 EDITORIAL BOARDS COMMITTEE

Walter Craig	McMaster University	2015
Sergei Gelfand	AMS	<i>ex officio</i>
Ralph Greenberg	University of Washington	2014
Walter D. Neumann	Barnard College	2015
Dana Randall	Georgia Institute of Technology	2014
Carla D. Savage	North Carolina State University	<i>ex officio</i>
John R. Stembridge	University of Michigan	2013
Sergei K. Suslov	Arizona State University	2013

### 2013 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Richard Brualdi	University of Wisconsin	2013
Frederick R. Cohen	University of Rochester	2014
Susan Friedlander	University of Southern California	2014
Fan Chung Graham	University of California, San Diego	2014
Craig Huneke	University of Virginia	2015
Ken Ono	Emory University	2015
Donal B. O'Shea	New College of Florida	2013
Gunther Uhlmann	University of Washington, Seattle	2013
Amie Wilkinson	University of Chicago	2015

## 2014 AMS GOVERNANCE

### 2014 COUNCIL

#### *Officers*

President	David A. Vogan, Jr.	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2014
President Elect	Robert Bryant	Duke University	2014
Vice Presidents	Susan Montgomery	University of Southern California	2016
	Andrew M. Odlyzko	University of Minnesota	2014
	Christoph Thiele	Universität Bonn	2015
Secretary	Carla D. Savage	North Carolina State University	2016
Associate Secretaries	Georgia Benkart	University of Wisconsin	2015
	Brian D. Boe	University of Georgia	2016
	Michel Lapidus	University of California, Riverside	2015
	Steven H. Weintraub	Lehigh University	2016
Former Secretary	Robert Daverman	University of Tennessee	2014
Treasurer	Jane M. Hawkins	University of North Carolina	2016
Associate Treasurer	Zbigniew Nitecki	Tufts University	2015

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Dan Abramovich	Brown University	2014
Hélène Barcelo	Mathematical Sciences Research Institute	2014
Arthur T. Benjamin	Harvey Mudd College	2014
James A. Carlson	Clay Mathematics Institute	2014
Jesus De Loera	University of California, Davis	2015
Richard T. Durrett	Duke University	2016
Lisa J. Fauci	Tulane University	2016
Allan T. Greenleaf	University of Rochester	2015
Michael J. Larsen	Indiana University	2016
Kristin E. Lauter	Microsoft Research	2016
Natasa Pavlovic	University of Texas at Austin	2015
Victoria Powers	Emory University	2014
Amber L. Puha	California State University, San Marcos	2015
Kenneth A. Ribet	University of California, Berkeley	2015
Jennifer Taback	Bowdoin College	2016

**2014 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Hélène Barcelo	Mathematical Sciences Research Institute	2015
Ralph L. Cohen	Stanford University	2014
Eric Friedlander	University of Southern California	<i>ex officio</i>
Tara S. Holm	Cornell University	2016
Kenneth A. Ribet	University of California, Berkeley	2017
Carla D. Savage	North Carolina State University	<i>ex officio</i>
David A. Vogan	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	<i>ex officio</i>

**2014 TRUSTEES**

Ruth Charney	Brandeis University	2016
Mark L. Green	University of California, Los Angeles	2014
Jane M. Hawkins	University of North Carolina	<i>ex officio</i>
William H. Jaco	Oklahoma State University	2015
Robert Lazarsfeld	Stony Brook University	2018
Zbigniew Nitecki	Tufts University	<i>ex officio</i>
David A. Vogan	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	<i>ex officio</i>
Karen Vogtmann	Cornell University	2017

**2014 EDITORIAL BOARDS COMMITTEE**

Walter Craig	McMaster University	2015
Sergei Gelfand	AMS	<i>ex officio</i>
Ralph Greenberg	University of Washington	2014
Walter D. Neumann	Barnard College	2015
Dana Randall	Georgia Institute of Technology	2014
Carla D. Savage	North Carolina State University	<i>ex officio</i>
Anne Schilling	University of California, Davis	2016
Daniel Stroock	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2016

**2014 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Frederick R. Cohen	University of Rochester	2014
Peter Constantin	Princeton University	2016
Susan Friedlander	University of Southern California	2014
Fan Chung Graham	University of California, San Diego	2014
Robert Griess	University of Michigan	2016
Craig Huneke	University of Virginia	2015
Ken Ono	Emory University	2015
Amie Wilkinson	University of Chicago	2015
David Wright	Oklahoma State University	2016



**SUMMARY**



**AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY  
2013 AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY**

Eligible Voters:	28,433
Paper Ballots:	266
Web Ballots:	3,552
Duplicate Web/Paper Ballots:	0
Final Web Ballots:	3,552
Total Returns:	3,818
Percent Returned:	13.43%

Certified by Survey & Ballot Systems

11/11/2013

Darlene Miller

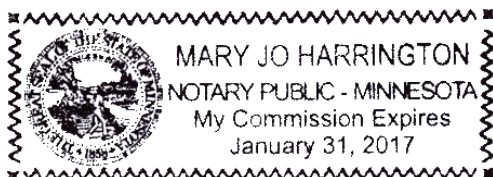
Date

Quality Assurance Analyst

11/11/2013

Date

Notary Public



**RESULTS**



**AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY  
2013 AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY**

President

Vote for: 1	Votes	Percent	
Robert L. Bryant	2,133	59.1%	DECISION
Benedict H. Gross	1,473	40.8%	
Write-in (other than above)	6	0.2%	
	Total Valid Ballots:	3,612	
	Total Unexercised:	206	
	Total Invalid:	0	
	Total Ballots Cast:	3,818	

Vice President

Vote for: 1	Votes	Percent	
Susan Montgomery	2,308	64.0%	DECISION
Helmut Hofer	1,295	35.9%	
Write-in (other than above)	4	0.1%	
	Total Valid Ballots:	3,607	
	Total Unexercised:	211	
	Total Invalid:	0	
	Total Ballots Cast:	3,818	

RESULTS



AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY  
2013 AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

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Board of Trustees

Vote for: 1	Votes	Percent	
Robert Lazarsfeld	1,830	55.2%	DECISION
Michael F. Singer	1,482	44.7%	
Write-in (other than above)	5	0.2%	

Total Valid Ballots:	3,317
Total Unexercised:	501
Total Invalid:	0
Total Ballots Cast:	3,818

RESULTS



AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY  
2013 AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

Member-at-Large of the Council

Vote for: 5	Votes	Percent	
Kristin E. Lauter	1,892	53.5%	DECISION
Lisa Fauci	1,770	50.1%	DECISION
Jennifer Taback	1,757	49.7%	DECISION
Richard Durrett	1,472	41.6%	DECISION
Michael Larsen	1,460	41.3%	DECISION
Edward Bierstone	1,334	37.7%	
Rodolfo H. Torres	1,199	33.9%	
Kannan Soundararajan	1,127	31.9%	
C. Eugene Wayne	1,094	30.9%	
Srikanth B. Iyengar	908	25.7%	
Write-in (other than above)	21	0.6%	
Write-in (other than above)	6	0.2%	
Write-in (other than above)	4	0.1%	
Write-in (other than above)	3	0.1%	
Write-in (other than above)	1	0.0%	

Total Valid Ballots:	3,535
Total Unexercised:	283
Total Invalid:	0
Total Ballots Cast:	3,818

RESULTS



AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY  
2013 AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

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Nominating Committee (3 to be elected)

Vote for: 6	Votes	Percent	
Peter Constantin	1,773	54.9%	DECISION
Robert L. Griess, Jr.	1,622	50.2%	DECISION
David J. Wright	1,472	45.6%	DECISION
Sami Hayes Assaf	1,427	44.2%	
Carlos Castillo-Chavez	1,389	43.0%	
Kailash C. Misra	1,111	34.4%	
	Total Valid Ballots:	3,228	
	Total Unexercised:	590	
	Total Invalid:	0	
	Total Ballots Cast:	3,818	

RESULTS



AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY  
2013 AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

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Editorial Boards Committee (2 to be elected)

Vote for: 4	Votes	Percent	
Anne Schilling	2,066	62.7%	DECISION
Daniel W. Stroock	1,734	52.6%	DECISION
Michelle Wachs	1,599	48.5%	
Rafe Mazzeo	1,450	44.0%	
	Total Valid Ballots:	3,294	
	Total Unexercised:	524	
	Total Invalid:	0	
	Total Ballots Cast:	3,818	

**American Mathematical Society  
Committee on Science Policy Meeting  
March 14-16, 2013  
Washington, DC**

**Summary**

The Committee on Science Policy (CSP) met over the course of three days with a primary focus on Capitol Hill meetings between Congressional representatives and meeting attendees to promote science and the importance of mathematics within science. The first day of the meeting was devoted to preparation for Hill meetings. Friday was spent making Hill visits and committee business and further discussion occurred on Saturday morning.

***Sastry Pantula***

***Director, Division of Mathematical Sciences***

***Directorate of Mathematical & Physical Sciences, National Science Foundation***

Sastry Pantula began his presentation with some guidance for those attending on his own experience making visits to Capitol Hill. In particular, he spoke about the importance of anecdotal evidence to enhance the message brought to Members of Congress. He then spoke about the organization of NSF's Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) and encouraged the group to help their recruiting efforts for program officers.

Pantula presented information on recent budgets for the divisions within the Directorate for Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS). He highlighted the decline in funding for DMS and spoke about anticipated funding levels for the coming year. He said that although there will be losses throughout NSF's budgets, the agency is determined to honor its commitments to continuing grants.

He went on to discuss the many grant opportunities within DMS and highlighted new programs that were instituted in FY2012, as well as some new and enlarged activities planned for FY2013. He encouraged those attending to take advantage of the programs available, particularly the institutes.

