ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION OF THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

$$\forall \exists \delta \exists \varepsilon \exists$$
$$e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$$

Spring 2022 Newsletter

https://www.rockymountain.maa.org/s/spring2022newsletter.pdf

Section Website: https://www.rockymountain.maa.org/

Note: The 2022 Rocky Mountain Section Meeting
Virtual
April 22-23, 2022
Host: Metropolitan State University, Denver

Table of Contents

Current term of service in parentheses; The Chair serves for 4 years – one as Chair Elect, two as Chair, one as Past Chair; All other positions are 1 year terms unless otherwise noted

Section Executive Committee Officers for 2021 – 2022

Chair (2020-2022)	Dan Swenson Black Hills State University Spearfish, SD 57799	daniel.swenson@bhsu.edu 605-642-6425
Chair Elect (2021 - 2022)	Gulden Karakok University of Northern Colorado Greeley, CO 80639	gulden.karakok@unco.edu 970-351-2215
Vice-Chair (2020-2022)	Kenneth Monks Front Range Community College Boulder County Campus	Kenneth.Monks@frontrange.edu 303-678-3611
Secretary/ Treasurer (2020-2023)	Mona Mocanasu MSU Denver Denver, CO	mmocanas@msudenver.edu 303-615-0747
MAA National Rep (2020-2023)	Tracii Friedman Colorado Mesa University GrandJunction, CO	tfriedma@coloradomesa.edu 970-248-1667
Program Co-Chairs	Mona Mocanasu John Ethier	mmocanas@msudenver.edu jethier@msudenver.edu

---

Other Committee Members and Representatives

Section Nominating Committee

John Carter (Chair), MSU Denver	jcarte11@msudenver.edu
Nathaniel Miller, UNC	nathaniel.miller@unco.edu
Janet Heine Barnett, CSU - Pueblo	janet.barnett@csupueblo.edu

DTA Awards Selection Committee

Gulden Karakok (Chair), (UNC)	gulden.karakok@unco.edu
Travis Kowalski (SDSMT)	Travis.Kowalski@sdsmt.edu
Anne Dougherty (University of Colorado)	anne.dougherty@colorado.edu

ECTA Awards Selection Committee

Gulden Karakok (Chair), (UNC)	gulden.karakok@unco.edu
Molly Moran (Colorado College)	mmoran@coloradocollege.edu
Anne Dougherty (University of Colorado)	anne.dougherty@colorado.edu

Section Awards Coordinator
(2020-2023)   Kyle Riley, SDSMT   Kyle.Riley@sdsmt.edu

Section Student Activity Coordinator
(2020-2023)   Divya Vernerey, UC Boulder   divya.vernerey@colorado.edu

Higher Education Representative on CCTM Governing Board
(2019-2021)   Gulden Karakok, UNC   gulden.karakok@unco.edu

Section Book Sales Coordinator
(2021-2024)   Janet Heine Barnett, CSU - Pueblo   janet.barnett@csupueblo.edu

Section NExT Committee
 (2019-2022) Rebecca Swanson, Colorado School of Mines   swanson@mines.edu
                   Mandi Schaeffer Fry, MSU Denver   aschaef6@msudenver.edu

Public Information Officer and Section Liaison Coordinator
(2020-2023)   Mona Mocanasu, MSU Denver   mmocanas@msudenver.edu

Website Editor
(2021-2023)   Oscar Levin, University of Northern Colorado   Oscar.Levin@unco.edu

Newsletter Editor
(2019-2022)   Pam Peters   pam.peters@ppcc.edu
                   Pikes Peak Community College   719-502-3640

Note that several positions are expiring this year. If you are interested in any of those positions (or if you are in one and willing to continue), contact the executive committee. Specifically, positions expiring in Spring 2022:

> Vice-Chair
> Higher Education Representative on CCTM Governing Board
> Section NExT Committee
> Newsletter Editor

Chair's Corner

Dear Rocky Mountain Section, Greetings!

First, and most urgently, I want to make sure you're aware of the updated schedule for this year's Section Meeting. Our annual meeting will now take place **April 22-23, 2022.**

And, this year's meeting will once again be **virtual**. However, I am happy to say that Metropolitan State University of Denver will be this year's host institution. Many thanks to their faculty and administration for graciously agreeing to organize a meeting that won't be on their campus!

