

AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

15 January 1991

Abstract

The Council of the American Mathematical Society met at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, 15 January 1991 in Yosemite Room C, San Francisco Hilton on Hilton Square, San Francisco, CA. Members present were: Jonathan Alperin, Steve Armentrout, Michael Artin, Sheldon Axler, M. Salah Baouendi, Joan Birman, Lenore Blum, William Browder, Fan R. K. Chung, C. Herbert Clemens, Lawrence Corwin, William J. Davis, Robert Fossum, Walter Gautschi, Richard Guy, Rhonda Hughes, Arthur M. Jaffe, Robion Kirby, Irwin Kra, Andy Roy Magid, Albert Marden, Richard Palais, Franklin Peterson, Everett Pitcher, Carl Pomerance, Michael Reed, Hugo Rossi, David Saltman, Lance Small, Harold Stark, B. A. Taylor, William Thurston, and S. T. Yau. Invited observers, some with privileges of the floor, included Edward Connors, David A. Cox (Council member effective 2/91), Chandler Davis (Council member effective 2/91), Frank Gilfeather (Council member effective 2/91), William Jaco, Executive Director, Gerald Janusz, Jerry Kazdan, NC member, Barbara Keyfitz, NC Chair, Jane Kister, Barry Simon, EBC, Donovan Van Osdol, Steven Weintraub (Council member effective 2/91), Ruth J. Williams (Council member effective 2/91), William Woolf, and Kelly Young. Others attended the meeting as observers. President Browder presided.

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0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

0.1 Retiring Members of the Council.

The terms of office of the following members of the Council expired at the end of January 1991: Sun-Yung Alice Chang, Vice-President; Richard K. Guy, Rhonda J. Hughes, Robion C. Kirby, Irwin Kra, Albert Marden, and Harold M. Stark, Members-at-Large; Raoul Bott, Colloquium Committee; and Richard Palais, Committee to Monitor Problems in Communication. (It was noticed that Palais would continue to serve on the Council, albeit in the capacity as chair of the Bulletin Editorial Committee.)

The Council extended thanks to these members for the service they have provided, wished them well, and asked them to consider serving the Society in other capacities when called upon.

This was the last meeting of the Council at which President Browder presided (as President). The Council thanked its President for fulfilling his duties in an exemplary fashion and noted that it looked forward to seeing him at future meetings in his capacity as Ex-President.

Finally, a member who had served on the Council since 1959, as Associate Secretary from 1959 through 1966, as Secretary from 1967 through 1988, and as Former Secretary from 1989 through 1990, Everett Pitcher, was attending his last meeting as a member of the Council. The Society is especially grateful for his 32 years of service and will miss the memory that has accumulated over these many years. The Council extended a special note of thanks for these many years of service and best wishes for the future.

1 MINUTES

1.1 August 90 Council.

The Minutes of the August 90 Council were distributed by mail. The Secretary noted several corrections:

- On page 2, line 5 and again on page 4, line 13, the word “January” should be replaced by the word “April”.
- On page 5, lines 10 and 11 from the bottom, the year 1991 should have been 1990. The meetings in question have already taken place.
- On page 11, line 14, where the minute is reporting an amendment to the membership of the Committee on Education, the word “leisure” should be replaced by “pleasure” so that the phrase reads

“one appointed at the pleasure of the President of the Mathematical Association of America”

- On page 20, line 4 from the bottom, in the last line of the resolution, the word “or” should be replaced by “our” so that the last part of the phrase reads

“in our academic institutions”

The minutes were approved as corrected.

1.2 ECBT Minutes.

The Minutes of the 11/90 Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT) meeting have been distributed and are considered attached to the minutes of the Council.

2 INFORMATION AND RECORD

The following items for information were noted in the agenda.

2.1 Definition of "Term"

According to the Bylaws as amended in the 1990 Election, the terms of office of the officers of the Society begin on 01 February of the year after election and end on 31 January. For purposes of these minutes and in other documents of the Office of the Secretary, when a year is stated as the end of a term of office, it is meant that the term ends on 31 January of the next year. Thus, the term of the current Secretary is stated as ending in 1992 and this means that it ends on 31 January 1993.

There are several reasons for this. The main reason is to maintain consistency with records of officers of the Society. If it is stated that the current president had a term from 1989 to 1991, it would appear that this president was in office for three years, whereas he was in office two years and one month, the one month being the extended month due to the change in the beginning and ending of the term of office.

2.2 Future meetings of the Council, Agenda and Budget Committee (ABC), and Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT).

Deadlines for receipt of material for the Council agenda are approximately five (5) weeks before the date of the meeting. Agenda items should be submitted to the Secretary.

Council	7:00 pm	21	March	1991	Tampa,	FL
ABC		5-6	April	1991	Providence,	RI
ECBT		16-19	May	1991	Washington,	DC
Council		7	August	1991	Orono,	ME
ABC		4-5	October	1991	Providence,	RI
ECBT		21-24	November	1991	Providence,	RI
Council	2:00 pm	7	January	1992	Baltimore,	MD
Council		20	March	1992	Springfield,	MO

It is planned that the Committee on Education will meet in Tampa on 20 March 1991 and that the Committee on Science Policy will meet in Tampa, Florida on 21 March 1991. The Society's Committee on Committees will meet in Tampa on 22 March.

All of the details for the 1991 Election will be put into final form at the 21 March 1991 Council meeting. It is expected that the report from the Nominating Committee will be finished at that point, that all nominations by petition will be complete. The main item on that agenda will be to nominate candidates for the President-Elect position and to approve "nominators" for these candidates. As all the election material will be published in the July/August issue of the *NOTICES*,

the material has to be in finished form certainly by the end of June 1991. Please make every attempt to attend this Council meeting.

2.3 Brazilian Symposium on Probability and Statistics.

In a letter to the Society dated 09 February 1989, Roberto H. Schonmann requested AMS support for a distinguished speaker at the 9th Brazilian Symposium on Probability and Statistics (to be held from 23 to 27 July 1990 in Sao Paulo, Brazil). This was referred to the *ad hoc* Committee on Cooperation with Latin American Mathematicians. This committee reported that it unanimously recommends that the AMS fund one distinguished speaker for this symposium. The ECBT approved support for a distinguished speaker in the amount of round trip airfare and ground transportation from the home institution (in the United States) to Sao Paulo for one member of the Society chosen by the organizing committee of the symposium.

Subsequently, Schonmann reported that the program for 1990 was complete. The Nov 90 ECBT approved the Secretary's request that this support be applied to the next symposium.

2.4 Resolution concerning Professor Lee Lorch

The August 90 Council passed a resolution concerning Professors Lorch and Davis. Professor Lorch has responded with the letter that can be found in Attachment A.26. He asked that the clipping from *The City College Alumnus*, Fall 1990, be attached.

2.5 Excess Journals.

The Society periodically disposes of excess journals from its warehouse, due in part to the lack of storage space, but also because it finds that it has too much stock of back issues. Recently the Society decided to clear more storage space by removing many excess journals. Rather than shredding these journals, word was quietly spread that these journals would be available provided the recipient, or a similar agency, was willing to pay for the shipment from Providence. Several shipments have been made and more are planned. The Phillipines, Mexico, India, Vietnam, and South African countries are among countries that have received or have indicated interest in receiving these excess journals.

2.6 Rebuttals to Book Reviews in the Bulletin.

The Editorial Boards Committee (EBC) wishes to make the following interpretation of the policy adopted by the August 90 Council at the recommendation of the EBC. This interpretation has been accepted by the Notices Editorial Committee.

In the EBC recommendation on the handling of rebuttals and errata to Book Reviews published in the Bulletin (August 90 Council, item 8.3), it was of course not the intention of the EBC to suggest that rebuttals should automatically be published in the Notices. Rather it envisaged that such letters would be addressed to the Editorial Committee of the Notices, or would be forwarded to it by the Book Reviews Editor of the Bulletin. Such rebuttals should have a somewhat special status, however, and the advisability of publishing them should be discussed on an individual basis by the Book Reviews Editor of the Bulletin and the Editorial Committee of the Notices.

3 CONSENT AGENDA.

Items appearing on the Consent Agenda will be considered approved unless brought to the floor for discussion. In which case they must be approved in the usual manner.¹

3.1 Library Committee.

At the suggestion of the Executive Committee, the Council changed the status of the Library Committee from an *ad hoc* committee to a standing committee. The charge for this committee and a list of its current members can be found in Attachment A.10.

3.2 Start and Finish of Terms of Members of Committees.

The amendment to the Bylaws adopted in the 1990 Election changes the beginning and end of the term of office of the officers of the Society. Whereas previously the term began on the first of January and ended at the end of the year, the terms now begin on the first of February and end at the end of January. In order to maintain uniformity, the beginning and ending of terms on the Society's multitudinous committees should be the same as those for the officers, with a few exceptions, notably the Nominating Committee and a few other committees with terms ending on 30 June.

The Council gave to The Secretary the authority to amend the beginning and ending of terms of office of members of the committees of the Society to coincide with those of the officers of the Society, except for those committees that should have different beginnings and endings as may be required by the work of the committee in question.

3.3 Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM).

The Association for Women in Mathematics celebrated the Twentieth Anniversary of its founding during this Mathematics Meeting held in San Francisco. The Council agreed to the following resolution.

Women have long played an important role in the mathematical sciences. Twenty years ago the Association for Women in Mathematics was founded to support and increase this role. The Council of the American Mathematical Society recognizes the important contributions the Association has made in advancing and promoting the place of women in the mathematical sciences. It congratulates the Association on the occasion of its Twentieth Anniversary and looks forward to continued cooperation with it in the promotion of the mathematical sciences.

This was conveyed to the Association at its 20th Anniversary Banquet by Associate Secretary Andy Magid.

¹An item in the Consent Agenda is considered approved unless the Council agrees to discussion of the item. (Items on the Consent Agenda for the Executive Committee may be brought to the floor for discussion by two members of the committee.) According to Sturgis *Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure*, which governs meetings of the Council, "Any member has a right to remove any item from the consent agenda so that it may be considered and voted on separately. The remaining items are then unanimously approved *en bloc* without discussion"

4 BOARDS AND COMMITTEES.

All committees are requested to file a report with the January Council. Some of the reports are filed here for the record, recommend no action, and require no action. Other reports, such as those from the Editorial Boards Committee and the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees contain items of substance.

4.1 Report from the Tellers

4.1.1 The 1990 Election of Officers and vote on Bylaws amendments

The report of the Tellers for the 1990 Election is attached (Attachment A.3.1). The following have been elected to the Council:

Name	Institution	Position	Term
Chandler Davis	U Toronto	Vice-President	1993
David A. Cox	Amherst College	Member-at-Large	1993
Frank L. Gilfeather	U New Mexico	Member-at-Large	1993
Ruth J. Williams	U of California, San Diego	Member-at-Large	1993
Steven H. Weintraub	Louisiana State University	Member-at-Large	1993
John M. Franks	Northwestern University	Member-at-Large	1993
M. Susan Montgomery	U of Southern California	Trustee	1995

All the candidates running in uncontested elections were elected. A list of the 1990 and the 1991 Council is attached as Attachment A.1.

There were three amendments to the Bylaws proposed by the Council to the members. There were 3428 valid ballots cast for officers in this election, which is more than 10% of the membership. So there was a sufficient number of votes to pass an amendment. The Bylaws state that an amendment must pass by at least two-thirds of those voting. Thus, in order to pass, an amendment required 2286. Each proposed amendment received at least this many votes and therefore each of them passed and each is now considered a part of the Society's Bylaws. The full text of these new amendments appears in the

The Council approved the report of the Tellers.

4.1.2 Report from the Tellers for the Nominating Committee and Editorial Boards Committee

The reports of the Tellers is attached (Attachments A.3.2 and A.3.3).

Nominating Committee The following individuals were elected to the Nominating Committee. The report of the tellers can be found as Attachment A.3.2

Name	Institution	Term
Michael Aschbacher	Cal Tech	1993
Jerry Kazdan	University of Pennsylvania	1993
Walter Neumann	Ohio State University	1993

The Council approved the report of the Tellers.

Editorial Boards Committee The following individuals were elected to the Editorial Boards Committee. The report of the tellers can be found as Attachment A.3.3.

Name	Institution	Term
Richard James Milgram	Stanford	1993
Nolan R. Wallach	U of California, San Diego	1993

The Council approved the report of the Tellers.

4.1.3 Election to the Committee to Search for an Associate Treasurer

The results of these two elections, one by the Council and one by the Nominating Committee are:

From the Council

Jonathan L. Alperin	17
Fan R.K. Chung	10

So Alperin was declared elected.

From the Nominating Committee

James E. Humphreys	4
Ray A. Kunze	3

So Humphreys was declared elected.

This report was approved by the Council.

4.2 Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (ECBT)

4.2.1 Endorsement of the National Physical Science Consortium.

The 11/90 ECBT recommended endorsement of the efforts by the National Physical Science Consortium to the Council (See Attachment A.4.1).

The Council agreed to endorse the efforts.

4.2.2 Summer 1992 Meeting.

The EC voted to have a Von Neumann Symposium in fall 1992 or spring 1993, depending on how soon the Meetings Department can work out the logistics.

The AMS-MAA Joint Meetings Committee (JMC) considered whether to hold a Summer Joint Meeting in Summer 1992 in conjunction with the Seventh International Congress on Mathematics Education (ICME-7), to be held in Quebec City, Canada, in mid-August 1992. Because of this congress, hotel and dormitory space was not available to the extent that would be necessary for such a joint meeting. Also, MAA came to the conclusion that whatever type of program it might consider would overlap with the program of the congress. Hence, with the concurrence (albeit silent) of the EC, it was decided by the JMC not to hold a Summer Joint Meeting in 1992. The question then arose as to whether to have a summer meeting for the Society alone. One possibility was to conduct the first Von Neumann Symposium during this summer. However, logistical problems appear to preclude the organization of a symposium by that time. Then the 11/90 Executive Committee voted to forward to the Council the question of whether to have a 1992 Summer Meeting.

The motion:

The January 1991 Council is in favor of holding a national meeting of the AMS during Summer 1992 and directs its Program Committee and other committees to organize a scientific program for such a meeting.

failed by a vote of six (6) in favor and (14) opposed.

4.2.3 EC Review of Society Activities.

During 1990, the Executive Committee conducted a review of the Publications Program. One component of this review was a report filed by EC member Irwin Kra. In this report (which is Attachment A.4.2), Kra recommends, and the Executive Committee agreed to recommend to the Council, that appointments to translations committees should be made by the Editorial Boards Committee from now on. There are other suggested recommendations to the Editorial Boards Committee. These are all bundled under Item 4.3.1 and were considered there.

4.3 Editorial Boards Committee (EBC).

4.3.1 Recommendations from the Committee

The Editorial Boards Committee made a recommendation to amend its charge. This recommendation is part of a longer letter that was sent to the Secretary and is included as Attachment A.5.4. The recommendation was considered by several committees of the Society and reconsidered by the EBC with slight modifications in the language (but not the intent). The final charge as passed by the Council reads:

The Editorial Boards Committee shall monitor the activities of the editorial committees of the AMS.

It shall act as a general liaison between these committees on the one hand and the Council and the President on the other. After consultation with the editorial committees, it shall make recommendations to the Council. These shall include: nominating of editors to fill openings; recommendations for

the choice of managing editor or chair of each committee; recommendations concerning the size and structure of an editorial committee; and other aspects of the AMS editorial committee activities of concern to the Council.

When it is appropriate for editors to form a panel of associate editors, they will do so in consultation with the EBC, which has the authority to ratify the selections.

While editors are often chosen from a panel of associate editors, the pool of candidates for an editorship is not limited to that panel.

The Council, or its Executive Committee, shall determine for which committees the EBC shall have specific responsibility for nominating editors. It is understood, however, that the Editorial Boards Committee is available for consultation regarding any appointments to editorial positions, and should be kept informed of all such appointments.

