

Co-Sponsored Conferences

AAAS Meeting in Boston Features Interdisciplinary Mathematics Program

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be February 14–18, in Boston, MA. This year's program features many outstanding expository talks by prominent mathematicians, along with a topical lecture by Curtis T. McMullen entitled "The Geometry of 3-Manifolds", focusing on the Poincaré Conjecture. The theme of this year's meeting is "Science and Technology from a Global Perspective", and many of the symposia sponsored by Section A (Mathematics) are interdisciplinary sessions that fit this theme.

The five symposia sponsored by Section A are:

- Mathematics and the Brain (organized by Jack Cowan, Chicago)
- Design of Mechanical Puzzles (organized by Peter Winkler, Dartmouth)
- Modeling the Dynamics of the Drug-resistant Killers of the Twenty-first Century (organized by Sally Blower, UCLA)
- Quantum Information Theory (organized by Mary Beth Ruskai, Tufts)
- New Techniques in the Evaluation and Prediction of Baseball Performance (organized by Edward Aboufadel, Grand Valley State)

Other symposia that will be of interest to the mathematical community include:

Biometrics in Border Management: Grand Challenges for Security, Identity, and Privacy
Atomic Detectives: Nuclear Forensics and Combating Illicit Trafficking
Ethical Issues in Scientific Publishing
Enhancing Science Globally through High-performance Computing and Simulation
Information, Computing, and Communications: Keys to Sustainable Global Development
Collaboratively Developing Student Mathematical Thinking among APEC Member Economies
Promoting the Success of Minority Graduate Students
Inside the Double Bind: Women of Color in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

The above symposia are only a few of the nearly 200 AAAS program offerings in the physical, life, social, and biological sciences. For further details, including the scheduling of talks, go to <http://www.aaasmeeting.org>.

AAAS annual meetings are the showcases of American science, and they encourage participation by mathematicians and mathematics educators. (AAAS acknowledges the generous contributions of AMS and MAA for travel support and SIAM for support of media awareness.) The AAAS Program Committee is genuinely interested in offering symposia on pure and applied mathematical topics of current interest, and in previous years there have been symposia on subjects such as the changing nature of mathematical proof, mathematical ecology, and recent results in prime number research.

The 2009 meeting will be February 12–18, 2009, in Chicago. The Steering Committee for Section A seeks organizers and speakers who can present substantial new material in an accessible manner to a large scientific audience. All are invited to attend the Section A Committee business meeting in Boston on Friday, February 15, 2008, at 7:45 PM, where we will brainstorm ideas for symposia. In addition, I invite you to send me, and encourage your colleagues to send me, proposals for future AAAS annual meetings.

The following are the members of the Steering Committee for Section A from February 2007 to February 2008:

Chair: Carl Pomerance (Dartmouth College)

Chair-elect: William Jaco (Oklahoma State University)

Retiring Chair: Jack Cowan (University of Chicago)

Secretary: Edward Aboufadel (Grand Valley State University)

Members at Large:

Walter Craig (McMaster University)

Mary Beth Ruskai (Tufts University)

David Isaacson (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)

Claudia Neuhauser (University of Minnesota)

—Edward Aboufadel, Secretary of Section A of the AAAS
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