

KANSAS SECTION OF THE MAA

# KSMMA NEWS

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SPRING 2019



## SPRING 2019 MEETING INFORMATION

The 2019 KSMMA meeting will be held at Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, KS on March 29-30, 2019. Dr. Curtis Cooper, retired professor of the University of Central Missouri, will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Curtis will speak on "Niven Numbers and Sudoku Puzzles" on Friday night and "Mersenne Primes and GIMPS" on Saturday. Professor Curtis is known for his work with the GIMPS (Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search) project. His wikipedia page can be found at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curtis\\_Cooper\\_\(mathematician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curtis_Cooper_(mathematician)).

### NIVEN NUMBERS AND SUDOKU PUZZLES

*Abstract:* A positive integer is a Niven number if it is divisible by the sum of its decimal digits. We will discuss some Niven numbers results. In addition, we will discuss solving Sudoku puzzles using structures and strategies.

### MERSENNE PRIMES AND GIMPS

*Abstract:* A Mersenne prime is a prime number of the form  $2^p - 1$ . We will discuss some of the history of Mersenne primes, the discovery of the 51st Mersenne prime, the Lucas-Lehmer test, and the Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search (GIMPS).

### Meeting Registration

Meeting registration will be:

- ◆ \$45 for MAA members,
- ◆ \$50 for non-members & day of meeting registration \$50, and
- ◆ \$15 for students.

Credit cards will be accepted via website registration. Registration is now open and the registration form is available at <https://bit.ly/2sRBS7L>.

Deadline for registration is **March 8, 2019**.

If you have questions about the meeting, please contact Tim Flood, [tflood@pittstate.edu](mailto:tflood@pittstate.edu), 620-235-4401.

### Call for Contributed Talks

You are invited to give a talk at the Spring Meeting. Talks are to be between 15 and 20 minutes in length and may be on research topics or expository in nature and may deal with any topic in mathematics or mathematics education. Student talks, both from undergraduate and graduate students are welcome. Submit abstracts via email to [tflood@pittstate.edu](mailto:tflood@pittstate.edu) with a subject line of KSMMA Abstract. Please include all of the information along with the abstract: presenter's name, affiliation, contact information, title of talk, equipment needed (projector, computer, etc...). Also, please indicate if the speaker is a student and if the paper is accessible to a student audience.

Deadline for receipt of abstracts is **March 8, 2019**.

## 2019 KANSAS COLLEGIATE MATH COMPETITION

The 14th Annual Kansas Collegiate Mathematics Competition will be held on March 30, 2019, at Pittsburg State University, in conjunction with the 2019 MAA Kansas Section Meeting.

The competition will be held from 8:00am to 11:00am. Please register the teams by March 8 by submitting the form at the website

<https://goo.gl/forms/TLzMmDOXWptRFpZs1>

The competition will be a team competition. Teams may consist of two or three students. Any community college, college, or university in Kansas may send up to two teams. Each team will work together to solve a problem set of about 10 problems. Most of the problems will be accessible to sophomore students and even well-prepared freshmen who have had the calculus sequence, some probability, and some discrete mathematics. Each problem is worth 10 points and will be scored by faculty from participating schools. For full credit on a problem, the answer must be correct and all supporting work must be shown.

Calculators are allowed. No books, notes, or other electronic devices may be used during the competition.

Each institution registering a team must have a coach, who is expected to assist in grading the exam after the competition.

The members of the top six teams in the competition will receive cash prizes. The top three teams will receive plaques. In addition, there will be a cash prize for the members of the top scoring team from a community college.

Mat Johnson (matjohn@ku.edu) and Scott Thuong (sthuong@pittstate.edu) are co-organizing the competition - please direct questions about the competition to either of them. In addition, suggestions for problems to be included in the competition are welcome. Please email problems to Mat or Scott for consideration by March 8. Information about the competition, along with past exams and solutions, can be found at

<http://pittstate.edu/department/math/competition/>

Registration for the competition is free. However, students are expected to register for the MAA Kansas Section Meeting.



### CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. ERIC WEST

Dr. Eric West, Chair of the Department of Mathematics & Computer Science at Benedictine University, is in his first year as Representative for the Kansas Section in the Congress of the MAA. Dr. West will be serving in this position through June 30, 2021. The Congress works to support the MAA's mission to advance the understanding of mathematics and its impact on our world. In addition, the Congress serves as a conduit for communication between the Board, the Sections, and other constituencies; approving strategic goals and priorities for the MAA, recommending to the Board programmatic and social policies for the Association, and advising the Board on amendments to Association bylaws.

## NEW MAA MEMBER BENEFITS (FROM MAA FOCUS DEC 2018/JAN 2019)

MAA members are lifelong learners who seek out new learning opportunities and professional development resources. MAA is excited to announce two new member benefits available to MAA members. Learn more at [maa.org/newbenefits](http://maa.org/newbenefits).

### MAA Video Library

The new MAA Video Library includes exclusive content from featured speakers at MAA MathFest and other MAA events. The video library currently features over 12 hours of content and is growing.

#### How do MAA members access the benefit?

- Log in to your MAA profile on [maa.org](http://maa.org) using your MAA username and password.
- In My Profile, scroll down on the left and click on the “Video Library” tab. Browse or search the video selection from there and hit play. '

### Discounts on The Great Courses Plus Subscription

MAA members can now receive an exclusive discount on a subscription to stream lectures from *The Great Courses Plus* —only \$5.99/month on a quarterly plan. Through this discounted subscription, MAA members can stream more than 10,000 video lectures from world-class teachers and experts on topics from mathematics to cooking to art. A number of MAA members are Great Courses lecturers including James Sellers, David Kung, Art Benjamin, Michael Starbird, James Tanton, and more. Stream the lectures from your laptop, TV, tablet or phone.

How do MAA members access the benefit? •

- For more information and to sign up for a subscription to *The Great Courses Plus* at this special MAA rate, log in to your MAA profile on [maa.org](http://maa.org) using your MAA username and password.
- In My Profile, scroll down on the left and click on “The Great Courses Plus Discount” tab to sign up for the subscription on *The Great Courses Plus* website. (This page on their website is exclusive to MAA members and should be accessed by logging into [maa.org](http://maa.org).)



## **SIMIODE (A SYSTEMIC INITIATIVE FOR MODELING INVESTIGATIONS & OPPORTUNITIES WITH DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS)**

SIMIODE (A Systemic Initiative for Modeling Investigations & Opportunities with Differential Equations, [www.simiode.org](http://www.simiode.org)) has two announcements.

(1) NSF SIMIODE Summer 2019 Workshop Announcement— two NSF funded workshops, one to support developers of modeling activities using differential equations (18-21 July 2019 4-Day Intensive SIMIODE Developer's Workshop) and one to engage practitioners who wish to incorporate more modeling in their differential equations course (21-26 July 2019 5-Day SIMIODE Practitioners Workshop).

(2) SCUDEM IV 2019—SIMIODE Challenge using Differential Equations Modeling is a challenge for student teams to be held on 9 November 2019 ([www.simiode.org/scudem](http://www.simiode.org/scudem)). This is a call for faculty and schools to host SCUDEM IV 2019 wherein local site host coordinators receive a stipend (half the registration fees of \$100/team) to visiting teams and their coaches.

SIMIODE – Systemic Initiative for Modeling investigations and Opportunities with Differential Equations is a 501 (c)3 Nonprofit organization. All can join SIMIODE free at [www.simiode.org](http://www.simiode.org). If your school is interested in becoming a local SCUDEM 2018 site please contact the Director. Contact Information: Dr. Brian Winkel, Director SIMIODE, [Director@simiode.org](mailto:Director@simiode.org), 26 Broadway, Cornwall NY 12518 USA, +1 845-534-4887.

## **FLASHBACK TO 1969**

### **JOINT KSMAA—KATM MEETING AT WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY (50 YEARS AGO FROM THE MEETING PROGRAM)**

#### **HOUSING INFORMATION**

175 rooms have been reserved for the teachers attending this convention at  
THE FAIRMOUNT TOWERS

RATE \$4.00 PER PERSON

3 BLOCKS FROM MEETING

Parking and meals are available at the "TOWERS"

Make reservations today. Housing will be limited since another convention will be on campus this weekend. Phone 316 – 683-4061.

Reservations must be made by contacting the "TOWERS" directly before MARCH 17, 1969. The enclosed card is for your convenience.

## KSMAA OFFICERS 2018-2019

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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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