American Mathematical Society

Council Minutes

Washington, D.C.

03 April 2004

Abstract

The Council of the Society met at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, 03 April 2004, in the Delegate Room of the Embassy Suites Hotel in Washington, D.C. These are the minutes of the meeting. Although several items were treated in Executive Session, all actions taken are reported in these minutes.

I. MINUTES

1. Call to Order

1.1. Opening of the Meeting and Introductions

The meeting began at 1:35 p.m. AMS President David Eisenbud presided for most of the meeting, except during the discussion of Item 4.4, when Donald E. McClure was in charge. Other Council members present were Colin C. Adams, James G. Arthur, Eric D. Bedford, James W. Cannon, Sylvain E. Cappell, Walter Craig, Robert J. Daverman, Beverly E.J. Diamond, Irene M. Gamba, Mark Goresky, Susan Hermiller, Vaughan F.R. Jones, Brian H. Marcus, John E. McCarthy, David R. Morrison, Paul J. Sally, Jr., Chi-Wang Shu, Alejandro Uribe and Paul Zorn. Among the other interested parties and guests present were: John Ewing (AMS Executive Director), Robert Fossum (Nominating Committee), Sandra Golden (Administrative Assistant, AMS Secretary), Jane Hawkins (chair, Committee on Science Policy), Samuel M. Rankin (AMS Associate Executive Director), Jean Taylor (Board of Trustees) and Carol S. Wood (Board of Trustees).

1.2. 2003 Elections and more

Newly elected or appointed members of the Council took office on 01 February 2004, and they are:

President Elect	James G. Arthur
Vice President	Vaughan F.R. Jones
Members at Large	James W. Cannon Sylvain E. Cappell Beverly E. J. Diamond Mark Goresky Alejandro Uribe
Journal of the AMS Editorial Committee	Ingrid Daubechies

2. Minutes

2.1. Minutes of the January 2004 Council

The minutes of the January 2004 Council were approved as distributed.

2.2. Minutes of Business by Mail

The Council conducted business by mail since the last meeting, electing **PAUL J. SALLY, JR.,** to its Executive Committee for a four year term (01 Feb 2004 - 31 Jan 2008). Minutes of this business by mail, reproduced in Attachment B, were approved.

3. Consent Agenda

The Items below were approved by consent. (Items which appear in the Consent Agenda at the meeting are considered approved unless brought to the floor for discussion, in which case they must be approved in the usual manner, details of which then appear in the relevant section of the Council minutes.)

3.1. Committee to Select the Winner of the Departmental Prize

At its January 2004 meeting the Council approved a new Prize for Exemplary Program or Achievement by a Mathematics Department.   At this meeting the Council formally approved the establishment of the prize selection committee, subject to the following general description and charge.

Committee to Select the Winner of the
Prize for Exemplary Program or Achievement by a Mathematics Department

General Description

- **Committee is standing**
- **Number of members is five**
- **Term is three years**
- **The prize is awarded annually**

Principal Activities

The committee selects the awardee. It should make its selection known to the Secretary by October 1 of the year prior to the award.

The award should recognize a department which has distinguished itself by undertaking an unusual or particularly effective program of value to the mathematics community, internally or in relation to the rest of society. Examples might include a department that runs a notable minority outreach program, a department that has instituted an unusually effective industrial mathematics internship program, a department that has promoted mathematics so successfully that a large fraction of its university's undergraduate population majors in mathematics, or a department that has made some form of innovation in its research support to faculty and/or graduate students, or which has created a special and innovative environment for some aspect of mathematics research.

In considering a department's achievements, the committee should seek to recognize achievement that 1) came about by systematic, reproducible changes in programs that might be implemented by others, and/or 2) may have value outside the mathematical community. The committee should keep in mind the full range of departments that make up the mathematics education community -- doctoral-granting, master's-granting, and bachelor's-granting departments --- and should seek to recognize outstanding departmental programs in all these arenas, over time.

Miscellaneous Information
  The prize amount is $1200.
  The business of this committee can be done by mail, electronic mail or telephone, expenses for which may be reimbursed by the Society. This committee has been designated as LEVEL F.

