

Iowa MAA Section Meeting
October 28, 2023

Executive meeting

Call to order: 7:20 am

Attendees: Luke Bennet, Michael Stobb, Ruth Berger, Andrew Becklin, Ross Sweet, Brittney Miller, Joy Becker, Lisa Murano, Katherine Vance, Susan Crook

1. Welcome to Visitors (Susan Crook)
 - a. Section Officer Candidates
 - i. Joy Becker – Vice Chair Elect
 - ii. Andrew Becklin – Competition Coordinator
 - b. MAA representative: Lisa Marano
2. Approve Minutes of 2022 Executive Meeting (Susan Crook)
3. Report from Section Officer's Meetings (Brittney Miller and Lisa Murano)
 - a. Focus was on new registration/payment system through national office, based on PayPal(?)
 - b. We can build our meetings on the website and have it seen by other sections
 - c. Everyone who registers will need an MAA account, not necessarily an MAA membership though
 - d. Concern: requesting reports rather than accessing spreadsheet whenever we want. We will have to email an admin from national and they can send once per week. Will needing an account be a barrier? Can we still register on site (yes, according to Brittney)
 - e. We are currently using a squarespace site that is stored as a google form and we have a payment option that redirects attendees to payment forms, like Venmo
 - i. We don't have Venmo linked to the Section's bank account
 - ii. We also used to have a card reader linked to PayPal
 - f. Q: With new system, how will we get receipts for reimbursements from our institutions?
4. Report on Mathematics Competition (Ruth Berger)
 - a. Ruth's last one (thank you, Ruth!), unless Andrew really messes something up
 - b. Spring 2023 at University of Iowa
 - i. Won 1st and 2nd places
 - ii. 3rd place was Luther, who will host in Spring 2024. March 9, or February 24 as backup date. Ruth and Andrew currently coordinating
 - iii. March 9 overlaps with several spring breaks, Feb 24 overlaps with at least one
 - c. We now have a 5-year term limit
5. Appointment of New Competition Chair, Andrew Becklin (Susan Crook)

- a. No vote needed
- b. 1-year overlap of positions starts now
- 6. Report from Treasurer (Luke Bennett)
 - a. Beginning \$12600, end \$13000, currently \$9955
 - b. We'll spend more this year, mainly because of the buzzer system purchased for Jeopardy (\$1200)
 - i. We can discuss a process for "renting" these out for other events, with the person ordering paying for shipping
 - ii. Russ will write up instructions
 - c. This year is MAA subvention is \$467, consistent with previous years
 - d. ICMC is earmarked for \$7000
 - i. Do we want to increase/decrease? Currently we are paying more for the competition than we take in. This year had \$140 come in. Author is paid \$430, which has not increased in a significant amount of time. Food was \$284.13. Printing costs \$20, engraving \$24
 - ii. Ruth and Susan will look into going rate for author stipend to increase. Check with other sections, national office, and COMAP for MCM/ICM
 - iii. Should we continue to pay for pizza lunch?
 - 1. Students often want to go out, when possible
 - 2. Getting back on time can be hard with larger groups
 - 3. We could also add food fee as part of the registration
 - 4. Social aspect is good, more interaction between schools noticed when we did this in 2023
 - 5. Unanimous yes, we'll continue this for the next three years and reevaluate then
 - e. Lisa: sections should have between \$6000 and \$15000 in accounts (at the end of 2015, we had ~\$16000). More than that would
 - f. Should we increase registration fee?
 - i. Lisa: you shouldn't worry about your current budget, but \$15 for a 2-day meeting is pretty low. In the new system, tiering for payment is easy
 - ii. Could we do a "group" registration fee for faculty that bring a lot of students? E.g., Coe brought a large group of students this year, funded by Student Government, and some of those funds could be contributed to the section
 - iii. Start charging for first-time attendees and grad students? Early career often have more funds available for professional development
 - iv. We're having a hard time getting people to read MAA Connect, so this may account for decrease in first-time and grad attendees
 - g. How is our student outreach working? Should we continue to pay for pizza at Jeopardy?

- i. Seemed to work well at this meeting, but student participation is pretty variable
 - ii. We paid \$204 for pizza and \$26 on drinks
 - 1. Could we give the option for faculty to purchase extra pizza to watch?
 - a. New registration system allows us to do add-on fees
 - iii. Board game session in advance may have been helpful
 - iv. Offer a social option on Saturday, maybe during the Business Meeting?
 - 1. Mathfest has a game room set up for the conference, we could do something similar
 - v. We'll do this next year and reevaluate, including the add-on cost for faculty dinner. Make sure we ask for dietary restrictions
- 7. Report from IA-NExT (Michael Stobb)
 - a. Six attendees, not including the guest
 - b. Advertising was inconsistent, so we had low attendance and no new members
 - i. Two steering committee members weren't present, one is no longer in the section and the other is on maternity leave
 - ii. We'll continue with the same steering committee next year
 - c. How do we connect better with Iowa and Iowa State? Other new faculty?
 - i. Repeated messages with better timing, need to find people in those institutions who are supportive of MAA
 - ii. Do more individual contact, including reaching out to national NExT members and people with contacts
 - d. Two new national NExT in the section, but neither came to the meeting
 - e. Better presence on the website and confusion when Google searching with the old website coming up
 - f. How can we connect better with community colleges?
 - i. These institutions have little engagement with MAA overall, more involved with other organizations
 - g. Leverage Heartland Speaker series
- 8. Remarks by MAA Representative (Lisa Marano)
 - a. New registration system
 - i. Will be harder for non-MAA members, but offers better visibility for all meetings
 - ii. Money will go directly into section bank accounts, and national office pays for registration backend charges
 - 1. We currently get charged \$0.38 by Venmo on each \$15 transaction
 - iii. This is being rolled out Spring 2024, so we should know more by our Fall 2024 meeting
- 9. Other New Business
 - a. We are having struggles getting information out with MAA Connect and new website, need better operational plans for exec committee

- b. MAA tech issues: autopay failures, password reset not working
 - i. Lisa has experienced these as well, and will report back to national

Adjourn: 8:18am