

MAA Prizes Presented in Baltimore

The Mathematical Association of America (MAA) presented a number of prizes during the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Baltimore in January 1998.

Distinguished Service Award

ALICE T. SCHAFER of Wellesley College (retired) received the Yueh-Gin Gung and Dr. Charles Y. Hu Award for Distinguished Service to Mathematics. First presented in 1990, this is the MAA's most prestigious award, given in recognition of distinguished service to the mathematical community.

"The curriculum vitae of Alice T. Schafer lists two specializations: abstract algebra (group theory) and women in mathematics," the citation notes. "Her career as a mathematics educator evolved into her becoming a champion for the cause of full participation of women in mathematics." She was one of the prime movers in the founding of the Association for Women in Mathematics in 1971. The citation concludes, "Professor Schafer is known for her love of people, her boundless energy, and her fierce determination for a just cause."

Haimo Teaching Awards

The 1998 Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics were presented to three recipients: COLIN C. ADAMS of Williams College, RHONDA L. HATCHER of Texas Christian University, and RHONDA J. HUGHES of Bryn Mawr College.

According to the prize citation, Colin C. Adams has had "a tremendous positive effect on Williams students. He is unique in the quality of his exposition of mathematics, amazingly creative and energetic." He has played a crucial role in the doubling of mathematics enrollments at Williams and in the tripling of the number of mathematics majors.

Rhonda L. Hatcher was honored for being "one of the finest, most conscientious teachers" on the campus. "Her classes buzz with excitement," the citation says; "her students are having fun learning nontrivial mathematics. Not only is Professor Hatcher a first-rate teacher, she is also an excellent scholar."

"Professor Hughes is the consummate teacher," says the citation for Rhonda J. Hughes. Not only has she had a "profound influence on students at

all levels," but she also has a vision of what constitutes a successful mathematics program and has built just that at Bryn Mawr. Since she arrived there in 1980, the number of mathematics majors has grown from 3 to 23 per year.

Beckenbach Book Prize

SHERMAN STEIN of the University of California, Davis, and SANDOR SZABÓ of the University of Bahrain have received the Beckenbach Book Prize for distinguished, innovative books published by the MAA.

Stein and Szabó received the prize for their book, *Algebra and Tiling*, Carus Mathematical Monograph Number 25, 1994. The citation calls the book "a simultaneously erudite and inviting exposition of this substantial and timeless area of mathematics."

Chauvenet Prize

ALAN EDELMAN of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and ERIC KOSTLAN of Real Time Solutions, Berkeley, California, received the Chauvenet Prize. This prize is given for an outstanding expository article on a mathematical topic by a member of the MAA.

Edelman and Kostlan received the prize for their article, *How many zeroes of a random polynomial are real?*, Bulletin of the AMS (N.S.) 32 (1995). "The connections this subject has with ongoing research make it important that readers have a clear, interesting, and very accessible account of it," the citation says. "This Edelman and Kostlan have provided for us."

Certificates for Meritorious Service

Certificates of Meritorious Service are presented by the MAA in recognition of service to the MAA at the national level for service to a Section of the MAA. The following individuals received Certificates of Meritorious Service: LINDA R. SONS, Northern Illinois University; HAROLD L. THOMAS, Pittsburg State University; CHRISTINE SHANNON, Centre College; CURTIS N. COOPER, Central Missouri State University; HENRY L. ALDER, University of California, Davis; HOWARD E. BELL, Brock University; and JENANATHAN SRISKANDARAJAH, University of Wisconsin.

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