3.2. Committee to Select the Winner of the Award for Distinguished Public Service

In order to reflect current practice, the committee charge was changed to indicate that the prize is presented at the Joint Prize Session, not the Business Meeting of the Society, during the Joint Mathematics Meetings. Deleted from the charge was a paragraph about presentation of the citations for notable contributions to the profession, which are no longer awarded. The modified charge now reads:

> **Principal Activities (Charge)**
> **The Committee reports to the Executive Committee acting for the Council at the Fall ECBT in Executive Session. The Committee nominates a recipient for an "Award for Distinguished Public Service" every two years to a research mathematician who has made a distinguished contribution to the mathematics profession through public service during the preceding five years. The Executive Committee must approve the selection. The award will be presented every two years at the Joint Prize Session held during the Annual Joint Mathematics Meetings.**

4. Reports of Boards and Standing Committees

4.1. Report from the Nominating Committee [Executive Session]

The AMS Nominating Committee made recommendations to the AMS Council for the future elections, as spelled out in the subsequent subsections. The candidates for the positions named below would stand for election in Fall 2004, except those for the post of President Elect, who would stand for election in Fall 2005.

Robert M. Fossum, acting chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the Committee's report. It has been filed by the Council and can be found in the AMS Committee Report Book as Report Number 040315-001.

4.1.1. President Elect

The Council nominated **JAMES G. GLIMM** (SUNY at Stony Brook) and **RONALD J. STERN** (University of California, Irvine) as candidates for President Elect for the 2005 Election. This is for a one year term, 01 February 2006 - 31 Jan 2007, followed by a two year term as President and then by a one year term as Immediate Past President. The Council also approved Richard Kadison (University of Pennsylvania) and Isadore M. Singer (MIT) as authors of the nominating article for Glimm and Robion Kirby (University of California, Berkeley) and Donald G. Saari (University of California, Irvine) as authors of the one for Stern.

4.1.2. Vice President

The Council nominated **HAIM BREZIS** (Université de Pierre et Marie Curie & Rutgers University) and **FAN CHUNG GRAHAM** (University of California, San Diego) as candidates for election to one post as Vice President for a term of three years, beginning 01 February 2005 and ending 31 January 2008.

4.1.3. Members at Large of the Council

The Council nominated **SARA BILLEY** (University of Washington), **MANJUL BHARGAVA** (Princeton University), **CHRISTIAN BORGS** (Microsoft Research), **CAROLYN GORDON** (Dartmouth University), **SHELDON KATZ** (University of Illinois), **FELIX LAZEBNIK** (University of Delaware), **RAFE MAZZEO** (Stanford University), **HENRI MOSCOVICI** (Ohio State University), **MICHAEL SINGER** (North Carolina State University) and **CATHERINE H. YAN** (Texas A & M University) as candidates for election to positions as Member at Large of the Council. Five people are to be elected. The term is three years, beginning 01 February 2005 and ending 31 January 2008.

4.1.4. Trustee

The Council nominated **ERIC FRIEDLANDER** (Northwestern University) and **PHILIPPE M. TONDEUR** (University of Illinois) as candidates for election to one post as Trustee for a term of five years, beginning 01 February 2005 and ending 31 January 2010.

4.2. Report from the Editorial Boards Committee [Executive Session]

Acting upon a recommendation of the Editorial Boards Committee, the Council reappointed **B.A. TAYLOR** as chair of the Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee for a one year term, 01 February 2005 - 31 January 2006.

4.3. Report from the Committee on Science Policy

The Committee on Science Policy met in Washington, D.C., on April 1-3, 2004, immediately before the Council meeting. Jane Hawkins, the committee chair, provided an oral report on the committee's activities.

4.4. Report from the Committee on Meetings and Conferences

At its meeting of 29 March 2003, the Committee on Meetings and Conferences recommended that the third Colloquium Lecture at the annual meeting be eliminated. This was based, in part on low attendance at the third lecture. The Executive Committee recommended that the proposed elimination of the third Colloquium Lecture be brought to the Council for discussion and possible action.