The list of editorial committees for which the EBC has specific nominating responsibility is the following:

- Bulletin Editorial Committee
- Contemporary Mathematics Editorial Committee
- Journal of AMS Editorial Committee
- Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee
- Mathematical Surveys and Monographs Editorial Committee
- Mathematics of Computation Editorial Committee
- Proceedings Editorial Committee
- Proceedings of Symposia in Applied Mathematics Editorial Committee
- Transactions and Memoirs Editorial Committee
- History of Mathematics Editorial Committee
- University Lecture Series Editorial Committee
- Collected Works Editorial Committee
- Graduate Studies Editorial Committee
- AMS Representative on the American Journal of Mathematics
- All translation committees

4.3.2 Letter from the EC to the EBC.

The EC requested that the Secretary transmit the attached letter (Attachment A.5.6) to the EBC. This is attached for information.

4.3.3 Recommendations from the EBC.

The Council considered, in Executive Session, recommendations from its Editorial Boards Committee for appointments to various editorial committees.

Journal of the AMS. The EBC recommended appointment of Robert MacPherson to the Journal of the American Mathematical Society Editorial Committee for a term of three years. The Council approved the appointment. Current committee members, with year of expiration of term, are H. Blaine Lawson, Jr., 1991; Richard B. Melrose, 1993; Wilfried Schmid, 1993; and Robert E. Tarjan, 1992.

Transactions and Memoirs Editorial Committee. The EBC recommended appointment of David Jerison and Richard Durret to the Transactions and Memoirs Editorial Committee for terms of four years. The Council approved the appointments. Current committee members with date of expiration of terms are: James E. Baumgartner, 1991; James W. Cannon, 1993; Jerry L. Kazdan, 1994; Roger D. Nussbaum, 1991; Carl Pomerance, 1991; Judith D. Sally, 1993; David J. Saltman, 1994; Masamichi Takesaki, 1993; and Audrey A. Terras, 1991.

Proceedings of the AMS. The EBC recommended appointment of Ronald Solomon to the Proceedings Editorial Committee for a term of four years. The Council approved the appointment. The EBC had recommended appointment of Andrew M. Bruckner to the Proceedings Editorial Committee for a term of four years beginning on 01 January 1990. His formal appointment by the Council had been overlooked. The Council remedied this by appointing him to said term.

4.4 Committee on Science Policy (CSP).

The chair of the Committee on Science Policy, Michael Reed, reported on the committee's most recent activities. The complete report has been published in the *Notices*.

4.5 Report from the Council's Representative to the Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM).

The Council's Representative to the Joint Policy Board on Mathematics, Michael Reed, reported to the Council on JPBM. Hugo Rossi, newly appointed as Chair of JPBM, and Edward Connors, the Director of the Office of Governmental and Public Affairs, supplemented Reed's report.

4.6 Report from the AMS-MAA Joint Meetings Committee

The report from the AMS-MAA Joint Meetings Committee is attached. (See Attachment A.6.)

4.7 Board on Mathematical Science (BMS).

The Board of Mathematical Sciences has been funded by the Sloan Foundation to conduct a study of Doctoral and Postdoctoral Education in Mathematics. Ronald Douglas is chair of the committee that is conducting the study. Douglas discussed the study with the Council.

4.8 AMS-MAA Committee on Employment and Educational Policy (CEEP).

The Committee on Employment and Educational Policy, meeting in August 1990, agreed to the following resolution:

CEEP recommends to the [AMS] Council and the [MAA] Board of Directors that; Whereas we have had tremendous success since the origin of CEEP in 1956 (within the AMS Committee to Investigate Present Economic Status of Teachers), and Whereas, in 1987 CEEP became a joint AMS-MAA committee; Whereas there have been new structural changes inside the AMS and MAA and have institutionalized many of the things that were our concerns; we therefore recommend CEEP be discharged, and that the Employment Policy become part of JCEO and that a joint education committee be created. We suggest that it contain the Short Course Committee that now exists and that it be charged with pursuing other professional development opportunities. We further recommend that it would be a good idea to include the Mini courses, although we do not see that as absolutely essential.

(The full letter from the Chair of CEEP can be found in Attachment A.8.)

The MAA Board of Governors approved a revised form of the resolution which was then substituted for the original motion:

CEEP recommends to the [AMS] Council and the [MAA] Board of Directors that;

Whereas we have had tremendous success since the origin of CEEP in 1956 (within the AMS Committee to Investigate Present Economic Status of Teachers);

Whereas, in 1987 CEEP became a joint AMS-MAA committee;

Whereas there have been new structural changes inside the AMS and MAA which have institutionalized many of the things that were our concerns;

We therefore recommend CEEP be discharged, and that the “Employment Policy” become part of AMS-MAA-SIAM Joint Committee on Economic Opportunities and that a joint education AMS-MAA-SIAM Continuing Education Committee be created.

This resolution was passed by the Council.

It was recognized that the Committee’s subcommittee on Short Courses now was without a parent committee. A home for the Short Courses Committee will be considered by the Executive Committee and the Council.

4.9 Reports from various publication committees.

4.9.1 Report from the Committee to Monitor Problems in Communication.

The report from the Committee to Monitor Problems in Communication is attached (Attachment A.9.1.)

The suggestion that the Council establish an editorial committee to monitor the e-MATH network information program of the Society was referred to the Committee to Monitor Problems in Communication and a future Council.

4.9.2 Committee on Translation from Japanese.

The Committee on Translation from Japanese has submitted a report that can be found as Attachment A.9.2.

4.9.3 AMS-ASL-IMS-SIAM Committee on Translations from Russian and Other Slavic Languages

The AMS-ASL-IMS-SIAM Committee on Translations from Russian and other Slavic Languages has submitted a report that can be found as Attachment A.9.Ω3.

4.9.4 Committee on Translations from Chinese.

The Committee on Translations from Chinese has submitted a report that can be found as Attachment A.9.4.

4.9.5 Committee on History of Mathematics

The Committee on History of Mathematics has submitted a report that can be found as Attachment A.9.5.

These reports were accepted by the Council.

4.10 Library Committee

The Library Committee has submitted a report that can be found as Attachment A.10. This report was accepted by the Council.

4.11 Report of the various Program Committees.

Several of the Society's program committees submitted reports.

4.11.1 Program Committee.

The Program Committee submitted a report that can be found as Attachment A.11.1.

4.11.2 Western Section Program Committee.

The Western Section Program Committee submitted a report that can be found as Attachment A.11.2.

4.11.3 Eastern Section Program Committee.

The Eastern Section Program Committee submitted a report that can be found as Attachment A.11.3.

These reports were accepted by the Council.

4.12 *ad hoc* Committee on Cooperation with Latin American Mathematicians.

The *ad hoc* Committee on Cooperation with Latin American Mathematicians has submitted a report that can be found as Attachment A.12.

This report was accepted by the Council.

4.13 AMS-MAA Committee on Teaching Assistants and Part Time Instructors (TA/PTI).

The report from the AMS-MAA Committee on Teaching Assistants and Part Time Instructors is attached (Attachment A.13).

4.14 *ad hoc* Committee on Preparation for College Teaching

The report of the *ad hoc* Committee on Preparation for College Teaching can be found as Attachment A.14).

This *ad hoc* Committee on Preparation for College Teaching is really a committee of the Mathematical Association of America. It was originally appointed by the Joint Policy Board for Mathematics (JPBM) but its status as a joint committee is unclear at this point. Some of the history and other backup material concerning this committee can be found in Attachment A.14. The chair of the committee, Bettye Anne Case, requested that the Council agree to sponsor this committee as a joint committee. The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) has also been asked to sponsor this committee so that the sponsorship would correspond to the initial creation of the committee.

The following resolution was moved and seconded:

This Council agrees to co-sponsor, with MAA (and SIAM), the *ad hoc* Committee on the Preparation for College Teaching (provided MAA agrees to accept co-sponsorship).

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution by removing the second set of parentheses and adding:

and provided the President of the Society can appoint an additional member.

The amendment passed.

The Council then passed the amended resolution, which reads:

This Council agrees to co-sponsor, with MAA (and SIAM), the *ad hoc* Committee on the Preparation for College Teaching provided MAA agrees to accept co-sponsorship and provided the President of the Society can appoint an additional member.

The Secretary was instructed to request that the Committee on Education keep informed of the activities of this committee.

4.15 AMS-MAA-SIAM Committee on Employment Opportunities.

The report from the AMS-MAA-SIAM Joint Committee on Employment Opportunities is attached (Attachment A.15). It was accepted by the Council.

4.16 Report from the Committee on Archives

The report from the Committee on Archives can be found as Attachment A.16. It was accepted by the Council.

4.17 Report from the Committee on Professional Ethics

The report from the Committee on Professional Ethics can be found as Attachment A.17. It was accepted by the Council.

4.18 Committee on Human Rights.

The Committee on Human Rights submitted a report that is Attachment A.18. The Council received the report in Executive Session.

4.19 ad hoc Nominating Committee Scheduling Committee.

This committee completed its work in April when the Council adopted its recommended timetable for the nomination scheduling process. It was discharged with thanks.

4.20 Advisory Committee for the Russian-English Dictionary.

The dictionary in question has been published. The committee was discharged with thanks.

4.21 AMS-IMS-SIAM Committee on Joint Summer Research Conferences in the Mathematical Sciences.

A report of this committee can be found in Attachment A.21. The report was accepted by the Council.

4.22 Council Representative to Canadian Mathematical Society.

The Council and the Society have an official representative to the Canadian Mathematical Society (CMS). The current representative is Chandler Davis. Peter Fillmore, a one time member of the Council, is an alternate. Fillmore attended the 12 December meeting of the CMS Board of Directors. His report and a report from Davis is Attachment A.22. These reports were accepted by the Council.

4.23 AMS-MAA Data Committee.

The report from the AMS-MAA Data Committee is attached (Attachment A.23). It was inadvertently left off the list of reports to be considered by the Council although it was attached to the Council agenda.

8 UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

8.1 Term of Vice-Presidents.

The newly adopted Bylaws provide for three year terms for the Vice-Presidents, one Vice-President being elected each year. The report of the *ad hoc* Committee on Election Scheduling recommended that, in the transition from three Vice-Presidents with two year terms to three Vice-Presidents with three year terms, the President appoint one of the current Vice-Presidents to fill a term of three rather than two years. (The language was purposely left out of the Bylaw amendment.) The Council gave unanimous consent to consider the question whether the President should extend the term of one of the Vice-Presidents.

Having done so, it was moved, seconded, and passed that the President should extend the term of one of Blum or Sullivan by one year to end on 31 January 1993.

[The President has subsequently done so by extending the term of Lenore Blum by one year.]

9 NEW BUSINESS

9.1 European Mathematical Society.

Attachment A.24 describes a new organization called the European Mathematical Society (EMS). This is an umbrella organization for over 30 European mathematical organizations. Full membership is restricted to organizations primarily concerned with promoting research in pure or applied mathematics **within Europe**. However, associate membership is available for organizations that do not otherwise qualify for full membership. The question of formal cooperation with or affiliation with the EMS was referred to the ECBT and a future Council.

9.2 Appointment of Secretary and Associate Secretaries

According to the newly adopted Bylaws, the Council appoints these officers.

9.2.1 Appointment of the Secretary.

The Council requested that its Executive Committee recommend procedures for the Council to follow for appointing the secretary.

9.2.2 Appointment of Associate Secretaries

The term of office for an Associate Secretary is two years and two Associate Secretaries must be appointed each year by the Council (according to the newly amended Bylaws). These appointments can be made by the August (each year) Council. The Council charged its Executive Committee to make recommendations each year to the August Council of individuals to fill these positions. These recommendations should be made by the EC after consultation with the Board of Trustees and the Society's Nominating Committee.

9.3 Aid to Mathematicians in economically underdeveloped countries.

Lenore Blum requested Council discussion on AMS assistance/cooperation with mathematical communities of Eastern Europe (and also the Soviet Union and Developing Countries). After some discussion it was decided to charge the current *ad hoc* Committee on Relations with Eastern European Mathematicians with the task of presenting to a future Council a study of the problem and suggestions for solutions.

The Council adjourned at approximately 7:00 pm.

Robert Fossum

Secretary

A Attachments

A.1 1990 and 1991 Councils

A.1.1 1990 Council and Officers

1990 COUNCIL

AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

President	William Browder	Former Secretary	Everett Pitcher
President-Elect	Michael Artin	Secretary	Robert M. Fossum
Vice Presidents	Lenore Blum	Associate Secretaries	Joseph A. Cima
	Sun-Yung Alice Chang		W. Wistar Comfort
	Dennis P. Sullivan		Andy Roy Magid
Treasurer	F.P. Peterson		Lance W. Small
Associate Treasurer	Steve Armentrout		

Representatives of Committees

Bulletin Editorial Committee	Murray H. Protter, Chair
Colloquium Editorial Committee	Raoul H. Bott, Chair
Committee to Monitor Problems in Communications	to be elected, Chair
Journal of the American Mathematical Society	Michael Artin, Chair
Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee	B.A. Taylor, Chair
Mathematical Surveys Editorial Committee	M. Susan Montgomery, Chair
Mathematics of Computation Committee	Walter Gautschi, Chair
Proceedings Editorial Committee	William J. Davis, Chair
Representative on American Journal	M. Salah Baouendi
Science Policy Committee	Michael C. Reed, Chair
Transactions and Memoirs Committee	David J. Saltman, Chair

Members at Large

Jonathan L. Alperin	Sheldon Axler	Joan S. Birman
Fan R.K. Chung	Charles Herbert Clemens	Lawrence J. Corwin
Richard K. Guy	Rhonda J. Hughes	Robion C. Kirby
Irwin Kra	Albert Marden	Carl Pomerance
Michael C. Reed	Hugo Rossi	Harold M. Stark
William Thurston	Shing-Tung Yau	

Trustees

Steve Armentrout	William Browder	Frederick W. Gehring
Ronald L. Graham	M. Susan Montgomery	F.P. Peterson
John C. Polking	Paul Sally, Jr.	

1990 Executive Committee

Michael Artin	M. Salah Baouendi	William Browder
Robert M. Fossum	Irwin Kra	Hugo Rossi
William P. Thurston		

A.1.2 1991 Council and Officers

AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY
effective 2/01/91

1991 COUNCIL

President	Michael Artin	Secretary	Robert M. Fossum
Past-President	William Browder	Associate Secretaries	Joseph A. Cima
Vice Presidents	Lenore Blum		W. Wistar Comfort
	Chandler Davis		Andy Roy Magid
	Dennis P. Sullivan		Lance W. Small
Treasurer	F.P. Peterson	Associate Treasurer	Steve Armentrout

Representatives of Committees

Bulletin Editorial Committee	Richard S. Palais, Chair
Colloquium Editorial Committee	??, Chair
Committee to Monitor Problems in Communications	Arthur M. Jaffe, Chair
Journal of the American Mathematical Society	Wilfried Schmid, Chair
Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee	B.A. Taylor, Chair
Mathematical Surveys Editorial Committee	Victor Guillemin, Chair
Mathematics of Computation Committee	Walter Gautschi, Chair
Proceedings Editorial Committee	William J. Davis, Chair
Representative on American Journal	M. Salah Baouendi
Science Policy Committee	Michael C. Reed, Chair
Transactions and Memoirs Committee	David J. Saltman, Chair

Members at Large

Jonathan L. Alperin	Sheldon Axler	Joan S. Birman
Fan R.K. Chung	Charles Herbert Clemens	Lawrence J. Corwin
David A. Cox	John M. Franks	Frank Gilfeather
Carl Pomerance	Michael C. Reed	Hugo Rossi
William Thurston	Steven H. Weintraub	Ruth J. Williams
Shing-Tung Yau		

Trustees

Steve Armentrout	Michael Artin	Frederick W. Gehring
Ronald L. Graham	M. Susan Montgomery	F.P. Peterson
John C. Polking	Paul Sally, Jr.	