***Kei Koizumi***

***Assistant Director for Federal Research and Development***

***White House Office of Science & Technology Policy***

Kei Koizumi began his presentation by describing the work of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and the federal investment in research generally. He continued with a synopsis of the current budget climate taking into consideration the enormous pressures on federal dollars, including the Sequester. He reminded the group that the FY2013 budget has still not been settled and the country is operating on a Continuing Resolution (CR), which means programs are being funded at last year's levels. The President is due to release his FY2014 budget in the next few weeks.

Koizumi explained about the inflexibility of sequestration and described its impact. He looked forward to the anticipated FY2014 budget and the likelihood that there would be a small increase for the National Science Foundation, which would allow the agency to transition its portfolio to include some new Presidential programs. However, between the sequester and the political climate on Capitol Hill that will impact any compromise on the President's budget, it is extremely difficult to know what the ultimate outcome will be.

***Nadine Lymn***  
***Director of Public Affairs***  
***Ecological Society of America***

Nadine Lymn presented an orientation for Congressional meetings. She offered some basic information about the makeup of Congress and how it operates, about the structure of a Congressional office and about the culture on Capitol Hill.

Lymn provided information on preparing for Congressional office visits, including developing the “Ask,” which is a clear and concise statement of the request of the Member. This year’s “Ask” was developed by the AMS Washington Office and takes into consideration the most current funding constraints and climate. It emphasized that ‘mathematics is a foundational discipline upon which future progress in science, engineering and many other areas depend’ and it requested the Member’s support of ‘adequate and sustained investments in science, engineering and mathematics research and education.’

***Richard Yamada***  
***Former AMS Congressional Fellow***  
***U. S. House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space & Technology***

Richard Yamada spoke about the importance of the Hill visits the group is to embark on during this meeting and about the value of the personal relationships that can be forged by continued dialogue between Member and constituent.

He talked about the current climate on Capitol Hill and the many pressures on the federal budget. His outlook for increased funding for the NSF was guarded.

***Constituent Meetings***

Friday, March 15 was devoted to Capitol Hill visits. The AMS Washington Office scheduled meetings for all participants with their respective Congressional representatives. These constituent meetings were conducted in small groups and prepared materials about the importance of mathematics research were left with each office. In total, the group met with 27 offices. A wrap-up session was held at the end of the day to share experiences and discuss the value of the meetings. The group then met informally with Tom Culligan, Legislative Director for Rep. Frank Wolfe (R-VA-10). Rep. Wolfe is chair of the House Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee. This committee appropriates the NSF budget.

***Other Discussion***

Several ideas were discussed regarding work that the committee could undertake including: writing opinion pieces; looking for opportunities and making suggestions for mathematicians to serve in places of influence (i.e. NSF program officers, National Science Board, award selection committees, etc.); writing and/or soliciting articles for the *Notices*; and strengthening international involvement by the AMS.

***Date of Next Meeting***

The 2014 Committee on Science Policy meeting will be held on March 13-15, 2014 in Washington, DC.

Submitted by Anita Benjamin  
American Mathematical Society  
April 19, 2013



**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  
American Mathematical  
Society November 13, 2013

**Committee on the Profession  
Annual Report  
2013**

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 recommendation of the subcommittee was approved by CoProf. 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 2013 JMM:** CoProf had a panel on January 9, 4:40 – 6 pm, at the 2013 Joint Mathematics Meeting in San Diego. The panel, *Getting started as a research mathematician*, was moderated by David Vogan, MIT.

- **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  
November, 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

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The *San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment* (DORA), initiated by the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) together with a group of editors and publishers of scholarly journals, recognizes the need to improve the ways in which the outputs of scientific research are evaluated. Initially, the declaration was endorsed by 82 organizations and 155 individuals. As of December 10, it has been endorsed by 423 organizations and 10,001 individuals. DORA is a worldwide initiative covering all scholarly disciplines.

There are different themes to the declaration, but one that aligns with a statement published by CoProf in 2009 is the misuse of metrics such as a journal's *impact factor* in evaluation of the quality of research of individuals and institutions. [Visit <http://www.ascb.org/dora/> and <http://www.ams.org/profession/leaders/culture/CultureStatement09.pdf>].

The Society has played a leading role in promulgating this message. In 2008, the International Mathematical Union (IMU) in cooperation with the International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ICIAM) and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS) issued its report on *Citation Statistics*. The joint study committee was chaired by John Ewing, then Executive Director of the AMS. One key conclusion of the report is that “the sole reliance on citation data provides at best an incomplete and often shallow understanding of research—an understanding that is valid only when reinforced by other judgments.” [<http://www.mathunion.org/Publications/report/citationstatistics0>]

The importance of DORA stems from its expression of the collective voice of many organizations. CoProf recommends that the AMS also endorse this declaration.

## *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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**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 AMS' four 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 AMS' current “Added after Posting” policy.

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](http://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.com) Author 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



## Annual Report of MREC

The committee met on October 14, 2013 at the MR Offices in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Graeme Fairweather presented an update on recent MR activities and a draft of the MR operating plan for 2014. The MR editors presented a list of 20 journals recommended for addition to the RLJ (Reference List Journals) collection. MREC approved the addition of 19 of these, while deferring judgment on one.

Three significant items were addressed:

- a) As reported by Graeme, “the editors have been under considerable stress” in the wake of one death and one resignation of associate editors earlier in 2013. Moreover, the ever increasing number of journals reviewed adds stress. The termination of paper MR promises greater efficiencies in the operation, but currently MR remains in a transition phase.

MREC recommends the hiring of at least one additional associate editor, in addition to the planned hiring of an additional IT person.

MREC considers the adequate representation of all mathematical fields by the associate editors to be an important issue which must be kept in mind when replacing retired editors and when hiring additional ones. For this reason, MREC requested and was provided a list of the associate editors with the MR classification areas which they cover. Don McClure is compiling further data on this issue which he promises to forward to MREC. When sufficient data is collected and reviewed, MREC will make recommendations concerning the hiring of new editors.

- b) Currently, the treatment of regular items falls into three classes: those having a review written by an external reviewer (40%), those having an “inhouse” review, normally the author summary (40%), and those having no review (20%). Norm Richert raised the question of whether it would be desirable to convert the 20% Indexed (Index Only) items into inhouse items receiving author summaries. This would increase the workload for the MR staff.

MREC recommends against the conversion of Indexed items to Inhouse items for two reasons. Firstly, the current division provides the community with some additional information in the sense that it implicitly conveys the judgment of the associate editors that the Indexed items are not of sufficient interest to merit review. This distinction would be lost if they joined the 40% for which author summaries were provided. Secondly, given the existing pressures mentioned above, this would not be a good time to add to the workload of the MR staff.

- c) Don led a discussion stimulated by a remark in a Notices column by Peter Olver that “... most of its [MR’s] reviews nowadays are mere restatements of

abstracts, and serious reviewing (except for the occasional book) has all but disappeared.” Don reported on a statistical experiment indicating some validity to the assertion that the percentage of “value-added” reviews has decreased. Associate Editor Jim Epperson suggested that there has been an increase in the percentage of reviewed articles of lesser quality, not deserving of a “serious” review; and this might account for the observed decrease in “value-added” reviews. The discussion did not cover the full range of possible causes for the reported change.

- d) Don led a discussion concerning the possibility of creating a series of highly selective “retrospective reviews” of significant papers from the past which never were reviewed by MR. This was stimulated by an observation of Serre that a seminal paper of Deligne was never reviewed by MR (or by Zbl).

MREC strongly endorses the proposal that MR introduce a series of retrospective reviews of seminal papers not previously reviewed, putting the highest priority on those published since 1940. As a first step, a search could be undertaken through highly cited papers and the papers they reference which were never reviewed.

In order to lessen the added burden on the MR editors, MREC proposes to appoint a subcommittee of experts charged with surveying the literature for seminal papers from the past which were never reviewed by MR, making recommendations of those deserving of retrospective reviews, and proposing possible reviewers.

**(For discussion)**

Submitted by  
Ronald Solomon



To: AMS Council  
Via: AMS Committee on the Profession  
From: AMS Fellows Program Selection Committee  
Re: Annual Report  
Date: September 16, 2013

The AMS Fellows Program Selection Committee is charged with annually selecting a class of new AMS Fellows from among nominations received. As this was the first year the Selection Committee was operating, we began our work by agreeing on some conflict of interest rules to govern our operations. The rules we agreed upon (and which we recommend to our successor committees) are:

Committee members each agree to recuse themselves from discussion of any nominee where a close professional or personal relationship might create a perception of a conflict of interest. Examples include a recent or long-term collaborator, colleagues at the same institution, or a prior advisor/student or mentor/postdoc relationship. Such recusals will be declared to the committee chair after the list of nominees is known.

Once that task was complete, and once we were given access by AMS staff to the nomination materials for eligible nominees, we met via a series of conference calls spanning nearly a month, with the entire committee discussing each nomination, and eventually arrived at our chosen class of 50 new AMS Fellows for 2014. We are happy to report that almost all of our decisions about the choices of new Fellows were reached by consensus; at the very last stage, we took a vote between two alternatives involving a small number of nominees, and the majority carried the day.

We were then asked to produce "citations" for new Fellows. Nominators had been required to provide a proposed citation, and we edited those into a common style. (We expect that in future years, armed with samples of citations, nominators will produce proposed citations much closer in style to our common format.) The citation editing, and the creation of this report, ended our activity for the year.

Reflecting upon our experiences from this first year, we have several changes to propose which we believe may require CoProf or Council action, and we request such action. First, we would like to suggest that Supporting Members be asked to write a one paragraph statement of support for the nomination. At present, the Supporting Member simply

agrees to allow his or her name to be used in support of the nomination, and in certain instances we wondered if the Supporting Members were actively aware of the nomination being presented. Asking for a paragraph in support would address this.