At this point I should probably mention that we are trying our best to get the word out to everyone about these changes, and we could really use your help! Please let your colleagues know.

Thank you once more to everyone who worked on last year's meeting. (Special thanks to co-organizers Tracii Friedman and Kyle Riley.) The collaboration, imagination, patience, hard work, and flexibility of so many people across the whole Section meant that not only was last year's meeting a success, this year's organizers have an excellent blueprint to work with. In case you're wondering, the reason for the change of dates was, quite simply, that we did not want to compete with the Joint Mathematics Meetings (now rescheduled, as you may know, for April 6-9, which caused a conflict with our meeting as originally scheduled). I regret that the change will, surely, cause inconvenience for some of you! Still, it seemed to be the least-bad choice. I hope that by making this change, we allow as many people to participate as possible. Regarding the decision to have a virtual meeting rather than an in-person one: perhaps in April we will see that the virus is in decline, and that we could have met in person after all. (If that happens, I will be overjoyed!) But that seems like the best-case out of a rather wide range of scenarios. I would love to see all of you in person—hopefully next year!

By the way, I am personally very excited about this year's meeting. I am especially looking

forward to invited talks from Jennifer Quinn (the President of the MAA, who will join us as Section Visitor) and Dominic Klyve (the Editor of the *College Math Journal*, who will be here through the Editor Lecture Series). Both of these individuals were very gracious and kind in agreeing to move their schedules around, and we really appreciate their flexibility! Looking forward to some great talks, too.

It's hard for me to believe, but this is my last Newsletter as Chair. At the end of this year, I become the Past-Chair and Gulden Karakok transitions from Chair-Elect to Chair. The Rocky Mountain Section is truly fortunate to have Gulden in this position, and I am looking forward to continuing to work with her in the future. With this final letter I would like to make a request: please think about some ways that you can be involved. Perhaps you could nominate a colleague (or yourself) for office. Vote in the elections. Nominate someone for the Burton W. Jones Award or Early Career Teaching Award (for many years we have had way too few nominations). Or consider hosting a meeting on your campus or applying for a Section Activity Grant. But this request is also a recommendation, because I can honestly say that working with the outstanding people in the Rocky Mountain Section is a privilege.

As always, thank you to everyone who works to make this Section what it is. Thank you to our many committee members, representatives, coordinators, officers, liaisons, and editors. I'd especially like to thank Pam Peters for her excellent work in putting together this Newsletter! And thank you to the Executive Committee—you are a joy to work with. Finally, thank you to Kenneth Monks, whose term as Vice-Chair will be coming to an end. Ken, thank you so much for your service to the Section—it has been a pleasure working with you and getting to know you! (The Section is happy to take nominations for the Vice-Chair position.) Thanks for reading, and I hope to see you on April 22!

> Dan Swenson
> Black Hills State University
> Chair, Rocky Mountain Section
> Mathematical Association of America

Congressional Representative Report

No Congress Report as we have not met since last August. If you have any questions or input that you would like me to share with the MAA, please don't hesitate to reach out:

> Tracii Friedman
> Colorado Mesa University
> Representative, Rocky Mountain Section
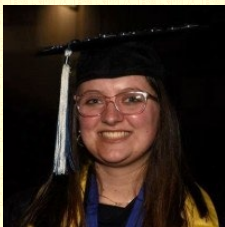> tfriedma@coloradomesa.edu

Section News

Colorado School of Mines

STUDENT AWARDS
Claire Jordan (Computational & Applied Mathematics) and **Amber Rexwinkle (Statistics)** received the Fall Outstanding Graduating Senior Award. Mines' AMS department presented Outstanding Graduating Senior Awards to two students in recognition of their academic excellence and their service to the department, university and community.

Claire Jordan   Amber Rexwinkle

Samuel Koller received the Professor Willy Hereman Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship is presented to a student studying Applied Mathematics and Statistics who strives for excellence in scholarship, research and/or departmental involvement. The Scholarship was established by Dr. Douglas E. Baldwin, Mines BS '03, MS '04, in appreciation of Dr. Hereman's mentorship and inspiration.

Julia Eiken received the FAST Scholarship. This scholarship is presented to a student studying Applied Mathematics and Statistics and is also a member of the Society for Women in Mathematics, our local AWM chapter.
The scholarship was established to recognize women with leadership skills and interest in industry.

