

# History of the Wisconsin Section of the Mathematical Association of America

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## Origins

According to [Parkinson], an “informal club” of teachers from high schools and post-secondary institutions in the Milwaukee area began meeting in 1927. By 1930, this group had decided to apply for a charter as the Wisconsin Section of the MAA. An organizational meeting was held on November 3, 1932, on the campus of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. The temporary chairman was G.A. Parkinson (University of Wisconsin Extension Division), and the temporary secretary was H.P. Pettit (Marquette University). The bylaws adopted at that meeting were approved by the Board of Trustees of the Association at their seventeenth annual meeting in Atlantic City, NJ, in December of 1932. [AMM]

## Bylaws

The original bylaws had just five items. The first named the section. The second declared the purposes of the section, “to carry out in this region the purpose of the national organization, to afford a meeting place for the members in Wisconsin and to promote all the interests of mathematics so far as is possible.” The third defined the membership to be members of the MAA within the state. The fourth provided for four officers, a chairman, a secretary-treasurer, and two other members, to be elected annually. The fifth provided for an annual meeting each spring.

The bylaws were revised at the twenty-second annual meeting, in 1954, according to recommendations of a Committee on Revision of the By-Laws consisting of H.P. Pettit (Marquette University), Louise Wolf (UW-Milwaukee), and Sister Mary Felice (Mount Mary College). These bylaws were approved by the Board of Governors at its meeting in August, 1954.

The 1954 bylaws provided for a vice-chairman to be added to the officers, and defined an Executive Committee, consisting of the officers and the governor. They also added an article which outlined a process for amendment.

The next revision of the bylaws was adopted by the section in the spring of 1972, and approved by the Board of Governors in August of that year. At this time, the Immediate Past Chairman was added to the executive committee, and the two other officers were removed. The term of office of the Secretary-Treasurer was extended to three years.

Two additional articles were added. Article V allowed the membership to authorize the collection of section dues and/or registration fees for meetings, and further specified that the assets of the section be used exclusively to further the purposes of the section. Article VI named two standing committees, a Committee on High School Math Contests and a

Committee on Membership. This article also authorized the chairman to appoint other standing or ad-hoc committees.

A few minor changes were proposed in 1977. The Vice-Chairman was changed to Chairman-elect. There is an existing memo from section chair Francis Florey (UW-Superior) proposing to change all occurrences of “chairman” to “chairperson,” but it’s not clear if this change was adopted. Note that the section had a woman “chairman” as early as 1937, but it took at least 40 more years for the language to catch up.

Another proposed change in 1977 was to amend Article V to allow the Executive Committee, rather than the membership at large, to authorize the collection of dues or registration fees. This change seems to have been controversial, and it was not adopted at this time. In fact, it is not clear if the 1977 changes were ever submitted to the Association.

The next round of changes took place in 1991. The major change at this point was to define the membership of the Executive Committee, and to list the responsibilities of the members. (See “Executive Committee,” below.) A compromise was struck on the issue of authorizing fees. The new version of Article V allowed such authorization by “the members at any regular meeting, or the Executive Committee at any of its meetings.”

A few minor changes were made in 2001. The Director of Project NExT-Wisconsin was added to the Executive Committee, and the responsibilities of Liaison Coordinator were added to the position of Public Information Officer. The composition of the Committee on Mathematics Contests was clarified, and the Committee on Membership was removed.

The latest revisions to the bylaws took place in 2010 and 2011. In 2010, language was adopted to allow proposed changes to the bylaws to be posted to the web site. This allowed the next round of changes to be fairly substantial without requiring that all the changes be sent by mail. In 2011, the article on “Committees” was removed, and the “Chair of the Committee on Mathematics Contests” was changed to “Math Contest Coordinator.” The positions of “Newsletter Editor” and “Public Information Officer-Liaison Coordinator” were combined into one position. Language was added to clarify when the Chair-Elect, Chair, and Immediate Past Chair take their respective offices.