Second, we would like to request that self-nominations no longer be allowed. We found self-nominations very uncomfortable to deal with, in part because (as indicated above) all of the information about the nomination comes from the nominator alone. Since a self-nominator must recruit several other mathematicians as Supporting Members, it does not seem to us too big a burden to ask that candidate to find a mathematician who would be willing to submit the nomination.

A third item for Council action occurs at the end of this report.

As most on the Council know, the brief summary contained in the opening paragraphs of this report omits a significant event: the exclusion of some nominations caused by miscommunication about the rules for nominators. The Council, in the Charge to the Committee adopted in April 2012, had forbidden members of this Committee from serving as nominators. Unfortunately, the Charge to the Committee was not transmitted to committee members when they were appointed to the committee, and virtually all members of this Committee other than those who had also served on the 2012 Council were unaware of this restriction. Also unfortunately, although AMS staff was extremely helpful to nominators during the nomination process including assisting with the determination of eligibility of nominators and co-nominators, the staff was unaware (prior to the nomination deadline) of the restriction preventing members of this Committee from nominating Fellows. In fact, that restriction did not appear anywhere within the website describing the Fellows Program and the nomination process, nor on the website at which nominations were actually made. As a result, when the nomination deadline had passed there was a small number of nominations which were defective through no fault of the nominator or the nominee.

This problem was discovered by the Committee itself during our discussion of conflict of interest rules: when some of us proposed including "having served as nominator or co-nominator (supporting member)" among the conflict of interest categories, those Committee members who had served on the 2012 Council pointed out to the Committee the prohibition contained in the Charge. We sought Council's advice on how to handle this matter, proposing what we felt was a fair way to handle these nominations, but Council did not agree and the affected nominations were removed from the pool without the Committee ever

having seen them. This incident directly caused the resignation of one of our committee members as well as much distress among those who remained.

We wish to emphasize that such a situation should never be allowed to happen again. Conversations with AMS officers and staff have convinced us that appropriate corrective actions have been taken, ensuring that both future committee members and AMS staff dealing with nominations will be fully informed about this issue.

Our reading of the Charge to the Committee, and of the minutes of the April 2012 Council meeting where that Charge was adopted, finds some ambiguity in the question of whether Committee members are forbidden to be Supporting Members, or if the restriction only applies to the principal Nominator. (In an abundance of caution, all nominations in which a Committee member had been involved, whether as the Nominator or as a Supporting Member, were disqualified this year.) We request a clarification of this point from the Council.

[Edit by Secretary's Office to list the Committee Members for reference: Ioana Dumitriu, Martin Golubitsky, Christopher Hacon, Julia Knight, Bryna Kra, John Luecke, Ezra Miller, David Morrison (Chair), Joseph Silverman, Alejandro Uribe, Ravi Vakil]



*The January 2011 Council directed that the following proposal be presented to the membership in 2011 for their vote to support or oppose an AMS Fellows Program. The Council further directed that the ballot be accompanied by this statement: “If more than 1/2 of the members voting on this issue are in favor, then the AMS will implement the program.”*

*Information about the history of the AMS Fellows Proposals can be found at [www.ams.org/about-us/governance/elections/fellows-info](http://www.ams.org/about-us/governance/elections/fellows-info)*

## **A Proposal for a Fellows Program of the AMS**

*The Fellows program is created and updated by the Council of the AMS. The program below describes in general terms what a new Fellows program will look like. If approved, some details of the program may be changed by the AMS Council prior to implementation in order to address practical needs. Future Councils can make further changes, keeping in mind the intent of the membership in approving the initial program.*

*The goals of the Fellows Program are:*

- *To create an enlarged class of mathematicians recognized by their peers as distinguished for their contributions to the profession.*
- *To honor not only the extraordinary but also the excellent.*
- *To lift the morale of the profession by providing an honor more accessible than those currently available.*
- *To make mathematicians more competitive for awards, promotion and honors when they are being compared with colleagues from other disciplines.*
- *To support the advancement of more mathematicians in leadership positions in their own institutions and in the broader society.*

### **I. Program (steady-state)**

- A. The Fellows program of the American Mathematical Society recognizes members who have made outstanding contributions to the creation, exposition, advancement, communication, and utilization of mathematics.
- B. The responsibilities of Fellows are:
  - To take part in the selection of new Fellows,
  - To present a “public face” of excellence in mathematics, and
  - To advise the President and/or the Council on *public matters* when requested.

- C. The target number of Fellows will be determined by the AMS Council as a percentage of the number of members.<sup>1</sup> The target percentage will be revisited by the Council at least once every ten years and may be increased or decreased in light of the history of the nomination and selection process. The intended size of each year's class of new Fellows should be set with this target size in mind.
- D. Following a selection process (see below), individuals are invited to become Fellows. They may decline and they may also resign as Fellows at any time.
- E. Fellows receive a certificate and their names are listed on the AMS web site. The names of new Fellows are also included in the *Notices* each year.
- F. If they are not already Fellows, the AMS President and Secretary are made Fellows when they take office.

## II. Initial Implementation

- A. In the initial year of the program, individuals who are AMS members during both the years 2010 and 2011 as of January 1, 2012 and who have done one or more of the following will be invited to become AMS Fellows.<sup>2</sup>
  - 1. Given an invited AMS address (including at joint meetings).<sup>3</sup>
  - 2. Been awarded an AMS research prize.<sup>4</sup>
  - 3. Given an invited address at an International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM) or an International Congress of Industrial and Applied Mathematicians (ICIAM).<sup>3</sup>
- B. An additional 50 individuals who are AMS members during both the years 2010 and 2011 as of January 1, 2012 will be selected to become AMS Fellows. These will be chosen by a committee appointed by the President with the advice of the Executive Committee of the Council. Attention will be paid to selecting AMS members recognized for their contributions beyond research.

## III. Selection Process

- A. New Fellows are selected each year after a nomination process. The

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<sup>1</sup> This proposal's recommendation to Council is 5% of members. At present there are about 30,000 members so the number of Fellows would be about 1,500.

<sup>2</sup> The seeding process described in II.A would produce offers of Fellows status to approximately 800 current AMS members.

<sup>3</sup> An invited address is one given at the invitation of the program committee and delivered before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

<sup>4</sup> These are the Birkhoff, Bôcher, Cole, Conant, Doob, Eisenbud, Fulkerson, Moore, Robbins, Satter, Steele, Veblen, Whiteman, and Weiner prizes. These prizes must have been awarded before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

nomination process is carried out under the direction of the Secretary with help from the AMS staff. The procedures for nominating AMS Fellows will be available on the AMS website.

- B. The Selection Committee will consist of twelve members of the AMS who are also Fellows, each serving a three-year term, and with four new members appointed each year. The AMS president, in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Council, nominates the new members of the Selection Committee in November of each year. At the same time, the President nominates a continuing member of the Selection Committee to serve as Chair.
- C. The Selection Committee accepts nominations for Fellows between February 1 and March 31 each year. Nominations are made by members of the AMS. A member can nominate no more than 2 nominees a year.
- D. To be eligible for nomination to Fellowship, an individual must be an AMS member for the year in which he or she is nominated as well as for the prior year.
- E. A nominator must supply a package with the following information on the nominee:
  - 1. A Curriculum Vitae *of no more than five pages*.
  - 2. A citation of fifty words or less explaining the person's accomplishments.
  - 3. A statement of cause of 500 words or less explaining why the individual meets the criteria of Fellowship.
  - 4. The signatures of the nominator and three additional AMS members who support the nomination, with at least two of these individuals current Fellows.
- F. Any person who is nominated and is not selected a Fellow will remain an active nominee to be considered by the Selection Committee for possible selection for a further 2 years.
- G. Each year the January Council provides a guideline for the number of Fellows to be selected<sup>5</sup>. The Selection Committee chooses Fellows from the nominations bearing in mind this guideline, diversity of every kind, and the quality and quantity of the external nominations. The Selection Committee has the discretion to make nominations to fulfill the general goals of the Fellowship.
- H. Those members who are chosen by the Selection Committee are invited by the President to become new Fellows of the AMS.

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<sup>5</sup> It is anticipated that during a transition period of approximately 10 years about 75 new Fellows will be appointed each year. In the steady state of 1500, it is anticipated that about 40 new Fellows positions will occur annually due to attrition.





2012 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMS-ASA-MAA-SIAM DATA COMMITTEE

Prepared by Richard Cleary, Chair, AMS-ASA-MAA-SIAM Data Committee, Professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences, Bentley University, Waltham, MA, rcleary@bentley.edu  
December 31, 2012

The Annual Survey Data Committee guides the collection and dissemination of data on matters of concern to the mathematical sciences community. The committee held its annual meeting during the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Boston, Massachusetts in January 2012. The committee discussed data gathered and published during the previous year and made recommendations on data to be gathered in 2012. They also adopted a new scheme for grouping the doctorate-granting departments in the mathematical sciences. (See the October 2012 issue of *Notices of the AMS*, pages 1262-1264, for details.) AMS Staff in Providence, under the direction of Ellen Maycock, Associate Executive Director for Meetings and Professional Services, carry out the annual collection and analysis of data and the writing of the reports jointly with the committee chair. AMS staff members involved in this work during 2012 included James Maxwell, Associate Executive Director for Special Projects, and Colleen Rose, AMS Survey Analyst.

Based on data gathered in questionnaires sent to departments of mathematical sciences in the U.S. and to new doctoral recipients that earned degrees between July 1, 2010–June 30, 2011, five reports were published in the *Notices of the AMS*\*

Staff at AMS handled nine requests for specialized reports drawn from the Annual Survey Data.