FACULTY GRANTS
The following faculty were awarded grants this past fall:

- **Soutir Bandyopadhyay** and **Doug Nychka**: NREL APUP entitled "High-Resolution Long-term Weather Data for Energy"
- **Mahadevan Ganesh**: Discovery Project Grant from the Australian Research Council (jointly with Stuart Hawkins, Macquarie University, Sydney) entitled "Advanced Bayesian Inversion Algorithms for Wave Propagation"

Rebecca Swanson,
Colorado School of Mines

Pikes Peak Community College

There is a new Associates of Engineering Science (AES) in Mechanical Engineering at PPCC and throughout the Colorado Community College System. We have fostered a partnership among the community colleges by teaching the 200-level engineering courses in a remote synchronous format, so students have access to all the courses, regardless of whether their campus offers it. There are slight variations to the degree depending on which transfer four year the student chooses, but they are minimal to allow for maximum flexibility. With the new Associates of Engineering degree, the potential to build additional engineering degrees is possible. This is an exciting time for our engineering students!

We have several long-time members of the department retiring this year:

Laurie DeHerrera has been with PPCC Math for 22 years, teaching college prep math courses as well as
College Algebra, Career Math, nursing math, Statistics, and Math for the Liberal Arts.

Mike Parcha has been teaching at PPCC 27 years, teaching predominantly developmental classes. He has been a mainstay of several college committees, including the Scholarship Review Committee, NCA Integrity Subcommittee (Chairman), Curriculum and Instructional Practices (Vice Chairman), Catalog Prerequisite Statements' Subcommittee (Chair), and Sabbatical Leave Committee. He served as Director of Special School Partnerships (PPCC High School Liaison), PPCC Math Lab Coordinator, and PPCC Developmental Math Department Chairman.

Shawna Mahan has taught at PPCC for 22 years, teaching across the spectrum of the math courses we offer, including: Elementary Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, Career Math, Math for the Liberal Arts, College Algebra, Trigonometry, PreCaclulus, Calculus I, II, and III, Discrete Mathematics, Linear Algebra, and Differential Equations. She was the Dept Chair for six years, and was active in designing and teaching online courses. She has been a member of the High Impact Practices team, a mainstay of the Student Colloquium organization committee, and faculty advisor to the Math Club. Shawna served as a member of the state Mathematics Curriculum Writing Team, writing the curriculum for Career Math, the corequisite course for Math for the Liberal Arts, Linear Algebra, and Calculus I. She was the PPCC representative on the State Faculty Curriculum Committee (SFCC) and state Chair of Mathematics for three years. She has been president of both the Colorado Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges and the Colorado Association of Developmental Education (CoADE), as well as their secretary and treasurer. Many will remember Shawana as the Vice-Chair of RM-MAA for four years. She received the Teaching Excellence award from ColoMATYC as well as the Faculty of the Year award by CoADE.

Holly Ashton has taught at PPCC for over 20 years, largely teaching higher level math courses. She has been the course lead for Calculus I and II as well as Differential Equations and Precalculus.

Congratulations and best wishes to all!
  McKenna Lovejoy and Ivana Seligova, PPCC

Is news from your school missing?
Send your news to your department liaison now with a request to forward it to the Pam Peters, Newsletter Editor for inclusion in the next issue. pam.peters@ppcc.edu

---

Mark Your Calendars!

Submissions to the FA22 Newsletter are due 9 September 2022.
Contact Pam Peters, pam.peters@ppcc.edu if questions.

The 2022 Rocky Mountain Virtual Section Meeting
April 22-23, 2022
Metropolitan State University, Denver

Our annual meeting will now take place **April 22-23, 2022.**

And, this year's meeting will once again be **virtual**. Metropolitan State University of Denver will be this year's host institution. Many thanks to their faculty and administration for graciously agreeing to organize a meeting that won't be on their campus!

Invited talks include: Jennifer Quinn (the President of the MAA, Professor of Mathematics, University of Washington Tacoma) and Dominic Klyve (the Editor of the *College Math Journal*, Professor of Mathematics, Central Washington University).

