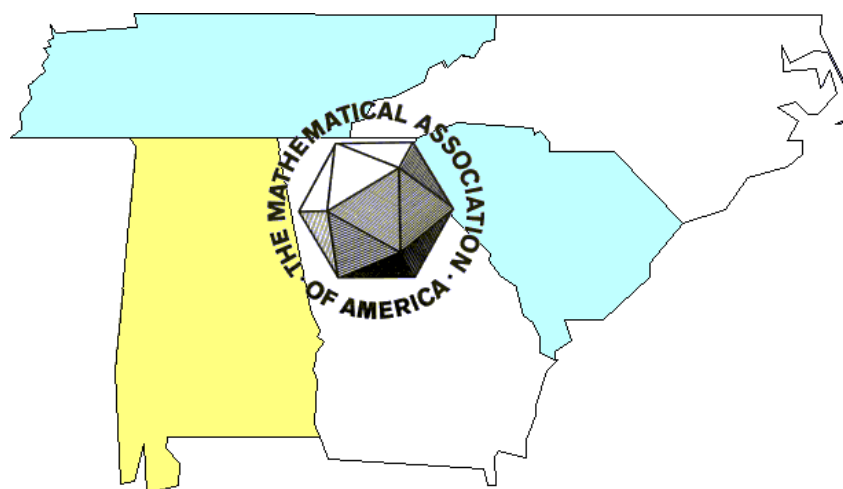


# Southeastern Section Newsletter



*Spring 2018*  
*Volume 37 Number 1*

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The Newsletter is published in April and November each year. The deadlines for items to be included in each issue are March 15 and October 15 respectively. Departmental News appears in the November newsletter only and is solicited from department chairs.

Material may be submitted to the editor on paper or by email, although email is preferred. Currently the newsletter is produced using Microsoft Publisher, which can import plain text files or files produced by most word-processing software.

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## **SECTION CALENDAR**

August 1-4, 2018	Mathfest, Denver, CO
January 16-19, 2019	MAA-AMS Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD
<b>March 7-9, 2019</b>	<b>MAA-SE Sectional Meeting, Cleveland, TN</b>
July 31-August 3, 2019	Mathfest, Cincinnati, OH

## FROM THE CHAIR



I hope that your academic years have come to a successful conclusion.

We enjoyed the best that our Section has to offer at our annual meeting on March 22-24 at Clemson University. I have to thank so many people for the work that they put into making it a success. I hope you'll not only bear with me but that you'll also share your thanks with these folk as well as follow them and their other good works.

A good Section meeting is an amazing plethora of details; any omission or error can prevent the contributions of speakers and meeting leaders from coming to a successful fruition. We owe a great debt of thanks to Hope McIlwain as Program Vice Chair and Meredith Burr and Mark Cawood as Site Coordinators as well as the whole Department of Mathematics at Clemson University for their hard and successful work.

A huge shout-out to the organizers of activities aimed at students. Julie Barnes from Western Carolina University and her Treasure Hunt Planning Team put on another wonderful Treasure Hunt for students Thursday night. A huge thanks to Mike Berry from the University of Tennessee for organizing and hosting Math Jeopardy as well as to everyone else involved in organizing and submitting questions.

We also thank the presenters of our Distinguished Lectures for Students: Kristen Abernathy (of Winthrop University) for discussing Analytic Explorations and Mo Hendon (of the University of Georgia) for his discussion of the the Calculus of Polynomials without Calculus.

Many thanks to our Project NExT-SE coordinators Stacey Ernstberger (from Lagrange College), Kristen Abernathy (from Winthrop University), and Zach Abernathy (from Winthrop University) for their work with our NExT-SE fellows. We thank Stacey as she completes her term as coordinator and welcome Molly Fenn (from North Carolina State University) as she begins her terms as coordinator.

For those of you present Friday morning for one of our three workshops we thank their leaders: Bryan Dawson (of Union University) for teaching us about new extensions to the Riemann integral, Martha Abell (of Georgia Southern University) for discussing the MAA Instructional Practices Guide with us, and Sarah Ann Fleming (of Belmont University) for leading a workshop on graduate student careers and professional development.

We thank our Plenary Speakers: Michael Dorff (of Brigham Young University) for talking to us about "How Mathematics is Making Hollywood Movies Better" and Sarah Greenwald (of Appalachian State University) for speaking on "Popular Culture and Mathematics: Gender, Race, and more". Sarah has completed her term as Section Lecturer but will continue to be available to serve as a guest speaker within the Section. We welcome our incoming Section Lecturer Kristen Mazur (of Elon University) and look forward to what she will share in that role.

There are far too many other speakers to thank; I know that the ones that I heard all left me with something mathematical to think about when I came home from the meeting.

At the meeting we presented awards to Section members for their outstanding achievements: Zach Abernathy of Winthrop University received the Section's Beginning Faculty Teaching Award, and Pat Humphrey of Georgia Southern University received the Section's Distinguished Service Award. Their citations appear elsewhere in this Newsletter; please review those citations and congratulate the winners when you can.

We have so many excellent faculty members in this Section; you probably know some. It's never too early to start thinking about nominating a colleague for one of these three awards, so that when we ask for nominations in the Fall you are ready to send them in. In particular we need more nominations for our teaching awards.

We are a large section and have a large number of Section Officers helping to serve it. I have mentioned a few of those completing their term of service already, but I also want to thank the following people. Newsletter editor Jessie Hamm (of Winthrop University) will be succeeded by Jessica Williams (of Converse College). North Carolina State Director Jason Parsley (of Wake Forest University) will be succeeded by Laura Steil (of Mars Hill University). South Carolina State Director Brian Beasley (of Presbyterian College) will be succeeded by Nicole Panza (of Francis Marion University). These folk have worked hard and made a significant impact on the Section.

I want to separately thank Pat Humphrey (of Georgia Southern University) for her years of service to the Section leadership as she completes her term as Past Chair. She has been an inspiration and a resource for me. I thank Laurie Heyer (of Davidson College) who begins her term as Chair Elect for what she is taking on and look forward to working with her in the coming second year of my term.

These are all good people; get to know them if you can and in any event keep your eye out for what they do because they do good work.

If you've made it this far, then let me give you some encouragement for the coming year. We will be having our next Section meeting at Lee University on March 7-9, 2019. Plan on coming if you can; even better if you can plan on speaking or judging a poster session or student talks. Keep your eyes out for requests for nominations for awards if you know people worthy of being nominated. As always all the information that you need about the Section is available at our website

<http://maasoutheastern.org>

which is very well-organized and ably maintained by our Webmaster Jim Gleason (of University of Alabama---Tuscaloosa).

## FROM THE SECTION REPRESENTATIVE



All,

The second meeting of the recently created MAA Congress of Representatives took place on January 9, 2018, in San Diego, California. [Recall that the MAA membership voted January 2017 to transition from the MAA Board of Governors to the MAA Congress and a nine-person MAA Board of Directors.] As at our first meeting as a Congress during Mathfest in 2017, Matt Boelkins, assisted by several working groups, created an agenda; this included reports from MAA leadership, including senior directors and council chairs, discussion about proposed MAA Core Values statements, the structure of future Congress meetings, and the changing roles of the Congress members.

