

SPECIAL SECTION

*American
Mathematical
Society*

Election of Officers for 2002

CONTENTS

p. 846 — Introduction

p. 847 — List of Candidates

p. 847 — Election Information

p. 847 — Replacement Ballots

p. 848 — Suggestions for 2002 Nominations

p. 848 — Proposed Amendments to AMS Bylaws

p. 850 — Nominations for President Elect

p. 855 — Biographies of Candidates



2001 AMS Elections

Special Section

Dear Colleagues:

Once again members of the Society are invited to vote for candidates for several of the Society's governing bodies. The candidates for election are presented in the material that follows. This information and the official ballot will be sent to you in early September. Also this year you will be asked to ratify several changes to the bylaws of the Society. The choices you make in these elections directly affect the direction that the Society takes. This may not be obvious to the casual member, so let me take a few lines to explain.

The president of the society (whom you elect every other year) is the most important officer. The president determines, either directly or indirectly, most of the scientific policies of the Society. The direct effect comes through the president's personal interactions both with members of the Society and outside the organization, for example, in testimony before Congressional committees. Indirect influence occurs as the president appoints chairs and members of almost all committees of the Society, including the policy committees. The president sits as member of all five policy committees, is the chair of the Council's Executive Committee, and serves ex-officio as a trustee. The president works closely with all officers and administrators of the Society, especially the executive director and the secretary, to insure the orderly transaction of Society business. Finally the president nominates candidates for the Nominating Committee and the Editorial Boards Committee. Consequently, the president also has a long-term effect on affairs of the Society.

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

The trustees, of whom you will be selecting one for a five-year term, have complete fiduciary responsibility for the Society. The person you select will serve as chair of the Board of Trustees during the fourth year of the term and as secretary of the board during the second year. 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 candidates presented to you were suggested to the Council by the Nominating Committee or by petition from

members. While the Council has the final nominating responsibility, the groundwork is done by the Nominating Committee. New members of this committee will be elected by you in this coming election. The candidates were nominated by the current president, Hyman Bass. 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 for the operation 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 those journals named in the bylaws are appointed by the Council, upon recommendation of the Editorial Boards Committee; in virtually all cases, other editors are appointed by the President, upon recommendation by the Editorial Boards Committee.

According to the Society's bylaws, amendments to them are recommended by the Council and approved by its members. To gain approval an amendment must have an affirmative vote of two-thirds of those voting in this mail ballot. The items here, endorsed by both the AMS Committee on the Profession and the Council, concern voting mechanics. Late last year the District of Columbia, where the AMS is incorporated, passed legislation enabling electronic voting, and the AMS would like to take advantage of this rule change, for member convenience and possible cost savings. To do so requires changing the AMS Bylaws, specifically Article VII, Section 2 about its elections. When considering changes for that section, it seemed prudent to simultaneously insure that alternate voting procedures be tolerated in the conduct of other AMS business, such as when the Council, the Executive Committee and/or the Board of Trustees must act between regularly scheduled meetings. The Council urges you to vote on the matter and recommends an affirmative vote. If you return a ballot and do not vote on the amendments, the effect is to vote "NO" on them.

If past elections are a reliable measure, about 12 percent of you will vote in this election, which is in line with voting participation in other professional organizations. This is not offered as an excuse for you to throw the ballot in the trash, however; the other officers and

members of the Council join me in urging you to take a few minutes to review the election material, fill out your ballot, and mail it. The Society belongs to its members. You can influence the policy and direction it takes by voting.

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 home page via the Secretary's page) or sent directly to the secretary (secretary@ams.org), who will forward them to the cognizant body.

PLEASE VOTE.

—Robert J. Daverman
Secretary

List of Candidates-2001 Election

President

(one to be elected)

David Eisenbud
David A. Vogan Jr.