Dr. Mona Mocanasu	(mmocanas@msudenver.edu)
Dr. John Ethier	(jethier@msudenver.edu)

RM MAA Awards

Thank you to everyone that sent in a teaching award nomination this year. This is just a reminder that we have two regional teaching awards that are sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Section of the MAA. The Burton W. Jones Distinguished Teaching Award is for MAA members in the section that have at least five years teaching experience at the post-secondary level in the section. The only other eligibility requirement is that a nominee is assigned at least half-time teaching responsibilities during the academic year to the teaching of a mathematical science in a public or private college or university (from two-year college teaching through teaching at the Ph.D. level). The Early Career Teaching Award is to honor people early in their teaching career (seven years or less) and it is restricted to people that are an MAA member in Rocky Mountain Section that have completed a doctorate or master's degree. There are exceptions to the seven-year limit to include maternity leave, paternity leave, family/medical leave, along with other exceptions that can be found on the website. The other restriction in eligibility is that a nominee has held a full-time faculty appointment in a college department of mathematical sciences in the Rocky Mountain Section for at least two years. It is also true that the people that are selected for the section award are then eligible to be the nominee of the section towards the teaching awards that are sponsored by the national MAA organization, as long as they meet the eligibility requirements of the national program. If you have an outstanding colleague that you would like to nominate for a teaching award then please consult the section website for details. The nomination has a two-step process with a simple nomination form due December 15 and the full nomination packet due January 15. If you have questions, then please feel free to contact me.
Respectfully,
Kyle Riley
Section Awards Coordinator
Kyle.Riley@sdsmt.edu

Nominations for Section Vice-Chair

The nominating committee is soliciting nominations for our election in Spring 22 of Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair serves a two-year term and must be associated with a two-year school. Nominations can be sent to any member of the nominating committee. This leadership position is vital to the organization and operation of the MAA Rocky Mountain Section. Nominations can be sent to John Carter, nominating committee chair, at jcarte11@msudenver.edu Self-nominations are encouraged.

The election will take place electronically just after the Spring 2022 Section Meeting; candidate statements and biographies will be available on the section website prior to that meeting.

Details of the duties for this position are described in the Section Procedures Handbook: sections.maa.org/rockymt/SectionProceduresHandbook.pdf.

Note: Elected officers of the section must be members of the MAA.

Respectfully submitted,
The Nominating Committee

Pikes Peak Regional
Undergraduate Mathematics Conference (PPRUMC)

The Pikes Peak Regional Undergraduate Mathematics Conference (PPRUMC) Steering Committee is pleased to confirm that our 19th Annual Conference will take place virtually on Saturday February 26, 2022.

Many thanks to Colorado College (CC) for serving as our host institution again this year, and to CC faculty members Ike Agbanusi and Cory Scott for organizing the event.

Students throughout the Pikes Peak region and beyond are strongly encouraged to present in the areas of mathematics, mathematics education and the history of mathematics. Presentation topics could include the results of classroom or independent study, as well as REU or other research projects. Both research and expository topics are welcome.

Registration (free to all participants) is now open via the conference website, where you can find a preliminary conference schedule:

   https://www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/mathcs/newsevents/pprumc2022.html

The deadline for registration for students wishing to give a talk is Friday, February 18th.
Otherwise, the deadline for registration is Friday, February 25th.

Questions? Contact Ike (iagbanusi@coloradocollege.edu) or Cory (cbs@coloradocollege.edu).

Call for Participants for 2022 Section NExT-RM

What is Section NExT-RM?

The Rocky Mountain Section of the New Experiences in Teaching program (NExT- RM) is a smaller scale version of the national Project NExT program, specifically serving the members of the Rocky Mountain Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). The goals of Section NExT-RM are to support faculty in the first five years of their academic career and to establish links among faculty in the section.

Who is eligible?

Section NExT-RM is open to non-tenured faculty members in the Rocky Mountain Section who are within the first five years of teaching at a university, four-year college, or two-year college within the Rocky Mountain Section of the MAA.

When is the meeting?

Our first meeting for the Section NExT-RM Fellows will be part of the Rocky Mountain MAA Section meeting that will be held virtually **April 22-23, 2022** (hosted by Metropolitan State University in Denver). The Section NExT-RM sessions will occur just following the annual section meeting, ending by 5pm on the 23rd. At this workshop, participants will discuss topics of special relevance to beginning faculty via sessions, panels, or workshops.

What are my expectations as a fellow?

Section NExT-RM Fellows will remain in contact with one another via an electronic network and are expected to attend both the Spring 2022 and Spring 2023 Rocky Mountain MAA Section meetings. In particular, they will take part in the planning of some of the 2023 Section NExT-RM sessions.

Does this cost me anything?