The Mathematical Association of America's mission is to advance the understanding of mathematics and its impact on the world, and I want to highlight a few examples: Three hundred thousand students participate in the MAA American Mathematics Competition each year. Departmental memberships provide access to all the MAA offers for each undergraduate and graduate student in the department. Career advice and job postings are now available through the MAA Career Resource Center. The just-released *Guide to Evidence-based Instructional Practices in Undergraduate Mathematics* aims to share effective practices that instructors can use to facilitate deep and meaningful learning for students of mathematics. New Ph.D.'s can find professional development through programs such as Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching), while sectional and national meetings provide professional development, networking, and more for academics and non-academics alike.

Information on each of the programs above is available at the MAA website, [www.maa.org](http://www.maa.org), along with other programs too numerous to mention here – I encourage you to take a look at the website and to get involved with these great opportunities! In addition, over fifty MAA committees that make important recommendations and policies for the organization need volunteers, and self-nominations are accepted! Write me at [knottszidesca@wofford.edu](mailto:knottszidesca@wofford.edu) if you would like more information, or go directly to [www.maa.org/about-maa/governance](http://www.maa.org/about-maa/governance) for committee listings and the nomination form.

My term as Representative to the MAA ends in June, and I am delighted that Tim Chartier of Davidson College will be representing the Southeastern Section for the next three year term. Tim has been an active member of MAA-SE since 2003 and has recently served as Second Vice President of the MAA, providing a unique perspective as he joins the Congress. As I finish my term, I thank you for your commitment to the MAA and to the Southeastern Section; you are passionate about mathematics, about community, and about the next generation of mathematicians! I am grateful that you allowed me to serve in this position, and I look forward to many more years of participating in what we lovingly call “the BEST section in the MAA.” I enjoyed seeing many of you at Clemson this past March and I hope you'll join me for summer fun and professional development at Mathfest in Denver, Colorado, August 1-4, 2018!

Sincerely,  
Charlotte Knotts-Zides



## **SPRING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** **MEETING MINUTES**

MINUTES OF MAA-SE SPRING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
7:25 pm, March 22, 2018  
Clemson University  
Catherine Matos, recording

Present: Jeff Clark, Catherine Matos, Michael Dorff, Mark Cawood, Jim Gleason, Kristen Abernathy, Zach Abernathy, Karen O'Hara, Stacey Ernstberger, Curtis Herink, Meredith Burr, Ben Wescoatt, Brian Beasley, Thomas Fitzkee, Hope McIlwain, Caroline Maher-Moulis, Karen Chambless, Ashlee Stephens

The meeting began at 7:20 pm.

MAA Visitor, Michael Dorff, greeted the Executive Committee.

### **Reports:**

Mark Cawood and Meredith Burr gave a status update for the conference. Rooms are ready, a tech person is on call, and they have a good number of volunteers. Hope McIlwain added that we have approximately 200 talks, which increased the cost of the program somewhat. Jeff Clark thanked them for all the hours of work they have put in.

Most of the officer reports had been emailed to the executive committee prior to this meeting. The reports themselves are available from the Secretary. These include reports from the Alabama, Tennessee, South Carolina and Georgia State Directors, the Section NExT-SE Directors, the Webmaster, the Section Lecturer, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Social Media Coordinator, the Student Activities Coordinator, and the Section Representative. A few of the officers gave oral reports or elaborated on their submitted reports. The contents of each of these are briefly described below.

Jeff Clark (Chair) stated that the By-Law revisions are coming to a vote, which will take place at the Business Meeting. The Business Meeting was moved to after the Friday plenary to increase attendance. The proposed revisions were sent out to the section membership via email in February, and Jeff had two inquiries asking for clarification on some of the changes. A 2/3rds majority will be required to approve the by-laws. Jeff thanked Pat Humphrey for the support she has given him and the section.

Tom Fitzkee (Treasurer) reported that the section purchased an additional buzzer system for Jeopardy, and paid several honorariums for State Dinner speakers. The expenses will be a little higher for the Clemson meeting, but registrations were higher.

Catherine Matos (Secretary) reported that the section nominee for the Haimo award had been submitted, that the nominee for the Alder Award would be submitted in the upcoming weeks, and that the section is eligible this year to submit a nominee for the Certificate for Meritorious Service. Additionally, she informed the committee of upcoming changes to the MAA's email practices. Section emails will be sent out from the MAA on Tuesdays, and will now require email requests to be submitted to the Secretary 11 days prior to the date the email is to be sent.

Jeff stated that he would assemble a committee for the Certificate for Meritorious Service from people who have had experience with that sort of thing, as well as some members to increase diversity.

Jeff informed the committee that Tim Chartier would be taking over as Section Representative. He asked if anyone

had questions about Charlotte Knotts-Zides's (Section Representative) report, of which there were none.

Karen O'Hara (Student Activities Coordinator) stated that the number of undergraduate talks and posters was down a little bit, but several students submitted for the contributed papers sessions, so the overall numbers are about the same. There are about 30 teams for Math Jeopardy this year, which is down slightly. The Graduate Workshop is scheduled. Karen expressed a need for additional judges for the undergraduate papers. At least 2 judges per session are needed. It does not require a lot of content knowledge; it's more about judging how the students present, answer questions, etc.

The Section NeXT-SE Directors (Zach and Kristen Abernathy, and Stacey Ernstberger) reported that they did not receive any applications this year. They thought maybe that people were not expecting it, since it's an "off" year. They suggested that on "off" years, they do only NeXT activities on Friday, to make it easier for the Section NeXTers to attend. Friday activities are broader interest activities. They are thinking of changing the format so that in years with new cohorts, they hold activities Thursday and Friday, and on years without new cohorts to just hold activities on Friday. They had 12 applicants for the graduate student travel grants, and most ended up coming, even if they didn't get funding. The graduate students and Section NeXTers will have their networking lunch Friday.

Jeff stated that he would be sure to communicate with the Teaching Award winner(s) that they are asked to give a talk at the meeting the following year. He also talked about the difficulty the section has had with getting nominations for the Teaching Awards, particularly the senior award.

Jim Gleason (Webmaster) stated that we need a new webmaster for next year. In order to do that, we need to make the website more manageable, particularly for registrations. He checked with other sections and the MAA, and learned that sections are doing several different things. He made a formal motion that the section create a new website on an external server that can use one of the content management systems. The motion was approved unanimously. Jim will work with Tom in terms of the budget. This move will allow the Section to design a better-looking website and make conference registration easier, as well as make it so that the new webmaster is a content provider, not a programmer.

Jeff brought up that we need to work this year to find a replacement for Jim as webmaster. Jim suggested we announce it at the Business meeting and send a follow-up email. John Ernstberger is also stepping down as social media coordinator. We may be able to merge the webmaster with that position. Stacey asked everyone to take pictures and email them to John so that they can be included in the section's social media. The more pictures of students, the more engagement can happen. The hashtag is #maase18. Jeff asked if it would be helpful to put up his email address at the plenary. Hope reminded everyone to be respectful of people who do not want their photos taken.

Jeff gave brief statements on the reports from officers and representatives who were not able to be present at the EC. He went over the list of nominees for positions to replace people rotating off. Jeff stated that we really need to be talking up the teaching awards to increase nominations, not just during the meeting but over the course of the year. This is a long term issue. It was suggested to possibly encourage students to work with faculty members to nominate faculty for the teaching award. One issue is determining if the faculty member is a MAA member. Kristen suggested an email focused on just the call for nominations, in addition to including information in the newsletter, as well as using social media to get the word out.