Members of the committee for 2012 and the organization they represent are given below. Terms expire on January 31 of the listed year.

Pam Arroyaw	ASA	2013	Peter March	AMS	2014
Richard Cleary	MAA	2015	James Maxwell	Ex officio	
Steven Dunbar	AMS	2013	David R. Morrison	AMS	2014
Susan Gellar	MAA	2015	Bart Ng	SIAM	2013
Boris Hasselblatt	AMS	2013	William Vèlez	AMS	2015
Ellen Kirkman	MAA	2014			

\* 2011 Annual Survey of the Mathematical Sciences, edited by Richard Cleary, James W. Maxwell, and Colleen A. Rose:

- Preliminary Report on the 2010-2011 New Doctoral Recipients, *Notices of the AMS* (2012), Volume 59, Number 4, pp. 522-530
- Faculty Salary Survey, *Notices of the AMS* (2012), Volume 59, Number 3, pp. 410-415
- Report on Academic Recruitment and Hiring Survey, *Notices of the AMS* (2012), Volume 59, Number 6, pp. 796-800
- Report on the 2010-2011 Survey of New Doctoral Recipients and Starting Salary of New Doctoral Recipients, *Notices of the AMS* (2012), Volume 59, Number 8, pp. 1083-1093
- Departmental Profile Report: Faculty Profile, Enrollment and Undergraduate Majors Profile and Graduate Student Profile, *Notices of the AMS* (2012), Volume 59, Number 10, pp. 1423-1431

Attachment:

Surveys of AMS-ASA-IMS-MAA-SIAM Annual Survey

## Surveys of AMS-ASA-IMS-MAA-SIAM Annual Survey

The AMS-ASA-MAA-SIAM Data Committee gives advice to AMS staff about annual data gathering from U.S. departments in the mathematical sciences. This data gathering was started by AMS in 1957 and has continued uninterrupted since that time. The MAA joined this effort in 1989 and in more recent times IMS, ASA and SIAM have become sponsors. AMS staff, under the Associate Executive Director for Meetings and Professional Services, carries out the survey work. The Chair of the Data Committee and appropriate personnel at AMS currently write reports each year drawn from the annual surveys that are published in *Notices of the AMS*. The current surveys are highlighted below.

**New Doctoral Recipients:** Each calendar year the data gathering begins in April. Doctoral granting departments in the Mathematical Sciences in the U.S. are asked to report a variety of information about their new doctoral recipients from July 1 the previous year through June 30 of the current year. The departments are asked for the names of their new doctoral recipients, dissertation titles, addresses, citizenship, current employment status, etc. A preliminary report on the information gathered by early fall is typically published in the following March issue of the *Notices of the AMS* with a final report published in the August issue of *Notices of the AMS*.

**Faculty Salaries:** Each June a questionnaire is sent to Mathematical Sciences departments in all 4-year colleges and universities in the U.S. asking them to provide salary information for all tenured or tenure-track faculty in their department for the upcoming academic year. This information is reported by group (see group definitions below) and by rank. Information gathered for this report is typically published in a spring issue of the *Notices of the AMS*.

**Employment Experiences of New Doctoral Recipients:** Beginning each October, further information is gathered about new doctoral recipients. Using the names and addresses of new doctoral recipients provided earlier on the Survey of New Doctoral Recipients, a questionnaire is sent to each new doctoral recipient asking for their current employment status, salary, gender, etc. This information, combined with the final data gathered on the Survey of New Doctoral Recipients, provides a more comprehensive look at the new doctoral recipients as well as giving information about their starting salaries. This information is typically published in the August issue of *Notices of the AMS*.

**Academic Recruitment and Hiring:** Beginning each October, departments are asked to report on their efforts to recruit new faculty during the previous year and report on the new faculty hired as a result of their recruiting. The results of this survey are typically published in a spring issue of *Notices of the AMS*.

**Departmental Profile: Faculty Profile, Enrollment and Degrees Awarded Profile, Graduate Student Profile:** In January, another questionnaire is sent to all departments of Mathematical Sciences awarding a doctoral or masters degree and to a stratified random sample of departments awarding at most a bachelors degree. It asks them for details about number and type of faculty, enrollments in courses by broad categories, number and type of graduate students in departments with graduate programs, etc. Information from this questionnaire is used to provide a profile of each reporting group of departments. The results are published in a fall issue of *Notices of the AMS*.

**Group definitions.** Departments in the U.S. are divided into groups and results are given for each of these groups in reporting on these surveys. Starting with the 2012 cycle of surveys,

a new grouping scheme has been adopted by the Data Committee and it will be reflected in the subsequent reports of these surveys. For more details see <http://www.ams.org/profession/data/annual-survey/groups>.

**Other activities.** The Annual Survey Data Committee also offers guidance to AMS survey staff on the data gathered and published annually as a guidebook for prospective graduate students in the Mathematical Sciences. Prior to 2012, this guidebook was titled *Assistantships and Graduate Fellowships in the Mathematical Sciences*, appearing on the AMS website. Beginning in the fall of 2012, this information is used to form the online resource *Graduate Programs in the Mathematical Sciences*, available at <http://www.ams.org/programs/students/findgradprograms/findgradprograms>.

At times the committee advises other groups contemplating gathering data from departments of Mathematical Sciences. This may include informing them that such data is already available and steering them to it. When asked, the committee makes suggestions on questionnaires that other groups are planning to use to gather data.

From time to time departments ask for salary information for a peer group of their department. The staff at AMS provides this information whenever an appropriate peer group is available and the confidentiality of individual department responses can be assured. The committee currently holds a half-day meeting at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in January each year.

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Prepared by AMS Staff with Richard Cleary, Chair, AMS-ASA-MAA-SIAM Data Committee, Chair of the Division of Mathematics & Sciences, Babson College, Wellesley, MA, [rcleary@babson.edu](mailto:rcleary@babson.edu)  
December 31, 2013

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Sue Geller	MAA	2015	David R. Morrison	AMS	2014
Amanda Goldbeck	ASA	2016	William Velez	AMS	2015
Loek Helminck	SIAM	2016	Edward Waymire	AMS	2016
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- Preliminary Report on the 2011-2012 New Doctoral Recipients, *Notices of the AMS* (2013), Volume 60, Number 3, pp. 316-324.
- Faculty Salary Survey, *Notices of the AMS* (2013), Volume 60, Number 4, pp. 426-432
- Report on Academic Recruitment and Hiring Survey, *Notices of the AMS* (2013), Volume 60, Number 5, pp. 586-591
- Report on the 2011-2012 Survey of New Doctoral Recipients and Starting Salary of New Doctoral Recipients, *Notices of the AMS* (2013), Volume 60, Number 7, pp. 874-884
- Departmental Profile Report: Faculty Profile, Enrollment and Undergraduate Majors Profile and Graduate Student Profile, will be published in the *Notices of the AMS* (2014), Volume 61, Number 2.

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### **Report on the Summer, 2013, Meeting of the Canadian Mathematical Society**

The Canadian Mathematical Society (CMS) held its Summer Meeting on June 4-7, 2013, at Dalhousie University and Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. I represented the American Mathematical Society at the meeting of the CMS Board of Directors on June 4.

The Board's agenda included several issues that have recently drawn the attention of the AMS Council, including open-access publishing. Like the AMS, the CMS is concerned about the impact that open-access publishing will have on the society's journals and their viability. Since a considerable portion of the CMS's income currently comes from profits from journals, concern was expressed about the financial implications for the organization as a whole.

About ninety minutes of the four-hour meeting was devoted to a presentation by program staff from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), which is the federal agency that supports university-based research in mathematics. Much of that presentation dealt with open-access publishing, which was addressed in the context of international efforts led by the Global Research Council. Canadian granting agencies are developing an open-access policy, and they expect to issue guidelines some time in 2014. Currently, the agencies are focusing on open access to publications, deferring until later the discussion of open access to research data. It appears that Canada will require "green" (rather than "gold") open access, so the major task is to define what repositories for research articles will be deemed acceptable. Other issues addressed by the NSERC staff including funding levels (which are flat), success rates for grant proposals in mathematics, plans for introducing an online proposal system, and an initiative on the theme of "exploring big data."

As the representative of AMS, I was invited to make some remarks. I focused on the recent decision to establish two open-access journals as companions of *Proceedings of the AMS* and *Transactions of the AMS*, stressing that the existing print journals, which do not levy article-processing-charges (APC's), would continue to exist as before. I was asked about the likely size of the APC's for the new journals but did not feel qualified to offer an answer.

Other issues discussed at the CMS Board Meeting included membership, meeting registration fees, and budget cuts that have reduced the number of mathematics faculty members at a time when enrollments are increasing. I suspect that all of these are issues that will resonate with members of the AMS Council.

The CMS Meeting itself was interesting and enjoyable. It featured some excellent talks, as well as an art exhibit. I was intrigued by the CMS's strategy of offering a complimentary lunch to entice members to attend the annual business meeting.



T. Christine Stevens  
Saint Louis University  
July 3, 2013



## **COWIM: REPORT TO AMS COUNCIL JANUARY 2014**

The AMS' newly reconstituted Committee on Women in Mathematics met at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Diego on January 11, 2013. The members, all of whom were present on January 11th, were Susan Hermiller, Ellen Kirkman, Michael Reed (via Skype), Linda Rothschild, and Carol Wood. Also in attendance were Jesse Kenyon, Ellen Maycock, and Robin Hagan Aguiar.

The meeting was concerned primarily with defining our role and considering various subjects that had been brought to our attention during the fall. We felt it was important that our efforts be AMS-appropriate, while also coordinating our activities with other groups, such as CoProf, the Joint Committee on Women (JCW), the Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) and relevant committees of other professional societies. Our committee's composition facilitates coordination: Susan Hermiller serves on JCW, CoProf is represented (e.g. by Ellen Maycock) and we include two past presidents of AWM (Rothschild and Wood). Having served on CoProf in the past, I felt that many items were of common interest and concern, and it seems crucial that our two groups act in a coordinated fashion.