There was one more change to the bylaws adopted at the business meeting in 2012. At the prompting of the Board of Governors, the sentence “The members at the annual meeting, or the Executive Committee at any of its meetings, may authorize the collection of annual section dues and/or registration fees for meetings,” was amended to strike the phrase “annual section dues,” as Association bylaws do not allow a section to impose additional dues on top of the regular dues. This phrase had been in the bylaws for 40 years, although the Section never actually collected dues, only meeting registration fees.

## **Annual Meetings**

The first official meeting of the Wisconsin Section of the Mathematical Association of America was on April 8, 1933, at Beloit College. A total of five papers were presented.

- “Improvement in Teaching of College Mathematics” by Professor May M. Beenken, Oshkosh State Teachers College
- “Exposition in Science” by Professor R.E. Langer, University of Wisconsin
- “Singularities of Certain Algebraic Plane Curves” by Professor H.P. Pettit, Marquette University
- “Reminiscences of Professor E.H. Moore,” by Professor M.H. Ingraham, University of Wisconsin
- “The Lag of Mathematics behind Literature and Art in the Earlier Centuries” by Professor H.E. Slaught (no affiliation recorded)

At first, the annual meeting was held on a single day. The first meeting began at 10:00 and ended at 4:45, with three talks in the morning, followed by lunch, a business meeting, and two more talks. Subsequent meetings started earlier and included more talks, but the basic outline continued through 1959.

Beginning in 1958, the annual meeting was held jointly with the May meeting of the Wisconsin Mathematics Council. In 1958 and 1959, there was a single program, but beginning in 1960, there were parallel morning sessions – one for the MAA and one for the WMC, and a joint afternoon session. Joint meetings continued through 1966.

In 1969, the annual meeting was extended to two days, on a trial basis. Four presentations were given on Friday, May 2, beginning at 3:00. After dinner, two films were shown. There were four more presentations on Saturday morning, followed by the business meeting. After lunch, there was a panel discussion and two more presentations, with adjournment at 3:00. The new format was apparently a success. At the business meeting, the membership voted to continue the two-day meeting in 1970. In 1975, the meeting was held at UW-Superior, and temporarily returned to a one-day meeting. This was the last one-day annual meeting.

For two years in the early 1990s, the annual meeting stretched to a third day. In 1991, the meeting at UW-Oshkosh opened on Thursday, April 25 in the evening with the first part of a minicourse on “Using the TI-81 Graphing Calculator.” The minicourse continued on Friday morning, with the regular meeting beginning Friday afternoon. In 1992, there was a similar minicourse on “Challenging Students with Research Projects in Calculus.”

Early meetings had only a single talk in a given time slot, except during the early 1960’s, when there were parallel sessions for the WMC and the MAA. Beginning in 1971, the annual meeting began running talks concurrently. That year, most talks were single, with some talks doubled up during the Saturday morning session. In 1972, most talks were doubled. Talks were tripled at the shortened meeting in 1975, and for the next few years, anywhere between one and three talks were given in parallel. By the late 1980’s four talks in parallel were not unusual, and the numbers continued to grow. Recent meetings have had as many as 6 to 10 parallel talks.

For over forty years, registration at the annual meeting was free. At the business meeting in 1974, the executive committee proposed to begin charging a registration fee “for the purpose of making additional money available to pay for outstanding out-of-state invited speakers.”

The initial registration fee was \$2 for members and guests, free for students. Registration fees grew modestly over the next 40 years. They now stand at an affordable \$20 for members, \$10 for retired members and K-12 teachers. Registration is still free for students.

The earliest recorded instance of a student presentation at the MAA-Wisconsin annual meeting was in 1974, when Martin Bulgerin, a student from UW-Eau Claire, gave a talk titled, “An application of analysis and group theory in the modular coloring of Pascal’s triangle.” Student talks appeared only sporadically over the next decade, with at most one or two per year. However, they are not necessarily clearly marked. For example, a 1982 talk on “Complete Traversals of Toroidal Road Maps” is listed in the program as given by Stephen J. Curran (Beloit). Only in reading the annual meeting report can one find out that Curran’s talk “received a book award for a meritorious presentation by a student.” There is no way to determine how many (if any) of the other talks that year were by students.

