

Nominating Committee Report and Candidate Statements
Rocky Mountain Section 2023 Elections: Chairperson-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer

The Section Nominating Committee is pleased to report the following confirmed nominees for our upcoming elections. Candidate statements and biographical information for these four candidates is included below.

Nominations for both positions will continue to be accepted between now and the section's Annual Business Meeting at the 2023 Section Meeting (April 21-22, Black Hills State University). Voting will be held electronically following that meeting, with ballots due by a date in May to be announced.

Nominees for Chairperson-Elect

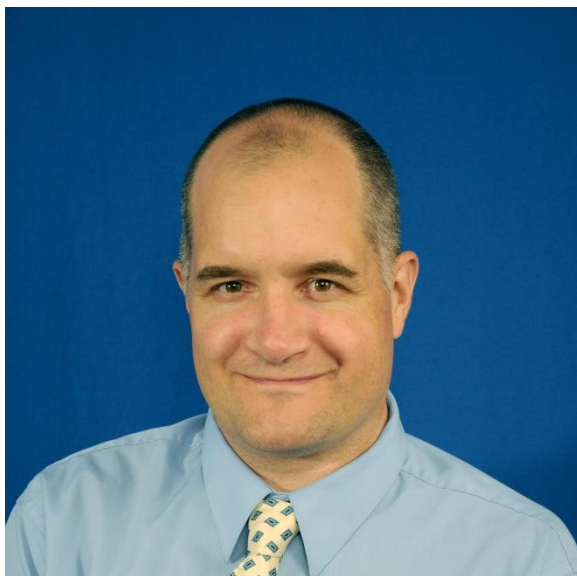


Beth Burroughs (Montana State University)



Gus Greivel (Colorado School of Mines)

Nominees for Secretary-Treasurer



Kyle Riley (South Dakota School of Mining & Technology)



Rebecca Swanson (Colorado School of Mines)

Candidates Statements and Biographies: Chairperson-Elect

Beth Burroughs, Montana State University

The MAA has provided me with a supportive professional community over the decades, and I'm enthusiastic about this opportunity to serve the Rocky Mountain Section of the MAA. Throughout my career, my professional interests have been centered on how people interact with mathematics, whether that is as learners, as teachers, as colleagues, or as members of society. Questions about how our discipline increases inclusivity and justice are central to the MAA as it enacts its mission to *advance the understanding of mathematics and its impact on our world*. My priorities in serving the section are to support Rocky Mountain section members as they grow in the profession, whether that is through supporting undergraduates engaged in mathematical research, facilitating faculty development opportunities, or participating in the vibrant community of section members at our annual section meetings.

Biography. Elizabeth (Beth) Burroughs is Department Head and Professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Montana State University. A former high school mathematics teacher, for the past two decades Beth has focused on the preparation and professional development of mathematics teachers at all levels. She was a lead writer for the MAA's *Instructional Practices Guide* (2018) and a member of the writing team for the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators' *Standards for Preparing Teachers of Mathematics* (2017). Her recent work has addressed the teaching and learning of mathematical modeling and the creation and use of materials for teacher preparation in undergraduate mathematics courses. She is an author of *Becoming a Teacher of Mathematical Modeling, Grades K-5*, and *Becoming a Teacher of Mathematical Modeling, Grades 6-12*, both published in 2021 by NCTM. She has served the MAA as Co-PI of the META Math Project (the Mathematical Education of Teachers as an Application of Undergraduate Mathematics; 2017–2021); as Governor for Teacher Education on the Board of Governors (2015–2018) and as chair of the Committee on the Mathematical Education of Teachers (COMET; 2012–2018). Currently, she is a facilitator of a Project NEX Teaching Support Group.

Gus Greivel, Colorado School of Mines

I see great potential in the Rocky Mountain Section. It represents an enormous geographic area and a remarkable diversity of institutions and communities. The Section is home to dedicated educators and tremendous (and often untapped) student potential. I hope to foster greater involvement and deeper collaborations between members of our community across all facets of the mathematical profession, including student engagement and continued efforts to expand the pipeline of future mathematicians through collaborations across 4-year, 2-year, and secondary institutions, as well as industry partners.