1991
Executive Committee

Michael Artin	M. Salah Baouendi	William Browder
Robert M. Fossum	Hugo Rossi	William P. Thurston
one more to be named		

A.2 Library Committee Charges and Membership

ad hoc Library Committee

General Description Committee is soon to be standing. Number of members will be approximately ten.

Principal Activities The charge is defined as to develop a list of possible survey questions in order to assemble data on mathematical libraries in the United States and their role in the production of mathematical research.

Such questions as how mathematicians use databases, what types of literature they use, what form this literature should take, come quickly to mind. So in addition to the limited charge above, it would be appropriate for the committee to consider all aspects of use by mathematicians of all resources found in mathematics libraries.

Other Activities

Miscellaneous Information It is expected that work can be accomplished by regular mail, electronic mail, and telephone. Miscellaneous expenses as such are reimbursed.

Note to the Chair Work done by committees with recurring problems may have value as precedent or work done may have historical interest. Because of this, the Council has requested that a central file system be maintained for the Society by the Secretary. Committees are reminded that a copy of every sheet of paper should be deposited (say once a year) in this central file. Confidential material should be noted, so that it can be handled in a confidential manner.

Authorization updated 10/31/90

A.3 Report of the Tellers

A.3.1 Report of the Tellers for the 1990 Election of Officers and vote on Bylaws amendments

NOTICE:

This two-page attachment lists the votes from the 3428 ballots received in regard to the aforementioned election. The report is dated December 4, 1990, and signed by Robert E. Megginson and Leo P. Comerford, Jr.

A hardcopy of the report can be obtained from the office of

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Department of Mathematics
University of Illinois
1409 W Green St
Urbana, IL 61801-2975 / USA
Phone: (217) 244-1741
Fax: (217) 244-8192
Internet: robert@odin.math.uiuc.edu

A.3.2 Report of the Tellers for the 1990 Election of Members for the Nominating Committee.

Election to the 1991 Nominating Committee

04 December 1990

This is the report on the election of the 1991 Nominating Committee. There were 2990 valid ballots. To each ballot was assigned a value of 1000. There were three persons to be elected from among six candidates. The quota for election was

$$\left[\frac{2990 \times 1000}{3 + 1} \right] + 1 = 747,501.$$

The initial count was:

Initial Count		
Name	No. of Papers @ 1000	Total
Walter David Neumann	608	608,000
Eric D. Bedford	422	422,000
Stephen Wainger	457	457,000
Michael Aschbacher	492	492,000
Jerry Lawrence Kazdan	706	706,000
Henri Gillet	305	305,000
Total	2,990	2,990,000

No one was elected, so **Gillet** was declared defeated. His papers were distributed at value received.

After Gillets Distribution			
Name	No. @1000	@ 1000	Total
Walter David Neumann	608	64	672,000
Eric D. Bedford	422	56	478,000
Stephen Wainger	457	29	486,000
Michael Aschbacher	492	46	538,000
Jerry Lawrence Kazdan	706	90	796,000
Non-transferable		20	20,000
Total	2685	305	2,990,000

Kazdan was declared elected. His surplus of $796,000 - 747,501 = 48,499$ was distributed among 796 papers each with value 60. There were 739 lost points.

After Kazdans Distribution					
Name	No. @1000	@1000	@60	@60	Total
Walter David Neumann	608	64	28	152	682,800
Eric D. Bedford	422	56	17	114	485,860
Stephen Wainger	457	29	18	121	494,340
Michael Aschbacher	492	46	16	121	546,220
Jerry Lawrence Kazdan					747,501
Non-transferable		20	11	198	32,540
Lost					739
Total	1,979	215	90	706	2,990,000

No one was elected, so **Bedford** was declared defeated. His papers were distributed at value received (478 @ 1000 and 126 @ 60).

After Bedfords Distribution					
Name	No. @1000	@60	@1000	@60	Total
Walter David Neumann	672	180	89	32	773,720
Stephen Wainger	486	139	88	33	584,320
Michael Aschbacher	538	137	65	17	612,240
Jerry Lawrence Kazdan					747,501
Non-transferable	20	209	236	49	271,480
Lost					739
Total	1,716	665	478	131	2,990,000

Neumann was declared elected. There were not enough points to transfer from Neuman to raise Wainger above Aschbacher so **Wainger** was declared defeated and **Aschbacher** declared elected. Thus Kazdan, Neumann, and Aschbacher are declared elected members of the Nominating Committee for a term of three years beginning on 01 January 1991.

A.3.3 Report of the Tellers for the 1990 Election of Members for the Editorial Boards Committee.

Election to the 1991 Editorial Boards Committee

04 December 1990

This is the report on the election of the 1991 Editorial Boards Committee. There were 2803 valid ballots. To each ballot was assigned a value of 1000. There were two persons to be elected from among four candidates. The quota for election was

$$\left[\frac{2803 \times 1000}{2 + 1} \right] + 1 = 934,334.$$

The initial count was:

Initial Count		
Name	No. of Papers @ 1000	Total
Nolan R. Wallach	739	739,000
Jon F. Carlson	542	542,000
Stephen S. Shatz	506	506,000
Richard James Milgram	1,016	1,016,000
Total	2,803	2,803,000

Milgram was declared elected. His surplus of $1,016,000 - 934,334 = 81,666$ was distributed among 1,016 papers each with value 80. There were 386 lost points.

After Milgrams Distribution			
Name	No.@1000	@80	Total
Nolan R. Wallach	739	380	769,400
Jon F. Carlson	542	262	562,960
Stephen S. Shatz	506	250	526,000
Richard James Milgram			934,334
Non-transferable		124	9,920
Lost			386
Total	1787	1016	2,803,000

No one was elected, so **Shatz** was declared defeated. His papers were distributed at value received (506 @ 1000 and 250 @ 80).

After Shatz Distribution					
Name	No.@1000	@80	@1000	@80	Total
Nolan R. Wallach	739	380	117	68	891,840
Jon F. Carlson	542	262	115	95	685,560
Richard James Milgram					934,334
Non-transferable		124	274	87	290,880
Lost					386
Total	1281	766	506	250	2,803,000

Wallach was declared elected and **Carlson** defeated.

Thus Milgram and Wallach are declared elected members of the Editorial Boards Committee for a term of three years beginning on 01 January 1991.

A.4 Executive Committee and Board of Trustees.

A.4.1 National Physical Science Consortium

NOTICE:

This three-page attachment starts out with a letter written to Ellen Heiser of the AMS by L. Nan Snow, Executive Director of the National Physical Science Consortium (NPSC). The letter is dated May 17, 1990, and contains the request for endorsement of the NPSC by the AMS.

As an enclosure, the letter contains a list of Signatory Institutions of the Consortium as of May 1990, and an executive summary, titled ‘‘National Physical Science Consortium for Graduate Degrees for Minorities and Women’’ outlining the focus of the Consortium’s work.

A hardcopy of this material is available from the office of

Prof. Robert Fossum
American Mathematical Society
Department of Mathematics
University of Illinois
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Urbana, IL 61801-2975 / USA
Phone: (217) 244-1741
Fax: (217) 244-8192
Internet: robert@odin.math.uiuc.edu

A.4.2 EC Review of the Publications Program

EC Review of Society Activities. II. International Cooperation and Translation Program

Foreign distribution and discounting The Society has three “exclusive agents”:

1) CLARKE ASSOCIATES-EUROPE (Exclusive agent for AMS books).

Clarke handles the European, Middle East and African territories. Clarke receives a 47.5% discount off the list price on the books that the firm distributes for the AMS and, according to the contract, Clarke can mark up over the AMS list price by 20%. Clarke receives 120 day credit terms. AMS members in Clarke’s territory have the option of purchasing books at the member discount through Clarke or by ordering directly from the AMS in Providence. Clarke provides warehousing, distribution and marketing services for the territory where the firm has exclusive rights. The arrangement with Clarke began in January 1988 and the AMS staff is currently evaluating whether or not to renew the contract with this firm.

2) MARUZEN CO. LTD. (Exclusive agent for AMS books and journals).

Maruzen has been the AMS agent in Japan since the early 1970’s. Maruzen buys from the AMS at list and sets book and publication prices annually based on an agreed upon markup and yen/dollar conversion rate. Maruzen does not officially get credit terms but some credit has been extended to them in the past; they have served the Society well as our agent in the Japanese market, according to staff. They provide warehousing, distribution and marketing services. Maruzen maintains a New York office to facilitate close contact with the Society and the other publishers it represents in Japan.

3) ALLIED PUBLISHERS PVT. LTD. (Exclusive agent for AMS books).

Allied is the AMS agent for India. The Indian market is so diverse that having an exclusive agent to watch over the Society interests in that country is warranted according to staff. The Society entered into the agreement with Allied in June 1985. Allied purchases AMS books at a 30% discount off the list price and can markup to 15% over list for resale in India. They receive 120 day credit terms. Allied provides warehousing, distribution, and some marketing services.

The AMS has approximately 229 other overseas booksellers, dealers and agents; 29 of these are in Mexico, the Caribbean, and Latin American countries and 67 in Asian countries (which includes Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Peoples Republic of China, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan and Hong Kong). The AMS has made special arrangements with several booksellers, dealers and agents in Taiwan and Korea who receive a 35% discount on all book purchases; only one receives 120 day credit terms, all others must prepay.

All other booksellers, dealers and agents must purchase Society titles at list price on a prepayment basis. This apparently will change in the near future, but details about revisions in discount policy and credit terms have not yet been established.

In 1990 an agreement was signed with the Weizmann Institute in Israel for the AMS to distribute books published in their Israel Mathematical Conference Proceedings series.

The AMS handles publication and worldwide distribution for the following journals: Journal of Differential Geometry, Quarterly of Applied Mathematics and Journal of Operator Theory; the Society distributes the journal *Asterisque* in the U.S., Canada and Mexico only.

For discussion. The Board of Trustees is apparently involved in setting initial policy for contracts with agents and book sellers. It is apparently uninvolved in review of contracts. Should it be? Are the contracts that we enter only business agreements whose only aim is to maximize profit or are we also concerned with how the AMS serves its members and the mathematical community at large? For example, why are some dealers offered discounts and not others?

Co-publishing agreements

with other Mathematics Societies: We have negotiated several agreements (summarized below) but have not yet published any volumes.

London Mathematical Society (LMS): Our History of Mathematics (HOM) series will become a co-publication with the LMS upon appearance of the next volume. Our HOM committee and the LMS committee consult and agree on projects to be published in the series. Peter Duren is current chair at our end.

Japanese Mathematical Society(JMS): We publish Sugaku Expositions (see below) and we have agreed to publish “the Publications of the Mathematical Society of Japan.” We have not yet received any volumes in this series, previously published by Princeton University Press. JMS approached us to serve as publisher. We will be receiving from the Japanese publisher (Iwanami Shoten) camera copy for the volumes in this series. We have no editorial responsibility for this series.

American Institute of Physics: We are co-publishing the Proceedings of the Gibbs Symposium, a one shot affair.

Association for Computing Machinery: We are co-publishing the DIMACS series with them.

MAA: The CBMS Regional Conference Series and the new CBMS Issues in Mathematics Education Series are co-published with the MAA. We have agreed to cooperate with the MAA in the publication of several translations from the Russian. These books are not research level (they are part of the Qvant library) and may have broad appeal.

MAA and SIAM: The UME Trends newsletter is co-published with these two organizations.

with Foreign Publishing Houses: We have agreed to co-publish with several Russian publishing houses (including “Nauka” and “Mir”) books that have been identified by them, approved by our committee, and then translated and keyboarded by the Russians. We have retained copyright and translation approval rights. We do the scientific editing, production of camera copy, printing and binding. Both AMS and Soviet houses will be listed as publishers. As part of this program, we had three Russians here for a month while we trained them in TeX and then sent them back with PC’s and instructions to train others.

Translation of Books and Journals: The Society currently maintains 3 active translation programs involving books and journals originally published in Russian, Chinese, and Japanese.

The current status Books for translation are selected by the respective translation Committees through a process described later in this note.

Books appear in Translation of Mathematical Monographs Series which contains books translated from Russian, Chinese (one volume so far) and Japanese (the first two volumes were published this August in time for ICM90).

AMS Translations Series 2 is separate series for translations from the Russian of various papers selected from journals or proceedings that are not translated elsewhere. Articles for this series are selected by the Translation Committee; volumes are put together by staff.²

The Russian program is the most extensive; involving many books and journals. Peter Landweber is the chair of the Joint AMS-ASL-IMS-SIAM Committee on Translation from Russian and Other Slavik Languages, as well as the AMS Subcommittee. Despite the title, the Committee deals only with Russian projects. The Joint committee has never met as far as anyone knows. The AMS Subcommittee (mainly, its chair) considers projects of interest to the Society. Presumably, ASL and IMS projects are considered by their Subcommittees. The Subcommittees then pass recommendations to the Joint committee on matters of mutual interests. Since Landweber chairs the Joint Committee and the AMS does the actual publication of joint projects, the Society effectively controls the program. Within recent memory, in addition to the many AMS projects, the ASL Subcommittee has recommended books for publication; the IMS Subcommittee has not. SIAM has not appointed members to the Committee even though a request is made annually and Landweber would appreciate the help of applied mathematicians. The AMS Subcommittee has 4 consultants in the Soviet Union who are paid small stipends to solicit manuscripts, to be alert to new possibilities and to advise their American colleagues. The American committee members are to a large extent not very active and the burden of the program falls on the chair. Peter Landweber spends extensive time soliciting reviews and evaluating projects. The projects come to the Committee in several ways: from the consultants, from authors directly (now that the climate is changing), from submissions to Jaco and Lane as a result of their trips to the Soviet Union and their contacts with VAAP (Soviet copyright agency) and Soviet publishing houses. The Committee usually deals with book projects. Jaco and Lane have forwarded to the Committee in the past year a few new journal proposals; business in this area may increase in the future. The journal translation program has been fairly stable.

The Chinese program is relatively new and quite small. The chair of the Committee is T. Y. Lam. His Committee seems to participate actively in the review of each project. There are several projects that have been approved and are being translated. The only publication so far is a translation of lectures given by Phillip Griffiths in China and originally published in Chinese. The Committee is conservative and very cautious in their approval decisions (this is meant as praise by the author of this report). The Committee has considered journals but judged that none of the journals merit cover to cover translation. Their decision is based on their opinion (valid I believe) that most good mathematics done in China is published in Western journals. Specific articles are sent by AMS staff to Lam for review. The articles come from MR and have been identified by the reviewer as being worthy of translation (a check off box is used); the procedure is to write to the reviewer explaining that the program has limited resources, that standards are high and essentially asking why the article merits translation; apparently, most reviewers when asked for a fuller review reconsider

²There is one translation from the Russian that will appear in Mathematical Surveys and Monographs. It is a book by Berkovich scheduled for publication in August of this year. The book was reviewed and accepted by Surveys during the chairmanship of R. Wells.

and judge that the article is not of sufficient merit; those articles that do make it through this process are sent to Lam for consideration. Books come to Providence from Chinese publishers and Lane forwards them to Lam. Catalogs from Chinese publishers are reviewed by Lam. Providence then requests copies of interesting material. Committee members also receive books directly from Chinese authors. The Committee feels that a lot of good books are published in China and they are frustrated by their inability to get a hold of these books. They urge that more avenues (attendance at book fairs, for example) be explored to insure a steady flow of Chinese books to the committee. The Committee reports that its members (chair) have excellent working relations with the Director of Publications. The Committee also requested feed back from the Executive Committee (or other bodies of the AMS) on its performance.