Vice President

(one to be elected)

Raymond L. Johnson
Hugo Rossi

Board of Trustees

(one to be elected)

Andy R. Magid
Carol S. Wood

Member at Large of the Council

(five to be elected)

Colin C. Adams
Bruce E. Blackadar
Sylvia T. Bozeman
Percy A. Deift
Irene M. Gamba
Henri A. Gillet
David R. Morrison
Douglas C. Ravenel
Frank Sottile
W. Stephen Wilson

Nominating Committee for 2002

(three to be elected)

Alejandro Adem
Sheldon Axler
Robert M. Fossum
Jane Hawkins
Michael Starbird
Daniel W. Stroock

Editorial Boards Committee for 2002

(two to be elected)

Clifford Earle
Benson S. Farb
Robert Friedman
Svetlana Jitomirskaya

Election Information

The ballot for election of officers, members of the Council, a trustee, and committee members will be mailed on or shortly after September 10, 2001, in order for members to receive their ballots well in advance of the November 10, 2001, deadline. A list of members of the Council and Board of Trustees serving terms during 2001 will appear in the "AMS Officers and Committee Members" section of the October issue of the *Notices* (and will be mailed with the election material sent to all members in September).

Replacement Ballots

There has been a small but recurring and distressing problem concerning members who state that they have not received ballots in the annual election. It occurs for several reasons, including failure of local delivery systems on university or corporate properties, failure of members to give timely notice of changes of address to the Providence office, failures of postal services, and other human errors.

To help alleviate this problem, the following replacement procedure has been devised: A member who has not received a ballot by October 10, 2001, or who has received a ballot but

has accidentally spoiled it may write after that date to the Secretary of the AMS, P. O. Box 6248, Providence, RI 02940, 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. It must be returned in an envelope which will be supplied, on the outside of which is the following statement to be signed by the member:

The ballot in this envelope is the only ballot that I am submitting in this election. I understand that if this statement is not correct, then no ballot of mine will be counted.

signature

Although a second ballot will be supplied on request and will be sent by first class or airmail, the deadline for receipt of ballots will not be extended to accommodate these special cases.

Suggestions for 2002 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, 2002. 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, P. O. Box 6248, Providence, RI 02940, to arrive no later than **November 10, 2001**.

Proposed Amendments to AMS Bylaws

According to the Society's bylaws, amendments to them are recommended by the Council and approved by its members. To gain approval an amendment must have an affirmative vote of two-thirds of those voting in this mail ballot. The items here, endorsed by both the AMS Committee on the Profession and the Council, concern voting mechanics. Late last year the District of Columbia, where the AMS is incorporated, passed legislation enabling electronic voting, and the AMS would like to take advantage of this rule change, for member convenience and possible cost savings. To do so requires changing the AMS Bylaws, specifically Article VII, Section 2 about its elections. When considering changes for that section, it seemed prudent to simultaneously insure that alternate voting procedures be tolerated in the conduct of other AMS business, such as when the Council, the Executive Committee and/or the Board of Trustees must act between regularly scheduled meetings. The Council urges you to vote on the matter and recommends an affirmative vote. If you return a ballot and do not vote on the amendments, the effect is to vote "NO" on them.

Subsections with recommended changes are reproduced in their entirety. They are taken only from Articles IV, VII, and X. Words to be deleted are surrounded in brackets, as in "[by a mail vote]". In the few instances where there are recommended replacements - a full sentence in Article VII, Section 2, and the word "sent" on two occasions in Article X - replacements are reproduced in bold face italics, as in "**sent**".

The complete Bylaws can be viewed on the Web - there is a direct link from the Secretary's page on the AMS website (see <http://www.ams.org/secretary/bylaws.html>). The Bylaws were published in the November 1999 issue of the *Notices*, pp. 1252-1256.

