

1009-01-27

**Richard M. Davitt\*** (davitt@louisville.edu), Department of Mathematics, Natural Science 328, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292. *Franchise Players and Modi Operandi of the Sections of the MAA: 1915 - 1965.*

In researching the history of the Kentucky Section MAA, the author discovered that the cornerstone of the section from its founding in 1916 until at least 1965 was the University of Kentucky and that the principal activity engaged in by the section was its annual meeting. The section met regularly in alternate years on UK's campus each spring. UK faculty and students gave the majority of the talks at these meetings and held a disproportionate number of sectional offices during this period. Additionally, the outlook of the section was decidedly provincial. For example, before 1950, just six speakers from outside the commonwealth were invited to address the annual meetings and the section's primary mission was the improvement of mathematics teaching at all levels in Kentucky schools. By examining the histories of the 27 sections of the MAA that were founded before 1965, the presenter has determined the key players in each individual section and identified the paramount interests and modi operandi of each section during the time period from a given section's formal organization until 1965, the golden anniversary year of the establishment of the national MAA. (Received June 21, 2005)