Section NExT-RM is a selective professional development program—an application is required. We will provide the fellows with lunch on Friday and Saturday of the workshop and expect fellows to obtain travel and the remaining funding (one night's hotel, registration, banquet) from their departments or other sources.

How do I apply?

Submit the following at the Google form: https://forms.gle/q8nqjv9wNjXo13SB8 by March 15th, 2022:
- A personal statement, not to exceed 2 pages, about your teaching and/or research background, indicating what you hope to gain from Section NExT-RM and any topics you particularly hope will be discussed in the meeting.
- CV
- Letter of support from your department chair (Although departmental travel support is not required for acceptance, make sure your department chair indicates in the letter whether or not the department is providing travel support.) Such a letter can be submitted to the above site OR can be submitted to aschaef6@msudenver.edu.

Questions? Contact the Section NExT-RM Coordinators Mandi Schaeffer Fry, MSU Denver (aschaef6@msudenver.edu) or Rebecca Swanson, Colorado School of Mines (swanson@mines.edu).

Meetings Calendar

Joint Mathematics Meetings, **Virtual**
   April 6-9, 2022
MAA Rocky Mountain Section Meeting, **Virtual**
   April 22-23, 2022

MAA MathFest; Philadelphia, PA,
   August 3-6, 2022
Joint Mathematics Meetings, Boston, MA,
   January 4–7, 2023
MAA Rocky Mountain Section Meeting, BHSU
   April TBD, 2023

MAA MathFest; Tampa, FL;
   August 2-5, 2023
Joint Mathematics Meetings, San Francisco, CA,
   January 3–6, 2024

MAA MathFest; Indianapolis, IN,
   August 7-10, 2024

MAA Rocky Mountain Section
Guidance for Speakers

The Rocky Mountain Section would like to offer the following suggestions, especially to first-time speakers (and first-time Zoomers), regarding preparation of a "virtual" talk at the conference.

Presentation Length
All contributed talks will be placed in 20-minute time slots, ideally, approximately 15 minutes for the presentation with a few minutes at the end available for questions. Please prepare your presentation to fit the time allotted.

Virtual Presentations
This year, all presentations will be delivered over Zoom.

Presenters should sign into the Zoom session for your talk 5-10 minutes before your talk actually begins, so that any technological issues may be addressed. It is advised that you familiarize yourself with Zoom and, if available, practice your talk on Zoom prior to your actual presentation.

A moderator will be assigned to facilitate each session of presentations. The moderator will introduce the speaker, act as "host" for the Zoom session, manage any screen sharing privileges, signal the end of the presentation, and ask for questions from the audience. At their discretion, the moderator may allow questions via the "chat" feature in Zoom and may read such questions aloud.

You can use the "screen-sharing" capabilities of Zoom to present your talk using Power Point slides, PDF, or similar, which will greatly enhance the pace of a presentation. To avoid distraction, we recommend sharing only a single "window", rather than your entire screen. (However, it may be possible to share, e.g., an Adobe window, and then choose "full screen view" from inside of that Adobe window.)

Presentation Tips

Do not include too much detailed technical material in your presentation. Focus on providing the audience with insight into your topic and its key notions. Remember that most members of the audience will not be experts in the field you are discussing, and that the audience is likely to include students.

Please make sure that the slide content is typed in a font big enough and with spacing adequate to be seen clearly. We recommend including only a small amount of text on each slide.

Grants Available

Section Activity Grants Available

The purpose of the Section Activity Grants program is to assist Section members in funding projects in support of Section Mission. These projects must be clearly tied to one or more of the Rocky Mountain Section Mission Goals and the project director must be a member of MAA. Grants will not exceed $750 per project. Matching funds from host institution are preferred, but not required. To apply for a Section Activity Grant, submit the following to the Section Secretary/Treasurer:

    (a) Description of project (no more than one page)
    (b) Statement of how project supports Mission Goals (no more than one page)
    (c) Estimated budget
    (d) Description of matching funds available, if any
    (e) Vitae of project director(s).

If funded, a report on the project will be filed by the Project Director upon completion (no more than one page) and a report will be made at the next meeting of the Section. Complete details on the selection process and application guidelines are posted on the section website. Grants will be reviewed once a year. All application materials are due November 1st of each year.