The Japanese program is also relatively new. We publish Sugaku Expositions which contains the expository articles from Sugaku (the Notices of the Japanese Mathematical Society). The Committee consists of K. Nomizu (chair) and S. Kobayashi. The monograph program is just beginning; 2 volumes were published in time for ICM and approximately 20 volumes are currently under contract. We deal with Japanese publishers (whom Lane has visited several years ago and from whom she brought back samples for review). Nomizu and Kobayashi appear to have good contacts and are very aware of new material from Japan. The Japanese publishers are also good about sending catalogs, samples, information about new projects.

Translated books are priced to recover costs within three years. It is estimated by staff that 520 books are sold during the first three years. At first glance it appears that the society makes a profit on each monograph published as well as (the steady state of) each translated journal. The Board of Trustees might be interested, nevertheless, in a more detailed financial analysis.

Observations and recommendations The material below is based on my conversations with Lane, Jaco, Landweber and Nomizu, letters from Landweber and Lam, e-mail communications with Lane, and involves my evaluation of a number of issues. Another person might come to different conclusions on at least some of the points.

The members of the translation committees are appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the Committee on Committees. Since these translation committees function as editorial boards, it makes sense to change the procedure to bring it line with the appointment of other editors.

***Recommendation.* The members of the translation committees should be appointed by the Council upon the Recommendation of the Editorial Boards Committee (EBC). The EBC should periodically review the activities of the translation committees.**

It is not clear to me that the translation committees are as effective as they should be and the EBC might want to consider the following issues in regards to the translation program.

1. The Russian committee should perhaps be reconstituted as a free standing AMS Editorial Committee to handle activities that do not involve the other Societies. In addition, there should be a relatively small joint committee to handle books and journals that involve more than one of the mathematics societies. The members of this committee must be more carefully selected

(currently few members are active) in the future and the chair of the committee must make it clear what is expected from its members. It is probably fair to say that the current chair carries the committee and he spends an enormous amount of time trying to get evaluations from other committee members. It is almost as if he were the editor and the other committee members were the referees.

2. The Japanese Committee is very hardworking and knowledgeable. It functions not only as an Editorial Board, but its members also act as technical editors. The committee is, in my opinion too small and some of its functions should be done by employees of the Society. The Japanese mathematical community is producing many books and articles that should be translated into English. The volume of activity justifies the following

Recommendation. **There should be a technical editor in Providence for the Japanese translation program.**

3. There has not been sufficient activity in the Chinese program for a proper evaluation at this time.

4. The EBC should investigate the quality of the translated volumes by surveying a number of experts. My own impressions is that quality (both in the mathematics and the technical aspects) is uneven. Two related problems appear in the Russian series. The first concerns the quality of the original Russian exposition. Certain authors require more checking than others and volumes may require that an expert go over the mathematics and at least call attention to errors and or difficulties in the original text. The translation may not use correct English mathematical terminology. (In one case, this was pointed out in Bulletin review of a volume.) Both problems are addressed by the following

Recommendation. **Consideration should be given to have every (Russian) translation reviewed (for pay) by an expert in the field.**

Problems have not arisen, to the best of my knowledge, in the Japanese translations because Nomizu seems to perform the functions described above for every volume. It is not clear to me that we will always have people willing to do this task for free. It is more appropriately done by “paid editors”.

Recommendation. **Efforts should be intensified to obtain copies of the many mathematics books published in China.**

Appendix: List of AMS translation journals Below is a listing of the journal being translated by the Society with a few comments about operational aspects.

A. Russian.

Mathematics of the USSR-Izvestiya: cover to cover translation of “Izvestiya Akademii Nauk SSR Seriya Matematicheskaya” published by the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

Mathematics of the USSR- Sbornik: cover to cover translation of “Matematicheskii Sbornik” published by the Moscow Mathematical Society and the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

Proceedings of the Steklov Institute of Mathematics: previously a book series, this journal is a cover to cover translation of “Trudy ordena Lenina Matematicheskogo Instituta imeni V.A. Steklova” of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

Soviet Mathematics-Doklady: pure mathematics section of the “Doklady Akademii Nauk SSR,” the Reports of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

Theory of Probability and Mathematical Statistics: cover to cover translation of “Teoriya Veroyatnostei i Matematicheskaya Statistika” published by Kiev University.

Transactions of the Moscow Mathematical Society: previously a book series, translation of “Trudy Moskovskogo Matematicheskogo Obshchestva.”

Leningrad Mathematical Journal: cover to cover translation of “Algebra y Analysis.”

Proceedings of the Leningrad Mathematical Society: a new publication not yet received. To be cover to cover translation of Soviet journal of same name.

All journals are translated by contractual agreement with the Russian authorities. Original commitment was approved by Translation Committee; staff maintains contractual agreements.

The Russian journals are translated by freelance translators and one in-house translator. Work is assigned by area of expertise (by Manager of Translation Services) so no one person translates all of a journal. The work on The Transactions of the Moscow Mathematical Society is split with the London mathematical Society (by contractual arrangement): when an issue comes in, half is sent to LMS for translation.

B) Japanese.

Sugaku Expositions translation of expository articles in Sugaku published by Japanese math Society and Iwanami Shoten.

The Japanese journal articles are translated, in most cases, by the authors. Initial contacts are made by Director of Publication. If author is unable to translate, chair of Committee assists in selecting a translator. Original publisher also occasionally suggests a translator. All translated articles are reviewed by chair of Committee (who serves as scientific editor) before publication in English.

A.5 Editorial Boards Committee

A.5.1 Letter from EBC to Browder

William Browder
Department of Mathematics
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ 08544

September 17, 1990

Dear Bill,

I am writing to you in connection with your part in the Executive Committee Review of Publications, concerning the recent expansion of the AMS book publishing operation. This letter is a result of discussions by the Editorial Boards Committee.

We are concerned that the AMS is plunging into the book market without enough thought and review by the membership, and without a sufficiently developed “infrastructure”.

As you know, the commercial book market is highly competitive, both in acquisition of manuscripts and in distribution and sales. In order to succeed in this market, the AMS will have to hire a significant number of additional staff. Manuscript acquisition cannot be adequately dealt with by mathematicians, on a part-time basis, or by current staff, mostly holed up in Providence. Our name for this activity, “editing,” reveals our passive attitude towards it, an attitude which may be appropriate in the context of journals but which is wholly inadequate in the book field. Mathematicians, mercifully, are not generally very entrepreneurial, and it will be hard to find many able or willing to act this way.

At the other end, the AMS has a woefully inadequate bookstore presence. Changing this will require very considerable expense and staff.

It is said, I understand, that book series make money. But their initiation, done right, causes significant expansion of the AMS, which will ultimately (soon, I think) lead to very substantial marginal costs. These costs will not be ascribed to the book publishing enterprise.

Our concern over this issue has arisen because of two book series needing editors. One is the Graduate Studies Series. We understand that you have had two refusals of requests to edit this series, and we thought we might be of some help. I have in fact passed several names on to Robert Fossum for your consideration. But the contemplation of the kind of talents and time required of a successful editor of a series like this, in direct competition with Springer GTM series and other trade text series, drove home to us the inadequacy of the current AMS infrastructure in the textbook market.

The other immediate cause of our concern is a proposal to attempt the resuscitation of the Colloquium Publications. The most recent volumes in this series are dated 1987, 1983, 1968. This seems to be a series which has lost out, perhaps in competition with other AMS book series. The EBC declines to consider the Colloquium Committee as a bona fide editorial committee. We feel that at least this year the President should nominate a replacement for the outgoing member of this committee.

I am sure that these issues have been worked over by many groups within the AMS before; but I nevertheless hope that our concern will be of some help to you in the construction of your report.

Sincerely yours,

Haynes Miller, Chairman, Editorial Boards Committee
cc: William Jaco, Robert Fossum

A.5.2 Report of EBC to ECBT

October 10, 1990

To the ECBT:

This is a report of the Editorial Boards Committee, responding to requests made by the ECBT at its May, 1990, meeting, and forwarded to the EBC by the Secretary on June 12, 1990.

1. We were asked to consider the issue of page authorizations at the various journals, whether the AMS should initiate another journal in the PAMS/TAMS family, and how these questions relate to the quality of articles appearing in the AMS journals.

The idea of creating a new journal arose in conversations between the managing editors of PAMS and TAMS at the Winter Meeting in January, 1990. The driving force was the large backlog at TAMS, and the reluctance of the PAMS to help relieve it by increasing their page maximum. We make the following recommendations:

(a) The quality of papers appearing in the TAMS is not so high that the AMS would suffer from decreasing the acceptance rate. This course is preferable to instituting a new journal. We have not investigated the workings of the TAMS this year in enough detail to propose methods by which the rate of acceptance might be brought down; this is on our agenda for 1991.

(b) The page-length division between the two journals is a reasonable standard, but should be modified somewhat. One feature of the division should be that the maximum length allowed by PAMS should exceed the minimum accepted by TAMS; this avoids the "between the baskets" problem. Our general feeling is that the PAMS might be improved by allowing somewhat longer papers, and consequently becoming a somewhat longer and more expensive journal. But we would prefer to leave the initiation of such a change to the incoming managing editor, Irwin Kra. We support his proposal to initiate a "New Series" of the Proceedings.

2. We were asked to comment on the structure and functioning of the Bulletin Editorial Board. The basic issue here is the sudden and dramatic overrun of the Bulletin page authorization in 1990. Concern over this brought to light various other complaints; a lack of communication between the three editors, questions about whether the guidelines established when the New Series was created are being followed, and concerns about the research announcements.

Our position on how to deal with the 1990 backlog is described in our letter of June 20, 1990 (which I append), and we applaud the BT decision to eliminate it. It seems to us however that the issue of eliminating this backlog is separate from the issue of preventing a backlog in the future, and we do not feel that a sufficient case has been made by the Bulletin editors for the permanent enlargement of the Bulletin beyond 950 pages per year. Thus we support the BT decision not to raise the page limit beyond 950 in 1991. We have been in contact with the editors of the Bulletin, and pointed out the obvious to them: that they must reach a decision among themselves about how the 950 pages will be divided between the three sections. Clearly the length of the book review section will have to be reduced, and we have stressed this with them.

We are aware of minute item 4.6 of the Council meeting of 10 January 1989, which requests that the EBC study the treatment of the Research Announcements by the Bulletin Editorial Committee, and report back to the Council within two years. In the meanwhile, we have had several discussions with Roger Howe, the editor for Research Announcements, and we feel satisfied that he is abiding by that Council decision.

3. What is the proper role for the Editorial Boards Committee? For example, when two new publication series (Graduate Studies in Mathematics and Collected Works) were initiated, it was

not clear that it should be the responsibility of the EBC to staff them, since they are not listed in the bylaws as specified by the existing Charge. Moreover, the Council, and the ECBT, clearly feel that the EBC is a resource to call on for more than purely staffing matters; and we concur.

Our answer to this question takes the form of a proposed revision of the Charge of this committee. I append both the original charge and the proposed revision, for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Haynes Miller, Chairman, Editorial Boards Committee

A.5.3 EBC Comments on Bulletin

Professor Robert M. Fossum
American Mathematical Society
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801

June 20, 1990

Dear Robert,

This is a response from the Editorial Boards Committee to the request from the ECBT implicit in the packet of information dated May 30 and addressed to the Bulletin editors. The issue is the rather dramatic increase in the backlog of the Bulletin.

Any backlog in a journal, beyond those forced by issue scheduling and turnaround time, is of course undesirable. In the Bulletin this is particularly troubling. Books become dated; expositions quickly become passe; and the full account of work announced is soon published. For this reason we feel that it is crucial that backlogs in the Bulletin be restored to the natural mode as quickly as possible. The 1990 page authorization was initially 650 pages. At the ECBT meeting, 150 pages were added to this. (Keep in mind that even 800 page authorization is still 300 pages shy of those of 1986 and 1987.) To eliminate the backlog as it stood when the data in the packet was collected, 300 more pages are needed. I presume this accounts for the 950 page 1991 authorization: $650 + 300 = 950$. But obviously this calculation is based on several faulty assumptions: principally, that the volume of accepted papers will drop back to its earlier level. This is an unlikely scenario. We advise returning to an authorization of more like the old 1100 page figure. Even this is "optimistic": it assumes that the volume will not increase, and to accommodate a decrease in the backlog, it assumes the volume will actually decrease. A greater awareness of these page limits may lead to some decrease in acceptances by the editors.

There is still the immediate problem of backlogs of over a year. This is bad in all three parts of the Bulletin; it is catastrophic in the Research/Announcements section. Quick turnaround lies at the very basis of this section. We reluctantly recommend that a much greater than usual portion of the next few issues of the Bulletin be devoted to Research/Announcements articles, eliminating the backlog in that section and accepting the increased backlog in the others.

Sincerely yours,
Haynes Miller

cc: Roger Howe, Richard Palais, Murray Protter, Frank Quinn,
p.s. It would be wise to send a copy of the May 30 packet to Frank Quinn, incoming next year as Research/Announcements editor.

A.5.4 EBC Recommendation of amendments to its “Charge”

Proposed revised Principal Activities section of the
Charges of the Editorial Boards Committee:

This section currently reads as follows:

The Editorial Boards Committee shall monitor the function of the Editorial Committees named in Article III, Sections 1 and 3 of the bylaws.

This committee shall solicit suggestions of nominations for each editorial committee named in Article III, Sections 1 and 3, of the bylaws, and shall consult with each editorial committee about nominations. The committee shall nominate members for these committees and submit the nominations to the Council. The Council shall appoint members of the committees.

The proposed new wording is this:

The Editorial Boards Committee shall monitor the activities of the editorial committees of the AMS.

It shall act as a general liaison between these committees on the one hand and the Council and the President on the other. After consultation with the editorial committees, it shall make recommendations to the Council. These shall include: nominating of editors to fill openings; recommendations for the choice of managing editor or chair of each committee; recommendations concerning the size and structure of an editorial committee; and other aspects of the AMS editorial committee activities of concern to the Council.

When it is appropriate for an editor to form a panel of associate editors, he should do so in consultation with the Editorial Boards Committee, which is charged with ratifying such selections. Notice the the last paragraph is a quote of the proposal passed by the Council in its Columbus meeting.

In order to clarify what the Council can count on the EBC to do, we propose the following subtext: The Council, or its Executive Committee, shall determine for which committees the EBC shall have specific responsibility for nominating editors. It is understood, however, that the Editorial Boards Committee is available for consultation regarding any appointments to editorial positions, and should be kept informed of all such appointments.

Finally, we recommend that the list of editorial committees for which the EBC should have specific nominating responsibility consist of the following:

Bulletin Editorial Committee

Contemporary Mathematics Editorial Committee

Journal of AMS Editorial Committee

Mathematical Surveys and Monographs Editorial Committee

Mathematical Reviews Editorial Committee

Mathematics of Computation Editorial Committee

Proceedings Editorial Committee

Proceedings of Symposia in Applied Mathematics Editorial Committee

Transactions and Memoirs Editorial Committee

History of Mathematics Editorial Committee

University Lecture Series Editorial Committee

Collected Works Editorial Committee

Graduate Studies Editorial Committee

AMS Representative on the American Journal of Mathematics

A.5.5 BT Committee on the Publication Program Response

This is the portion of the report from the Committee on the Publication Program, written by Ramesh Gangolli, chair, in response to the proposal above by the EBC.

1. The Publications committee reviewed a letter from Prof. Haynes Miller, Chair of the Editorial Boards Committee, regarding a number of problems faced by that committee with respect to journals, as well as expressing some concerns about the expansion of the publishing operation of the AMS. I believe that this letter will be considered by the Council in January. The publications Committee thought that some reactions from it might be of some help.

Prof. Miller raises the question of what the proper role for the EBC is, and suggests a change in the charge to that committee. Our committee is in basic agreement with the spirit of the change suggested, but we would like to amend the wording of the suggested changes as follows : in the last sentence of the second paragraph of the proposed new wording, replace the phrase “and other aspects of the AMS publications program of concern to the Council” by “and other aspects of editorial activity of concern to the Council”.