Among AMS-specific matters discussed were ones based on the availability of data. Ellen Kirkman is our liaison to the data committee. One desideratum that has been discussed repeatedly at AMS is to obtain follow-up on PhD mathematicians 5 to 10 years out. For women this may be an important piece of information, given the perception is that problems increase as the post-PhD years go by. We understand that a proposal for such a longitudinal study has been put forward to NSF and now to Sloan.

Below is a list of inter-related items that have come to the attention of our committee:

- 1: Family leave policies for graduate students and postdocs in mathematics.
- 2: More generally, availability of information about graduate programs and postdoctoral departments as welcoming environments for women.
- 3: Dissemination of "best practices" in areas affecting women's mathematical careers.
- 4: Sexual harassment at meetings: a range of views exist on how best to address this disgusting problem, including whether one should report misbehavior to the employer's institution and how to navigate various legal issues.
- 5: Wikipedia policy concerning publication of biographical articles, and the resulting dearth of articles about women.
- 6: Use of GRE scores in graduate admissions and fellowships and the effect of performance gaps which exist for women, for US students, and for African-Americans.

All the above are under current discussion, as is CoWiMs meeting schedule and choice of focus. We shared the above list with CoProf to seek its reactions and suggestions about how best to coordinate efforts on matters of mutual concern. Feedback from CoProf indicated interest in items 1. and 6. above, and also concern about student evaluations. There is extensive literature about gender bias in such evaluations.

Concerning 4 above, a committee has been formed with one representative from each of CoProf, ComC, and CoWiM to write a welcoming environment statement (as yet undone).

Carol Wood, Chair, CoWiM

Appendix: Some additional details and links:

- Re 1 and 2: <http://www.aps.org/programs/women/sitevisits/index.cfm>  
Our committee chair did an informal survey of mathematics departments and found mostly ad hoc solutions in place, many of which were quite reasonable. However, success often depended on the initiative and/or good will of someone. For this reason, sample policies and best practices could be useful.
- Re 3: cf. the LMS efforts <http://www.blitzadv.co.uk/LMS-BTL-17Report.pdf> and also <http://www.lms.ac.uk/women-mathematics>
- Re 4: Yes it really does happen. AWM has established a policy which stops short of any redress mechanism:  
<https://sites.google.com/site/awmmath/awm-resources/policy-and-advocacy>
- Re 5: This is a topic being discussed widely, not just in mathematics. See for example Clair Potter's blog at <http://chronicle.com/blognetwork/tenuredradical/2013/03/prikipedia-looking-for-the-women-on-wikipedia/> and also <http://www.hastac.org/blogs/fionab/2013/03/11/toofew-feminists-engage-wikipedia>  
Within the mathematics community, AWM is floating the possibility of finding volunteers to write Wiki articles about all the women who receive prizes or give named lectures. CoWiM and CoProf might consider something similar for AMS.
- Re 6: In addition to trying to get data which may not be available from ETS, we could ask graduate programs to explain how GRE scores are used in their admissions process, including median scores and cut-offs.

**Mathematics Research Communities  
Advisory Board  
Annual Report  
2013**

The Mathematics Research Communities (MRC), a program of the AMS, provides early career mathematicians—those who are close to finishing their doctorates or have recently finished—with opportunities to build social and collaborative networks to inspire and sustain each other in their work. The program, which began in 2008, has been funded by the National Science Foundation. Recently, the AMS learned that the proposal to continue the program for 2014, 2015 and 2016 has been funded. The structured program engages and guides all participants as they start their careers. The program includes:

- One week summer conferences for each topic
- Special Sessions at the Joint Mathematics Meetings
- Discussion networks by research topic
- Funding for additional collaborations
- Longitudinal study of early career mathematicians.

The Advisory Board provides advice and guidance to the AMS staff concerning the Mathematics Research Communities (MRC) program. The Advisory Board reviews applications for organizing future Mathematics Research Communities workshops, (possibly) solicits additional applications and determines the conferences. The Advisory Board may also be asked to consider various policy questions regarding the MRC program that arise from time to time.

In 2013, the following MRC conferences, listed with organizers, were held:

***Complex Dynamics***

**Laura De Marco**, University of Illinois at Chicago  
**Adam Epstein**, University of Warwick  
**Sarah Koch**, Harvard University (now U of Michigan)

***Tropical and Nonarchimedean Analytic Geometry***

**Matt Baker**, Georgia Institute of Technology  
**Sam Payne**, Yale University

***Geometric Group Theory***

**Ruth Charney**, Brandeis University  
**Tullia Dymarz**, University of Wisconsin, Madison  
**Dan Margalit**, Georgia Institute of Technology (not on site)  
**Kim Ruane**, Tufts University  
**Kevin Wortman**, University of Utah

***Regularity Problems for Nonlinear Partial Differential Equations Modeling Fluids and Complex Fluids*****Peter Constantin**, Princeton University**Gautam Iyer**, Carnegie Mellon University**Igor Kukavica**, University of Southern California**Helena Nussenzveig-Lopes**, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro**Jiahong Wu**, Oklahoma State University

The MRC Advisory Board has chosen the following conferences, listed with organizers, for 2014:

***Cluster Algebras***, June 8 – 14, 2014**Michael Gekhtman** (University of Notre Dame)**Mark Gross** (University of California, San Diego)**Gregg Musiker** (University of Minnesota)**David Speyer** (University of Michigan)**Gordana Todorov** (Northeastern University)***Algebraic and Geometric Methods in Applied Discrete Mathematics***, June 15 – 21, 2014**Carina Curto** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)**Jesus A. De Loera** (University of California, Davis)**Christine Heitsch** (Georgia Institute of Technology)**Michael Orrison** (Harvey Mudd College)**Francis Edward Su** (Harvey Mudd College).***Mathematics of Quantum Phases of Matter and Quantum Information***, June 24-30, 2014**Siu-Hung Ng** (Iowa State University)**Eric C. Rowell** (Texas A&M University)**Zhengan Wang** (Microsoft Station Q and U.C. Santa Barbara).***Network Science***, June 24-30, 2014**Mason Porter** (University of Oxford)**Aaron Clauset** (University of Colorado, Boulder)**David Kempe** (University of Southern California)

*Ellen J Maycock*  
*Associate Executive Director*  
*November 2013*

## **Annual Report of the Joint Committee on Women in the Mathematical Sciences**

The JCW held its annual meeting in Chicago on September 28, 2013. The full minutes of the annual meeting are posted on the JCW website: <http://jcwmath.wordpress.com/meeting---minutes/>. We also held conference calls during the year and met at the 2013 JMM to continue the committee's business.

### *Membership---related issues*

We welcomed two representatives from AMATYC, which is in the process of joining the other 7 societies involved with the JCW: AMS, ASA, AWM, IMS, MAA, NCTM, and SIAM. Only the approval of the AMS is now needed to formalize AMATYC's participation in the JCW. We also look forward to final approval by the AMS of the revised charge.

Greater diversity among the JCW representatives would aid its mission. Currently, the committee is composed entirely of women (except for one man) from academia (except for one person working in industry). Ideally, **societies should be nominating both men and women to the committee**, to provide a greater range of perspectives and experience, and from different types of institutions in academia as well as from industry and government. Concentrating women on the JCW also has the likely side effect of reducing the number of women serving on other society committees.

Christine Guenther was elected the new co---chair to replace Tanya Leise. Paula Roberson will continue to serve as the other co---chair.

### *Welcoming environment policy*

We continued our discussion of how to advise and encourage societies to adopt a welcoming environment policy (a term we prefer as having a positive message, rather than the term anti---harassment). The societies must consult their legal staff on what can be done with such a policy, but at the least **we strongly encourage societies to adopt a policy** similar to AWM's recently approved policy. See the JCW website for more information and a link to the AWM policy: <http://jcwmath.wordpress.com/resources/welcoming---environment---and---issues---surrounding---harassment/>.

Once such a policy is approved, **we recommend that societies display the Welcoming Environment Policy prominently in conference programs, along with information on who to contact in case of an incident of harassment**. A link to the policy could be sent to section leaders or session chairs, as part of the general packet of information they receive from the society. To help make members aware of the policy, societies could consider adding a box that people check when registering for major conferences that has a sentence about the policy and a link to the full policy.

*Panels at major conferences*

A panel organized by the JCW will take place at the upcoming Joint Math Meetings in Baltimore, titled *Negotiating in Mathematical Careers*. The JCW is also organizing a similar panel for the 2014 Joint Statistical Meetings, which has been given a place in the program. A panel is planned for the Celebrating Women in Statistics conference, if the conference's funding comes through. The JCW---sponsored panel on midcareer issues for the 2013 JMM went very well, as did the panel co---sponsored with the MAA Committee on Participation of Women on family leave policies for graduate students and postdocs.

*Dependent care issues*

Several societies are subsidizing childcare at major meetings, the JCW is pleased to note, including substantial support by the AMS and MAA for childcare at the Joint Math Meetings, which we hope is continued in the future.

*Retaining women in mathematical careers*

One way to keep women in the mathematical career pipeline is to improve the family friendliness of the profession. While progress has certainly been made, the path to a successful career in the mathematical sciences tends to be narrow and rigid. **The JCW would welcome discussions with the AMS Committee on the Profession on how to create more flexible career paths**, for instance, not penalizing individuals who take time off the career path (and thus have "holes" in their vitae) or who hold adjunct positions (there are many anecdotal stories of discrimination preventing adjuncts from securing tenure---track positions for which they are competitive).