Biography. My somewhat non-traditional path in mathematics has been defined by curiosity and growth. Having discovered a passion for teaching mathematics in summer outreach programs as an undergraduate, I found it necessary to stop out of my PhD program to attend to the needs of my young family. I have a BS and MS in Mathematical and Computer Sciences from the Colorado School of Mines and, being a lifelong learner, am completing a PhD in Operations Research at Mines in the Spring 2023 term. I initially assumed "full-time" employment as a member of the adjunct faculty in Mathematical and Computer Sciences at the Colorado School of Mines and was subsequently hired onto the permanent teaching faculty where I have had the pleasure of creating a career centered on fostering our students' curiosity towards mathematics for the past 26 years.

In my time at Mines, I have had opportunities to lead efforts to improve our statistics and calculus courses (and their delivery). I have also been active in efforts to update the curriculum and create our present degree programs. I have also led efforts to broaden the STEM pipeline to Mines and improve access and inclusion through statewide efforts to improve transfer and articulation between the Colorado Community College System and Mines. My work in the classroom and in efforts aimed at improving DI&A at Mines have led to numerous awards for teaching as well as recognitions from student organizations within our Multicultural Engineering Program. I am currently serving as interim Department Head of Applied Mathematics and Statistics, Assistant Dean for Transfer Student Enrollment and Articulations, and am a Newmont STEM Equity Faculty Fellow.

Candidates Statements and Biographies: Secretary-Treasurer

Kyle Riley, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology

I have been in the Rocky Mountain Section for my entire mathematics career with my undergraduate years spent at the University of Wyoming, my graduate schooling at Montana State University, along with my teaching career at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. Our section has been very fortunate to attract outstanding candidates for the Secretary-Treasurer position over the years and I can't think of a more important position in the section leadership. If elected, I would do my best to serve in the grand tradition of those that have held the position before me.

Biography. I have served the section as: section governor (position analogous to the congress representative we have now), section chairperson, section student activity coordinator, and I currently serve as the awards coordinator. I have also served on a variety of national MAA committees along with a few section committees.

Rebecca Swanson, Colorado School of Mines

As a longtime MAA member, I would be honored to serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Rocky Mountain Section of the MAA. I am a Teaching Professor at the Colorado School of Mines and found my professional home and community in the MAA with the many people who care deeply about issues related to teaching and learning mathematics. I want to show my appreciation for all that the MAA has given me by serving in our section. While I am currently involved in our section as co-organizer of Section NExT activities, I am also interested in expanding my role. I feel that the Secretary-Treasurer position would be ideal for both supporting our section and for better learning about our section and its governance.

There are a number of relevant experiences that demonstrate I can successfully complete the Secretary-Treasurer duties. At Mines, I co-founded and co-advise our Society for Women in Mathematics, and we have been successfully running since 2013. We began the program by inviting women to share their mathematical stories, and gradually added on a mix of workshops, panels, and professional development activities. We now have two corporate sponsors and were recognized in 2019 with an Association for Women in Mathematics student chapter award for our professional development programming. Our chapter's work was also featured with a chapter in a 2022 Springer book celebrating the 50th anniversary of the AWM. At the Section level, I have served as co-advisor for Section NExT since 2017. We successfully led our first cohort through a two-year cycle ending in 2019 where we brought them together to first learn via workshops and speakers and connect with one another (year 1) and then had participants organize sessions at the 2019 section meeting. The pandemic delayed our second cycle, but we began with a new cohort in 2022. I've been meeting with some members of this cohort every few weeks as we read about and discuss teaching and learning. At the national level, I currently serve as chair of the MAA Section Lecturers Committee, where we vet and bring forward nominations for the Pólya Lecturer, NAM Lecturer, and AWM Lecturer. I additionally led a Project NExT cohort over the 2021–2022 academic year in exploring flipped learning. Finally, I am currently on the MAA's Math Values editorial board where I both write and solicit blog posts. Given my history of successful service both inside and outside of my institution, I believe I can successfully complete the Secretary-Treasurer duties.

Thank you for your consideration!

Biography. Rebecca Swanson is a Teaching Professor at the Colorado School of Mines. She received her PhD at Indiana University. She teaches a variety of courses at Mines and works on research related to teaching and learning mathematics. Rebecca also enjoys co-advising the Mines AWM chapter, mentoring activities, and her service roles in the MAA. She also likes to cook/bake, read, and "make". Rebecca and her husband, Steve, are kept busy by their two young daughters, Ella and Anna.