It was moved and seconded to have the third colloquium lecture be the star lecture in a Special Session and to charge the Secretariat with providing an organizer for that Special Session. After some discussion, it was moved and seconded to table the motion; the motion to table failed. Finally, it was moved to amend the motion by deleting the comment about the Special and endorsing the preservation of the third Colloquium Lecture. Both the amendment and the amended motion carried.

4.5. Report from the Committee on the Profession - Human Rights Committee Charge

At its meeting of 13 September 2003 the Committee on the Profession considered possible revisions to the charge of the Human Rights Committee. Based on an extended email discussion after that meeting, the Committee finally settled on revisions to recommend to the Council. The existing charge focused on the human rights of foreign mathematicians mistreated by their governments; the proposed revision would expand committee responsibilities to include investigating alleged violations of the human rights of foreign mathematicians, in certain limited situations, whether these violations are alleged to have occurred in the U.S. or abroad.

The Council adopted revisions to the charge as proposed by the Committee on the Profession. The charge now reads:

Charge to the Committee on Human Rights, Concerning Foreign Mathematicians

1. The AMS believes that human rights violations are serious matters. In recent years, the AMS has intervened on behalf of several foreign mathematicians and even on behalf of whole groups of mathematicians. This Committee will assist the Society in such matters by investigating alleged violations of human rights of foreign mathematicians whether these violations are alleged to have occurred in the U.S. or abroad and by recommending appropriate action whenever action seems warranted.
2. A foreign mathematician, for the purpose of the Committee, is a person residing outside the U.S. and professionally engaged in a mathematical science (such as pure mathematics, applied mathematics, mathematical statistics, computing science, and operations research) or trained for such activity. The purpose of this rule is to limit the activities of the Committee to cases in which our members may be presumed to have a feeling of genuine professional identification with the alleged victim. By violations of human rights, the Committee is to understand violations of freedoms enumerated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the Affirmation adopted by the National Academy of Sciences, USA, violations which deprive a mathematician of the opportunity to practice his or her profession. In most cases, it would be inappropriate to consider less drastic offenses such as dispute over appointments, denial of promotion or withdrawal of professional recognition.
3. The first duty of the Committee is to investigate complaints received by it or referred to it by officers of the Society. The Committee is encouraged to make polite inquiries to foreign governments and embassies (since a timely polite inquiry may be more valuable than a vociferous protest later on). In conducting its investigation, the Committee cannot always hope to prove a case beyond a reasonable doubt or to hear all sides. In some cases, the Committee may be unable to elicit information from the government in question, and may have no way of direct communication with the victim. The committee should arrive at recommendations for actions (or inaction) using common sense, any source of information available, and the advice of organizations which have had extensive experience in human rights cases (in particular, the International League for the Rights of Man and Amnesty International). More specific information can be found at http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html.
4. The Committee should not work from a particular political orientation but rather should be willing to defend the human rights of any foreign mathematician whatever that mathematician's political stance or ideology may be.

4.6. Report from the Representative to the Canadian Mathematical Society

The annual report of the representative to this committee was filed by the Council. It can be found in the AMS Committee Report Book as Report Number 030616-005.

5. Old Business

No Old Business was treated at the meeting.

6. New Business

6.1. Statement on Free Exchange of Science

A recent ruling of the US Office of Foreign Assets Control would limit how American publishers can deal with scientific papers from embargoed countries. A number of publishers, scientific societies, and scientists have expressed concern about the potential to interfere with the free exchange of science, which is a principle that is widely promoted throughout the world. However, earlier in the week of the Council Meeting, the US State Department gave hints that the rules limiting the publication of such papers were about to be reinterpreted in more favorable ways.

Nevertheless, Council members expressed the belief that there is value in reaffirming this principle. It was moved and seconded to adopt the following statement:

> **The American Mathematical Society believes that science is universal and that it relies on cooperation and exchange throughout the world. The Society is committed to the principle that scientists must have free access to each other and to scientific information. For these reasons, all publication programs of the Society continue to consider each submission without regard to the nationality or the national origin of its authors. We believe this is consistent both with the above principles and with current law.**

The motion carried unanimously.