In a 1981 memo to campus MAA representatives, Secretary-Treasurer Paul Campbell announced a plan from the Association to encourage students to give talks at section meetings: the “best” student speakers were to be given free MAA memberships. One student talk is noted in 1982 and one in 1983, but in 1984, there were six student talks (out of 20 contributed talks). From then on, multiple student talks became the norm, with the peak being of 23 student talks (out of 59), in 1994.

In 2006, Ken Price and Steve Szydlik from UW-Oshkosh brought “Face Off – The Math Game Show” to the annual meeting. Face Off had already proven popular on the UW-Oshkosh campus, and it quickly became a staple of the annual meeting.

Some sample questions from Face Off that appeared in the annual meeting report that year.

- Bad Math Puns: What do you call an attractive 3-sided polygon?
- Big Ideas: How many zeros are there at the end of  $100!$  ?
- Face Book: A simply connected polyhedron has 6 vertices and 12 edges. How many faces does it have?
- Thinking Cap: What is the largest denomination that cannot be made using 6 cent and 7 cent stamps?
- Final Challenge: Write 800 as the sum of two or more consecutive integers in as many ways as possible.

The first Face Off was won by Team Newton, composed of students from UW-Platteville. However, Carthage College quickly became a force to reckon with, winning five of the first nine competitions (and placing in the top three twice more).

In 2012, Face Off went national, appearing at MathFest in Madison, Wisconsin.

### **Executive Committee**

The term “Executive Committee” does not seem to have been used in the early years of the section. At that time, there was a chair, a secretary-treasurer, and a program committee. Elections for the program committee were made at each annual meeting. Although the bylaws specified two members of the program committee, the actual committee fluctuated

between one and three members. Members generally did not serve consecutive terms on the program committee, although many members served more than once, with terms separated by several years. A list of those members who served in this capacity is available at <http://sections.maa.org/wisconsin/history/program.pdf>.

Beginning in 1956, the minutes of the annual meeting stop showing any election of program committee. There was no formal announcement of a decision to discontinue the committee.

The 1972 bylaws define the Executive Committee to be the Chair, the Vice-Chair, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Immediate Past Chair, and the Governor. However, as early as October of 1973, minutes of the Executive Committee indicate that the committee had unofficially expanded. In addition to those five people, the minutes list the chairs of the contest committee and the membership committee as members of the Executive Committee.

Throughout most of the next 20 years, the membership of the Executive Committee is very hard to pin down. Different lists from the same year list different positions on the committee. All of the following positions appear on Executive Committee lists at least once:

- American High School Mathematics Exam (AHSME) Regional Coordinator
- American Junior High School Mathematics Exam (AJHSME) Coordinator
- Committee on HS Mathematics Contests Chair
- Chair, MAA-WMC Joint Committee for Curriculum Articulation
- Coordinator of Student Activities
- Former Secretary-Treasurer
- Governor-Elect
- Historian
- MAA Representative to the Wisconsin Math Council Board of Directors
- MAA Representative to Math Mobilization Committee
- Mathematics at Work in Society (MAWIS) Coordinator
- Newsletter Editor
- Public Information Officer
- Teaching Experimental Applied Mathematics (TEAM) Leader

In addition, the names of these positions are listed in various ways, and some positions are combined with others, while others are split between two people. Finally, to add to the confusion, the Executive Committee is sometimes referred to as the “Executive Board.” It’s not clear if at some point the latter term was used in distinction to the Executive Committee as defined in the bylaws.

One major goal of the 1991 bylaw revision was to clearly alleviate this confusion. These bylaws defined the officers to be Chair, Chair-Elect, and Secretary-Treasurer, and the Executive Committee to include the officers, the Immediate Past Chair, the Governor, the Chair of the Committee on Mathematics Contests, the Newsletter Editor, the Representative to the Wisconsin Mathematics Council, the Public Information Officer, and the Coordinator of Student Activities.