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Leise, co---chair of the JCW

November 13, 2013



**2013 Report on the Activities of the  
AMS Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE)**

The Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE) handled three cases this year.

One person, say mathematician M, brought the first two complaints. In fact mathematician M also brought the sole complaint in 2012. In February of 2013 mathematician M complained about the handling of his submitted paper by one particular referee. After reviewing the materials, COPE found that the referee had followed standard editorial procedures. Later that month mathematician M asked COPE to evaluate his understanding of the editorial process for mathematics journals. COPE agreed that it is not the role of the AMS Committee on Professional Ethics to enter into a dialog about the general peer review process for scholarly journals.

In July COPE (minus one recused member) received a case dealing with a collaboration that had gone awry. Two professors (authors A and B) asked COPE to reprimand a former collaborator (author C) for lack of acknowledgement in a singly authored paper (by author C) that they claimed was the result of their mutual collaboration. Authors A and B also requested help in getting author C to revise the acknowledgements on that paper. After discussing the materials, gathering further materials, and mediating between the involved parties, COPE communicated its evaluation that there had indeed been a professional transgression by author C. COPE also recommended that all parties explicitly acknowledge the contributions of the earlier collaborators. The case was resolved in September when the adjustments were agreed to and carried out. Throughout the process COPE took pains to maintain confidentiality.

Sincerely,  
Margaret Symington  
Chair, COPE



AMS Library Committee  
2013 Annual Report  
December 2, 2013

The AMS Library committee did not meet or conduct business at the 2013 AMS/MAA Joint Meetings in San Diego.

Cunera Buys and Andrew Sills were appointed co-chairs effective February 1, 2013. Other committee members are Wesley Calvert, Kristine K. Fowler, Parker Ladwig, Sam Nelson, and Peter A. Perry.

The committee is scheduled to meet at the JMM in Baltimore on Friday, January 17, 10 AM – 11 AM. Although not all members plan to attend the JMM, we are planning to include as many members as possible via Google Hangout (or some similar video conference technology).

The committee members have been in periodic contact via email. The co-chairs are currently soliciting agenda items for the upcoming meeting. Cunera has set a message to PAMnet (the message board physics—astronomy—mathematics division of the Special Libraries Association) soliciting suggestions for discussion topics.

Cunera Buys (Northwestern University), co-chair  
Andrew Sills (Georgia Southern University), co-chair



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October 20, 2013

Mr. Jesse Kenyon  
Program Manager, Office of the Secretary  
American Mathematical Society  
Department of Computer Science  
Campus Box 8206  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC 27695-8206

Cc: Robin Hagan Aguiar

Dear Mr. Kenyon,

This is a report on the activities of the Arnold Ross Lecture Series Committee during 2013. The current membership of the committee is:

- Allan P Donsig (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
- John M Lee, chair (University of Washington)
- Donald A Outing (US Military Academy)
- Peter E Trapa (University of Utah)

The 2013 Arnold Ross Lecturer, Bryna Kra, had been chosen by the 2012 committee. We expected to select the 2014 lecturer this year, but the process has been delayed because the venue still has not been decided. If the venue is finalized in the next couple of weeks, we will consult with each other by email and select a lecturer for next year.

The 2013 Arnold Ross Lecture took place at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago on Thursday, November 7, 2013. Approximately 150 students from 6 schools attended. I was there as chair of the committee, and the AMS was represented by Robin Hagan Aguiar and Mike Breen.

After welcoming remarks by Nicole Kowrach, the Director of Teaching and Learning at MSI, I gave a brief introduction to Bryna. She then delivered her 45-minute lecture titled *Patterns and Disorder: How Random Can Random Be?* There were several very insightful questions from the students in attendance.

After a short break, there was a contest called *Who Wants to Be a Mathematician?*, hosted by Mike Breen of the AMS. Eight pre-selected students competed. They were:

- Rileigh Luczak (Walter Payton College Prep)
- Lev Kendrick (Walter Payton College Prep)
- Caroline Coughlan (St. Ignatius College Prep)
- Anton Karpovich (Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy)
- Joanne Lee (Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy)
- Sam Korsky (Glenbrook North Nigh School)
- Samantha Crowe (Glenbrook North Nigh School)
- Andrew Harris (St. Ignatius)

Anton and Rileigh won the first round, and Anton won the playoff round. Here are all the prizes and money won that day:

- TI-Nspire CX from Texas Instruments and \$3000 from the AMS: Anton Karpovich
- TI-Nspire CX from Texas Instruments and \$500 from the AMS: Rileigh Luczak
- Maple 17 from Maplesoft: Lev Kendrick and Andrew Harris
- *Calculus* by Anton, Bivens and Davis from John Wiley and Sons: Samantha Crowe and Sam Korsky
- *What's Happening in the Mathematical Sciences* from the AMS: Caroline Coughlan and Joanne Lee

The feedback from teachers and students was uniformly positive.

After the event was over, Robin, Mike, and I traveled to the University of Chicago to meet with Paul Sally, the inspiration and funding source of the Arnold Ross Lecture Series. We had a lively conversation with him about the history of the series and his hopes for its future.

Sincerely,

John M. Lee  
Professor of Mathematics  
Chair, Arnold Ross Lecture Series Committee

## Report from Liaison Committee with the AAAS

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For many years, the AMS has provided the majority of funding for mathematics related activities at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). The principal activity of the Liaison Committee is “to generate and review mathematics-related programs and activities at AAAS meetings in close contact with AMS representatives to the AAAS and with the Officers of Section A.” (Section A is the mathematics section of AAAS, although the Liaison Committee also discusses potential activities for Section Q, which is the section focused on education.)

The Liaison Committee meets at each annual meeting of the AMS and its discussion is transmitted to the business meeting of Section A, which takes place at the annual meeting of AAAS each February.

The most recent meeting of the Committee was January 2013 in San Diego. There, the Committee reviewed the mathematics program at what was the upcoming AAAS meeting in Boston (February 2013) and discussed a number of potential topics for symposia or major talks at the 2014 AAAS meeting, to be held in Chicago. These included such topics as:

- Group testing (e.g. evaluating the prevalence of a disease in a group by mixing blood samples and analyzing.)
- Mathematics of Sudoku
- Materials Design (Materials Genome)
- Mathematical Biology, Natural Resources, MBI current interests (<http://mbi.osu.edu/>)
- Museums of Mathematics (new museum in NY, others (science) in the Midwest, esp. Chicago)
- Extraction and Fracking
- Big Data
- Using data to grow better rice, grapes, etc.
- IMA 2014 focus: algebraic topology
- Random Matrices and Applications

The names of specific organizers were elicited, and various members of the Liaison Committee were assigned to contact these people in order to bring proposals to the Section A business meeting in February. Some of these ideas worked out; some did not. Each year, a final report connecting the AMS' support for speakers to the mathematics program at the AAAS is sent in April to the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT) of the AMS.

The Liaison Committee serves as an excellent starting point for assembling proposals for the mathematics portion of each AAAS meeting, and it has functioned smoothly for a number of years in this capacity. There is broad representation from the mathematics community on the Liaison Committee, extending beyond the AMS. In this way, the Society provides support for AAAS that extends beyond its financial commitments.

*Edward Aboufadel*  
Secretary, Section A, AAAS





## **AMS Short Course Subcommittee Annual Report**

November 18, 2013

- The subcommittee met at the 2013 Joint Mathematics Meeting in San Diego. The committee received two short course proposals. The subcommittee recommended that Dr. Sayan Mukherjee's short course proposal "Geometry and Topology in Statistical Inference" be accepted for the 2014 Joint Mathematics Meeting.
- During the fall semester of 2013 the subcommittee members contacted some of their colleagues to solicit short course applications for the 2015 Joint Math Meetings.

Submitted by,  
Sivaram K. Narayan  
Chair (2013-14)



## Beal Prize

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The Beal Prize was established in 1997. The prize is managed by the AMS, but it is not an AMS prize *per se*. It is to be awarded for a proof or a counterexample of the Beal Prize Conjecture. The precise statement of the conjecture is in the Summary of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that follows this introduction. A prize committee was appointed when the prize was established. The current members are Charles Fefferman, Ron Graham, and R. Daniel Mauldin.

The Beal Prize was funded by D. Andrew Beal, a prominent banker and mathematics enthusiast. Initially the prize amount was \$50,000. It was increased to \$100,000 in 2000. The spendable income from the prize fund has been used to support the Erdős Memorial Lecture. One of Andrew Beal's goals in establishing the prize is to inspire young people to think about the challenging problem, think about winning the offered prize, and in the process become more interested in the field of mathematics.

In October 2012, the Society and Andrew Beal began discussing his wish to increase the prize to \$1,000,000. Beal offered to contribute an additional \$900,000 to the prize fund. The AMS and Beal agreed to the terms in a memorandum of understanding. Members of the Development Committee, including Trustees and senior Officers, were involved at all stages of discussions of the MOU.

In May 2013 the Development Committee formally approved the MOU and recommended that the ECBT accept the additional donation. The ECBT accepted the donation at the May 18 ECBT meeting.

Two important steps remained—approval of the charge of the Beal Prize Committee and approval of procedures for determining if the prize should be awarded. The Committee on the Profession has approved a charge for the Beal Prize Committee and recommends approval of the charge by the Council. The ECBT has approved a statement of procedures for determination of an award of the prize. The procedures are included with this attachment for review and approval by the Council.

The following items are included in this attachment.

1. Summary of the Memorandum of Understanding.
2. Proposed Charge of the Beal Prize Committee. ***For approval.***
3. Proposed Procedures for determination of an award of the prize. ***For approval.***
4. For comparison, a statement of the Clay Mathematics Institute Rules for Millennium Prizes.

