

KANSAS SECTION OF THE MAA
KSMMA NEWS



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SPRING 2020

SPRING 2020 MEETING INFORMATION - CANCELLED (EDITED 3/14/20)

The 2020 KSMMA meeting will be held at Benedictine College in Atchison, KS on April 3-4, 2020. The invited speaker is Prof. James A. Sellers, Secretary of the MAA. Professor Sellers is Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Minnesota Duluth. He has three Great Courses with The Teaching Company: Mastering the Fundamentals of Mathematics, High School Algebra I, and High School Algebra II. His website can be found at <https://www.d.umn.edu/~jsellers/>. Dr. Sellers earned his B.S. in Mathematics from The University of Texas at San Antonio and his Ph.D. in Mathematics from Penn State. In the past few years, Professor Sellers has received the Teresa Cohen Mathematics Service Award from the Penn State Department of Mathematics and the Mathematical Association of America Allegheny Mountain Section Mentoring Award.

More than 60 of Professor Sellers's research articles on partitions and related topics have been published in a wide variety of peer-reviewed journals. In 2008, he was a visiting scholar at the Isaac Newton Institute at the University of Cambridge. Professor Sellers has enjoyed many interactions at the high school and middle school levels. He has served as an instructor of middle-school students in the TexPREP program in San Antonio, Texas. He has also worked with Saxon Publishers on revisions to a number of its high-school textbooks. As a home educator and father of five, he has spoken to various home education organizations about mathematics curricula and teaching issues.



Registration opens February 1, 2020. The prices are set at:

\$15 for students

\$45 for MAA members

\$50 for all others

We hope you and others in your department will visit us and consider applying to give a talk. Please encourage your students to attend as well!

Visit <https://www.benedictine.edu/events/maa/index> for more information, or to register or apply to give a 20-minute talk (after 2/1/20). Students are also encouraged to apply to give a talk. Applications for potential talks must be received on or before **March 14, 2020**.

2020 KANSAS COLLEGIATE MATH COMPETITION

The 15th Annual Kansas Collegiate Mathematics Competition will be held on April 4, 2020, at Benedictine College, in conjunction with the 2020 MAA Kansas Section Meeting.

The competition will be held from 8:00am to 11:00am. Please register the teams by March 13, 2020 by submitting the form at the website

<https://forms.gle/oPeoLk9NDZ42q5S9>

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 13. 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.



MAA invites you to join the new online community, MAA Connect. This new member benefit is designed for MAA members to connect, communicate, and collaborate with peers. This is a platform to share ideas, ask questions, and network.

You can log in to MAA Connect using your MAA membership username and password. The webpage at <https://connect.maa.org/home> provides more information on getting started and how to use MAA Connect. Use this information to set up your profile, or use the Getting Started instructions as you familiarize yourself with the platform.

There will be a number of Getting Started webinars to help you navigate your account. Beginning March 9, you can join a webinar every other Monday from 12-12:30 p.m. EST. To make the most of this time, be sure to log in to MAA Connect using your MAA member credentials before the webinar begins. If you have any issues logging in, please contact MAA Customer Service at 800-331-1622 or maaservice@maa.org.

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.

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 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 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.)



FLASHBACK TO 2004

KSMAA MEETING AT BENEDICTINE COLLEGE



Top 2 Pictures:

Department representatives meeting



Middle left:

Invited speaker Dr. Martha Siegel, Towson University, MAA Secretary



Middle right:

KSMAA Chair Sister JoAnn Fellin, Benedictine, leading the business meeting

Bottom: Participants at invited address



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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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