Jeff stated that we are not ready to have a site selection for the 2020 meeting. We have not had enough submissions. He'll be following up in the coming weeks on that. Curtis and Jim reminded everyone that part of the job of the nominating committee is to approach faculty at potential schools directly. Part of the problem is that many of the schools with faculty attending the section meeting do not have the facilities, especially an auditorium for 500+ people. The need for 45 seat classrooms is difficult to meet as well. Jeff brought up the idea of potentially splitting into 2 smaller conferences. Kristen encouraged using satellite locations for the plenaries with video feeds. Jim suggested considering raising the registration fee to cover renting larger facilities. Jeff suggested pulling together a committee to look at the conference requirements and consider revising them to make it easier for schools to host the meeting.



Lastly, the representatives from Lee University gave an update on their progress planning for next year's meeting. Karen Chambless, from event planning, stated that they host conferences in the summer quite a bit and have things fairly streamlined. She stated that they should be well coordinated between Event Planning services and the math department. They have plenty of parking available. They are a small private school, 4-5000 students, lots of places for sight-seeing, close to Chattanooga. Caroline Maher-Moulis asked who she would need to connect with for planning, requirements, and publicity. Jeff brought up the suggestion from the fall EC meeting in 2017 that we have the fall EC 2018 meeting at Lee University. Michael recommended that the committee select and invite a plenary speaker from the MAA now, rather than waiting until the fall meeting. A lot of the popular speakers get invited a year to year and a half in advance. Jeff will send a list of options to the Executive Committee and then vote electronically after the meeting.

Jeff moved for adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

## **STATE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **From Jerome Goddard, State Director of Alabama**

The annual MAA Alabama State Dinner was held on Friday, February 3, 2018 at Jacksonville State University (JSU). The banquet lecture was given by Prof. John Mayer from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. The event seemed to be a success and was attended by around 20 faculty and students from universities from across the state. Special thanks is due to the local organizers at JSU, especially including David Dempsey and Thomas Leathrum. On Saturday, February 4, the annual meeting of the Alabama Association of College Teachers of Mathematics was also held at JSU. Plans for the 2019 state dinner will be finalized in Fall 2018.

### **From Jason Parsley, State Director of North Carolina**

The 2017-18 MAA State Dinner for North Carolina was held on September 28, 2017 at Wake Forest University. The keynote speaker was Frank Morgan, professor at Williams College and Editor-in-Chief of the Notices of the American Mathematical Society. In addition, the evening featured a student poster session.

The 2018-19 MAA State Dinner for North Carolina will be held at Campbell University on Friday, September 28, 2018. The location is the Alumni Dining Room in Marshbanks Dining Hall on the Campbell University campus in Buies Creek, NC. Dr. Tim Chartier from Davidson College will be the keynote speaker. There will be a student poster session prior to dinner. The poster session will start at 5:30 PM, with dinner to follow at 6:30 PM. Jenna Carpenter at Campbell is the organizer; address any inquiries to her at (carpenter AT campbell.edu).

The new NC state director for the MAA during 2018-21 is Laura Steil, chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Mars Hill University.

Respectfully,  
Jason Parsley, Wake Forest University  
outgoing MAA state director for NC

### **From Brian Beasley, State Director of South Carolina**

Last November, Benedict College hosted simultaneously the Fall Meeting of the Carolina Math Seminar and the South Carolina MAA State Dinner. The program included an excellent mix of talks from both students and professors. Our plenary speaker was the Section Lecturer, Dr. Sarah Greenwald of Appalachian State University. Dr. Greenwald gave a fascinating presentation on “The Geometry of the Earth and Universe,” exploring both historical and current theories such as the work of Kirshner, Weeks, and Cowen along with LIGO detection of cosmic gravitational waves. A special thank-you goes to Dr. Alexandru Atim of Benedict College and Dr. Rigoberto Florez of The Citadel for their hard work in organizing both the seminar and the dinner.

On April 6, Francis Marion University hosted their annual Undergraduate Mathematics Conference. In addition to talks given by students, the program featured Dr. Kristen Abernathy of Winthrop University

as the plenary speaker, giving the keynote address on “Modeling Drug Resistant vs. Sensitive Tumor Cell Dynamics.”

Congratulations to Dr. Nicole Panza of Francis Marion University, who will be the new State Director for South Carolina. Many thanks to all of the SC MAA members who have supported our state dinners and who will continue to support Dr. Panza in her work as state director.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Beasley  
Presbyterian College  
MAA State Director for South Carolina

### **From Ben Ntatin, State Director of Tennessee**

The Tennessee Junior Academy of Science (TJAS) held its annual meeting on Friday, April 20, 2018 at Belmont University. The TJAS invites high school students from across the state to submit papers based on research problems, with evidence of creative thought to the TJAS Director by Pi Day, March 14th of each year. A panel of readers and judges evaluates each paper, based on a set of pre-determined criteria, and approximately twenty-five are selected to present at this meeting

The Tennessee Academy of Science Eastern Collegiate Division meeting was held on April 20, 2018 on the campus of Pellissippi State Community College with awards as follows:

The Western Collegiate Division Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science was held on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at Christian Brothers University in Memphis, TN.

On April 21st, 2018, Belmont University College of Sciences and Mathematics hosted the annual Middle Tennessee Collegiate Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science in the Janet Ayers Academic Center. This event has served as an opportunity for our students to highlight their scholarly work and has fostered collaboration with other local universities

Feasibility studies for the Tennessee State dinner are still underway. We are looking at possibilities to host the dinner concurrently during the Annual meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science in November 2018 which will be held at Austin Peay State University.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ben Ntatin  
Austin Peay State University  
MAA Tennessee State Director

## SECTION MEETING REPORT

**March 23-24, 2018  
Clemson University**

Clemson University hosted our 97th annual meeting this year. We had over 500 attendees with many giving presentations! This year we had 165 oral presentations, with 61 of these presentations resulting from special sessions. We also had 18 undergraduate poster presentations. Thank you to all our presenters!

The meeting kicked off on Thursday, March 22 with Project NExT—SE activities, a treasure hunt for students, and the executive committee meeting. Section NExT activities began Thursday afternoon with Neat Teaching Ideas and a session on Social Media led by Jon Ernstberger (LaGrange College). Our activities continued Friday morning with a session on Getting Started in Undergraduate Research with Michael Dorff (Brigham Young University), more Neat Teaching Ideas, and a session on Designing Effective Homework Systems led by Sarah Greenwald (Appalachian State University). Our activities concluded with a networking lunch that incorporated Section NExTers and participants in the Graduate Student Workshop. New cohorts are accepted in odd-numbered years, so in 2019 we will be selecting a new class of section fellows. Please spread the word and consider nominating your junior faculty to the program! Application information will be posted on the MAA-SE website in December, but feel free to contact Zach Abernathy ([abernathy@winthrop.edu](mailto:abernathy@winthrop.edu)) with any questions you have in the meantime.

Minutes from the Executive Committee's meeting can be found on Page 7.

Student activities have become a dominant focus of our meetings, and the Clemson meeting was no exception. Starting with the treasure hunt hosted by Julie Barnes for the thirteenth year in a row, they continued with Jeopardy on Friday morning and other events throughout Friday and Saturday. In addition to undergraduate activities, graduate students had the opportunity to participate in a professional development workshop organized by Karen O'Hara. See the student activities report beginning on Page 15 for details.

