

**Committee on the Profession
Annual Report
2018**

The Committee on the Profession (CoProf) held its annual meeting on September 15-16, 2018, at the Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport. Fadil Santosa, University of Minnesota, chaired the meeting. There was a very full agenda, the highlights of which are summarized below.

Agenda items that were endorsed by CoProf and will be taken to the Council for consideration:

- **Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE):** At its meeting in 2018, CoProf's annual review focused on professional ethics. The subcommittee conducting the review was charged with reviewing and revising COPE's responsibilities and charge. CoProf approved a revised charge for COPE, as well as revisions to the Ethical Guidelines of the American Mathematical Society (<http://www.ams.org/about-us/governance/policy-statements/sec-ethics>). The new charge removes the expectation that COPE will engage in activities involving investigations, mediation, or enforcement. The subcommittee members were Gregory Lawler, Carla Savage (chair), and Jeremy Teitelbaum from CoProf and Robert Megginson (chair of COPE).
- **AMS Fellows Program:** CoProf recommended a change in the nomination form for this program that would highlight the importance of the three support statements. It discussed the possibility of reviewing the Fellows program but decided to defer that task to a future year, since it already had several reviews to conduct. It also felt that such a review might be a suitable task for the new Prize Oversight Committee described below.
- **Prize Oversight Committee:** CoProf currently has a Prize Oversight Committee (POC) as a standing subcommittee. At its meeting in 2017, CoProf charged the POC with making recommendations about how to increase the number of nominations of women and under-represented minorities for major AMS awards and Fellowships. After discussion of the subcommittee's report, CoProf recommended the creation of a Prize Oversight Committee that would be a separate AMS committee, not a subcommittee of CoProf. It would be responsible for all prize-related matters currently in CoProf's purview, as well as efforts to increase the number and diversity of nominees and the diversity of awardees and Fellows. The POC's members were Elena Mantovan and Judy Walker (chair) from CoProf and Jesus De Loera.
- **Committee on Human Rights of Mathematicians (CHRM):** At its meeting in 2017, CoProf approved a revised charge for CHRM that would expand its scope to include human rights violations wherever they occur. The January 2018 Council did not adopt the recommended changes. CoProf then appointed a subcommittee to formulate a response to the Council's concerns. The members of the subcommittee were John Bryant, Wilfrid Gangbo, and Jeremy Teitelbaum (chair). After considering the Council's concerns, CoProf made further revisions to the charge and recommended them to the Council.
- **Birman and Centennial Fellowships:** CoProf recommended a change in the charge of the selection committees for these fellowships, in order to prohibit a member of the committee from writing a letter for an applicant. A similar prohibition already applies to the AMS Fellows program.

- **William Lockwood Forster Memorial Award:** CoProf recommended the creation of this award, which is a scholarship for undergraduates, and a prize description for it. The selection process would be modeled on that of the Waldemar J. Trjitzinsky Memorial Awards, under which institutional members of the AMS are asked to choose the awardees. The amount and frequency of the award would be determined by the Board of Trustees.
- **Corporate Membership:** The AMS currently has a small number of corporate members. CoProf recommended changes to the list of privileges of corporate membership, in order to bring them up to date and to specify them with an appropriate level of detail.
- **Site visit program to improve the departmental climate for women and minorities:** The American Physical Society (APS) has a program under which departments can request “site visits,” for the purpose of improving the climate for women and minorities. CoProf discussed the report of a subcommittee that recommended that the AMS create a similar program. CoProf supported continuing to develop such a program but decided to seek input from the Council before preparing a detailed proposal. The members of the subcommittee were Monica Jackson, Hal Sadofsky, Fadil Santosa (chair), Gigliola Staffilani, and Chad Topaz (chair, Committee on Women in Mathematics). In November 2018, Monica Jackson participated in an APS climate site visit and prepared a report on her experience.

In addition, CoProf is developing an AMS policy statement on diversity. It also recommended the creation of a Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, subsuming the existing Committee on Women in Mathematics, with the eventual goal of its being a policy committee. A subcommittee was appointed to draft the charge for such a committee. If approved by CoProf, the recommendation and the proposed charge would be brought to the Council.

In other business, CoProf agreed to the ECBT’s request in May 2018 that it review the Centennial Fellowship. It also voted to join the Committee on Education in a review of the Department Chairs Workshop, and to join the MAA and SIAM in reviewing the Morgan Prize. As the topic for its next annual review, CoProf chose careers in business, industry, and government (BIG) and what the AMS should do to make students aware of opportunities in BIG and to help them prepare for such positions. Other topics of discussion included the structure of institutional dues and recent challenges faced by MathJobs.org.

CoProf will hold its next meeting on September 21-22, 2019, at AMS Headquarters in Providence.

*T. Christine Stevens
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