6.2. Council Discussion

As a repeat of an item first tried in April 2002, the Council devoted a portion of this meeting to a topic of one of the items in its purview. This year's topic was Membership, which also was the subject of the Society's focused planning effort in 2003. Resource materials, in the way of the report prepared for the November 2003 AMS Executive Committee/Board of Trustees Meeting, were distributed prior to the meeting, and members were asked to concentrate on two primary issues: (1) how to retain nominee members and (2) whether to make some part of the archived AMS *Notices* a benefit available only to members. There was extensive discussion. Executive Director John H. Ewing outlined how nominee members are tracked at present and explained why accurate tracking is difficult. Council discussed proposals about various periods in which the *Notices* would be available online only to members, and indicated support for having some kind of evident member benefit. No actions were taken.

6.3. Report of the Executive Director

John Ewing, the Executive Director, gave his annual report to the Council. That report has been filed in the AMS Committee Report Book as Report Number 040329-002.

7. Announcements, Information and Record

7.1. Centennial Fellowships

The AMS Centennial Fellowship Committee has announced fellowship awards granted to Nitya Kichloo (Johns Hopkins) and Jinho Baik (University of Michigan). Both have accepted. The amount of each 2004-2005 fellowship award will be $60,000, with an additional expense allowance of $1700.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

2004 AMS GOVERNANCE

2004 COUNCIL

Officers

President	David Eisenbud	MSRI/Univ. California, Berkeley	2004
President Elect	James G. Arthur	University of Toronto	2004
Vice Presidents	Vaughan F.R. Jones	University of California, Berkeley	2006
	Hugo Rossi	University of Utah	2004
	Karen Vogtmann	Cornell University	2005
Secretary	Robert J. Daverman	University of Tennessee	2006
Associate Secretaries	John L. Bryant	Florida State University	2004
	Michel L. Lapidus	University of California, Riverside	2005
	Susan Friedlander	University of Illinois at Chicago	2005
	Lesley Sibner	Polytechnic Institute of NY	2006
Treasurer	John M. Franks	Northwestern University	2006
Associate Treasurer	Donald E. McClure	Brown University	2006

Representatives of Committees

Bulletin Editorial	Donald G. Saari, Chair	Univ. California, Irvine	2004
Colloquium Editorial	Susan Friedlander, Chair	Univ. Illinois at Chicago	2004
Executive Committee	Walter Craig	McMaster University	2006
Executive Committee	David R. Morrison	Duke University	2004
Executive Committee	Hugo Rossi	University of Utah	2005
Journal of the AMS	Ingrid Daubechies, Chair	Princeton University	2006
Math Reviews Editorial	B. A. Taylor, Chair	University of Michigan	2005
Math Surveys & Monographs	Peter S. Landweber, Chair	Rutgers University.	2004
Mathematics of Computation	Chi-Wang Shu, Chair	Brown University	2004
Proceedings Editorial	Eric Bedford, Chair	Indiana University	2004
Transactions and Memoirs	William Beckner, Chair	University of Texas at Austin	2004

Members at Large

Colin C. Adams	Williams College	2004
Sylvia T. Bozeman	Spelman College	2004
James W. Cannon	Brigham Young University	2006
Sylvain E. Cappell	Courant Institute, NYU	2006
Beverly E. J. Diamond	College of Charleston	2006

ATTACHMENT B

**AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL
BUSINESS BY MAIL
15 March 2004**

In a mail ballot dated 12 February 2004, there were 22 ballots cast, by:

Colin C. Adams	Vaughan F.R. Jones
Eric Bedford	Peter Landweber
John L. Bryant	John E. McCarthy
Ingrid Daubechies	Donald E. McClure
Robert J. Daverman	Hugo Rossi
Beverly E. J. Diamond	Donald G. Saari
David Eisenbud	Paul J. Sally, Jr.
Susan Friedlander	Chi-Wang Shu
Irene Gamba	B.A. Taylor
Mark Goresky	Karen Vogtmann
Susan Hermiller	Paul Zorn

In the election to the Executive Committee the result was:

Irene Gamba	**7**
Paul J. Sally	**15**

Accordingly, Sally is declared elected, effective immediately, and ending when a replacement is determined in the election of February 2008.

Robert J. Daverman
Secretary
March 15, 2004