Prof. Miller’s letter clearly points out the difficulties arising from a publishing operation seeking to meet diverse needs. The editorial tasks associated with the Society’s journals are very different from those associated with various book series. The publications committee feels that the whole question of how various types of publications are handled editorially (and fiscally – see below) needs a clearer formulation by the ECBT. In particular, the ECBT needs to have clearer guidelines regarding the role of a purely “scientific” committee such as the EBC, vis-a-vis the role of various editorial persons (e.g. acquisitions editors) in matters where fiscal considerations may be decisive, as in the case of certain book series.

The Publications Committee also felt that there is at present a large number of book series, resulting in a somewhat confusing array. Some rationalization of this situation would be desirable. They also felt that the Colloquium series should be revitalized, and could possibly serve as a focus for some consolidation.

A.5.6 Letter from the ECBT to the EBC.

The reconstitution of the Bulletin Editorial Board (BEB) gives the Society an opportunity to address a number of problems that have been identified.

The EC suggests that the EBC work with the BEB to strengthen the three sectors of the Bulletin: Expository Articles (EA), Research Announcements (RA) and Book Reviews (BR). The aim in each case should be to insure that only papers of the highest quality appear in the Bulletin. In this regard, we suggest the EBC and BEB consider the following recommendations/suggestions:

1. The RAs should be evaluated by all of the Associate Editors for RAs after appropriate refereeing reports. The refereeing and editing process need not only be fair, but must also appear to be fair. RAs are supposed to have wide ranging significance and published only on the basis of strong reviews. Contrary to the remark in your letter of 10 October 1990 to the ECBT, it is our impression (from an oral report of Roger Howe to the Council on January 89) that the BEB is not following Council policy (see attachment [NOT INCLUDED]) in that RAs are not selected by a vote of the Editorial Board (for RAs). The EBC should evaluate the effectiveness of the recent changes in RA policy; in particular, has the quality of the announcements increased as a result of the longer papers and the expository component?
2. The BR editor should carefully select the books to be reviewed as well as the reviewers. Not **all** books merit a review in the Bulletin.
3. The EA editors should solicit good expository papers, especially from the speakers in the Progress in Mathematics Series.

We request that EBC prepare a report on these issues as well as the editorial policy of the Bulletin for the March meeting of the Council.

A.6 AMS-MAA Joint Meetings Committee.

D R A F T
AMS-MAA Joint Meetings Committee
Report to AMS Council
Tuesday, January 15, 1991
Yosemite Room C
San Francisco Hilton on the Square San Francisco, CA

The Joint Meetings Committee works very hard to make attendance at the January and August Joint Meetings a rewarding professional experience for members of the mathematics community. It is constantly seeking for ways to provide first-rate programs and services at affordable prices, and is diligent in finding methods to keep costs down without affecting the quality of the meetings. Many of you who attend meetings in other disciplines have commented at how well our meetings are run by comparison.

The committee met in January 1990 in Louisville, Kentucky, and in August 1990 in Columbus, Ohio. The calendar of future Joint Meetings was reviewed:

August	8-11,	1990	Columbus,	Ohio
January	16-19,	1991	San Francisco,	California
August	8-11,	1991	Orono,	Maine
January	8-11,	1992	Baltimore,	Maryland
August		1992	OPEN	
January	13-16,	1993	San Antonio,	Texas
August		1993	Vancouver,	British Columbia
			(Joint with Canadian Mathematical Society)	
January	5-8,	1994	Cincinnati,	Ohio
August		1994	OPEN	
January		1995	OPEN	
August		1995	OPEN	
January		1996	OPEN	

Orlando, Florida was approved for January 12-15, 1996, and Denver, Colorado for January 25-28, 1995.

During the year the possibility of meeting concurrently with or just prior to the 7th International Congress on Mathematical Education in Quebec City, Quebec in August 1992 was investigated. Later, it was agreed that MAA would forego a meeting that summer, opting for meetings of its Board of Governors and some committees just prior to ICME-7 in Quebec. The ECBT considered what the Society should do when it met in November 1990 and asked that the Council give this question further consideration at this meeting.

For many years, the January Joint Meetings have broken even, or even operated at a slight profit. The August Joint Meetings have, however, consistently operated at a deficit, which has increased in magnitude in recent years. There are many reasons for this, some of which are that where we once were allowed to use the meeting facilities on the host campus free of charge, we are now obliged to pay space charges and conference fees; the necessity to use a professional drayage firm instead of university shipping/receiving personnel for receipt of supply shipments to the meeting

from the Society and commercial exhibitors; requests from speakers for more sophisticated and therefore more expensive audio-visual equipment; and a huge growth in the number of committee meetings that need to be arranged and their members notified. On June 9, 1990, a joint AMS-MAA committee to renegotiate the agreement governing Joint Meetings met in Washington, DC. This committee recommended that in future registration fees for these meetings be set, based on our best predictions of expenses and income, after all possible economies have been applied, so that the meetings will be self-supporting. This was approved by the ECBT and the MAA.

A subcommittee of the Joint Meetings Committee met in Columbus to revise the format for summer meetings to make them more attractive. The result is the New Orono Mathfest, which will debut next August, and which is described in the brochure you have all received with your program.

The chair of the Joint Meetings Committee has, since the committee was appointed, been the Executive Director of the AMS *ex officio*, since during that time the Society bore all expenses of the Joint Meetings. For the past several years, however, the Society and the Association have been sharing the expenses of the Joint Meetings on an equal basis. In recognition of this, the committee agreed to rotate the chair on an annual basis between the Society and Association representatives on the committee. This year, the chair will be Kenneth A. Ross, the MAA Associate Secretary for Meetings.

A.8 AMS-MAA Committee on Employment and Educational Policy

AMS-MAA Committee on Employment and Educational Policy

Edward A. Connors
Chair

University of Massachusetts
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Lederle Graduate Research Center
Amherst, MA 01003
(413)545-0982

Professor Robert M. Fossum
Secretary AMS

Professor Gerald Alexanderson
Secretary MAA

Professor William Browder
President AMS

Professor Lida Barrett
President MAA

Professor William H. Jaco
Executive Director AMS

Professor Marcia Sward
Executive Director MAA

Dear Colleagues:

At the August 9, 1990 meeting of the AMS-MAA Committee on Employment and Educational Policy in Columbus, Ohio, lengthy discussion took place questioning the appropriateness of continuing CEEP, inasmuch as there are now subcommittees which are specialized in their focus and which can be independent of this parent committee. Resulting from that discussion the following motion was made, seconded, and unanimously recommended to be presented to the Council and the Board of Governors for action:

CEEP recommends to the Council and the Board of Directors that; Whereas we have had tremendous success since the origin of CEEP in 1956 (within the AMS Committee to Investigate Present Economic Status of Teachers), and Whereas, in 1987 CEEP became a joint AMS-MAA committee; Whereas there have been new structural changes inside the AMS and MAA and have institutionalized many of the things that were our concerns; we therefore recommend CEEP be discharged, and that the Employment Policy become part of JCEO and that a joint education committee be created. We suggest that it contain the Short Course Committee that now exists and that it be charged with pursuing other professional development opportunities. We further recommend that it would be a good idea to include the Mini courses, although we do not see that as absolutely essential.

Sincerely,
Edward A. Connors
Chair

A.9 Reports from publication committees.

A.9.1 Committee to Monitor Problems in Communication

November 13, 1990

1990 Report of

The Committee to Monitor Problems in Communications

During the past year the Committee took the following actions:

1. The committee reviewed the disappointing sales figures for the various volumes of collected *Reviews*. Except for *Reviews in K-Theory*, which has made a small profit, other recent volumes have not recovered costs. There was a general feeling among committee members that, while these can be convenient, they are basically a repackaging of material already available, and since the university research libraries are having increasing budgetary problems, they are deciding more and more often that these are expendable and are not buying them. There was also some feeling that, as mathematicians get more used to doing online searching of the MR database, such advantages as the volumes of collected reviews now have will gradually disappear. It was decided not to proceed with further collected review volumes, except perhaps to update the *Reviews in K-Theory* as proposed by Bruce Magurn, who compiled the original volumes. (Recently the MR editorial board has recommended against doing so).
2. It was proposed to collect articles from the *Notices* column of Jon Barwise on computers in Mathematics into book form, perhaps including some of the articles from the predecessor column of Palais. (People usually do not save their copies of the *Notices* and some have written in to the AMS asking for reprints.) The committee felt that this material ages too quickly and recommended against such a collection.
3. The committee discussed the new electronic bulletin board system (then only under consideration, but since implemented and christened “e-math”). The committee agreed to give advice temporarily to the AMS staff members setting up the BBS concerning what services should be provided. (Remark by the chairman: The committee has *not* in fact played such a rôle, and does not really have the expertise to do so. The Council should consider appointing a special committee of knowledgeable and experienced mathematicians charged with giving advice on scientific and policy questions to the AMS staff in charge of the technical maintenance of e-math.)

Respectfully submitted,

Richard S. Palais, Chairman

A.9.2 Committee on Translation from Japanese.

To: Robert M. Fossum, Secretary AMS
 From: Katsumi Nomizu, Committee on Translation from Japanese
 Subject: Report from the Committee
 Date: November 23, 1990

After the original Committee made a recommendation to the then president Mostow in launching the translation project of mathematics published in Japanese, the Society started

1. publishing Sugaku Expositions bi-annually, the most recent being Volume 3, No. 1, June, 1990. Each issue is a collection of several expository or survey articles (Ronsetsu) from Sugaku, the official journal in Japanese of the Mathematical Society of Japan. These articles are comparable to expository articles in Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. (I might mention that the sample issue, vol 0, included one by Shigefumi Mori, a Fields medalist this year.)
2. publishing translations (or English editions) of monographs at the levels of beginning graduate to advanced research. At least two volumes have appeared (Y. Shibuya, Linear differential equations in the complex domain: Problems of analytic continuation,; J. Noguchi and T. Ochiai, Geometric function theory in several complex variables), and more are at different stages of production.

The current Committee consisting of Professor S. Kobayashi, Berkeley and currently in Tokyo, and myself have advised the Society, through Mary Lane, Director of Publication on practical matters such as

1. the initial set-up of mechanism for translating Sugaku articles and the choice of translators; this and the following involved occasional consultation with a number of advisors.
2. the choice of publishers of mathematics books in Japan (such as Iwanami, Kinokuniya, Shokabo, etc.) and their monograph series; Professor Kobayashi accompanied Mary for her visits to some publishers in August 1990;
3. recommending individual monographs for translation and appropriate translators; sending books out for reviews for this purpose, sometimes direct contact from and to authors of recent monographs.

Some of the issues which face the translation project:

1. When the authors themselves are not available for translation work, we try to get translators. This is not an easy job. We advertised for translators. Out of 15 or so inquiries we have been able to select 5 or 6 whose mathematical background and bilingual ability seem to qualify for the job. The effort of recruiting translators must be maintained. Another problem is financial. The society offers \$17 per original page, but in Japan getting one page typed or word-processed professionally costs \$20 per page. Thus the translator will lost money unless either he is capable and willing to do word-processing himself or the Society is willing to work with handwritten manuscripts.

2. Even forgetting the cost of typing, we find that most of the translations have to be corrected and edited rather heavily. One solution might be, as I have recently recommended to Mary Lane, to regard translation of monographs as English editions, rather than direct translation, and have the manuscript edited as normally done by any commercial publisher, that is, by a professional editor who does not have to know Japanese, since the manuscript is considered as the author's own English version.
3. In any case, some first-class publishers such as Springer Verlag or Cambridge University Press are now eager to grab the best monographs being published in Japanese for translation into English. We lost one such to Springer. (My impression is that the Japanese publishers are also getting aggressive in selling the rights of translation.) I don't know the inner workings of commercial publishers, but they could market their books more aggressively and sometimes in more attractive package (including possibly more professional editing and cover designs).
4. We believe that the translation project of the Society has been successful up to the present. Some of the questions mentioned above seem to indicate that for the continued success of the project further planning for activity levels might be desirable.
5. As I already advised Mary Lane, I shall be away in Germany doing research for the entire calendar year 1991. During that period we hope Professor Kobayashi will mainly be in charge, although I'll be happy to be available for consultation through e-mail.

A.9.3 AMS-ASL-IMS-SIAM Committee on Translations from Russian and Other Slavic Languages

27 November 1990

Report of the Joint Committee on Translations from Russian and Other Slavic Languages

FROM : Peter Landweber, committee chairman

I have been chairman of this committee since February 1989, and will continue through December 1991. The main work is done by Ben Silver and me, my task being to obtain opinions on whether material should be translated and then reaching a decision. The ASL and IMS provide separate subcommittees, currently chaired by Elliot Mendelson and Mark Freidlin respectively, that deal with appropriate material. This still leaves a large and growing amount for me, and the wish that SIAM also provide a subcommittee. Ben Silver's important role is to organize and coordinate the material being considered and put in production by the AMS Russian Translations Department. Sergei Gel'fand has just arrived in Providence to manage the Russian translation program. A major input has been provided by S.G. Gindikin, as consultant to the committee.

An excellent overview of the AMS Russian translation program is given by W.H. Jaco in the March 1990 Notices. The updated and expanded Russian-English dictionary mentioned there has recently been published, and is quite outstanding.

The main business of the committee is to evaluate prospective monographs. Ben Silver's most recent monthly update lists 119 titles, including 25 in production, 21 for which contracts have been requested, and 49 that are under consideration. These numbers have been growing, and as a result

the essentially editorial task of the committee chairman has become a time-consuming one. In particular, it would be even more complicated to routinely poll the other committee members, so that decisions are most often reached on the basis of one or more opinions.

A.9.4 Committee on Translations from Chinese

Committee on Translation from the Chinese

The Committee has recently selected two more Chinese books for translation into English. One is on the stability theory of differential equations; the other is on nonlinear second-order partial differential equations. For both projects, suitable translators have been found, and the work on translation has begun. Three more translation projects started in earlier years are still in progress. At present, the Committee does not see a strong case for translating articles from Chinese journals. Therefore, for the coming year, the Committee's work is likely to continue in the direction of selecting only books and monographs for translation.

T. Y. Lam, Chair

A.9.5 Committee on History of Mathematics

To: AMS Council

From: Peter Duren, Chairman

Subject: Annual Report of Committee on History of Mathematics

Members of Committee: Richard Askey (1987-91), Peter Duren (Chairman, 1987-90), Harold Edwards (1989-92; Chairman-Designate) [Uta Merzbach, 1987-89; Charles Curtis, 1991-1993]

During the first 3 years of its existence, the Committee has functioned primarily in an editorial capacity. A major activity was editing the 3-part collection "A Century of Mathematics in America", issued to mark the Centennial of the Society. Recent efforts have been directed mainly toward the development of the new book series on History of Mathematics, to be published jointly with the London Mathematical Society. Here is a list of books published, under contract, or expected to be under contract for this series:

- "A Century of Mathematics in America" [published by the AMS alone], Part I (August 1988), Part II (January 1989), Part III (August 1989)
- Charles W. McArthur, "Operations Analysis in the United States Army Eighth Air Force in World War II" (December 1990?)
- George W. Mackey, "The Scope and History of Commutative and Non Commutative Harmonic Analysis" (publication expected in early 1991)
- Karen V.H. Parshall and David E. Rowe, "The Emergence of an American Research Community: J.J.Sylvester, Felix Klein, and E.H.Moore" (publication probable in 1991)
- Smilka Zdravkovska (Editor, with the assistance of Peter Duren), "Mathematics in the Soviet Union" [approximate title] (A collection of historical articles by Soviet mathematicians; publication probable in 1991 or 1992)
- Charles W. Curtis, "A Century of Finite Group Representation Theory" (manuscript in preparation; publication expected in 1992 or 1993)

Four other projects are under active development and are considered probable for the AMS/LMS series. By the terms of the agreement between the two Societies, all editorial decisions are made jointly with the LMS committee: Jeremy Gray (Chairman), S.J.Patterson, and J.Houzel. Each group initiates projects and presents them to the other for approval. Of the 9 "live" joint projects now nearing publication or under development, 7 were initiated by the AMS and 2 by the LMS. In addition to its editorial work, the AMS Committee proposed the new History of Mathematics Lecture Series, to be initiated at the Summer Meetings in Orono in August 1991.