Article IV

Council

Section 6. Between meetings of the Council, business may be transacted [by a mail vote]. Votes shall be counted as specified in Section 4 of this Article, "members present" being replaced by "members voting". An affirmative vote [by mail] on any proposal shall be declared if, and only if, (a) more than half of the total number of possible votes is received by the time announced for the closing of the polls, and (b) at least three-quarters of the votes received by then are affirmative. If five or more members request postponement at the time of voting, action on the matter at issue shall be postponed until the next meeting of the Council, unless either (1) at the discretion of the secretary, the question is made the subject of a second vote [by mail], in connection with which brief statements of reason, for and

against, are circulated; or (2) the Council places the matter at issue before the Executive Committee for action.

Section 8. The Council shall also have power to speak in the name of the Society with respect to matters affecting the status of mathematics or mathematicians, such as proposed or enacted federal or state legislation; conditions of employment in universities, colleges, or business, research or industrial organizations; regulations, policies, or acts of governmental agencies or instrumentalities; and other items which tend to affect the dignity and effective position of mathematics.

With the exception noted in the next paragraph, a favorable vote of two-thirds of the entire membership of the Council shall be necessary to authorize any statement in the name of the Society with respect to such matters. With the exception noted in the next paragraph, such a vote may be taken only if written notice shall have been given to the secretary by the proposer of any such resolution not later than one month prior to the Council meeting at which the matter is to be presented, and the vote shall be taken not earlier than one month after the resolution has been discussed by the Council.

If, at a meeting of the Council, there are present twelve members, then the prior notification to the secretary may be waived by unanimous consent. In such a case, a unanimous favorable vote by those present shall empower the Council to speak in the name of the Society.

The Council may also refer the matter to a referendum [by mail] of the entire membership of the Society and shall make such reference if a referendum is requested, prior to final action by the Council, by two hundred or more members. The taking of a referendum shall act as a stay upon Council action until the votes have been canvassed, and thereafter no action may be taken by the Council except in accordance with a plurality of the votes cast in the referendum.

Article VII

Election of Officers and Terms of Office

Section 2. The president elect, the vice presidents, the trustees, and the members at large of the Council shall be elected by [written] ballot. [An official ballot shall be sent to each member of the Society by the secretary on or before October 10, and such ballots, if returned to the secretary in envelopes bearing the name of the voter and received within thirty days, shall be counted.] *The secretary shall send notification to each member of the Society about the slate of candidates and the voting procedure on or before October 10, and legitimate ballots received by an established deadline at least 30 days later will be counted.* Each ballot shall contain one or more names proposed by the Council for each office to be filled, with blank spaces in which the voter may substitute other names. A plurality of all votes cast shall be necessary for election. In case of failure to secure a plurality for any office, the Council shall choose by [written] ballot among the members having the highest number of votes. The secretary, the associate secretaries, the treasurer, and the associate treasurer shall be

appointed by the Council in a manner designated by the Council. Each committee named in Article III shall be appointed by the Council in a manner designated by the Council. Each such committee shall elect one of its members as chairman in a manner designated by the Council.

Section 4. On or before February 15, the secretary shall send to all members of the Council [for a mail vote] a ballot containing two names for each place to be filled on the Executive Committee. The nominees shall be chosen by a committee appointed by the president. Members of the Council may vote for persons not nominated. Any member of the Council who is not an *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee (see Article V, Section 1) shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee. In case a member is elected to the Executive Committee for a term extending beyond the regular term on the Council, that person shall automatically continue as a member of the Council during the remainder of that term on the Executive Committee.

Article X

Meetings

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held between the fifteenth of December and the tenth of February next following. Notice of the time and place of this meeting shall be [mailed] *sent* by the secretary or an associate secretary to [the last known post office address of] each member of the Society. The times and places of the annual and other meetings of the Society shall be designated by the Council.

Section 5. The Board of Trustees shall hold at least one meeting in each calendar year. Meetings of the Board of Trustees may be called by the president, the treasurer, or the secretary of the Society upon three days' notice of such meetings [mailed] *sent* to [the last known post office address of] each trustee. The secretary of the Society shall call a meeting upon the receipt of a written request of two of the trustees. Meetings may also be held by common consent of all the trustees.