Throughout the meeting, book displays and exhibits were available for browsing in the BRACK Atrium. A huge thanks goes to our conference sponsors: Hawkes Learning Systems, Pearson, Cengage, McGraw Hill Education, Maplesoft, Macmillan Learning, BIG SIGMAA, and the MAA.



Friday morning began with workshops, distinguished lectures for students, and preliminary Jeopardy rounds. This year we had three workshops available: *Graduate Student Career and Development Workshop* (Sarah Ann Fleming, Belmont University), *A New Extension of the Riemann Integral: From a Simpler Calculus to Analysis-Level Neat Stuff!* (Bryan Dawson & Troy Riggs, Union University), and *The MAA Instructional Practices Guide: A catalyst for community-wide transformation toward meaningful learning* (Martha Abell, Georgia Southern University).

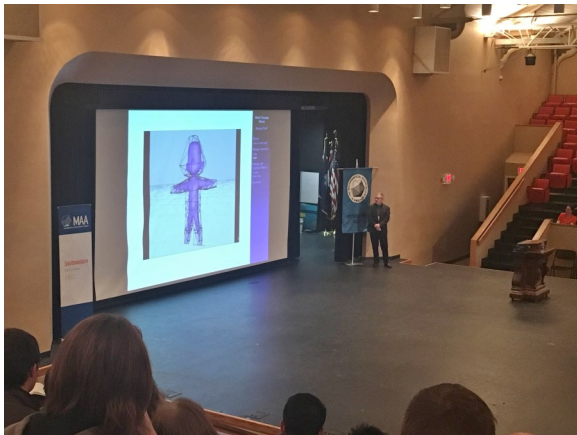
The first distinguished lecture for students was given by the 2015 Section Beginning Teaching Award recipient Kristen Abernathy of Winthrop University. Prof. Abernathy spoke of *Analytic Explorations*. She talked about different metrics and how these metrics affect curves such as circles, parabolas, and ellipses. She blew us all away by showing that pi can equal 4 in a different metric! It was a great talk that showed students a different side of analysis.



Following Prof. Abernathy, Mo Hendon, the 2015 Distinguished Teaching Award recipient, spoke about *The Calculus of Polynomials, without Calculus*. Mo showed how to do one of the very first things we learn in calculus, finding a tangent line., without any calculus! Using only algebra, he wowed the crowd by answering simple and complex problems that arise in calculus. It was highly attended and well-received!

At lunchtime on Friday, Karen O'Hara organized the Graduate School and Career Fair, where ten schools and businesses disseminated information about their graduate programs or job opportunities while students ate lunch. It was well attended and the schools/businesses that were there had many successful conversations with potential students. Pizza was served for all students attending.

We had our first round of parallel sessions Friday morning. During these sessions, there were seven special sessions, six contributed paper sessions, four sessions of undergraduate paper presentations, and two vendor presentations. For the thirteenth year in a row, students presenting a paper at our conference were eligible to win the Patterson Prize. One winner was chosen from each session of undergraduate papers.



Friday afternoon concluded with our first general session. Here we saw the talk “How Mathematics is Making Hollywood Movies Better” by Michael Dorff, the MAA Section Visitor, of Brigham Young University. Prof. Dorff took us on a journey of mathematical progress in the world of film. We learned some of the mathematics behind animation in films such as *The Incredibles*, *Frozen*, *Star Wars*, and more. It was educational and also entertaining!

During this general session, two major awards were announced. Martha Abell presented the Section’s Distinguished Service Award to Patricia Humphrey of Georgia Southern University. Please read the committee’s citation starting at Page 29. Mo

Hendon presented the Section’s Distinguished Teaching Award for Beginning Faculty to Zachary Abernathy of Winthrop University. Please read the committee’s citation starting at Page 33. There were no nominations for the Distinguished Teaching Award this year but we encourage nominations for this coming year. Each of these awards will be accepting nominations for the 2019 cycle in the fall. Please consider nominating one of your colleagues! Nomination information and forms are available in this newsletter, each following its respective 2018 citation.

Friday afternoon ended with the section business meeting. Minutes can be found on Page 19. Several new officers were elected or reinstated: Laura Steil of Mars Hill University will become the North Carolina State Director, Nicole Panza of Francis Marion University will become the South Carolina State Director, Kristen Mazur of Elon University will be our new Section Lecturer, Jessica Williams of Converse College will become the newsletter editor, Molly Fenn of North Carolina State University will be Section NExT co-director, Laurie Heyer of Davidson College is our new chair-elect, and Tim Chartier of Davidson College is the new Section Representative. The Section thanks the outgoing officers for their service. During the business meeting we were also reminded that the 2019 meeting will be at Lee University in Cleveland, TN.

Saturday morning began with our second general session given by our outgoing Section Lecturer Sarah Greenwald of Appalachian State University. Sarah discussed “Popular Culture and Mathematics: Gender, Race, and more”. In this talk Sarah discussed misperceptions of mathematicians that are held by the general public and furthered by what we see in pop culture. She gave numerous examples, showing clips from current shows and movies. This talk was eye opening and also inspirational!

After Prof. Greenwald’s presentation there was another round of parallel sessions. This included the undergraduate poster session, at which 18 posters were presented and three prizes were awarded. Additionally, there was a department chairs’ meeting, five more special sessions, six contributed paper sessions, and three more undergraduate paper sessions. The meeting concluded with Jeopardy finals, where Clemson University took home the championship.



**See you next year at Lee University!**

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES REPORT

Our meeting at Clemson University gave lots of students the opportunity to contribute to the program, have fun, meet new friends from around the Section, and learn more about mathematics and the life of professional mathematicians. Students are the lifeblood of the profession, and keep our annual meetings fresh and vibrant. Many faculty volunteer their time to make our spring meeting a great experience for students. If you have suggestions of ways to make the meeting even more interesting and informative for students, we would love to hear your ideas. Please send your suggestions to the section’s Student Activities Coordinator, Dr. Karen O’Hara, at [kohara@highpoint.edu](mailto:kohara@highpoint.edu).

### Math Treasure Hunt

The Math Treasure Hunt is a great way for students to connect with each other and kick-off the meeting. Julie Barnes coordinated volunteers to organize the event, plan activities, and supervise activities for roughly 100 students who participated in the treasure hunt this year.



### Math Jeopardy

The Math Jeopardy competition was organized this year by Ron Taylor from Berry College. His team of question writers include Jeffery Powell (Samford University), Brian Wagner (UT Martin), and John Cummings (Berry College). Twenty-nine teams from 26 schools competed in our third year of running three concurrent sessions of Math Jeopardy. Nine preliminary rounds ran concurrently in three different rooms. These rounds were moderated by Mike Berry (UT Knoxville), Brian O’Connor (Tennessee Tech University), and Timothy Goldberg (Lenoir-Rhyne University). The winning team in each preliminary round, plus the next three highest scoring teams, went on to compete in three concurrent semifinal rounds.

The winning team in each semifinal round, plus the next highest scoring team, went on to the final round of Math Jeopardy, moderated by Mike Berry in front of a large audience in the plenary lecture hall. The final victory this year went to our host school, Clemson, with a score of 2900 points.



Great job to all participants!