*Donald E. McClure*  
*Executive Director*

## Summary of the Memorandum of Understanding

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The Parties to the memorandum of understanding are the American Mathematical Society and D. Andrew Beal.

The memorandum of understanding (MOU) states the plans of the American Mathematical Society (AMS) for administering the enhanced Beal Prize. The MOU was approved by the ECBT on May 18, 2013 and was signed by both parties the following week.

### The Beal Prize Conjecture

If  $A^x + B^y = C^z$ , where  $A, B, C, x, y$  and  $z$  are positive integers and  $x, y$  and  $z$  are all greater than 2, then  $A, B$  and  $C$  must have a common prime factor.

### MOU: The Prize and the Main Terms

- I. The MOU provides for the increase from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 in the amount of the award and stipulates that acceptance of the new donation is subject to review and approval by the Development Committee and ECBT. The parties agree that the funds will be invested in accordance with the Society's *Long Term Investment Policy*. Even though the fund is not true endowment, the parties agreed that the AMS would use the same prudent management practices that are applied to true endowment, including maintaining the prize fund at the level of the donor's contribution.
- II. The fund accrues spendable income in accordance with the spending policy that is regularly reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees. The spendable income will be used to support the Erdős Memorial Lecture, Mathematics Research Communities, and other programs that benefit early career mathematicians. The donor is personally interested in supporting mathematics research and young mathematicians.
- III. The AMS agreed to publicize the prize to the mathematics community. The AMS also agreed to establish a prize committee that would be appointed by procedures used for appointing the Society's other prize committees. The Secretary suggested staggered six-year terms for committee members and a term limit of two terms.

## 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

## Procedures

The content of this section comes from the following ams.org web page:

<http://www.ams.org/profession/prizes-awards/ams-supported/beal-prize>

The subsection following the heading “**Procedures for Determination of an Award of the Beal Prize**” states the detailed instructions to be followed by the Beal Prize Committee in their consideration of a proposed proof or counterexample for the Beal Prize Conjecture. The procedures have been carefully adapted from procedures followed by the Clay Mathematics Institute ([http://www.claymath.org/millennium/Rules\\_etc/](http://www.claymath.org/millennium/Rules_etc/)) to determine awards for the Millennium Prizes.

*(Web page content begins below this line)*

***A proposed solution of the Beal Prize Conjecture may not be submitted directly to the AMS, or to the Beal Prize Committee, or to Mr. Beal. Unpublished manuscripts will not be considered.***

## Beal Prize

The Beal Prize is awarded in accordance with the procedures set forth below under the heading “Procedures for Determination of an Award of the Beal Prize.” The prize amount – US \$1,000,000 (the “Prize Money”) – was donated to the American Mathematical Society (the “AMS”) by D. Andrew Beal, a prominent banker who is also a mathematics enthusiast. The Beal Prize Committee, an AMS-appointed committee, will award the Prize Money for either a proof of, or a counterexample to, the [Beal Prize Conjecture](#), assuming one or the other is published in a refereed and respected mathematics publication. In accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding effective as of May 22, 2013 between the AMS and Mr. Beal (the “MOU”), the Prize Money is being held in the Beal Prize Fund as a restricted asset of the AMS. In accordance with the MOU, spendable income from the Beal Prize Fund shall be used by the AMS to support the annual [Erdős Memorial Lecture](#) and other activities of the AMS that benefit early career mathematicians. The Beal Prize Conjecture and original prize were announced in an [article](#) that appeared in the December 1997 issue of *Notices of the American Mathematical Society*. One of Andrew Beal's goals is to inspire young people to think about the equation, think about winning the offered prize, and in the process become more interested in the field of mathematics.

### **Beal Prize Conjecture**

If  $A^x + B^y = C^z$ , where A, B, C, x, y and z are positive integers and x, y and z are all greater than 2, then A, B and C must have a common prime factor.

[By way of example,  $3^3 + 6^3 = 3^5$ , but the numbers that are the bases have a common factor of 3, so the equation does not disprove the theorem; it is not a counterexample.]

### **Procedures for Determination of an Award of the Beal Prize**

The administration of the Beal Prize is overseen by the Beal Prize Committee (the “BPC”), to be

appointed by the President of the AMS. Decisions made by the BPC shall be made by a majority of the members of the BPC. The formal charge of the BPC and these “Procedures for Determination of an Award of the Beal Prize” are subject to the review and modification from time to time by the Council of the AMS.

The Beal Prize Fund is held as a restricted asset of the AMS, with US\$1,000,000 to be awarded if, in the sole judgment of the BPC and subject to the subsequent approval by the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of the AMS (the “ECBT”), the Beal Prize Conjecture is proved or a counterexample is presented.

***A proposed solution of the Beal Prize Conjecture may not be submitted directly to the AMS, or to the BPC, or to Mr. Beal. Unpublished manuscripts will not be considered.***

The BPC will consider a proposed solution (the “Work”) if it is a complete mathematical solution of the Beal Prize Conjecture. Before consideration, the Work must be published in a [refereed mathematics publication](#) which is respected and, in the opinion of the BPC, maintains the highest editorial standards (or published in another form as the BPC, in its sole discretion, decides may qualify). In the case of a counterexample, the Work will be subject to independent verification by the BPC Expert Advisors (as defined below). Upon publication, the author(s) of the Work should notify the AMS and the BPC by sending an email to [bealprize@ams.org](mailto:bealprize@ams.org) or by sending mail to:

Beal Prize Committee  
c/o Executive Director  
American Mathematical Society  
201 Charles Street  
Providence, RI 02904 USA.

The Work must be widely accepted by the mathematics community following a waiting period of at least two (2) years after the publication of the Work, the determination of such acceptance by the mathematics community within the sole discretion of the BPC. (In the case of a counterexample, that recognition and acceptance by the mathematics community may happen sooner.) Following the two-year waiting period (or in the case of a counterexample, such shorter period, as determined in the sole discretion of the BPC), the BPC will decide whether the Work merits detailed evaluation.

If the Work merits detailed evaluation, the BPC will identify at least two experts who can verify the correctness of the Work and who are not members of the BPC to assist in the evaluation, and such experts shall be approved by the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of the AMS (collectively, the “BPC Expert Advisors”). The BPC Expert Advisors will report to the BPC within a reasonable time. Based upon the report of the BPC Expert Advisors and potential additional evaluation, if the BPC can make a clear decision, it may (subject to the approval of the ECBT as provided above), award the Prize Money and determine attribution of credit for a solution. The BPC shall consider whether a solution relies directly on contributions of others published prior to the Work and it may, in its sole discretion and subject to the approval of the ECBT, divide the Prize Money among multiple contributors.

If the BPC cannot make a clear decision based upon the report of the BPC Expert Advisors and potential additional evaluation, the BPC may, in its sole discretion, decide that the Prize Money shall not be

awarded at that time. The BPC may, in its sole discretion, revisit a decision to make no award if new information becomes available, provided that the approval of the ECBT shall be required prior to the payment of any award.

All deliberations of the BPC or of the BPC Expert Advisors assisting in an evaluation are confidential. No records of deliberations or related correspondence shall be made public unless approved by the BPC and the AMS Board of Trustees.

No prize shall be awarded to any person who (a) is a “disqualified person” (as such term is defined in Section 4946 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended) in connection with the AMS or (b) is a then serving member of the BPC.



**LAST UPDATED: 12/03/13 @ 8:45 AM by EHH**

**LIST OF SELECTED MEETINGS, HOLIDAYS, AND RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES  
FOR USE BY AMS STAFF WHEN SCHEDULING AMS MEETINGS**

This file provides a list of dates and sites of various meetings, holidays, and religious observances (mainly the ones that AMS staff needs to be aware of for the purpose of scheduling AMS meetings). It includes meetings of AMS Council, ECBT, ABC, Policy Committees, etc. It is a helpful reference when you are trying to schedule AMS meetings and want to avoid conflict with other meetings that have already been scheduled. This file is **NOT INTENDED TO BE ALL-INCLUSIVE** and **SHOULD BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH** the *Mathematics Calendar* that can be found in the *Meetings & Conferences* section of the AMS web site: <http://www.ams.org/meetings>.

Please notify Sheila Rowland ([sjr@ams.org](mailto:sjr@ams.org)) or Ellen Heiser ([ehh@ams.org](mailto:ehh@ams.org)) of any changes or additions that should be made to this file.

DATE	MEETING/HOLIDAY/RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE	SITE
December 6, 2013 (Fri)	<a href="#">Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) Meeting</a>	Washington, DC
December 7-10, 2013 (Sat-Tues)	<a href="#">Council of Scientific Society Presidents (CSSP) 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting</a>	Washington, DC
December 25, 2013 (Wed)	Christmas	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
January 1, 2014 (Wed)	New Year's Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
January 14, 2014 (Tue)	<a href="#">AMS Council Meeting</a>	Baltimore, MD
January 15-18, 2014 (Wed-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS-MAA Joint Annual Mathematics Meetings</a>	Baltimore, MD
January 20, 2014 (Mon)	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
February 11, 2014 (Tues)	AMS Providence Service Awards Breakfast	Providence, RI
February 13-17, 2014 (Thu-Mon)	<a href="#">American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Annual Meeting</a>	Chicago, IL
February 17, 2014 (Mon)	President's Day	<i>AMS DC Office Closed RI &amp; MI Offices Open</i>
March 5, 2014 (Wed)	Ash Wednesday	---
March 7, 2014 (Fri)	AMS Secretariat Meeting	Chicago, IL
March 8, 2014 (Sat)	<a href="#">AMS Committee on Meetings and Conferences (COMC) Meeting</a>	Chicago, IL
March 13-15, 2014 (Thu-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS Committee on Science Policy (CSP) Meeting</a>	Washington, DC
March 21-23, 2014 (Fri-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
March 29-30, 2014 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD
April 4, 2014 (Fri)	Agenda and Budget Committee (ABC) Meeting	conference call
April 5-6, 2014 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
April 11-13, 2014 (Fri-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
April 14-22, 2014 (Mon-Tue)	Passover	---
April 18, 2014 (Fri)	Good Friday	---
April 20, 2014 (Sun)	Easter	---
April 26, 2014 (Sat)	<a href="#">AMS Council Meeting</a>	Chicago, IL