A later change added the Director of Project NExT-Wisconsin. Still later, the Chair of the Committee on Mathematics Contests was retitled the Math Contest Coordinator, and the positions of Newsletter Editor and Public Information Officer were combined. This brings us to where the Executive Committee stands today. A list of all who were listed at least once on the Executive Committee is available at <http://sections.maa.org/wisconsin/history/exec.pdf>.

## Math Contest

In the fall of 1954, a committee was appointed by Section Chair A.E. May (UW Extension-Racine) “to study the question of sponsoring state-wide contests in mathematics for high school students.” The committee members were H.P. Pettit (Marquette), Ross H. Bardell (UW-Milwaukee), and Sister Mary Felice (Mount Mary College). At the 1955 annual meeting, the membership directed the executive committee to appoint a Committee on Contests to organize and conduct a contest in the 1956.

Minutes of the organizational meeting of the contest committee lay out four objectives of the contest:

- a. To give good students official recognition.
- b. To discover and encourage good students.
- c. To give additional motivation for students to take additional mathematics courses.
- d. To encourage some gifted students who have talents in many directions to consider mathematics as a career.

The first contest was held on April 21, 1956, at centers around the state. No record exists of the number of students who took the test. At the 1957 annual meeting, Prof. R.D. Wagner (UW Extension-Madison) reported on behalf of the Contest Committee that over 1000 students from 132 high schools participated in the second contest on April 6, 1957.

At that same 1957 meeting, plans were announced for a high school math contest sponsored by the Association. The membership considered its options, and decided to continue the state contest for at least one more year. They recommended that “attempts be made to encourage a smaller number of participants from a larger number of schools.”

In response to this recommendation, a preliminary test was added to the 1958 exam. The preliminary test was multiple-choice. It was given in the schools and graded by the teacher. Students who scored well on this test then went on to take a proctored exam at one of 27 centers around the state. Questions on the second exam were open-ended, and some of them were quite difficult. Approximately 9500 students in 237 schools took the preliminary exam, and approximately 950 students from 172 schools took the second exam. The two-stage exam continued into the 1980s.

The contest continued to grow throughout the 1950’s and 1960’s. Records are incomplete, but the highest participation recorded was in 1969, when 24,584 students from 357 schools took the preliminary exam, and 1,365 students from 237 schools took the final contest.

Initially, there was some discussion of awarding scholarships for top scorers, however, this was not adopted. A 1956 memo from R.D. Wagner points out that “a single two hour examination alone may be an inadequate basis for choosing one or more recipients of large

scholarships.” Instead, modest awards were given. For example, at the 1957 exam, it was reported that the top 10 percent of scorers “received recognition in the form of certificates, pins, and small cash awards.” In addition, the schools having the top 20 students got a set of the “The World of Mathematics.” By the mid 1960’s, students in the top one percent got a \$50 savings bond and a gold-filled pin, and students in the next one percent got a \$25 savings bond and a gold-filled pin. The next two percent got \$10 checks, and everyone in the top ten percent got certificates of recognition. In addition, the top scorer in each school got a book and a certificate.

At times, there was a strained relationship between the MAA-Wisconsin High School Math Contest and the American High School Mathematics Examination, run by MAA. At the 1967 annual meeting, the contest committee reported that representatives of the AHSME had asked to have it promoted within the state. The contest committee recommended that the MAA-Wisconsin carry on its own contest and not promote the national contest. No record was made of a vote on this recommendation.

In 1976, the MAA announced that only students who had participated in the national contest would be eligible for participation in the USA Mathematical Olympiad. In 1981, the MAA announced a new American Invitational High School Contest, between the national MAA contest and the U.S. Olympiad. There was concern expressed at both stages that students who excelled in the state contest but who were unable to do both would be unfairly shut out of the U.S. Olympiad.

