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# Inside the AMS

## Society to Sponsor Project NExT Fellows

Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) is a professional development program started in 1994 by the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). Each year sixty to seventy new Ph.D.'s receive Project NExT Fellowships, which allow them to attend special events at the MAA Mathfest and at the Joint Mathematics Meetings. Between meetings the fellows use listservers to stay in contact with each other, with former Project NExT Fellows, and with senior mathematician mentors.

The purpose of the program is to prepare the fellows for life as productive mathematics faculty members in colleges or universities. Much of the emphasis is on undergraduate education, from practical aspects like assigning grades to larger issues like calculus reform. The fellows also have plenty of opportunity to discuss the many professional matters facing young faculty, such as balancing research and teaching and applying for grants. About 500 new Ph.D.'s have completed Project NExT Fellowships.

Since its inception Project NExT has been supported by a grant from the Exxon (now ExxonMobil) Education Foundation, which covered most costs apart from the fellows' travel to the meetings; travel costs are paid for by the fellows' institutions. Because ExxonMobil will gradually withdraw its direct support, the MAA sought a new way to keep Project NExT alive. The MAA proposed that a number of mathematics organizations pool their resources by each supporting a portion of the fellows. Several organizations, including the AMS, have agreed to this plan.

Starting in 2002, the AMS will support six "AMS NExT Fellows" who are from Ph.D.-granting institutions and who

show some special promise in mathematics research. The AMS will also hold activities for the AMS NExT Fellows at the Joint Mathematics Meetings. During its first year, funding for AMS participation in the Project NExT program will come from the Society's Unrestricted Endowment.

For further information about Project NExT, visit the website <http://archives.math.utk.edu/projnext/>. Information about applying for Project NExT Fellowships will appear in the *Notices* in early 2002.

—Allyn Jackson

## Deaths of AMS Members

BURTON H. COLVIN, of Gaithersburg, MD, died on August 24, 2001. Born in July 1916, he was a member of the Society for 61 years.

DANIEL KOCAN, of Frederick, MD, died on September 4, 2001. Born on August 16, 1924, he was a member of the Society for 49 years.

CHARLES SALTZER, professor emeritus, Ohio State University, died on September 9, 2001. Born on February 3, 1918, he was a member of the Society for 55 years.