**T-Shirt Contest**

The annual T-Shirt contest once again brought out creative entries from several schools. These ranged from bunches of mathematical terms on the shirt to quotes from Pólya and more. After random straw polling from several unbiased sources, this year’s contest ended in the first tie we have ever had! The entry from Converse College reminds us of many of the famous women in mathematics, and the entry from Kennesaw State University is a clever use of combinatorics!



**Graduate School and Career Fair**



The Graduate School and Career Fair featured representatives from 10 different regional graduate programs and employers: Appalachian State, Clemson, Georgia Southern, Red Ventures, UNC Charlotte Bioinformatics, UNC Greensboro, UT Knoxville, Wake Forest, Western Carolina and Winthrop. In addition to free pizza and networking opportunities for all students, the event featured a raffle for an Amazon.com gift card. Students who made visits to at least five of the eight tables at the fair could enter the raffle. One entry was chosen at random by Southeastern Section Governor Martha Abell.

**Student Presentations and Posters**

Mathematical research is the heart of any section meeting, and the students are no exception to this rule. This year 37 undergraduates and 5 graduate students gave talks, and 18 undergraduates presented posters. The Section is grateful for the many volunteers who helped organize, moderate, and judge the talks and posters. Special thanks go to Antara Mukherjee for organizing the poster session. In our seventh annual awarding of the Patterson Prize, the following seven papers were recognized:

- Kailee Gerzema, Belmont University  
“Wagering strategies for variations of Final Jeopardy”
- Jamie Fravel, Furman University  
“Free Flowing”
- Michael Byrd, University of North Carolina, Wilmington  
“Square Sum Problem With Variations”



Ezra Nance, University of Tennessee, Martin

“Almost Positive Sectional Curvature Using Octonions and Group Actions”

Isaac Shore, High Point University

“Disease Spread on Networks”

Joanna Fass, High Point University

“Matrix-Toe: 1s and 0s Battle for Domination”

Amy Murdaugh, Union University

“Determining Unique Local Minima in Complex Systems”

The top three posters were also awarded prizes:

Hope LaRosa, University of North Carolina, Wilmington

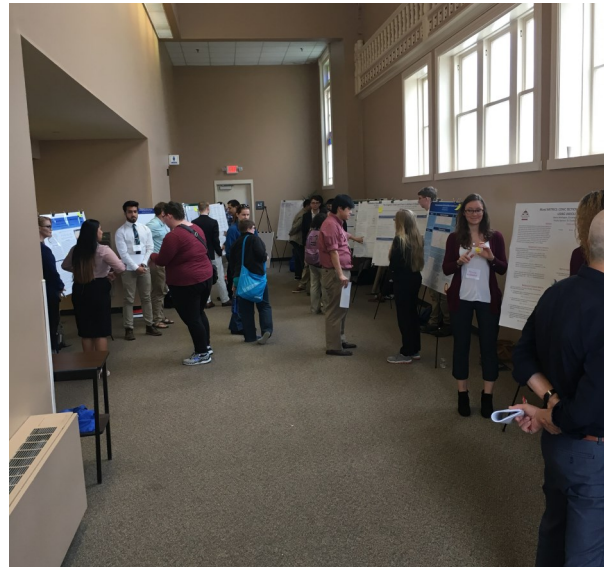
“Distribution of Zeros in Various Polynomials”

Aaron Vankempen, Piedmont College

“Asymptotic Quantification of Regular and Semi-Regular Round Robin Tournaments”

Alan Way, Winthrop University

“Copime Labeling of Graphs”



### **Graduate Student Workshop**

The fourth annual Graduate Student Career Development Workshop, organized by Sarah Ann Fleming (Belmont University) was held during the MAA-SE 2018 meeting in Clemson, SC. There were thirteen graduate students from eight different universities at the workshop. Sarah Ann Fleming from Belmont University organized the workshop and began the morning with a talk on “The Job Search.” Sarah Frick from Furman University joined her in leading a discussion on “Job Application Materials.” The group then broke up into pairs for mock interviews assisted by Julie Barnes from Western Carolina University, Joan Lind from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Anne Ho from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and Jon Ernstberger from Lagrange College. Discussion then turned to teaching with a talk led by Jon Ernstberger on “Sound Teaching Practices.” The morning wrapped up with a joint lunch with Section NEXt and a question & answer session with the Section NEXt participants. The graduate students left with praise for the workshop. Another workshop is planned for next year that will combine the topics from this year along with some new topics as well.

# Join us next year at Lee University

## Cleveland, TN

### March 7-9, 2019

The Lee University Department of Natural Sciences & Mathematics will host the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America, March 7-9, 2019. Most meeting rooms will be in the Science & Math Complex (pictured) on Lee's campus. Blocks of rooms will be reserved at several hotels/motels in Cleveland, and parking lots will be reserved for attendees' convenience at the university. Make plans now to attend. Everyone is invited!

Lee University is a private, comprehensive university located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, just off Interstate 75.



LEE  UNIVERSITY



## ANNUAL SECTION BUSINESS MEETING

### MINUTES OF MAA-SE SPRING BUSINESS MEETING

6:00 pm, March 23, 2018  
 Clemson University, Clemson

Jeff Clark, Section Chair-Elect, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

The meeting opened with approximately 35 members in attendance, over double the attendance at the 2017 Business Meeting

Tom Fitzkee (Treasurer) presented the Treasurer’s Report. Copies of the financial report are available upon request. The Section is in good shape financially.

Catherine Matos (Secretary) presented a series of resolutions, which thanked the many people who helped to make this meeting possible. The resolutions passed unanimously, after two corrections to the list of workshop presenters.

Jeff presented the following slate of nominations for officers, which were approved by acclamation.

<u>Office:</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
State Director (North Carolina):	Laura Steil, Mars Hill University
State Director (South Carolina):	Nicole Panza, Francis Marion University
Section Lecturer:	Kristen Mazur, Elon University
Newsletter Editor:	Jessica Williams, Converse College, Spartanburg
Section NExT Co-director:	Molly Fenn, North Carolina State University
Chair-Elect:	Laurie Heyer, Davidson College

All other officers continue see: [http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/?](http://sections.maa.org/southeastern/?Section_Information)  
[Section Information](#) [Section Officers and Committees](#)

Charlotte Knotts-Zides (Section Representative) then presented the Section Representative’s Report. It was not generally known that the Governors were intended to represent the national MAA, not the sections. The recent changes to the structure of the board was to allow the new board to work more nimbly. They had an excellent meeting at the JMM, with a lot more discussion than previously. She is hopeful that they can continue to keep what has been a good process, where the voices of the Section Representatives can actually be heard. Charlotte stressed that the MAA relies on volunteers, and we need to be more open to sharing more on social media, using the department memberships, and working to bring in a portion of the next generation of mathematicians. We are seeing declining membership, partially due to decreases in funding.

Michael Dorff, Section Visitor, greeted the business meeting attendees briefly.

Jeff reminded everyone that the meeting would be at Lee University next year, and stated that we did not yet have a site selected for 2020. Ray Collings asked if anything special was planned for the 100<sup>th</sup> meeting in 2022.