At the 1983 business meeting, the section voted to discontinue the state contest, and put its efforts into promoting the national contest. However, this decision was never implemented. Instead, the Executive Committee authorized the contest committee to move the MAA-Wisconsin contest to the fall, to avoid conflict with the national exams. At the same time, the second stage of the contest was dropped. Students continued to take the multiple choice exam, proctored by their teachers in the local school.

A structure was put into place to allow the two sets of contests to work together more smoothly. A Committee on High School Math Contests was set up, with separate people responsible for coordinating the state contest and state participation in the national contest. This change allowed both contests to flourish through the 80s and early 90s. Although participation never returned to the peak of the 1960s, there were still some 12,000 to 14,000 students per year taking the exam.

At the 1994 Section business meeting, it was voted to establish a \$500 mathematics scholarship “to be awarded to a student for outstanding performance on one of the Wisconsin Section supported high school mathematics contests.” The first scholarship was awarded in May, 1995, to Scott Kempen, a student from the University School of Milwaukee. A copy of the award letter further clarifies the criteria, stating that the scholarship was given to the “Wisconsin high school senior who has the highest combined score on the American High School Mathematics Examination and the MAA-Wisconsin Section High School Contest Examination,” with a further condition that the student must be planning to attend a Wisconsin college or university.

In 1996, the policy was changed to split the \$500 between the top two combined performers. In fact, there was a tie for second place, and the money was split three ways. It is not clear how it was divided. In this and subsequent years, the money is referred to as “prize money,” not as a scholarship. A memo from Linda Thompson (Carroll College), Chair of the High School Math Contest Committee, indicates that there was concern that other scholarships might be reduced because of the MAA-Wisconsin money, resulting in a cost to the Section and no net gain for the student. After this, no further mention is made of the requirement that the student be planning to attend a Wisconsin college or university. The prize continues today, with \$300 awarded to each of the two students with the highest combined score on the state contest and the AMC.

Participation in the contest has declined nearly monotonically in the last 20 years. 1994 was the last year to report over 10,000 scores, and in 2012, that number had dropped to only 1300. The number was up slightly in 2013, and hopefully the contest is poised for a rebound.

## Newsletter

The first newsletter of the Wisconsin Section was published in February, 1961. It was composed by Secretary-Treasurer Edwin F. Wilde (Beloit College). The existing copy takes up one side of a single sheet of paper. However that copy may be a draft, as there is a paragraph on the By-Laws Committee that is repeated twice. There is also preliminary information about the spring meeting, a one-paragraph report from the Math Contest Committee, and information about the Visiting Lecturer Program to Secondary Schools.

There doesn't seem to have been any follow-up, and apparently no further newsletters appeared for more than 15 years.

The idea of a newsletter was again raised in 1975, when an ad hoc committee composed of Gary Klatt (UW-Whitewater), Larry Davis (UW-Whitewater), Rudolf Najjar (UW-Whitewater), and Ed Wilde (Beloit College) distributed a list of seven possible section activities. Number five on the list was to start a newsletter “which would include short articles, reports on activities of members, ideas on recruitment, [and] even problem sections.” This idea was discussed for a few years, and in 1977, the members at the business meeting approved the expenditure of section funds for this purpose.

The first modern newsletter editor was Martin Engert of UW-Whitewater. A newsletter was distributed at the annual meeting in 1978. There is no copy of this newsletter in the archives.

Executive Committee minutes from March 1979 indicate that the newsletter that year had “fallen through,” without stating a clear reason why. It may be that for some reason Engert was unable to continue as editor, since those minutes indicate that they are searching for a volunteer to be Newsletter Editor/Public Information Officer. Minutes from an August 1979 Executive Committee meeting show that Bob Langer of UW-Eau Claire had been appointed to that position.

The newsletter in Fall of 1979 began the tradition of twice-yearly newsletters, a tradition which continues today. It contained short reports from Section Chair Norbert Kuenzi (UW-Oshkosh) and from the Secretary-Treasurer Paul Campbell (Beloit College), as well as a



somewhat longer report from Governor Gary Klatt (UW-Whitewater). There was information on the fall workshop, news from campuses, and some general news about section members' activities.

