

KANSAS SECTION OF THE MAA

KSMAA NEWS



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2 FALL 2017

SPRING 2018 MEETING INFORMATION



The 2018 KSMAA meeting will be held at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, KS. The dates for the meeting are April 20-21, 2018. The invited speaker will be Professor Matt Boelkins from Grand Valley State University, a public liberal arts university located in Allendale, Michigan. Dr. Boelkins' webpage can be found at <http://faculty.gvsu.edu/boelkinm/Home/MB.html>. Since 2015, he has been the co-Editor-in-Chief of the journal PRIMUS (Problems, Resources, and Issues in Mathematics Undergraduate Studies). He is currently the Chair of Congress of the Mathematical Association of America.

More information on the spring KSMAA meeting and a call for contributed papers will be forthcoming. As information becomes available it will be posted on the section webpage at <http://sections.maa.org/kansas/>.

The 13th Kansas Collegiate Math Competition will be held in conjunction with the meeting. For more information on the competition including questions and solutions from past years, visit <http://pittstate.edu/departments/math/competition>.

2017 KSMAA TEACHING AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Sarah Cook on receiving the 2017 MAA Kansas Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching. Dr. Cook is an Associate Professor of Mathematics at Washburn University. As a recipient of the section teaching award, Professor Cook becomes a nominee for the national Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics.

Pictured from the 2017 spring meeting are KSMAA chair Lanee Young and awardee Sarah Cook.



REZA SARHANGI, IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Reza Sarhangi passed away on July 1, 2016, at the age of 63. He received his Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from Wichita State University. He was a faculty member at Southwestern College in Winfield, KS, before taking a position at Towson University. While at Southwestern College, he was an active member of the KSMAA Section. He is also known as the first organizer of the successful Bridges conferences, which celebrate connections between mathematics and art. An obituary can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17513472.2016.1265910>, and a remembrance from the Bridges Organization is at <http://bridgesmathart.org/reza-sarhangi/>.



Reza at the 2000 KSMAA meeting.

27th Annual Kansas City Regional Mathematics Technology EXPO

Learn about all the great things your colleagues have been doing with technology in the math classroom.

October 6 & 7, 2017, UMKC

Web: <http://www.kcmathtechexpo.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/KC-Math-Tech-Expo/148308951981880?fref=nf>

Twitter: @KCMathTechExpo #kcEXPO2017

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2018 MAA KANSAS SECTION AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS

Nominations for the 2018 MAA Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics are now being accepted. The Kansas Section Selection Committee will determine the recipient of the award from those nominated. The awardee will be honored at the Spring 2018 meeting of the Section and will be widely recognized and acknowledged within the Section. The awardee will also be the official Section nominee for the MAA Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics. There will be at most three national awardees, each of whom will be honored at the national MAA meeting with a certificate and check for \$1000. A special session at that meeting is devoted to talks by the awardees on aspects of their teaching.

Anyone may make a nomination, but nominations from chairs in departments of mathematical sciences are especially solicited. An outline of the nomination process can be found on the web site

<http://www.maa.org/awards/teachingawards.htm>

We urge you to submit a nomination for the MAA Kansas Section Teaching Award if you have someone eligible and qualified in your department. Even if not selected this year, it is an honor for someone to have been nominated, and your candidate can likely be nominated again in a future year. Your department will receive recognition for its commitment to excellence in teaching, and the work done in preparing a nomination folder for your candidate is a tribute in itself. Self-nomination is not permitted.

(continued on next page)

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2018 MAA KANSAS SECTION AWARDS (CONTINUED)

Eligibility

College or university teachers who currently teach a mathematical science at least halftime during the academic year in a public or private college or university (from two-year college teaching through teaching at the Ph.D. level) in the United States or Canada. Those on approved leave (sabbatical or other) during the academic year in which they are nominated qualify if they fulfilled the requirements in the previous year.

More than seven years experience in teaching a mathematical science.

Membership in the Mathematical Association of America.

Guidelines for Nomination

Nominees should

- Be widely recognized as extraordinarily successful in their teaching*
- Have teaching effectiveness that can be documented
- Have had influence in their teaching beyond their own institution**
- Foster curiosity and generate excitement about mathematics in their students.

* "teaching" is to be interpreted in its broadest sense, not necessarily limited to classroom teaching. It may include activities such as preparing students for mathematical competitions at the college level such as the Putnam Prize Competition or the Mathematical Contest in Modeling, attracting students to become majors in a mathematical science or to become Ph.D. candidates, working with pre-service or inservice teachers, etc.

** "influence beyond..." can take many forms, including demonstrated lasting impact on alumni, influence on the profession through curricular revisions in college mathematics teaching with wide-ranging impact, influential publications or innovative books concerned with the teaching of college mathematics, etc.

