

AMS Committee on Meetings and Conferences Report 2019

The Committee on Meetings and Conferences (COMC) held its annual meeting on March 9, 2019 at the Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport. Kelly McKinnie of the University of Montana, chair, presided.

In Fall 2018, it was announced that the AMS will be solely responsible for hosting and managing the Joint Mathematics Meetings (JMM), starting with JMM 2022. Thus much of the COMC meeting was devoted to examining JMM as it is now and brainstorming about what JMM might look like in the future. Fortuitously, the topic of COMC's annual review this year was the overall AMS program at the JMM. COMC discussed the review subcommittee's report, which included the results of a focus group that it had conducted at JMM 2019, and it noted that many attendees value the breadth of programming at JMM. Looking ahead, COMC thought about what a re-imagined JMM might look like in 2022 and beyond, identifying current features that should be retained and suggesting many possible new elements of the program. COMC also agreed to continue to explore the possibility of establishing joint invited addresses at JMM with the National Association of Mathematicians (NAM) and other organizations.

As a result of its discussion, COMC recommended that the Council endorse the principle that the JMM will continue to represent the full spectrum of interests of the mathematical community, and it recommended establishing an *ad hoc* Joint Meetings Planning Committee to oversee the planning for, and conduct of, the annual January mathematics meetings. Both recommendations, after some modifications, were approved by the April 2019 Council.

In other business, COMC created a subcommittee (joint with the Committee on Science Policy) to recommend whether the AMS should avoid holding meetings in states with discriminatory laws. It also agreed to organize a town hall at JMM 2020 in which the Executive Director would field questions about plans for the future of the JMM. This event will be held on Friday, January 17, at 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. COMC chose Sectional meetings as the topic for its next annual review

COMC will hold its next meeting on March 28, 2020 at The Westin Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

*T. Christine Stevens
Associate Executive Director
November, 2019*