Discussion of electronic distribution of the newsletter began as early as 2002. At that time, it was proposed to publish on-line only, to save paper and mailing costs. However, there was resistance to the idea, and mailings of the newsletter continued for a few more years. In fall of 2004, the newsletter began publishing primarily on-line. The full newsletter was made available from the section web page. In the fall, a reminder postcard was sent to all members. In the spring, a 6- or 8-page "brief newsletter" was sent, which contained information on the spring meeting and a pointer to the full newsletter.

In Fall 2006, at the instigation of Chair Jeganathan Sriskandarajah (Madison Area Technical College), the newsletter added a feature called "Know Your Wisconsin Mathematician," which is an interview with a prominent member of the section. The first KYWM profiled Norb Kuenzi of UW-Oshkosh, who had served the section as Chair, Governor, and Chair of the Committee on Math Contests over a period from 1978 to 1992. Since then, over a dozen more mathematicians have been interviewed, and the feature has been a very popular part of the newsletter. A complete archive of the interviews is available from the Section web page at <http://sections.maa.org/wisconsin/kywm.shtml>.

### **Honors and Awards**

In 1983, the MAA Board of Governors initiated a Certificate of Meritorious Service, "to be presented at the national level or for service to a Section of the Association." [Service] Each section selects a recipient once every five years. The first Wisconsin recipient was Paul J. Campbell of Beloit College, in 1988. The news release cited Campbell's service to the Section as Secretary-Treasurer, Public Information Officer, and Governor, as well as being coordinator of the Wisconsin Mathematics League. Since then, the Section has honored five more members. A list can be found at <http://sections.maa.org/wisconsin/history/awards.pdf>. This page also lists Wisconsin winners of such national awards as the Carl B. Allendorfer Award, the Trevor Evans Award, and the Lester R. Ford Award, as well as Wisconsin mathematicians who have been Polya Lecturers and Hedrick Lecturers.

In 1991, the Mathematical Association of America instituted Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics, which subsequently became the Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award. [Haimo] At the same time, they encouraged sections to develop their own teaching awards, partly to encourage nominations for the Haimo, but also to recognize outstanding teachers within each section. The first recipient of the Wisconsin Section Distinguished Teaching Award was Philip Straffin of Beloit College, in 1992. Straffin went on to receive the Haimo. Since then, two other winners of the Wisconsin Section award have been honored with the Haimo. A complete list of recipients of the Section award is at <http://sections.maa.org/wisconsin/award.shtml>.

### **Fall Workshops and Summer Seminars**

For a time during the 1970s and 80s, the section also held a Fall Workshop, focused on a particular topic of interest. The first workshop was in October, 1976, on the campus of UW-

Madison. The topic was “Mathematical Modeling for College Teachers.” The workshop planned by MAA-Wisconsin Vice-Chair Gary Klatt of UW-Whitewater, with the help of the Executive Committee. There were 12 talks, including not only math faculty from around the state, but also invited speakers from industry. Approximately 40 people attended.

The 1977 workshop was to have been on “Focus on Linear Algebra,” but it was canceled because of a lack of speakers. The 1978 workshop had the same title, and had 11 talks, so perhaps the difficulty in 1977 was due to poor timing or lack of publicity. There were fall workshops in 1979, titled “ $mc^2$  – Mathematics, computers, and calculators,” and in 1980, titled “Probability and Statistics.”

In 1981, Secretary-Treasurer Paul Campbell began to organize a summer seminar, in conjunction with the North Central Section. The North Central Section was to plan the 1981 seminar, and the Wisconsin Section the 1982 seminar. The Wisconsin Section archives don’t contain much information on the 1981 seminar, but the 1982 seminar, “What every mathematician should know about Computer Science, and vice versa,” was held June 23-26 at Ripon College. The main speakers were Herbert L. Dershem of Hope College and Anthony J. Ralston of SUNY-Buffalo.