Student Recognition Grants Available

The establishment of a Student Recognition Grant Program was approved by the section membership at the 2003 Annual Business Meeting. In support of this program, the Section will set aside $500 every calendar year. From these monies, the Section will make grants for the purpose of recognizing superior achievement in mathematics on the part of (1) students enrolled in post-secondary institutions within the geographic region served by the Section and (2) high school students whose school districts, or other appropriate political subdivisions, substantially intersect the geographic region served by the Section.

Proposals for such grants must

1. Originate from a member of the Rocky Mountain Section of the Mathematical Association of America on behalf of an agency, institution, or organization whose stated purposes are consistent with recognizing or encouraging superior academic achievement at the high school level
2. Be in the hands of the Chair of the Rocky Mountain Section no later than March 15 of the year in which the proposed recognition is to be made
3. Include the criteria under which superior achievement in mathematics is to be recognized, together with the time and the manner of such recognition
4. Report, insofar as possible at the time of the proposal, other potential sources of support together with proposals or requests made or intended; and
5. Be limited to a maximum amount of $250.

The Executive Committee will review all proposals for grants under this policy and will make such grants as, in its sole judgment, it deems proper. In keeping with the section mission, funding priority will be given to grants that include recognition of undergraduate students. Funding decisions will be announced no later than the Annual Business Meeting of the Section. Monies not expended during any particular year shall revert to the Section's general fund.

The Rocky Mountain Section of
The Mathematical Association of America

Burton W. Jones Award
for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics

For information on the Burton W. Jones Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics, check out: https://www.rockymountain.maa.org/s/BWJones_nomination_form-2dge.docx

Nomination forms should reach Section Awards Coordinator, Kyle Riley, Kyle.Riley@sdsmt.edu, by December 15 of each year. Complete nomination materials should reach Awards Coordinator by January 15 of each year.

Please consult the Section webpage (http://sections.maa.org/rockymt) for complete guidelines.

The Rocky Mountain Section of
The Mathematical Association of America

Early Career Teaching Award
for Excellence in Teaching in the Mathematical Sciences

For information on the Burton W. Jones Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics, check out: https://www.rockymountain.maa.org/s/EarlyCareer_nomination_form-tz6b.docx

Nomination forms should reach Section Awards Coordinator, Kyle Riley, Kyle.Riley@sdsmt.edu, by December 15 of each year. Complete nomination materials should reach Awards Coordinator by January 15 of each year.

Please consult the Section webpage (http://sections.maa.org/rockymt) for complete guidelines.

Early Career Teaching Award Guidelines

Part of the core mission for the Rocky Mountain Section is to provide recognition for quality mathematics teaching. The Early Career Teaching Award was established to recognized excellence in teaching in the mathematical sciences for faculty that are early in their career.

Eligibility
Nominees must:
- Hold a doctorate or master's degree
- Be college or university teachers who have held a full-time faculty appointment in a college department of mathematical sciences in the Rocky Mountain Section for at least two, but not more than seven, years since receiving their degree. A nominee who has just started the eighth year of teaching at the time of the application is still eligible for the award. If a nominee has held their degree for more than seven years, then the nominator must indicate on the nomination form the times that the nominee was not teaching. Common exceptions to the

seven-year limit are maternity, paternity, family, or medical leaves. Sabbaticals and postdoctoral fellowships are exceptions only if they involved no teaching and the application does not include accomplishments made during these times.

- Hold membership in the Mathematical Association of America

Guidelines for nomination

Nominees for the award may be made by any member of the Rocky Mountain Section of the MAA. Nominees should:

- Be recognized as extraordinarily successful in their teaching
- Have effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics that can be documented
- Have had influence in their teaching beyond their own classrooms
- Foster curiosity and generate excitement about mathematics

Nomination form is due **December 15**. Complete nomination packet is due **January 15.**

Nomination Packet

A complete nomination packet should consist of the following documentation as it is described below.

1. **Nomination Form *and One-Page Summary*** - Describe the unusual and personal and professional qualities of the nominee that contribute to his or her extraordinary teaching succes and attach to this completed nomination form.

2. **Narrative (Up to 2 pages)** - Describe the nominee's extraordinary success in teaching by providing a narrative of the nominee's background, experience, teaching style, special contributions, other teaching awards, and any additional evidence of the nominee's unusual achievement in teaching. Note especially effectiveness in teaching undergraduate mathematics and influence beyond the nominee's own classrooms. The narrative should not exceed two single-spaced pages.