Jeff summarized the major proposed changes to the bylaws, including the move for more diversity in the membership of committees, such as site selection and awards. Jeff moved that the by-laws be accepted, which was seconded by Cathie Aust. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:18pm.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America expresses warm appreciation to the faculty and staff of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Clemson University, and to the administration of Clemson University, for providing excellent facilities for the 97<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. We have been the beneficiaries of their hard work, extraordinary efforts, gracious hospitality and helpfulness in attention to many details that such a meeting involves. We mention in particular the contributions of the following individuals:

### ***Organizing Committee:***

Mark Cawood, Co-Chair (Clemson University)

Meredith Burr, Co-Chair (Clemson University)

Thanks go to the Mathematical Sciences Department administrative assistant Lynn Callahan for administrative help and support. Thanks also go to Mathematical Sciences Department Chair Chris Cox and Dean of the College of Science Cynthia Young for supporting the conference. Associate Deans Julia Frugoli and Calvin Williams also provided help and support. Thanks to the faculty of the Clemson Mathematical Sciences Department and several of our students, who have helped in a variety of ways to make this meeting a reality.

### **Math Jeopardy Game**

Michael W. Berry (UT Knoxville), Timothy Goldberg (Lenoir-Rhyne University), Brian O'Connor (Tennessee Tech), Ron Taylor (Berry College),

John Cummings (Berry College), Jeffrey Powell (Samford), Brian C. Wagner (UT Martin)

### **Math Treasure Hunt**

Julie Barnes (Western Carolina University), Axel Brandt (Davidson College), Meredith Burr (Clemson University), Shih-Wei Chao (University of North Georgia), Andrew Chockla (Western Carolina University), Andrew Chockla (Western Carolina University), Timothy Goldberg (Lenoir Rhyne University), Kerri Jamerson (Mars Hill University), Bryan Lai (University of South Carolina at Salkehatchie), Sarah Nelson (Lenoir-Rhyne University), Frank Patane (Samford University), Andrew Penland (Western Carolina University), Andrew Rapp (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), Laura Steil (Mars Hill University), Breeanne Swart (The Citadel)

### **Undergraduate Poster Session and Patterson Prize**

Antara Mukherjee (The Citadel)

We give a special thank you to all of the volunteer judges.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses warm appreciation to the following companies for their support of the 97<sup>th</sup> annual meeting:

Cengage  
Hawkes Learning Systems  
Mathematical Association of America  
McGraw Hill Education  
Macmillon Learning  
Maplesoft

Each of these companies and organizations has provided a display and/or financial support.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses its gratitude to the presenters of workshops at the 97<sup>th</sup> annual meeting:

*A New Extension of the Riemann Integral: From a Simpler Calculus to Analysis-Level Neat Stuff!*, Bryan Dawson (Union University)

*Graduate Student Career and Development Workshop*, Sarah Ann Fleming (Belmont University)

*The MAA Instructional Practices Guide: A catalyst for community-wide transformation toward meaningful learning*, Martha Abell (Georgia Southern University)

We commend these individuals for their service to the Section through the presentation of these inviting and stimulating courses and workshops.





## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA acknowledges with genuine appreciation the excellent and faithful leadership and dedicated hard work of those officers completing their terms of service:

Patricia Humphrey, *Past-Chair*

Stacey Ernstberger, *Section NExT Co-director*

Sarah Greenwald, *Section Lecturer*

Jessie Hamm, *Newsletter Editor*

Jason Parsley, *North Carolina State Director*

Brian Beasley, *South Carolina State Director*

We anticipate with delight and pleasure their continued presence among us, as well as their valuable contributions to the Section in the future.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses its gratitude to the organizers of special sessions at the 97<sup>th</sup> annual meeting:

### ***Active Learning in Undergraduate Mathematics***

Draga Vidakovic (Georgia State University), Harrison Stalvey (University of Colorado Boulder), Darryl Chamberlain Jr. (University of Florida), Aubrey Kemp (Georgia State University), Leslie Meadows (Georgia State University), and Adam Kellan (Georgia State University)

### ***Mathematical Experiences and Projects In Business, Industry and Government (BIG)***

Caroline Maher-Boulis (Lee University), David Stone (Georgia Southern University), and Jan Rychtar (University of North Carolina at Greensboro)

### ***Engaging Activities in Coding Theory, Cryptography, and Number Theory***

Ann Ho (Coastal Carolina University/University of Tennessee), Gretchen Matthews (Clemson University), and Malcolm Rupert (Clemson University)

### ***Research Projects in Discrete Mathematics***

Mark Budden (Western Carolina University) and Andrew Penland (Western Carolina University)

### ***Mathematics Identities and Inequalities***

Wei-Kai Lai (University of South Carolina, Salkehatchie)

### ***Problems in Differential Equations and Nonlinear Analysis***

Israel Ncube (Alabama A&M University)

***Enhancing Personalized Learning in Mathematics through Non-Disposable Assignments***

Marcela Chiorescu (Georgia College and State University)

We commend these individuals for their service to the Section through the organization of these valuable additions to the program.



## MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

The Southeastern Section of the MAA expresses its gratitude to the presenters of special talks at the 97<sup>th</sup> annual meeting:

*Analytic Explorations*, Kristen Abernathy (Winthrop University)

*The Calculus of Polynomials, without Calculus*, Mo Hendon (University of Georgia)

*How Mathematics is Making Hollywood Movies Better*, Michael Dorff (Brigham Young University)

*Popular Culture and Mathematics: Gender, Race, and more*, Sarah Greenwald (Appalachian State University)

We commend these individuals for their service to the Section through the presentation of these inviting and stimulating talks.

## Mathematics Association of America – Southeastern Section Distinguished Service Award 2018 Patricia Humphrey

*Martha Abell made the following remarks as she presented the award on March 24, 2018 at the section MAA meeting at Clemson University.*



It's a pleasure to announce the 2018 winner of the Southeastern Section Distinguished Service Award. It's because of people like this year's recipient that this section has a long history as one of the best sections in the country.

This year's recipient has an extensive list of contributions to the Southeastern Section, to the national MAA, to the statistics education community, and to her university. She served as Chair of the Section (and even came in one year early when our Chair moved to another Section), served as Program Chair and as a Section NExT Coordinator (after being selected as a Section NExT fellow early in her professional career). Our recipient was active at the national level, serving as Chair and Newsletter Editor of the STAT Ed SIGMAA, and as a member of the MAA-ASA Joint Committee on Statistics Education and the Dolciani Committee. Over her career, she gave close to 30 presentations at the JMM, MathFest and Section meetings, and she organized numerous special sessions. At her home institution, she served as a faculty advisor to the MAA Student Chapter, helped arrange for many students to attend the section meeting each year, and served as a driving force behind many successful Eagle Undergraduate Mathematics Conferences and MAA State Meetings. She also organized a successful Section Meeting at her home institution, Georgia Southern University, where she served as our MAA department liaison for most of her career. While these items may represent lines on a c.v., they represent years of service to our professional community. The MAA, the Southeastern Section, and Georgia Southern University have certainly been the beneficiaries of this outstanding record of service. This year's recipient is Dr. Patricia Humphrey.

## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2019 SOUTHEASTERN SECTION DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

The Southeastern Section of the MAA is delighted to present a Distinguished Service Award at its annual Spring Meeting each year. Any member of the Section who is an outstanding contributor to our Section is eligible for nomination. The person selected for 2019 will be honored at our Section's Meeting, to be held March 7-9, 2019, at Lee University, Cleveland, TN.