April 28, 2014 (Mon)	Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) Meeting	Washington, DC
May 15, 2014 (Thu)	AMS Committee on Committees Meeting	Providence, RI
May 16-17, 2014 (Fri-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT) Meeting</a>	Providence, RI
May 20-24, 2014 (Tue-Sat)	USA-Uzbekistan Conference on Analysis and Mathematical Physics	California State University, Fullerton, CA
May 26, 2014 (Mon)	Memorial Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
June 16-19, 2014 (Mon-Thu)	<a href="#">AMS-Israel Mathematics Union Joint International Meeting</a>	Tel-Aviv, Israel
July 4, 2014 (Fri)	Independence Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
July 7-11, 2014 (Mon-Fri)	<a href="#">Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) Annual Meeting</a>	Chicago, IL
July 15-17, 2014 (Tue-Thu)	<a href="#">Council of Engineering and Scientific Society Executives (CESSE) Annual Meeting</a>	Spokane, WA
August 7-9, 2014 (Thu-Sat)	<a href="#">Mathematical Association of America (MAA) MathFest</a>	Portland, OR
August 10-11, 2014	IMU General Assembly Meeting	Gyungju, South Korea
August 11, 2014 (Mon)	Victory Day	<i>AMS RI Office Closed DC &amp; MI Offices Open</i>
August 13-21, 2014	<a href="#">International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM) 2014 (ICM 2014)</a>	Seoul, Republic of Korea
September 1, 2014 (Mon)	Labor Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
September 12-13, 2014 (Fri-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS Committee on Publications (CPUB) Meeting</a>	Chicago, IL
September 13-14, 2014 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Committee on the Profession (CoProf) Meeting</a>	Chicago, IL
September 20-21, 2014 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI
October 3-4, 2014 (Fri-Sat)	Yom Kippur	---
October 8-15, 2014 (Wed-Wed)	Sukkot	---
October 10, 2014 (Fri)	Agenda and Budget Committee (ABC) Meeting	Providence, RI
October 13, 2014 (Mon)	Columbus Day	<i>AMS RI &amp; DC Offices Closed MI Office Open</i>
October 13, 2014 (Mon)	AMS Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee (MREC) Meeting	Ann Arbor, MI
October 16-18, 2014 (Thurs-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS Committee on Education (COE) Meeting</a>	Washington, DC
October 18-19, 2014 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia
October 25-26, 2014 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a> (The <a href="#">Einstein Public Lecture in Mathematics</a> will be given by James Harris Simons)	San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA
October 27, 2014 (Mon)	Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) Meeting	Washington, DC
November 8-9, 2014 (Fri-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC
November 11, 2014 (Tue)	Veterans' Day	<i>AMS RI Office Closed DC &amp; MI Offices Open</i>
November 21-22, 2014 (Fri-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS Executive Committee and Board of Trustees</a>	Providence, RI

	<a href="#">(ECBT) Meeting</a>	
November 27, 2014 (Thu)	Thanksgiving Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
November 28, 2014 (Fri)	Day after Thanksgiving	<i>AMS RI &amp; DC Offices Closed MI Office Open</i>
December 16-24, 2014 (Tue-Wed)	Hanukkah	---
December 25, 2014 (Thu)	Christmas	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
January 1, 2015 (Thu)	New Year's Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
January 9, 2015 (Fri)	<a href="#">AMS Council Meeting</a>	San Antonio, TX
January 10-13, 2015 (Sat-Tue)	<a href="#">AMS-MAA Joint Annual Mathematics Meetings</a>	San Antonio, TX
January 19, 2015 (Mon)	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
February 16, 2015 (Mon)	President's Day	<i>AMS DC Office Closed RI &amp; MI Offices Open</i>
March 7-8, 2015 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
March 13-15, 2015 (Fri-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
March 20, 2015 (Fri) <b>TENTATIVE</b>	AMS Secretariat Meeting	Chicago, IL
March 21, 2015 (Sat) <b>TENTATIVE</b>	<a href="#">AMS Committee on Meetings and Conferences (COMC) Meeting</a>	Chicago, IL
March 27-29, 2015 (Fri-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	University of Alabama, Huntsville, AL
March 27, 2015 (Fri) <b>TENTATIVE</b>	Agenda and Budget Committee (ABC) Meeting	conference call
April 3-11, 2015 (Fri-Sat)	Passover	---
April 3, 2015 (Fri)	Good Friday	---
April 5, 2015 (Sun)	Easter	---
April 18-19, 2015 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV
April 25, 2015 (Sat) <b>TENTATIVE</b>	<a href="#">AMS Council Meeting</a>	Chicago, IL
April 27, 2015 (Mon)	Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) Meeting	Washington, DC
May 14, 2015 (Thu) <b>TENTATIVE</b>	AMS Committee on Committees Meeting	Ann Arbor, MI
May 15-16, 2015 (Fri-Sat) <b>TENTATIVE</b>	<a href="#">AMS Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT) Meeting</a>	Ann Arbor, MI
May 25, 2015 (Mon)	Memorial Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
June 10-13, 2015 (Wed-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS-European Mathematical Society (EMS)- Sociedade Portuguesa de Matemática (SPM) International Meeting</a>	University of Porto, Porto, Portugal
July 4, 2015 (Sat)	Independence Day	
August 5-8, 2015 (Wed-Sat)	<a href="#">Mathematical Association of America MathFest</a>	Washington, DC
August 10, 2015 (Mon)	Victory Day	<i>AMS RI Office Closed DC &amp; MI Offices Open</i>

September 7, 2015 (Mon)	Labor Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
<del>September 13-15, 2015 (Sun-Tue)</del>	<del>Rosh Hashanah</del>	<del>---</del>
September 22-23, 2015 (Tue-Wed)	Yom Kippur	---
September 27-October 4, 2015 (Sun-Sun)	Sukkot	---
October 3-4, 2015 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL
October 9, 2015 (Fri) <b>TENTATIVE</b>	Agenda and Budget Committee (ABC) Meeting	Providence, RI
October 12, 2015 (Mon)	Columbus Day	<i>AMS RI &amp; DC Offices Closed MI Office Open</i>
October 17-18, 2015 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	University of Memphis, Memphis, TN
October 24-25, 2015 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, CA
October 26, 2015 (Mon)	Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) Meeting	Washington, DC
November 11, 2015 (Wed)	Veterans' Day	<i>AMS RI Office Closed DC &amp; MI Offices Open</i>
November 14-15, 2015 (Fri-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	Rutgers University Piscataway, NJ
November 20-21, 2015 (Fri-Sat) <b>TENTATIVE</b>	<a href="#">AMS Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT) Meeting</a>	Providence, RI
November 26, 2015 (Thu)	Thanksgiving Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
November 27, 2015 (Fri)	Day after Thanksgiving	<i>AMS RI &amp; DC Offices Closed MI Office Open</i>
December 6-14, 2015 (Sun-Mon)	Hanukkah	---
December 25, 2015 (Fri)	Christmas	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
January 1, 2016 (Fri)	New Year's Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
January 5, 2016 (Tue)	<a href="#">AMS Council Meeting</a>	Seattle, WA
January 6-9, 2016 (Wed-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS-MAA Joint Annual Mathematics Meetings</a>	Seattle, WA
January 18, 2016 (Mon)	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
February 15, 2016 (Mon)	President's Day	<i>AMS DC Office Closed RI &amp; MI Offices Open</i>
April 25, 2016 (Mon)	Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) Meeting	Washington, DC
May 30, 2016 (Mon)	Memorial Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
July 4, 2016 (Mon)	Independence Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
August 8, 2016 (Mon)	Victory Day	<i>AMS RI Office Closed DC &amp; MI Offices Open</i>
September 5, 2016 (Mon)	Labor Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>

October 10, 2016 (Mon)	Columbus Day	<i>AMS RI &amp; DC Offices Closed MI Office Open</i>
October 31, 2016 (Mon)	Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) Meeting	Washington, DC
November 11, 2016 (Fri)	Veterans' Day	<i>AMS RI Office Closed DC &amp; MI Offices Open</i>
November 24, 2016 (Thu)	Thanksgiving Day	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
November 25, 2016 (Fri)	Day after Thanksgiving	<i>AMS RI &amp; DC Offices Closed MI Office Open</i>
December 25, 2016 (Sun)	Christmas Day	
December 26, 2016 (Mon)	Christmas Day Observed	<i>All AMS Offices Closed</i>
January 3, 2017 (Tue)	<a href="#">AMS Council Meeting</a>	Atlanta, GA
January 4-7, 2017 (Wed-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS-MAA Joint Annual Mathematics Meetings</a>	Atlanta, GA
March 10-12, 2017 (Fri-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	College of Charleston, Charleston, SC
April 22-23, 2017 (Sat-Sun)	<a href="#">AMS Sectional Meeting</a>	Washington State University, Pullman, WA
April 24, 2017 (Mon)	Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) Meeting	Washington, DC
October 30, 2017 (Mon)	Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) Meeting	Washington, DC
January 10-13, 2018 (Wed-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS-MAA Joint Annual Mathematics Meetings</a>	San Diego, CA
January 16-19, 2019 (Wed-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS-MAA Joint Annual Mathematics Meetings</a>	Baltimore, MD
January 6-9, 2021 (Wed-Sat)	<a href="#">AMS-MAA Joint Annual Mathematics Meetings</a>	Washington, DC