3. **Additional Documentation (Up to 2 pages)** - Submit no more than two pages of further evidence to document the nominee's extraordinary teaching success. This documentation will vary greatly from institution to institution, but may include summaries of peer or student evaluations, comments on teaching, possible increases in numbers of majors in mathematics (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), possible student success in mathematics competitions (with clear evidence of the nominee's substantial responsibility for them), success in research in mathematics conducted by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, production of superior quality honors theses by undergraduate students under the direction of the nominee, development of curricular materials successfully used by colleagues, adoption of the nominee's teaching methods or techniques by experienced colleagues, service as a respected adviser for a student group, etc.

    Nominators should bear in mind that the selection committee for the award might view a nomination more positively if it is accompanied not just by carefully chosen testimonials from a few selected students and faculty, but also reports comments and criticism which is representative of the whole spectrum of opinion among students and faculty on the nominee's teaching.

4. **Letters of Recommendation (Each letter is one page. Maximum of 5 letters.)**
    o Two letters from the nominee's present or former students.
    o One letter from the nominee's colleagues (could be the department chair)
    o At most two additional letters from anyone qualified to comment on the nominee's extraordinary teaching success, including additional students and/or colleagues.

Voluntary Section Dues

Many thanks to those members who have made a voluntary dues contribution to the section along with their Spring Meeting Registration!

Although the section has found itself in good financial health in recent years, additional funds are always needed in order to pursue special initiatives suggested by the membership. The successful John Fauvel Memorial Conference and William Dunham Special Lecture, both supported in part by the Section Activity Grant program, provide excellent examples of what can be done with even a small amount of funding to support our section mission and goals.

Contributions may also be made in support of the Pikes Peak Regional Undergraduate Mathematics Conference; simply choose "Other" on the coupon below and specify "PPRUMC" in the space provided.

A voluntary section dues contribution from you now can help build up funds in support of similar initiatives!

To submit your dues, simply return the coupon below with a check for any amount you wish - every little bit will help, and all contributors will receive a letter acknowledging the contribution for their financial records.

MAA Rocky Mountain Section Voluntary Dues Contribution Form

Name _____

Address _____

_____ ZIP _____

Please indicate in the space provided how you would like your dues to be used:

_____ Undergraduate Student Initiatives

_____ Graduate Student Initiatives

_____ Teaching Award Fund (Burton W. Jones DTA and ECTA)

_____ Section Activity Grant Program

_____ Wherever needed most

_____ Other: _____

_____ **TOTAL DUES PAID ($10 recommended)**

Please make check payable to: **MAA Rocky Mountain Section** and return to:
Mona Mocanasu
MAA Rocky Mountain Section Treasurer/Secretary
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Department of Mathematical and Computer Sciences
Campus Box 38; PO Box 173362
Denver, CO 80217

MAA Rocky Mountain Section
Mission Statement

**To promote excellence in mathematics education,
especially at the collegiate level.**

Mission Related Goals

1. To foster scholarship, professional development, and professional cooperation among the various constituencies of the mathematical community within the region.

2. To foster the implementation and study of recent research recommendations for the teaching, learning and assessment of collegiate mathematics.

3. To support the implementation of effective mathematics preparation programs of prospective teachers at all levels.

4. To enhance the interests, talents and achievements of all individuals in mathematics, especially of members of underrepresented groups.

5. To provide recognition of the importance of mathematics, mathematical research and quality mathematics teaching, and promote public understanding of the same.

6. To provide regional leadership in the promotion of systemic change in mathematics education, and in the enhancement of public understanding about the needs and importance of mathematical research and education.

About Our Logo

The logo for the Rocky Mountain Section of the Mathematical Association of America was created in by Mark Petersen in 2001. A graduate student in the Applied Mathematics Department at the University of Colorado at Boulder at that time, Mark says of his design:

"The mountain symbols were chosen because analysis is the foundation for all of mathematics. The equation $e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$ must rank among the most beautiful formulas in mathematics. It connects the five most important constants of mathematics with the three most important operations - addition, multiplication, and exponentiation. These five constants symbolize the four major branches of classical mathematics: arithmetic, represented by 0 and 1; algebra, by i; geometry, by π; and analysis, by e. (Quoted from Eli Maor's *e, The Story of a Number*). I chose to portray this equation as a train because rail has historically been the life blood of the American West, and trains are complementary to any mountain scene."