The Section Distinguished Service Award Committee encourages members of the Section to nominate deserving persons for this award. Please send your nomination(s), along with the nominees' vitae and other supporting materials/letters, all as electronic documents, to Martha Abell, Committee Chair, [martha@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:martha@georgiasouthern.edu). We ask that you make every effort to gather these materials without the nominee's knowledge, as it is the Section's tradition to surprise the awardee with the award at the Section meeting. Previous nominations of candidates who were not awardees may be carried forward for consideration for the 2019 award if the nominator so notifies John Mayer by the submission date. Contact Martha Abell regarding any questions about the process or nominating materials.

### **NOMINATIONS FOR 2019 AWARD ARE DUE BY 16 JANUARY 2019**

The Section Award was made in even numbered years from 1990 to 1996 and annually since that time. The following is a list of recipients:

April 1990 Trevor Evans, Emory University  
 April 1992 Billy F. Bryant, Vanderbilt University  
 April 1994 James G. Ware, Univ. of Tenn., Chattanooga  
 April 1996 Marcellus Waddill, Wake Forest University  
 March 1997 John Kenelly, Clemson University  
 March 1998 David Stone, Georgia Southern University  
 March 1999 M. F. Neff, Emory University  
 March 2000 Tina Straley, MAA Executive Director  
 March 2001 Charles Cleaver, The Citadel  
 March 2002 Sharon Cutler Ross, Georgia Perimeter College  
 March 2003 Sylvia Trimble Bozeman, Spelman College  
 March 2004 Theresa E. Early, Appalachian State University  
 March 2005 Hugh Haynesworth, College of Charleston  
 March 2006 Stephen Davis, Davidson College  
 March 2007 Joel Brawley, Clemson University  
 March 2008 Benjamin G. Klein, Davidson College  
 March 2009 Walter M. Patterson, III, Lander University  
 March 2010 Ray E. Collings, Georgia Perimeter College  
 March 2011 Ellen Kirkman, Wake Forest University  
 March 2012 Charlotte Knotts-Zides, Winthrop University Wofford College  
 March 2013 Jim Vandergriff, Austin Peay State University  
 March 2014 John C. Mayer, University of Alabama, Birmingham  
 March 2015 Jeff Clark, Elon College  
 March 2016 Martha Abell, Georgia Southern University  
 March 2017 Virginia Watson, Kennesaw State University  
 March 2018 Patricia Humphrey, Georgia Southern University

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: THE 2019 SOUTHEASTERN SECTION DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Nominations for the 2019 Southeastern Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics are now being accepted. The Southeastern Section selection committee will choose the winner of this award from the pool of nominees in two stages. From the initial applicants, the committee will choose a group of finalists. Nominators of finalists will be contacted for more detailed information about the candidate's teaching. The winner will be honored at the Spring 2019 meeting of the Section at Lee University, Cleveland, TN.

A nomination form is attached. Each member of the Section is encouraged to consider submitting a nomination to **Mo Hendon** ([mhendon@uga.edu](mailto:mhendon@uga.edu)) chair of the selection committee. Please submit a nomination form by **January 16, 2019**. The selection committee will contact nominators of finalists to solicit a complete packet.

### **Previous Teaching Award Recipients:**

The section has presented the Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics each year since 1992. Past recipients are:

- 1992 Anne Hudson, Armstrong State University
- 1993 Robert Bryant, Duke University
- 1994 John Neff, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 1995 Sylvia Bozeman, Spelman College
- 1996 Carl Pomerance, University of Georgia
- 1997 Harold Reiter, Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte
- 1998 Ben Klein, Davidson College
- 1999 Joel Brawley, Clemson University
- 2000 Theodore Shifrin, University of Georgia
- 2001 Johnny Henderson, Auburn University
- 2002 Ronald Harshbarger, University of South Carolina, Beaufort
- 2003 Sue E. Goodman, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2004 Jeff R. Knisley, East Tennessee State University
- 2005 David Stone, Georgia Southern University
- 2006 William "Mac" Priestly, the University of the South
- 2007 David Sumner, University of South Carolina, Columbia
- 2008 Ronald Gould, Emory University
- 2009 Hugh Howards, Wake Forest University
- 2010 Martin Jones, University of Charleston
- 2011 Barry Spieler, Birmingham-Southern College
- 2012 Sam Kaplan, University of North Carolina at Asheville
- 2013 Ron Taylor, Berry College
- 2014 No award given
- 2015 Maurice Hendon, University of Georgia
- 2016 Stephen Robinson, Wake Forest University
- 2017 Valerie Miller, Georgia State University

**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 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 describe briefly 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 of nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Mo Hendon , (mhendon@uga.edu)  
University of Georgia

Department of Mathematics

706-542-4803  
Athens, GA 30602

*We're willing to help! If you would like assistance, please contact Mo Hendon before January 16.*



## **2018 MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING BY A BEGINNING COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICS FACULTY MEMBER GOES TO ZACH ABERNATHY**

*Mo Hendon made the following remarks as he presented the award on March 24, 2018 at the section MAA meeting at Clemson University.*



When I'm evaluating a teacher, I listen first to what the students have to say. Here's a selection of student comments:

"This was the best structured math class I've ever taken."

"[He] is an inspiration."

"[He] has furthered my interest in mathematics."

"This class has the most open learning environment."

"We became more and more genuinely curious."

"It was excellent and I loved every second of it."

"He listened to me - not just on a superficial level, but REALLY listened."

"I would recommend other teachers observe and emulate at least some of his practices."

And of course, a great teacher inspires not only his students, but also his colleagues. Here's what his colleagues say about our winner:

"[His] teaching ability surpasses technique to encompass a compelling and energizing persona. That's where we want to be on our best days, and [he] has more of these days than most."

I'll end by paraphrasing the 2014 winner of this award, Dr. Joe Rusinko, who says:

"[He] demonstrates teaching ability one would expect from a major award winner, not a beginning faculty member."

Joe's right, and now Zach Abernathy is the winner of the MAA Southeastern Section's Distinguished Teaching Award for Beginning Faculty.

Zach has a lot ahead of him now. You'll be able to hear Zach give one of the Distinguished Lectures for Students at next year's section meeting at Lee University in Cleveland Tennessee. He'll also be our section's nominee for the MAA's Alder award. Congratulations, Zach.



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE MAA-SE AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING BY A BEGINNING COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICS FACULTY MEMBER

### COMPLETE NOMINATION PROCESS

**Brief Description:** The MAA Southeastern Section (MAASE) established this award to honor beginning college or university faculty whose teaching in the Section has been extraordinarily successful and whose effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics is shown to have influence beyond their own classrooms. An awardee must have taught full time in a mathematical science in the Southeastern Section for at least two years, but not more than a total of seven years in any collegiate institution. Each year at most one college or university teacher is to be honored with this MAASE section award. Nominations for the award may be made by any member of the MAASE section.

A complete nomination packet should consist of a nomination form, a narrative, additional documentation, and letters of recommendation as described below. Please mail, fax or email the completed packet to arrive by Saturday, January 16, 2019 to:

Mo Hendon  
Department of Mathematics  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602

Questions may be directed to Mo at [mhendon@uga.edu](mailto:mhendon@uga.edu) or at 706-542-4803.

#### **Eligibility and Guidelines for Nomination**

##### **Eligibility**

Teaching is intended to include classroom instruction as well as activities outside the classroom, such as working with student groups, preparing students for mathematical competitions, directing undergraduate students in research in mathematics, directing students in the preparation of honors theses, preparing teaching materials used by others, etc.