In 1983, the workshop returned to the fall. In late October of that year, a workshop was held at UW-Madison on the topic of “Discrete Mathematics and its Role in the First Two Years of the Undergraduate Curriculum.” Speakers included Richard Brualdi (UW-Madison), C.L. Liu (University of Illinois) and Steve Maurer (Swarthmore College).

Although there are no records of a summer seminar in the next few years, an MAA short course was held June 16-20, 1986, at Cardinal Stritch College. The topic was “Algorithms of Discrete Mathematics.” Instructors were John Dossey, Illinois State University; Doug Harris, Marquette University; Walt Meyer, Adelphi University; and Karl Beres, Ripon College. Approximately 50 people participated. Five of those applied for and received one hour of graduate credit at Cardinal Stritch.

### **Project NExT-Wisconsin**

In the early 1990s, the Association introduced Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) a program for professional development of new and recent Ph.D.s in the mathematical sciences. [NExT] It quickly became popular, and by the late 1990s, the program was turning away up to half of its applicants. In order to provide opportunities for those unable to get into Project NExT, there was a push to form section-level versions. In February, 1998, the Wisconsin Section received a grant of \$2860 from the Association to form Project NExT-Wisconsin.

A Project NExT-Wisconsin workshop was planned for the 1998 annual meeting in Stevens Point, but there was some difficulty recruiting participants. In December of 1998, Jennifer Szydlik from UW-Oshkosh was appointed the first director of Project NExT Wisconsin. She recruited the first group of NExT-Wisconsin participants and organized the first official function, a workshop at the 1999 annual meeting in La Crosse. More importantly, she began the fall retreat, which has become an essential feature of Project NExT-Wisconsin.

The first fall retreat was held at Bundy Hall in Menominee, WI, in October 1999. It focused on Research in Undergraduate Education, with Ed Dubinsky (University of Georgia) as the primary presenter. Since that time, the fall workshop has featured nationally renowned speakers such as Fred Rickey (U.S. Military Academy), Joe Gallian (University of Minnesota-Duluth), Michael Starbird (University of Texas at Austin), Beth Chance and Allan Rossman (Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo), Sr. Barbara Reynolds (Cardinal Stritch University), Art Benjamin (Harvey Mudd College), David Bressoud (Macalester College), and Aparna Higgins (University of Dayton).

Project NExT-Wisconsin also continues to hold workshops or panel discussion in conjunction with the annual meeting of MAA-Wisconsin. Topics have included “Professional Development, Promotion, and Tenure,” “Grading Without Tears: Assessment Strategies that Work,” “Teaching with On-line Tools,” “The Millennial Student and the Cell Phone: When to Say ‘Yes’,” and “Doing a Mathematics Lesson Study, A Hands-On Experience.”

### **The Future of MAA-Wisconsin**

The Wisconsin Section of the MAA has changed in many ways since its founding. Many hard-working and talented individuals have made contributions, only some of whom are named here or recognized in the official records. One thing that hasn’t changed is the Section’s fundamental mission, as summarized in the current bylaws: “to advance the mathematical sciences, especially at the collegiate level, by supporting effective mathematical education at all levels, supporting research and scholarship, providing professional development, influencing public policy, and promoting public appreciation and understanding of mathematics.” We can confidently predict that it will continue to work to support mathematics education in the state of Wisconsin and beyond.

Unless otherwise noted, information is gathered from the MAA-Wisconsin Archives in the Special Collections/University Archives at the Raynor Memorial Libraries, Marquette University.

[Parkinson] Parkinson, George, “Origin of the Wisconsin Section of the Mathematical Association of America,” <http://sections.maa.org/wisconsin/history/origin.pdf>

[AMM] “The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Association” *The American Mathematical Monthly*, Vol. 40, No. 3 (Mar., 1933), pp. 125-139

[Haimo] <http://www.maa.org/programs/maa-awards/teaching-awards/haimo-award-distinguished-teaching>

[Service] <http://www.maa.org/programs/maa-awards/service-awards/meritorious-service>

[NExT] <http://archives.math.utk.edu/projnext/>

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