
For Your Information

Board on Mathematical Sciences Chairs' Colloquium

Department heads from the mathematical sciences are invited to attend the 16th Annual Chairs' Colloquium, sponsored by the Board on Mathematical Sciences of the National Research Council, November 9-10, 2001. The colloquium will be held at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC. As in past years this meeting provides an opportunity for chairs of college and university mathematics and statistics departments to share experiences and ideas for addressing challenges, and for them to learn more about federal programs and policies that affect their departments.

Bruce Alberts, president of the National Academy of Sciences and a leader in both science and education policy, will give the keynote address on the morning of November 10. The remainder of the meeting includes a mix of plenary and break-out sessions aimed at sharing insights on a variety of topics, including: departmental management issues, assessment of student learning, increasing the number of undergraduate majors, professional development for graduate students and junior faculty, maintaining a commitment to core mathematics in an applied world, selected research opportunities from the biomedical sciences, overviews of some specific departmental innovations, working with the demands of an engineering school, working with the demands of a school of education, fundraising for your department, and comparisons of K-12 teacher training in Japan and the U.S.

As is traditional at the Chairs' Colloquia, there will be one plenary lecture on a scientific subject. This year Charles Peskin of New York University will speak about

mathematical modeling of the human heart. There will also be a panel discussion of grant opportunities from federal agencies and foundations, and program officers from those organizations have been asked to attend at least a full afternoon of the colloquium to enable more off-line conversations.

The program committee for this year's colloquium consists of Deanna Caveny of the College of Charleston (chair), Jim Calvin of Texas A&M University, and Patrick Fitzpatrick of the University of Maryland.

A brochure with registration form was mailed in August 2001 to each four-year U.S. mathematics and statistics department. The agenda and a registration form (which must be mailed in) are available online at www.nas.edu/bms/. The registration fee for the colloquium is \$185. For further information contact the Board on Mathematical Sciences at 202-334-2421 or at bms@nas.edu.

—*BMS announcement*