Nominees must:

- Hold the terminal degree required by SACS to be a full time faculty member in a collegiate institution,
- Be college or university teachers currently in the MAA-SE who have taught full time in a mathematical science in the Southeastern Section for at least two years, but not more than a total of seven years in any collegiate institution (In determining eligibility, we do not count time spent in a postdoctoral position where nearly all the nominee's time was spent on research, and the nominee did very little or no teaching (e. g. three semester courses a year or less).), and
- Hold membership in the Mathematical Association of America

##### **Guidelines for nomination**

Nominees for the award may be made by any member of the MAA-SE section.

Nominees should:

- Be recognized as extraordinarily successful in their teaching
- Have effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics that can be documented
- Have had influence in their teaching beyond their own classrooms



A nomination for this award should consist only of the materials requested below, and should not include any other materials, such as curricula vitae or other items. Please prepare all nomination materials on one side only of 8.5 by 11 inch paper, with a type size no smaller than 12 points (pica).

### **Nomination Packet:**

#### **Nomination Form**

A completed **Nomination Form** is the first part of the packet. Please see Page 34 of this newsletter for the nomination form.

#### **Narrative**

Please describe the nominee's extraordinary success in teaching by providing a narrative of the nominee's background, experience, teaching style, special contributions, other teaching awards, and any additional evidence of the nominee's unusual achievement in teaching. Note especially effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics and influence beyond the nominee's own classrooms. The narrative should not exceed five double-spaced pages.

#### **Additional Documentation**

Please submit no more than three pages of further evidence to document the nominee's extraordinary teaching success. This documentation will vary greatly from institution to institution, but may include summaries of peer or student evaluations, comments on teaching, possible increases in numbers of majors in mathematics (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), possible student success in mathematics competitions (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), success in research in mathematics conducted by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, production of superior quality honors theses by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, development of curricular materials successfully used by colleagues, adoption of the nominee's teaching methods or techniques by experienced colleagues, service as a respected adviser for a student group, etc.

Nominators should bear in mind that the selection committee might view a nomination more positively if it is accompanied not just by carefully chosen testimonials from a few selected students and faculty, but also by reports, comments and criticism which is representative of the whole spectrum of opinion among students and faculty on the nominee's teaching.

#### **Letters of Recommendation**

Please include no more than five letters of recommendation, as follows:

- Two letters from the nominee's present or former students.
- Two letters from the nominee's colleagues (one of whom could be the department chair).

One additional letter from any one qualified to comment on the nominee's extraordinary teaching success.



**MAASE Award for Distinguished Teaching by a  
Beginning College or University Mathematics  
Faculty Member**

**NOMINATION FORM**  
*To be submitted by January 16, 2019*

**PLEASE TYPE**

Nominee's Name (First name first):	
College or University Affiliation:	
College or University Address:	
Nominee's email address:	
Is the nominee a current member of the Mathematical Association of America? (only members of the MAA are eligible for the Award)	Year joined _____
Nominee's number of years teaching experience in a mathematical science (at least two years, not more than seven)	Number _____ Year _____ to Year _____
Graduate Degree earned in mathematical sciences:	Degree _____ Area of Specialty _____
List the years and where the nominee taught full time in a mathematical science in the Southeastern Section (at least two needed)	Years _____ Location _____

Please describe on no more than one page of 12 point type, double-spaced, the unusual personal and professional qualities of the nominee that contribute to his or her extraordinary teaching success, and attach.

Name of nominator (First name first):	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email address:	
Signature:	
Date:	/ /

## **SOUTHEASTERN SECTION OFFICERS 2018-2019**

<b>Chair:</b>	Jeff Clark (Elon University) <a href="mailto:clarkj@elon.edu">clarkj@elon.edu</a>
<b>Chair Elect:</b>	Laurie Heyer (Davidson College) <a href="mailto:lahey@dauidson.edu">lahey@dauidson.edu</a>
<b>Vice-Chair For Two-Year Colleges:</b>	Wei-Kai Lai (USC Salkehatchie) <a href="mailto:laiw@mailbox.sc.edu">laiw@mailbox.sc.edu</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Catherine Matos (Clayton State University) <a href="mailto:catherinematos@clayton.edu">catherinematos@clayton.edu</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Tom Fitzkee (Francis Marion University) <a href="mailto:TFitzkee@FMarion.edu">TFitzkee@FMarion.edu</a>
<b>Section Representative :</b>	Tim Chartier (Davidson College) <a href="mailto:tichartier@davidson.edu">tichartier@davidson.edu</a>
<b>Section Lecturer:</b>	Kristen Mazur (Elon University) <a href="mailto:kmazur@elon.edu">kmazur@elon.edu</a>
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Jessica Williams (Converse College) <a href="mailto:jessica.williams@converse.edu">jessica.williams@converse.edu</a>
<b>Program Chair:</b>	Hope McIlwain (Mercer University) <a href="mailto:mcilwain_mh@mercer.edu">mcilwain_mh@mercer.edu</a>
<b>Student Activities Coordinator:</b>	Karen O'Hara (High Point University) <a href="mailto:kohara@highpoint.edu">kohara@highpoint.edu</a>
<b>Beginning Faculty Coordinator:</b>	Ron Taylor (Berry College) <a href="mailto:rtaylor@berry.edu">rtaylor@berry.edu</a>
<b>State Director of Alabama:</b>	Jerome Goddard II (Auburn University Montgomery) <a href="mailto:jgoddard@aum.edu">jgoddard@aum.edu</a>
<b>State Director of Georgia:</b>	Benjamin Wescoatt (Valdosta State University) <a href="mailto:bmwescoatt@valdosta.edu">bmwescoatt@valdosta.edu</a>
<b>State Director of North Carolina:</b>	Laura Steil (Mars Hill University) <a href="mailto:lsteil@mhu.edu">lsteil@mhu.edu</a>
<b>State Director of South Carolina:</b>	Nicole Panza (Francis Marion University) <a href="mailto:npanza@fmarion.edu">npanza@fmarion.edu</a>
<b>State Director of Tennessee:</b>	Ben Ntatin (Austin Peay State University) <a href="mailto:ntatinb@apsu.edu">ntatinb@apsu.edu</a>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Jim Gleason (The University of Alabama) <a href="mailto:jgleason@as.ua.edu">jgleason@as.ua.edu</a>
<b>Historian:</b>	Virginia Watson (Kennesaw State University) <a href="mailto:vwatson@kennesaw.edu">vwatson@kennesaw.edu</a>
<b>Directors of Project NEXt-SE:</b>	Kristen Abernathy (Winthrop University) , Zach Abernathy (Winthrop University), and Molly Fenn (North Carolina State University) <a href="mailto:abernathyk@winthrop.edu">abernathyk@winthrop.edu</a> , <a href="mailto:abernathyz@winthrop.edu">abernathyz@winthrop.edu</a> , and <a href="mailto:mafenn2@ncsu.edu">mafenn2@ncsu.edu</a> (respectively)

**MAA SOUTHEASTERN SECTION COMMITTEES**  
**2018-2019**

**Section Teaching Award:** Maurice Hendon  
Stephen Robinson  
Valerie Miller  
State Directors

**Section Service Award:** Martha Abell  
Brian Beasley  
Jeff Clark  
Jim Vandergriff  
John Mayer  
Virginia Watson

**Site Selection:** Russell Herman  
John Mayer  
Curtis Herink

**Southeastern Section MAA Website**  
**<http://maasoutheastern.org>**