A.10 Library Committee

Report of Library Committee

Our main activity in the past year was to design a questionnaire to collect data on mathematics research libraries. The principal target group consists of the AMS Group I-III institutions. Comment on the questionnaire was solicited from the mathematics and library communities, including the AMS-MAA Data Committee and a library statistics expert for the Association of Research Libraries.

The survey was sent out from AMS offices in Providence in early September. Returns are coming in now, and current efforts are focused on contacting nonrespondents to improve the response rate. We are making plans to process the information and prepare a report summarizing the results.

In January 1990, the Library Committee had a table in the exhibit area at the annual AMS meeting in Louisville. Here we met with mathematicians and informally discussed their library concerns. In June 1990 we participated in a mathematics workshop at the Special Libraries Association in Pittsburgh.

Submitted by James Rovnyak, Chair
November 6, 1990

Current Members: Nancy Anderson, Co-chair, Richard Askey, Robert S. Doren, Dorothy McGarry, James Rovnyak, Co-chair, George Seligman, Mary Ann Southern and Jack Weigel.

A.11 Program Committees

A.11.1 Program Committee.

Program Committee Report

You asked for a report on the activities of the Program Committee for the year 1990; our report is basically the list of speakers we chose for the January 1991 meeting and the Special Sessions we OK'd. See the program.

We had no face-to-face meetings and no conference calls; most of our work was done by email, with an occasional phone conversation or letter. This had advantages in terms of quick communication, but disadvantages in that an occasional person had problems getting electronic mail. Overall, I do believe it is the best way to work, but it essential to get the members to respond to receiving email right away, so that paper copies can be sent to those who do not respond.

I was pretty much out of communication with most of the world in July, August, and September, because of a remote vacation, various conferences, and a month hermetically sealed with a computer. During that time it was essentially decided (by the MAA and AMS organizing committee for the summer 1991 meeting and others) to have no AMS or MAA invited speakers, so our program committee's work in producing a list of speakers for that meeting was for naught. I relied on you to pass on this tentative decision, for comments, to the other committee members; I have heard nothing more.

I hope that this is an adequate report, and that the people attending the meeting enjoy and are enlightened by our stellar program.

Jean Taylor
Chair, AMS Program Committee
November 21, 1990

A.11.2 Western Section Program Committee.

Western Section Program Committee

The Committee members are Michael Aschbacher, Michael Crandall, John Stallings and myself Sun-Yung A. Chang serving as Chair.

We have been communicating with each other through e-mail, regular mail and telephone calls. Eventually two telephone conference calls had been arranged to select the speakers to deliver hour talks for AMS Western Regional meetings.

With best regards,
Alice Chang

A.11.3 Eastern Section Program Committee.

Subject: Eastern Section Program Committee Report

From: Jerry L. Kazdan, Chair

I am writing this as Chair of the AMS committee to select speakers for hour talks at Eastern Sectional Meetings.

We made our selection of speakers, and these have been transmitted to Wis Comfort, who in turn took care of issuing the invitations etc.

All of our work took place by email, which worked reasonably well. Our committee was weighed toward geometry and analysis, so we felt a bit ignorant concerning other areas of mathematics. I recommend that an algebraist be selected as a committee member in the next year or so.

A.12 *ad hoc* Committee on Cooperation with Latin American Mathematicians.

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Cooperation with
Latin American Mathematicians:

During the last year, the committee

1. placed an announcement in the Notices telling of our existence and inviting suggestions for projects from readers—a few replies were received but nothing substantial has resulted so far;
2. recommended to the ECBT that the AMS fund a U.S. speaker at the 9th Brazilian Symposium on Probability and Statistics— the ECBT approved, but my understanding is that, in the end, no one utilized the approved funds to participate at the conference; [The Secretary adds: See item ?? in the For Information section of the agenda.]
3. recommended to the ECBT that \$2000 be given to the Union Matematica de Argentina to facilitate the publishing of 2 volumes of its journal, which had been stalled for some years because of the critical economic situation faced by mathematics in Argentina—the ECBT subsequently approved and it is my understanding that the money was sent.

Herb Clemens

A.13 AMS-MAA Committee on Teaching Assistants and Part Time Instructors

28 Novmeber 1990

Annual Report of the Committee on Teaching Assistants and Part Time Instructors

The Committee met January 18, 1990 in Louisville. It was decided that the updating of our data on the classroom use of Teaching Assistants and Part-Time Instructors would be appropriate at five year intervals. As a result, it seemed best to plan to coordinate the gathering of data with the AMS survey of Departments in either 1991 or 1992. With only background work needed now for that survey (and with the pursuit of accreditation concerns being tabled by the MAA), the Committee adjourned for the year, to reconvene in San Francisco, January, 1991.

Phil Huneke, Chair, Committee on TA/PTI

A.14 ad hoc Committee on Preparation for College Teaching

To: AMS Council
MAA Board of Governors SIAM Officers

December 2, 1990

From: The Committee on Preparation for College Teaching

The committee has a new three year grant from FIPSE. The CT committee chair, Bettye Anne Case, is the project PI and the other members (Don Bushaw, Bob McDowell, Rich Millman, Rich Ringeisen, Steve Rodi, Guido Weiss) serve as an advisory panel. The grant project, administered through the MAA, will assist doctoral department programs trying to enhance mathematical breadth and include explicit attention to pedagogy. (See AMS Notices, December 1989 pp. 1344-6). Invitations to prospective pilot sites were sent to all departments, put in the BMS Chairs' Colloquium packets, and appeared in the October or November issues of SIAM News, UME Trends, AMS Notices and MAA Focus. Clemson (Joel Brawley, site mentor) and Delaware will be first year pilot sites and two others will be selected for summer 1991 funding for planning activities. (The budget allows about \$4000 for a first year site program distributed among a salary supplement, books and materials, travel, copying and communications expenses. For further project information: case@math.fsu.edu)

The Committee hopes that you will help publicize this project and will encourage departments to develop a program; the projected budget will provide this supplementary funding at several new sites each project year. In addition to departmental programs, a national conference is planned for 1992; a volume at the end of the project will document and evaluate site programs and disseminate other collected project information.

The CT committee continues to coordinate with related efforts; recent involvement is with the MAA's Committee on Faculty Development (input was requested by BOG on a statement they propose), the Data Committee (base line survey), and two related FIPSE projects. We anticipate close cooperation with the new AMS Committee on Education and a college teaching project run through the Pew Charitable Trusts.

More about the grant: I gave a talk in a panel discussion at the October FIPSE meeting; it was good to have a number of mathematicians present and see so many vertical nods of heads—during our TA/PTI grant there were very few mathematicians with FIPSE grants but this year I found many colleague acquaintances at the meeting. Also, though FIPSE always is good agency to work with on a flexible and growing project, it may be helpful that my Program Officer's background is in physics.

Please join us Wednesday 9:30 am in San Francisco: A Dialogue, "Paradigm Meets Reality: What Do Future College Teachers Need? What is Feasible in Ph.D. Programs?" (Bus Jaco, Rich Millman, Steve Rodi, Ivar Stakgold; followed by discussion, Bettye Anne Case, organizer)

Respectfully submitted,

Bettye Anne Case, Chair

To the question: Should this committee be co-sponsored? Jerry Alexanderson, Secretary of MAA, has provided the following information (which the Secretary has edited for this attachment).

Mary has done a search of our files and this is all she could turn up.

There is an October 1986 memo from Lynn Steen to Ken Ross: "JPBM asked MAA to pursue the issue of appropriate preparation for college teaching on behalf of JPBM. I interpret this request to mean two things: we should constitute a committee to be broadly representative, and MAA should report on actions of the committee to JPBM as the occasion warrants." Then on January 5, 1987, there is an appointment letter from Ross to Guido Weiss: "The final product would be a set of recommendations to be submitted for approval to AMS, MAA, and SIAM."

In September 1988 Weiss resigned as chair, Bettye Anne Case was appointed as chair. On September 12, 1989, there is a memo to the Committee from Bettye Anne Case: "We 'name' our Forum for Louisville which, after discussion with Lida Barrett and Ken Ross is now billed as follows: The AMS-MAA-SIAM Committee on Preparation for College Teaching is sponsoring a Forum..."

Through the August 2, 1989 MAA Committee List the committee was listed as an ad hoc committee of the MAA. Beginning with the January 22, 1990 Committee List, it has been listed as a joint AMS-MAA-SIAM committee. We found no formal correspondence on this in this files.

The Secretary could not find any reference to this committee, other than the report submitted in January 90, in Council minutes. He consulted with Case, telling her that no record of co-sponsorship of the committee could be found. Also he asked several questions.

Dear Bettye:

After considerable searching of records, we can find none that indicate that the ad hoc Committee for Preparation for College Teaching has ever been recognized as a committee of the Society. Since the Professional Directory is "going to bed" on Friday, there will not be time to change this status. I believe it is an MAA committee and will be so listed.

There will be an opportunity to list the committee as an AMS committee at the upcoming Council meeting. I do not know the protocol involved. For example, does the Committee require "permission" from MAA in order to become a Joint Committee. (I would assume that a committee of the Society would first ask the Council if it could become a joint committee with some other organization. For example, the Committee on Women in the Mathematical Sciences has six sponsors, but not AWM. In order to get AWM sponsorship all organizations were requested to approve.)

There are several questions concerning a joint committee that must be answered before a proposal would go to the Council. Among them are these:

1. Who appoints the chair of the committee? Or is the chair elected by the membership of the committee?
2. Who appoints the members to the committee, how many from each organization, and what are the terms.
3. Who determines the charge to the committee?

4. Who pays the budget for the committee?

5. Is the committee to be "standing" or "ad hoc"? In the second instance, when will the committee go out of existence?

The agenda for the January 91 Council meeting is just going to the printer, so there is no opportunity to include an item for consideration of joint committee status for your committee on this agenda. However I will consider putting it into a supplementary agenda provided at least these points are covered in the "enacting" resolution.

robert

Case replied with a request that this committee be made a joint committee and based the request on the following:

Yes, the committee needs to be joint because it functions as though it is, and it always has. And because of its origin.

[She answered the above questions as follows:]

1. In the case of this committee, since it is ad hoc, I presume the chair does not change. And I have no idea who first talked with Guido; Ken Ross is the one who asked me to take it when [Weiss's] wife was ill. ([Weiss] of course remains on the committee, and active.)

2. The committee is already appointed. It stands as originally set up, except that Mike Reed asked off; at that time the committee felt that he was one who "spoke for" SIAM so we asked Ivar if he felt the need to replace Mike. He did not. (The members are Donald W. Bushaw, Bettye Anne Case, Robert H. McDowell, Richard S. Millman, Richard D. Ringeisen, Stephan Rodi and Guido L. Weiss).

In case of resignations, replacements might be necessary or, might not. Again, the committee is at this time ad hoc. The grant will be running through 1993; at that point we wily want to do some things and make some joint comments concerning non-PhD preparations. But I can't imagine that we'll as individuals have energy to do much more: at that point the gears will need to shift.

3. The charge was the one thing never in question. It came from JPBM and it is: To make recommendations concerning the appropriate preparation of college teachers of mathematics, taking into account the varieties of institutions of higher education, the diversity of the mathematical sciences, the the backgrounds and career interests of college students, the impact of computers and insights from research on student learning.

Our approach to this charge is neither very narrow nor very broad. The information is not currently available to make the sort of recommendations we believe are needed; thus the grant proposal. It was made through MAA for convenience reasons: Al Willcox and I had worked together as regards the administration of TA/PTI's FIPSE grant, and it seemed natural that we continue that. Of course Al isn't there now... but anyway, there must be ONE organization involved.

4. Who pays? Well, FIPSE for now. I never understood serving on a committee to be carte blanc to spend \$\$—did I miss something?

5. ad hoc. Since the date was not specified I believe the members considered that they were appointed to accomplish the charge. One meeting was funded (May 1988, I believe) and then we squeezed in another at the end of the TA/PTI FIPSE grant (with

permission of the Program Officer). Otherwise, all the work has been volunteer and all expenses borne by members or their academic departments.

TA/PTI became a joint committee at the time I was chair. (AMS-MAA). I don't remember DOING anything. But if I did it was something Ken or Everett asked for...

I'll copy this to Jerry, Ken, Ivar in the hope that they will contribute any memory they may have to you on this.

At the top of your note you discuss protocols... I don't know certainly... I thought the secretaries talked... Since everything the committee has generated has indicated jointness in its answerability, (if not sponsorship), I just thought it was a slip that it was listed the way it is... (Oh: Who was the AMS president in 1987? That could be a clue, but I believe it is probably immaterial. The committee is three-way joint in the coincidence of its charge and interests. It must accomplish its charge through doctoral mathematics departments, for the most part. If applied mathematicians were in opposition we would have problems. And it must produce a product which meets perceived needs of college level teaching institutions.

So, right now we are trying to put information together from two of the "groups" which will be applied by the first, doctoral mathematics departments. Most of the members of doctoral mathematics departments consider their "primary" affiliation to be ams, if they have a "primary" which I would personally hope they do not; at least that is my perception of where priorities would be.

[...]

Bettye Anne Case

copies: Jerry Alexanderson, Ken Ross, Ivar Stakgold

A.15 AMS-MAA-SIAM Committee on Employment Opportunities

Report of the AMS-MAA-SIAM Joint Committee on Employment Opportunities (JCEO)

Date: November 10, 1990
 To: Robert M. Fossum, Secretary AMS
 Gerald L. Alexanderson, Secretary MAA
 From: Donald C. Rung, Chair JCEO
 Re: 1990 Annual Report

This year the Committee tried to analyze better the dynamics of the Employment Register, held at the Joint Mathematics Meetings. We conducted both an onsite survey of applicants and employers and, in late spring, a follow-up survey of applicants to determine the efficacy of the Employment Register. A digest of both surveys is attached to this report.

Various technical improvements in the operation of the Employment Register have been made. In the Committee's view the technical operation of the Employment Register is now first class, thanks to the efforts of the AMS staff involved, in particular Carole Kohanski of the Meetings Department. The Louisville Employment Register served 423 applicants and 166 employers.

The Committee cooperated in the trial electronic distribution service for employment information, initiated this summer by AMS staff. I understand that a version of this service will be part of the AMS e-MATH system.

The publication EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION IN THE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES continues to be an effective vehicle for presenting both available positions and also resumes of applicants at the Employment Register. In 1990 there were 572 subscriptions for this publication; six issues are published each year.

Pamphlets written by JCEO members are distributed by the AMS:

- CAREERS IN MATHEMATICS - A free pamphlet written as a general guide to careers in the mathematical sciences.
- SEEKING EMPLOYMENT IN THE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES - A guide to students at the bachelors, masters and doctorate levels who seek, or will be seeking, professional employment. Free copies will be distributed to all applicants at the January 1991 San Francisco Employment Register.
- PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN THE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES - Currently being extensively rewritten, this pamphlet is a guide for students interested in graduate study in the mathematical sciences.

The results of the surveys of Employment Register participants suggest that there needs to be serious discussion as to whether the Employment Register is meeting its goals of enhancing the job possibilities of young Ph.D's, or whether it requires restructuring to better meet the needs of both applicants and employers.

JCEO chair for 1991 will be Leon H. Seitelman (SIAM).

DCR/mxf

The following extracts are taken from the results of two surveys of participants at the Employment Register, January 17-19, Louisville, Kentucky.

