

SPECIAL SECTION

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*American  
Mathematical  
Society*

# Election of Officers for 2005

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# 2004 AMS Elections— Special Section

You should have received either a traditional paper ballot or email with instructions for voting online by September 20. If you have not received this information, please contact the AMS (preferably before October 1) to request a ballot. Send email to [ballot@ams.org](mailto:ballot@ams.org) or call the AMS at 800-321-4267 (within the U.S. and Canada) or 401-455-4000 (worldwide) and ask to speak with Member Services.

Dear Colleagues:

Once again members of the Society are invited to vote for candidates for several of the Society's governing bodies. This year, for the second time, AMS members will have the opportunity to vote either electronically or by paper ballot. The online voting option first made available in 2003 boosted the vote count by almost 50%.

The candidates for election and their biographies are presented in the September 2004 issue of the *Notices*. This information and the official ballot will be available to you in early September. Consult the "From the AMS" section of the October 2003 or 2004 *Notices* for lists of (relatively) current office holders. The choices you make in these elections directly affect the direction that the Society takes. How this happens may not be obvious to the casual member, so let me take a few lines to explain.

The vice president and the members at large of the AMS Council you select will serve for three years on the Council. That body determines all scientific policy of the Society, creates and oversees numerous committees, appoints the treasurers and members of the Secretariat, makes nominations of candidates for future elections, and determines the chief editors of several key editorial boards. Typically each of these new members of the Council also will serve on one of the Society's five policy committees.

The trustees, of whom you will be selecting one for a five-year term, have complete fiduciary responsibility for the Society. Among other activities the trustees determine the annual budget of the Society, prices of journals, salaries of employees, dues (in cooperation with the Council), registration fees for meetings, and investment policy for the Society's reserves. The person you select will serve as chair of the Board of Trustees during the fourth year of the term.

The candidates presented to you were suggested to the Council either by the Nominating Committee or by petition from members. While the Council has the final nominating responsibility, the groundwork is laid by the Nominating Committee. New members of this committee will be elected in this coming election. The candidates were nominated by the current president, David Eisenbud. The three elected will serve three-year terms. The main work of the Nominating Committee takes place during the annual meeting of the Society, during which it has four sessions of

face-to-face meetings, each lasting about three hours. The Committee then reports its suggestions to the Council, which makes the final nominations.

The Editorial Boards Committee is responsible, as you might suspect, for the staffing of the editorial boards of the Society. Members are elected for three-year terms from a list of candidates named by the president. The Editorial Boards Committee makes recommendations for almost all editorial boards of the Society. Chief or managing editors of eight specific journals named in the AMS bylaws are officially appointed by the Council, upon recommendation of the Editorial Boards Committee; in virtually all other cases, the editors are appointed by the president, again upon recommendation by the Editorial Boards Committee.

Elections to the Nominating Committee and the Editorial Boards Committee are conducted by the method of approval voting. In the approval voting method, you can vote for as many or as few of the candidates as you wish. The candidates with the greatest number of the votes win the election.

It is suggested that names for write-in votes be given in exactly the form that the name occurs in the *Combined Membership List* (available online at [www.ams.org/cm1](http://www.ams.org/cm1)). Otherwise the identity of the individual for whom the vote is cast may be in doubt and the vote may not be properly credited.

As an aside, if you inadvertently spoil your ballot, you may return it to the Secretary, AMS, 201 Charles Street, Providence, RI 02904-2294, USA, and request a new ballot. The September 2004 *Notices* contains instructions about replacement ballots.

If the past election serves as a reliable measure, about 17 percent of you will vote in the coming election, which is comparable with voter participation in other professional organizations which allow an online voting option. This is not mentioned as encouragement for you to throw the ballot in the trash; instead, the other officers and Council members join me in urging you to take a few minutes to review the election material, fill out your ballot, and submit it by some means, either by regular mail or electronically. The Society belongs to its members. You can influence the policy and direction it takes by voting.

Finally, let me urge anyone still reading to consider

other ways of participating in Society activities. The Nominating Committee, the Editorial Boards Committee, and the Committee on Committees are always interested in learning of members who are willing to serve the Society in various capacities. Names are always welcome, particularly when accompanied by a few words detailing the person’s background and interests. Self-nominations are probably the most useful. Recommendations can be transmitted from the Web (<http://www.ams.org/committee->

nominate, also linked from the AMS website home page via the Secretary’s page) or sent directly to the secretary ([secretary@ams.org](mailto:secretary@ams.org)), who will forward them to the cognizant body.

PLEASE VOTE.

—Robert J. Daverman  
Secretary

## List of Candidates–2004 Election

### Vice President

*(one to be elected)*

Haïm Brezis

Fan Chung Graham

### Board of Trustees

*(one to be elected)*

Eric M. Friedlander

Philippe M. Tondeur

### Member at Large of the Council

*(five to be elected)*

Sara C. Billey

Christian H. Borgs

Carolyn S. Gordon

Sheldon H. Katz

Felix Lazebnik

Rafe Mazzeo

Henri Moscovici

Michael F. Singer

Catherine H. Yan

### Nominating Committee for 2005

*(three to be elected)*

Karen L. Collins

Robin Forman

Phillip A. Griffith

David Jerison

Linda Keen

Robert E. Megginson

### Editorial Boards Committee for 2005

*(two to be elected)*

Margaret Cheney

Fritz Gesztesy

Kailash C. Misra

Abigail A. Thompson

## Election Information

The ballot for election of officers, members of the Council, a trustee, and committee members will be available, either online or by mail, on or shortly after August 23, 2004, in order for members to have the opportunity to vote well in advance of the November 5, 2004, deadline. A list of members of the Council and Board of Trustees serving terms during 2004 will appear in the “AMS Officers and Committee Members” section of the October issue of the *Notices*.

## Replacement Ballots

For those who wish to vote by paper ballot, the following replacement procedure has been devised: A member who has not received a ballot by October 1, 2004, or who has received a ballot but has accidentally spoiled it may write after that date to the Secretary of the AMS, 201 Charles St., Providence, RI 02904-2294, USA, asking for a second ballot. The request should include the individual’s member code and the address to which the replacement ballot should be sent. Immediately upon receipt of the request in the Providence office, a second ballot, which will be indistinguishable from the original, will be sent by first class or airmail. Although a second ballot will be supplied on request and will be sent by first class or airmail, the deadline for receipt of ballots cannot be extended to accommodate these special cases.

## Suggestions for 2005 Nominations

Each year the members of the Society are given the opportunity to propose for nomination the names of those individuals they deem both qualified and responsive to their views and needs as part of the mathematical community.

Candidates will be nominated by the Council to fill positions on the Council and Board of Trustees to replace those whose terms expire January 31, 2006. See the “AMS Officers and Committee Members” section of the October issue for the list of current members of the Council and Board of Trustees. Members are requested to write their suggestions for such candidates in the appropriate spaces below.

### COUNCIL AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vice President (1)

Members at Large of the Council (5)

Member of the Board of Trustees (1)

The completed form should be addressed to AMS Nominating Committee, Office of the Secretary, American Mathematical Society, 312D Ayres Hall, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-1330, to arrive no later than **November 5, 2004**.