Nominations must be submitted on the enclosed "Nomination Form." Please follow the instructions on that form precisely to assure uniformity in the selection process.

Please email the completed nomination form to

Professor Cynthia Huffman

Chair, Awards Selection Committee

cjhuffman@pittstate.edu

no later than February 1, 2018.

Nominations for someone from another Section should be sent to the Secretary of the nominee's Section.

The KSMAA Selection Committee will select the Kansas Section awardee soon after the February 1 deadline. After the selection is made, the nominator and awardee will be encouraged to complete and submit a full nomination packet (see <http://www.maa.org/awards/teachingawards.htm>) in time for consideration for the national award.

We look forward to your participation in this exciting MAA venture of taking substantive action to honor extraordinarily successful teaching. We want to see such teaching recognized at all post-secondary school levels. We depend on you to help us identify those who merit such recognition.

(application form on next page)

Mathematical Association of America
Award for
Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics
Nomination Form

PLEASE TYPE

Nominee's Name (First name first): _____

College or University Affiliation: _____

College or University Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Nominee's email address: _____

Is the nominee a current member of the Mathematical Association of America? _____

Nominee's number of years teaching experience in a mathematical science: _____

Has the nominee taught at least half time in a mathematical science during the current academic year or during the previous year if on approved leave or sabbatical? _____

In the space below, please briefly describe the unusual personal and professional qualities of the nominee that contribute to his or her extraordinary teaching success.

Name of nominator (First name first): _____

Address: _____

PICTURES FROM THE 2017 KSMAA SECTION MEETING



Group photo at KSMAA17



Past MAA President Francis Su delivering the Saturday keynote address.

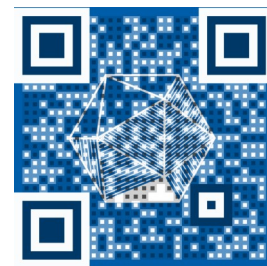


Steve Wilson, JCCC, at the business meeting.



Meeting host Jeremy Martin, KU, visiting with students about graduate school.

More pictures can be found on the KSMAA website
<http://sections.maa.org/kansas/>.



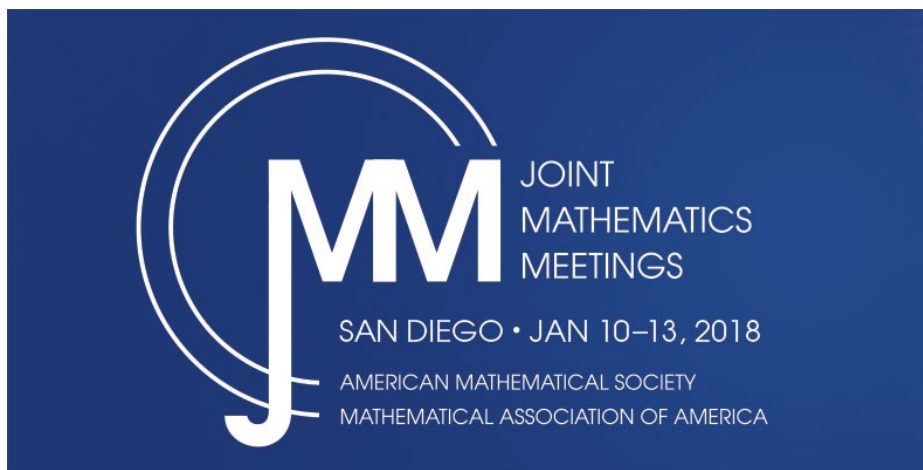
KSMAA VOTES TO SUPPORT PROJECT NExT FELLOWS

One of the items of new business at the spring business meeting of the Kansas Section dealt with support for the Project NExT program, especially within the section. Several people at the meeting had been Project NExT fellows and spoke to the benefits of the program. The motion was made and seconded that the section officers have the discretion to support travel for Project NExT Fellows up to \$500 per person at the time of application. A vote was taken and the motion passed. Department chairs are encouraged to contact the section officers when they have a new hire who would like to be a Project NExT fellow to seek additional travel support.

THROWBACK PICTURE—2001 EMPORIA STATE



For more pictures from past meetings, visit <http://sections.maa.org/kansas/ksmaapictures.html>. If you have pictures from past KSMAA meetings that you are willing to share, please send them to Cynthia Huffman at cjhuffman@pittstate.edu



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KSMAA NEWSLETTER

The KSMAA Newsletter is published twice a year; once early in the year and then again in the fall. A link to each newsletter will be sent out via email by the MAA. The newsletters are also archived on the section webpage at <http://sections.maa.org/kansas>.

The newsletter can also be a forum for sharing news or disseminating information to other mathematics departments across the state. If your department has any news to be included in the KSMAA Newsletter, please send it to KSMAA Public Information Coordinator:

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