ONSITE SURVEY OF PARTICIPANTS
JANUARY 1990 MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES EMPLOYMENT REGISTER, LOUISVILLE,
KENTUCKY

Questionnaires were distributed at the Employment Register to approximately 423 applicants and 166 employers. 102 questionnaires were returned (17 responses from applicants, 51 from employers. For JCEO purposes, the most significant question asked was: "As to the operations of the Employment Register, were you well satisfied, satisfied, neutral, disappointed?"

46 (45%) participants reported "well satisfied"; 44 (43%) were "satisfied"; 7 (7%) "neutral"; 5 (5%) "disappointed".

FOLLOWUP SURVEY OF APPLICANTS
JANUARY 1990 MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES EMPLOYMENT REGISTER, LOUISVILLE,
KENTUCKY

Questionnaires were mailed in May, 1990 to 399 of the 423 applicants at the Louisville Employment Register. 176 questionnaires were returned (44%). The most significant questions asked were:

"How many academic positions have you been offered as a consequence of the 1990 Employment Register?"

Responses: 111 applicants reported no positions were offered;
 35 applicants reported 1 offer;
 21 applicants reported 2 offers;
 7 applicants reported 3 offers;
 1 applicant reported 4 offers.

"How many academic positions have you been offered outside the 1990 Employment Register?"

Responses: 68 applicants reported no positions were offered;
 63 applicants reported 1 offer;
 24 applicants reported 2 offers;
 12 applicants reported 3 offers;
 6 applicants reported 4 offers;
 1 applicant reported 5 offers;
 1 applicant reported 7 offers.

"If you have accepted a position for fall 1990, was the initial contact a result of the 1990 Employment Register?"

Responses:	103	(58%) - NO
	39	(22%) - YES
	34	(19%) - No response

"Approximately how many positions have you applied for since September 1989?"
Average number of positions applied for: 69

Submitted by Monica Foulkes, Staff Assistant

A.16 Committee on Archives

5 November 1990

Committee on Archives

The Committee has had very little activity during 1990. It is awaiting a report from a professional archivist employed in the Providence office, where files of past secretaries and others have been accumulating along with office files. It is cooperating with a joint AMS-MAA Archives Committee.

Everett Pitcher, Chair

A.17 Committee on Professional Ethics

5 November 1990

Committee on Professional Ethics

The Committee considered two cases during 1990. In each case the involvement of the committee did not extend beyond the stage of letters of inquiry before the case was otherwise resolved. In one case the existence of the inquiries may have improved the situation of the complainant slightly.

Everett Pitcher, Chair

A.18 Committee on Human Rights

To: The Council of the AMS

From: Alice T. Schafer

Subject: Committee on Human Rights Report

In the past year the Committee has continued its efforts on behalf of a mathematician in Tunisia and one in Somalia. In the past week I was notified that the Somalian mathematician, his wife, children and mother-in-law have been allowed to leave the country; however, not at the same time, the mathematician being the last allowed to leave. A position at a college in the United States has been offered to him which is expected he will assume sometime in January. Amnesty International has named the Tunisian mathematician a prisoner of conscience and in the last few days has asked that at this time no communications to Tunisian authorities be made on his behalf. A recent communication which I received from a Tunisian authority certainly indicated that a hard line is being taken.

Several members of the committee have been working for over a year on behalf of a Nigerian mathematician, employed at a university in the United States, whom the INS wishes to deport. On the other hand, the mathematicians at his university are very anxious to have him remain in the country. His family is already here and, in addition, he feels it would be dangerous for him to return to Nigeria.

A Russian mathematician, who wishes to emigrate to this country and on whose behalf the Committee circulated a petition at an earlier meeting of the AMS, has not yet been allowed to leave although his family has been allowed to emigrate. A petition will again be circulated on his behalf at the San Francisco meeting.

The Israeli Embassy reports that all the schools and universities on the West Bank which had been closed are now reopened.

A.21 AMS-IMS-SIAM Committee on Joint Summer Research Conferences in the Mathematical Sciences.

TO: Robert M. Fossum
FROM: James W. Maxwell
DATE: December 17, 1990
SUBJECT: Joint Summer Research Committee Report

The 1990 Joint Summer Research Conferences were held at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst from June 7 to July 4. This was the ninth installment in the conference series begun in 1981.

The topics and organizers for the series of conferences were selected by the AMS-IMS-SIAM Committee on Joint Summer Research Conferences in the Mathematical Sciences at a meeting held in Washington D.C. on February 25, 1990. All members were present. The 1990 Committee to select the topics for the conferences were: W. B. Arveson, J. A. Burns, M. Golubitsky, D. J. Kleitman, A. W. Knapp, I. Olkin, M. E. Rudin, S. Simpson and G. J. Zuckerman.

Six separate conferences were held. A total of 276 participants registered for the conferences. Support was granted by the National Science Foundation under Grant #DMS-8613199 with supplementary funding from the Office of Naval Research.

A Final Report detailing the individual conferences is on file.

A.22 Canadian Mathematics Society.

NOTICE:

This attachment consists of two letters that were both addressed to Robert Fossum and are relating to a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Mathematics Society in December 1990. Chandler Davis of the AMS attended the meeting as a representative of the AMS.

The purpose of both letters is to inform Robert Fossum of topics of interest to both societies that were discussed at the CMS Board meeting. Both letters agree that very little of interest to the AMS was to be reported from the meeting.

A hardcopy of the letters is available from the office of

Prof. Robert Fossum
American Mathematical Society
Department of Mathematics
University of Illinois
1409 W Green St
Urbana, IL 61801-2975 / USA
Phone: (217) 244-1741
Fax: (217) 244-8192
Internet: robert@odin.math.uiuc.edu

A.23 AMS-MAA Data Committee

Report of the AMS-MAA Data Committee

Date: November 9, 1990
To: Robert M. Fossum, Secretary AMS
Gerald L. Alexanderson, Secretary MAA
From: Edward A. Connors, Chair
Re: 1990 Annual Report

1990 was the first year of the Committee's existence as a standing Committee (formerly we were a subcommittee of the AMS-MAA Committee on Employment and Educational Policy).

In March we met in Providence to plan the 1990 Annual AMS-MAA Survey. Six separate questionnaires were sent out during 1990 to gather data on:

- doctorates in the mathematical sciences granted from July 1989 to June 1990 (numbers, sex/race/citizenship, employment status, starting salaries, etc.)
- faculty salaries
- departmental characteristics (faculty size, faculty flow, fall enrollments, number of graduate students, number of undergraduate majors, etc.)

The November 1990 NOTICES OF THE AMS carried the first report of the 1990 Survey, reporting data on new doctorates and faculty salaries (highlights will appear in an issue of MAA FOCUS). In spring 1991 we will report departmental characteristics and updated employment status of new doctorates. Free reprints of Annual Survey reports are available from the AMS office in Providence. Press releases disseminated highlights of the reports nationally. Annual Survey reports are frequently quoted by national press scientific reporters in such vehicles as THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION and THE SCIENTIST.

Data gathered on available support for graduate students are published in the annual AMS publication ASSISTANTSHIPS AND GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS IN THE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES. The Committee approved changing the publication schedule in order to get the data in the hands of graduate advisors and potential graduate students earlier in the academic year (beginning in 1990 the A&GF will be published each October).

The Committee attempts to stay abreast of other professional societies' data gathering work through representation on the Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology (currently the chair is the AMS representative to CPST), by maintaining contacts with government agencies collecting data on the mathematical sciences, and with other AMS and MAA committees who require data or help with surveys. Invited guests to the March 1990 Data Committee meeting were: Mary Golladay (National Science Foundation), Phil Huneke (AMS-MAA Committee on Teaching Assistants and Part-time Instructors), and Patricia Cross (Association for Women in Mathematics). Members of the Data Committee have overlap with the CBMS Survey Committee, providing liaison with the work on the 1990 CBMS Survey. Improvements to the AMS database of departments of mathematical sciences, used for annual surveys, were made

in preparation for the CBMS Survey, which is also utilizing the Annual Survey support staff in Providence for data collection and processing.

Data Committee members worked with the ad hoc AMS Library Committee in the planning of a survey of mathematical libraries. Their questionnaire was mailed under the aegis of the Annual AMS-MAA Survey in fall 1990 and a special Annual Survey report will be prepared by the Library Committee for spring 1991.

The Committee decided that a one-day meeting was no longer sufficient to consider both long-range data gathering issues and the design of detailed survey questionnaires. They therefore decided to meet every January at the Annual Meeting to consider long-range survey items, and again every March, when a subgroup will work on the design of the questionnaires for the current year's survey. I am pleased to report that Donald E. McClure has accepted appointment as Chair of this Committee, beginning January 1, 1991.

EAC/mxf

A.24 **European Mathematical Society**

NOTICE:

This attachments consists of a brief letter by D. A. R. Wallace of Strathclyde University to Donovan van Osdol, managing editor of the Notices, announcing the formation of the European Mathematical Society, and a news release describing the new organization in more detail.

A hardcopy can be obtained from the office of

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Phone: (217) 244-1741
Fax: (217) 244-8192
Internet: robert@odin.math.uiuc.edu

A.25 Assisting East European Mathematicians

November 28, 1990

Professor Lenore Blum American Mathematical Society

Re: Center for Theoretical Study in Prague

Dear Lenore,

Following our personal conversation I enclose a description of our Center for Theoretical Study in Prague.

In addition I am happy to report that we are now particularly strong in Mathematics having as scholars-in-residence Dr. Bohuslav Balcar (Topological Dynamics, Boolean Algebras) and Dr. Roman Kotecky (Mathematical Physics). We have arrangements for short-term visits of professors Thomas Jech (Penn State), Washek F. Pfeffer (UC Davis), and F. Franek (McMaster University). In January 1991 we co-sponsor the Winter School on Abstract Analysis (Srni, Czechoslovakia) and we plan a Workshop on Phase Transitions: Physics, Mathematics, Biology, Society for 1992 in Prague.

After many years of a virtual cut from the world scientific community and from the newest literature we are now eager to establish new contacts, exchange of information and access to literature. However, as you probably know, our currency difficulties prevent us from doing it in the way we would need.

I would like to ask you to discuss certain possibilities of help from the AMS in this respect. For instance a complimentary membership of our Center in the AMS, at least for some limited period of time, would be extremely helpful to us.

Sincerely yours,

Ivan M. Havel
Center for Theoretical Study
Charles University
Ovocny trh 5
116 36 Praha 1 - Stare Mesto
Czechoslovakia

CENTER FOR THEORETICAL STUDY

An institute of advanced research affiliated to Charles University in Prague

I. MOTIVATION The Czechoslovak Revolution of November 1989 created new conditions and opened up new possibilities for dealing with the problems accumulated over the past forty years. International isolation and the distortion produced by the pressure of ideological commitments led to the under-development of wide theoretical inquiry and produced, among other unhealthy conditions, a dis-association of the different branches of learning notably in the divorce of science from humanities. The existing institutional framework of contemporary Czechoslovak science interferes with the proper communication between, and interaction among, the various branches of learning. We feel that there is, within the Czechoslovak scientific community, a growing demand for an institute designed to bridge the artificial separation of various disciplines, and where appropriate, to integrate their efforts. Such an organization would also help Czechoslovak science and scholarship to enter the international arena. It would also be designed to facilitate an intensive interaction and a collegial collaboration between Czechoslovak and foreign scholars.

II. AIMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTER We are establishing the Center for Theoretical Study as an institution for advanced theoretical research covering a broad range from Mathematical and Natural Sciences to Humanities that would create an opportunity to overcome the barriers of scientific specialization. Its aim is to stimulate close international cooperation and the fruitful cross-fertilization of ideas, influencing thereby the existing Universities and other scientific institutions in Czechoslovakia and advancing the quality of research in affiliation with the Charles University in Prague. This should also contribute to the revival, in modern setting, of the original idea of universality, which was for this University, one of the oldest in Europe (founded 1348), characteristic.

The activities of the Center will begin with a small number of projects coordinated by scholars and scientists from Czechoslovakia and abroad. Some of them will be long term members of the Center, others will have contracts with the Center lasting from half a year to three years.

An International Advisory Board will help in establishing the direction of the Center.

Each professor will be able to build a small research group consisting of up to four members at a post-doctoral level with two ideally from Czechoslovakia and two from abroad. Members of a research group would have short-term contracts lasting from three months to one year. The members of research groups could also work with graduate students from corresponding Departments of the University or other scientific institutions in Czechoslovakia.

In addition the Center will accept short-term visiting scholars and organize seminars and workshops on particular topics with emphasis on cross-disciplinary thinking.

Among the workshops planned for next two years are: Winter School on Abstract Analysis (January 12-26, 1991), Workshop on Evolution of Interstellar Matter and Dynamics of Galaxies (May 21-25, 1991), Workshop on Phase Transitions: Physics, Mathematics, Biology, Society (1992).

III. FUNDING The Czechoslovak currency expenses of the Center are partially covered by funds of the Charles University with which the Center is associated. Part of the salaries of senior scholars from abroad and other expenses in convertible currency will be covered by various foundations and

private contributions from the U.S. and other countries. An initial grant has been received from the Westinghouse Foundation.

Tax-deductible contributions in the U.S. may be channeled through The Czech and Slovak Civic Forum Foundation, 4900 Massachusetts Ave, Suite 304, Washington D.C. 20016 U.S.A., phone (202) 966-1888.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE CENTER The Organizing Committee of the Center is made up of the Local Scientific Committee:

Dr. I.M.Havel (Chairman)

Dr. B. Balcar

Dr. R. Kotecky

Dr. J. Musil

Dr. J. Palous

and representatives of Charles University:

Prof.K.Maly (Vice Rector)

Dr J.Winkler (Director of Administration)

The Organizing Committee has been fortunate in having Prof. H. Wolf, Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, USA, assume the chair of the International Advisory Board to the Center for Theoretical Study. The present members of the Board are Prof. Jurg Frohlich, ETH Zurich, Switzerland, and Prof. Per Olof Lindblad, Stockholm Observatory, Sweden.

The address:

Charles University
Ovocny trh 5
116 36 Praha 1 - Stare Mesto
Czechoslovakia

Address for visitors: Celetna 20, Praha 1.

Phone: (42-2) 263-089

Fax: (42-2) 266-503

To: Lenore Blum

Dear Lenore:

This note concerns a burning issue which is probably on the minds of many AMS members.

The issue is the situation in Eastern and Central Europe, and how the AMS and other American scientific societies should react to the new circumstances there.

The downfall of the secretive communist regimes offers entirely new and vastly increased possibilities in free communication, including scientific information. This is therefore a good time for the AMS to establish a visible presence in the region.

On the other hand, along with the profound economic and social crisis in the entire region, the traditionally high standards of education and basic research are in great jeopardy.

I believe that a concerted effort focused on a relatively small number of strong centers of research and higher education could make a difference.

Attached below is a first draft of a proposed agenda for an ACM Committee for Central and Eastern Europe. I have been appointed to chair the ACM committee; other members are currently being recruited.

I believe most of what I am saying in the ACM draft applies equally to the AMS. In particular, the AMS ought to share the leadership role I propose ACM to take in pioneering an effort to provide well focussed assistance to the region.

Currently the AMS has a system of reciprocity membership agreements with countries around the world, including some in the region.

AMS charges reduced fees to reciprocity members. I have to point out that even these fees are exorbitant for researchers making their living in the countries of the region; and the services provided in exchange are of little value. The annual gross income of a full professor at a leading Hungarian university is less than US \$3000; more than 80% taxes, housing, basic food.

For someone with such an income, reduced fees at AMS conferences are meaningless since he/she cannot even think of paying the air fare to the U.S. and the hotel bills. Receiving the AMS Notices is an unnecessary luxury (also, quite space consuming since the new pompous and disappointingly wasteful format has been introduced). Reduced rate subscriptions remain inaccessible and are again unnecessary luxury. People live in small apartments, several people share a small office; journals are better stored in libraries.

While the reciprocity membership structure was not meant to serve Eastern Europe, it is also entirely out of touch with the needs of the region. One of the primary benefits for an East European scientist from AMS membership would be a listing in the Joint Membership List, an invaluable means allowing him/her to be contacted, which is almost synonymous to allowing him/her to exist. This benefit should be available at a substantially lower cost.

The subscription benefits would better be directed toward the libraries.

The tremendous information flow of the West and especially of the U.S. ought to be shared by scientists of Eastern and Central Europe, on terms they can afford, and in ways that take their needs into account.

The ways in which the AMS could assist should be studied carefully, and the costs and benefits to the AMS assessed frankly. Of particular importance are possible ways in which the AMS could help in getting the community of leading scientific publishers involved, perhaps giving up a little part of their predator instincts and taking a more long-term view. Lending an institutional structure to a concerted effort would also be invaluable.

The suggestions below are merely a first reflection and are intended to raise further thoughts.

I should stress that Eastern and Central Europe has a deep educational and research tradition and has contributed to the world's supply of first rate theoretical scientists out of all proportions. On the other hand, apart from the Soviet Union, the region is relatively small and has a highly concentrated structure of higher education and basic research.

These observations should indicate that a strong effort is both worthwhile and may have visible effects. In particular, substantial help to only a handful of mathematical libraries in each country could make a world of a difference to (informationally) starving scholars and students in the region. I'll welcome comments and suggestions.

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Tentative proposal for agenda of an ACM Committee
on Eastern and Central Europe

by Laszlo Babai

The text below should be considered a first draft. I have not had time to collect hard data so I draw mostly on my personal experiences in several countries of the region as well as on conversations with colleagues. Most concrete examples given concern Hungary, the country I am most familiar with. It seems reasonable to assume that regarding most per capita parameters relevant to the discussion below (equipment, salaries, budgets, general working conditions) Hungary is somewhere in the middle range among the countries affected.

1. The definition of the region. It should include the postcommunist societies of Eastern and Central Europe (Eastern Europe for short) with either an independent statehood or a strong sense of and drive for independence. The current list should be: Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, the Soviet Union, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Candidates to be added in the future might be Moldavia, Armenia, and Georgia. A special status of the eastern part of united Germany may be considered. Albania should be included after some signs of glasnost emerge. The differences between Serbia and the western constituent republics of Yugoslavia may warrant separate representation of Serbia and Croatia-Slovenia-Bosnia-Herzegovina. The separate interests of large national minorities in some countries should not be overlooked and in some cases their representation also considered.

2. Background. The principal common component in the region is the common past of Soviet domination. Other than this, the historic background, cultural tradition, level of industrialization, and current political situation in these countries show great differences. One universal feature is that each of them is in a state of social and economic crisis, but the nature and depth of the difficulties, while showing some common elements, differ wildly.

One important feature shared, to varying degrees, by all countries of the region, is a tradition of emphasis on education and talent search. While the educational systems of these countries might be labeled elitist in a sense, their systems of talent search - especially in mathematics - has gained worldwide admiration and largely accounts for the spectacular success of these, mostly tiny, countries at the International Mathematics Olympiads for high school students.

Basic research, considered a matter of prestige by previous communist regimes, has produced world class scientific bases.

Current turbulence, a general change of values, the breakdown of communist institutions without the immediate emergence of substitutes, and financial and economic misery threaten with a collapse of these valuable assets. New and extremely costly priorities such as concern for the abused environment and the need for more and better roads, amidst IMF pressure to keep government spending low, force education and basic research way down on the list of budget priorities.

Scientific and educational institutions in the region are in a state of emergency. Lack of space and empty maintenance budgets aggravate the physical working conditions of professors and researchers. (At the Mathematical Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, an average of 6 people share an office; at Leningrad State University, an entire department shares a few desks. People tend to try to work in their small apartments in concrete block housing complexes. Even blackboards

and toilets are not properly maintained.) Operational budgets are pitiful. At Eotvos University, Budapest, the top Hungarian institution of higher learning, a department of 12 professors has a yearly budget of cca. \$800. to cover everything from chalk and telephone to photocopying, mail, and replacement of broken furniture. The computational equipment of a typical Hungarian high school consists of one or two Commodore-64's for 600 students. The above mentioned department at Eotvos University has three AT-clones to support faculty and administration; no computers are currently available for teaching.

3. Scientific information. Scientific libraries deserve particular attention. Until a decade or so ago at least the major centers used to have decent libraries which subscribed a substantial body of the leading literature. This is no longer the case. In the past few years, an explosive growth of computer science literature has continued, with new journals appearing on the market at a rate of 4-8 per year. Mathematics and probably other fields have a similar experience. Some existing journals have increased their volumes, and essentially each of them regularly increase subscription fees. On the other hand library budgets in Hungary have, after years of stagnation, been cut drastically over the past few years. The new democratic government is not in the position to change this trend and in fact it has already further reduced research spending. It is naive to think that economy will bounce back any time soon in the countries of the region. In the words of a leading Hungarian economist, what the country's economy is entering now is not the Canaan, but the 40 years in the desert. The prospects for most countries in the region are hardly better.

It is not that these libraries face some hardship in the future, they already are in the state of FAMINE, their budgets being on STARVATION level. Even some (probably many) libraries in major centers of research have not made any new journal subscription over the past 5-8 years, while the number of important journals in many areas has nearly doubled.

The huge gaps already render once reliable libraries grossly inadequate, and even if economic recovery occurs optimistically within a decade, it will be all but impossible to fill the gaps. Generations of researchers will suffer the effects which may add a great deal to the wave of emigration of scientists. Other avenues of obtaining scientific information are also costly and require hardware. Online databases are heavily priced and therefore available only at a handful of privileged locations. While library space is scarce, space saving devices like microfilm and microfiche readers are virtually nonexistent.

4. Education. The lack of textbooks, computers, office and teaching space are aggravated by an exodus of the most qualified researchers. While these countries have produced a large number of scientists of international standing, today's students in some places have difficulty finding an appropriate advisor.

5. Proposed approach. ACM of course cannot solve this complex system of largely economic problems. I contend, however, that an appropriate effort on the side of ACM could make a visible difference, especially if ACM is able to draw other societies such as SIAM, AMS, IEEE into cooperation on these matters.

The ACM approach should be geared toward the needs of the individual countries and greatly focused in order to achieve maximum effect in each country.

We should forget all about short term financial benefits to ACM.

I believe if ACM builds a favorable image among computer scientists in the region, this will amply pay off in the long run. But right now ACM's approach should mostly be that of an engine of relief efforts.

I believe that at a relatively small cost, great values could be saved in these countries, and meanwhile an ACM network built.

But this requires a considerate approach, including the recognition that most services American members of the ACM consider valuable are useless or a luxury at best for people in the region.

6. Donation efforts and possible pitfalls A natural reaction of the rich to the needs of the poor is: rather than discarding, donate material and equipment.

Without appropriate organization, this method has little use.

6.a. Pitfalls of equipment donation. While diversity is refreshing in the domain of ideas, pouring a variety of computer equipment over a small country leads to increased fragmentation of efforts there for the reasons of incompatibility.

The computers overwhelmingly used in Hungary both in business and in higher education are IBM PC clones. There is a lucky uniformity in this, which caused a lot of expertise, software, etc. arise in Hungary around these machines, thereby avoiding a usual pitfall which Western "selfless" donors love to push the needy into: debilitating diversity. I don't care whether other machines are better or not, the mere fact that there is a standard for which all the expertise and tools needed are now locally available is priceless.

If the same standard developed in nearby countries, this would enable these countries to have their own collaboration, not just act as appendixes of the West.

Another pitfall of equipment donation may be that places get rid of old photocopiers and other equipment because of high maintenance costs, to obtain more cost-efficient models. To send the discarded machines to the poor countries may be an expensive gift unless it is accompanied by a continuing maintenance grant.

An equipment donation effort should therefore be organized such that

- donated equipment should be cost-efficient
- accompanies by a maintenance grant covering maintenance and operating costs for at least 5 years. (Perhaps a portion of the donated machines should be sold to cover the continuing maintenance and operation of the rest.)
- the equipment should be compatible with existing infrastructure of the location or the region. If no relevant infrastructure exists, a policy should be developed, in collaboration with those familiar with the needs of the region, to define standards so that at least the recipients of the donation effort could share the infrastructure (expertise, software, spare parts, etc.) they will develop on the basis of donated equipment.

6.b. Library donations: clearing house Here it has to be emphasized that what East European scientific libraries need is *first rate* material. This kind of material is not usually discarded by Western libraries, so donation of discarded material does little good.

What "first rate" refers to here is content, not the condition of the book or the quality of the paper. Used textbooks are good material for donation assuming no pages are missing; but even here, in

channeling what should go where, some coordinating seems necessary. (E.g. there is usually a greater need in computer texts than in classical introductory mathematics such as calculus. If we really mean to help education, several copies of exactly the same text have to be available in the same library.)

There is a most pressing need for access to research literature (books, journals, conference publications, reviewing literature).

Publishers should be persuaded to agree to low-cost reprinting of their publications (on paper of poor quality) for controlled sale to libraries in Eastern Europe. (Such mechanisms seem to work reasonably well in India.)

Many members of ACM and other societies receive journal subscriptions with their membership. Donations of such material could serve as valuable back issues for libraries.

Both book and journal donations require substantial organization. A clearing house should be set up, with an on-line database of available material which could be directly ordered, at nominal cost, by East-European libraries.

6.c. Fees, revenues, currency As the above suggestions indicate, I propose most donations to be based on requests by the recipients. Rather than making them free, a nominal fee should be charged so that recipients be forced to select what they need most. (Even nominal fees will be nontrivial for most recipients.)

Very important: the revenues should be collected in local currency by a foundation in each country and reinvested in the same country to promote educational objectives.

These suggestions apply to the membership fee structure as well.

7. Some proposals for the agenda of the committee. I believe ACM could (and should) take leadership in organizing an effort to aid the Eastern and Central European scientific communities. While grand efforts in this direction are under way by West European governments, one would hope that the ACM-led effort would be more focused, better geared to the needs of the region, and less bureaucratic.

7.a. Find data about the circumstances of research and education in major institutions in each country. This should include information regarding operating budgets, equipment, and libraries. Publicize the findings.

7.b. Determine a list of libraries where effort would best be focused.

7.c. Propose a campaign plan to get other societies involved and to get the attention of the scientific and publishing communities. The latter should be persuaded that these problems cannot be solved by market mechanisms.

7.d. Methods of less expensive dissemination of information should be considered. These include printing on less expensive paper, donating to a small number of selected libraries at incremental cost (i.e. essentially the cost of the paper, no overhead). *Nota bene:* this should mean a 90% greater reduction in price; a mere 50% of the literature inaccessible. ACM and other organizations should help bring publishers together to work out such solutions - they would still gain by selling at least something in places where now they would be selling nothing.

Electronic media could have a significant effect. Costs of continuing operation and maintenance of hardware should not be ignored, however. Priority should be given to media with low operating costs (such as compact disks).

- 7.e.** A clearing house for journal/book donations should be set up, with up-to-date on-line catalogues with free access and regular printed updates distributed to target libraries.

These are first thoughts only. But the number of libraries in question is not too large (at least if we set the vast problems of the Soviet Union aside) so the problem seems tractable with a concerted effort.

On the other hand, some of these suggestions may only work if done on large scale (like low cost reprinting); they might trigger a process of thinking differently about the vastly greater problems of the Third World.

- 7.f.** Recommend membership structure for Eastern and Central Europe. The benefits for someone in the region of ACM membership and the related expenses incurred by ACM should be honestly discussed. In my view, the two major benefits to an East-European scientist of being a member of ACM is access to conference announcements and getting onto the membership list. Reduced rate individual subscriptions are meaningless because even those favorable fees are beyond the reach of one who makes his/her living in those countries. To disseminate journals, the libraries should be the focus (see above). To save mailing costs, conference announcements could be mailed in batches to ACM chapters for local distribution. Membership fee should be nominal and payable in local currency (which is not convertible) and not be linked to any subscriptions. I trust that ACM could find some way to absorb the resulting extra costs which should not be staggering. In any case, a frank cost assessment should be discussed and possible funding sources sought. This would mean zero revenue to ACM from membership fees, which seems the correct approach for the time being. Those who spend considerable time working in the West but maintain their residence in East Europe ought to be offered an intermediate rate.
- 7.g.** Determine further ways in which ACM can assist Eastern and Central European affiliate organizations and other scientific and educational bodies and individuals. I would give high priority to helping education, especially with textbooks and educational software.

The following mail was received by the Providence office just as the agenda was being prepared.

Return-Path: <drasin@euclid.math.purdue.edu>

Received: from euclid.math.purdue.edu by MATH.AMS.COM via SMTP with

TCP; Wed, 12 Dec 90 10:53:05-EDT

Received: by euclid.math.purdue.edu (5.61/1.13jrs) id AA12870; Wed,

12 Dec 90 10:48:51 -0500

Date: Wed, 12 Dec 90 10:48:51 -0500

From: drasin@euclid.math.purdue.edu (David Drasin)

Message-Id: <9012121548.AA12870@euclid.math.purdue.edu>

To: exdir@math.ams.com

Subject: Soviet mathematicians

Some months ago the NY Times quoted American mathematicians as seeing a good side to glasnost, in terms of it making available some outstanding people for our own mathematics.

In the last 2 months, however, it seems clear [I have many good contacts with Soviet mathematicians] that this has become an avalanche, and I think that emergency measures might be considered almost immediately. I assume I need not describe the situation, or quote who is leaving, as you should be familiar with this. But we should also consider

1. This comes at a time that universities are in difficult times, as we enter a recession and when the job market for even the handfull of American young mathematicians is shaky at best (The 'recession' is important since so many jobs depend on the financial health of the various states)
2. One could say that the USSR has the second or third best school of mathematics in the world. If it is decimated, it will be an overwhelming loss to our profession, but almost all factors which have caused the collapse are beyond our control.
3. In the 1930's people feared for their lives, and it does not appear that the situation in the USSR is at that level. On the other hand, the large number of people leaving in one short time period (as opposed to 5-7 years in the 1930's) is unprecedented, I think (I was born in 1940, so my memory is not too secure here).

However, the collapse has been so fast (even in September, I would not have imagined it possible) that fast action seems warranted. Someone should make a serious proposal to the council, and something should be done this spring. I know that \$\$ are a problem, but maybe the troops could end Operation Desert Shield 10 minutes early. One possibility might be that NSF restore the salary cap, cut a few more people, and institute a number of research positions for 1-2 years at MINIMAL levels of support. In that case, the very best people could be supported for a year or so, and if things showed some stability, they might return. There might be other avenues, but this is what occurs to me now.

The 80's have been, from my point of view, a disaster for mathematics in the US, and I have felt that the AMS has really let things slide[but this is not the time for such discussions]. I am not sure what should be done with this latest crisis, but I think that you should come up with some statement, and some recommended course of action for the Departments. David Drasin.

A.26 Resolution on Lorch and Davis

NOTICE:

This three-page attachment contains the following:

- a letter from Lee Lorch to Robert Fossum expressing his gratitude for the adoption of a resolution regarding the awarding of an honorary degree to Lorch in recognition of injustices perpetrated upon him in 1949 for his political beliefs by the City University of New York;
- the clipping from the City College Alumnus newsletter of Fall 1990 in which Lee Lorch is mentioned as having been hounded for his political convictions (Lorch requested the clipping to be included in the attachment);
- a letter written to William Browder by Mr. Don Edwards of the US House of Representatives in which Mr Edwards suggests to Browder to contact the American Civil Liberties Union in the matter of expunging the contempt citation imposed on Chandler Davis of the AMS in 1954.

A hardcopy of this material is available from the office of

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