

Board Meeting 12/13/2019

13 December 2019 / NOON PDT / Zoom

ATTENDEES

Online: Ron Buckmire, Doug Lind, Chris Goff, Lily Khadjavi (phone), Alexander Hoover

Absent: Robert Bryant, Mike Hill, David Crombecque, Andrew Bernoff

AGENDA

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. There was no agenda for the meeting!

New Business

- Updates

NOTES

1. Two Panels are being sponsored by Spectra:

[MAA Panel](#): Supporting Transgender and Non-binary Students, organized by Juliette Bruce, University of Wisconsin, Christopher Goff, University of the Pacific, and Greg McCarthy, Hampshire College; **Saturday, 9:00–10:20 am**. Transgender, non-binary, and gender nonconforming students often feel isolated and unsupported in their mathematics education. Panelists will share their experiences and suggest ways that universities (faculty, staff, and administration) can be more supportive of transgender and non-binary students. In addition, this panel hopes to spark frank conversations amongst university faculty, staff, and administration about structural changes that can be made that will increase the gender diversity of mathematics departments. This panel will explore these issues and

examine some of the options. Panelists are Juliette Bruce, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Randy Dominick, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Maxie Lahn, University of Michigan; and Terry Mullen, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Panel: *Queer Families and Mathematical Careers*, organized by **Alice Mark**, Vanderbilt University, **Corrin Clarkson**, New York University, and **Alex Hoover**, University of Akron; **Wednesday, 2:15– 3:40 pm**. Balancing a career in math with having a family is something that gets discussed a lot in women in math spaces, but those discussions often leave out the experiences particular to LGBTQ mathematicians and our families. Our goal with this panel is to broaden the conversation about the interaction between family and career to include and represent queer families. In this discussion we will have an expansive, inclusive definition of family. Families may have kids or no kids, one adult or several adults, be genetically related or not etc. The types of connections that exist in queer families are not always perceived as familial. Even when they are recognized, it can often feel like you're forging your way through uncharted territory. What family considerations get taken into account when making academic career decisions? How does being queer impact these considerations?

2. Hoover and Buckmire would be liked to get access to the LGBTMath.org website
3. Spectra receptions are all set for 2020 JMM
 - a. Spectra Reception and Reception-Thursdays January 16th, 6–8pm (Hyatt Mineral Hall B)
 - b. Spectra Off-site reception-Friday January 17th, 6–8pm ([Triangle Bar](#))
4. Invitation from Catherine Roberts breakfast at 730a: Mike Hill (will go) and (we will ask if Alex Hoover can be added)
5. Agenda for Spectra Business Meeting, JMM 2020 (Friday 3–5pm, Hyatt Mineral Hall B)
 - a. Results of Survey
 - b. Mission and Goals
 - c. Officer Structure
 - d. Workshop proposal by Alex Hoover

- e. Invite agenda items
- f. Virtual follow-up meeting after JMM
- 6. Survey of Spectra Membership (by next week December 20)
 - a. FOUR QUESTIONS/BUCKETS
 - i. Spectra is interested in developing a mission statement and goals and objectives. In order to inform this process we are surveying YOU, our members. **What should Spectra do? (select more than one)**
 - 1. Provide support for mathematicians
 - 2. Programming at large meetings of mathematicians (Joint Math Meetings, Mathfest, SIAM Annual meeting, etc)
 - 3. Advocacy for LGBTQ+ Mathematicians
 - 4. Collect and disseminate best practices for the support of mathematicians
 - 5. [Open Ended Response]
 - ii. What is the most important thing Spectra should do? (select one from above list – open ended response)
 - iii. Please provide suggestions for what kinds of programming Spectra should do/provide at JMM: [Open ended response]
 - iv. What information would you like to see on the Spectra website (lgbtmath.org?)
 - 1. The Outlist of openly LGBTQ+ Mathematicians and allies
 - 2. Information about upcoming events
 - 3. Resources for LGBTQ+ mathematicians
 - 4. Resources for departments/chairs regarding best practices to support LGBTQ+ mathematicians
 - 5. [open ended response]

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Chris Goff:** will follow up with the Supporting Trans Students panel
2. **DECISION:** Decision at the JMM board meeting who will be on the “A Word From...” AMS Notices: **February 15 2020 for review process to begin** goes live **March 15 2020**

3. **ALEX HOOVER:** Post JMM information on the Spectra website after contacting **Mike Hill** about getting back-end access to Ron and Alex

Report of the At-Large Member for Inclusion to MAA Council on the Profession 2020 JMM, Denver

1. JMM 2020 Activities (re LGBTQ+, mental health, inclusion, etc.)
 - a. Programming as liaison:
 - i. MAA Panel: Supporting Transgender and Non-binary Students, organized by Juliette Bruce, University of Wisconsin, Christopher Goff, University of the Pacific, and Greg McCarthy, Hampshire College; Saturday, 9:00–10:20 am.
 - ii. AWM Panel: Queer Families and Mathematical Careers, organized by Alice Mark, Vanderbilt University, Corrin Clarkson, New York University, and Alex Hoover, University of Akron; Wednesday, 2:15–3:40 pm.
 - b. Other related programming:
 - i. AMS Panel Discussion: Mental Health in the Mathematics Profession, organized by Justin Curry, SUNY Albany and Mikael Vejdemo-Johansson, CUNY College of Staten Island/CUNY Graduate Center, Wednesday, 2:15–3:45 pm.
 - ii. MAA-AMS Panel: Living Proof: Stories of Resilience Along the Mathematical Journey, organized by Allison Henrich, Seattle University, Emille Lawrence, University of San Francisco, Matthew Pons, North Central College, and David Taylor, Roanoke College; Friday, 1:00–2:20 pm.
 - iii. MAA Panel: MAA Session for Chairs Topic: Equity, Diversity, Inclusion in the Mathematics Classroom, organized by Linda Braddy, Tarrant County College Northeast Campus, and Catherine Murphy, Purdue University Northwest; Thursday, 9:00–10:20 am.
 - c. Social/Administrative events
 - i. Spectra Reception and Reception-Thursday January 16th, 6-8pm (Hyatt Mineral Hall B)
 - ii. Spectra Business Meeting-Friday January 17th, 3-5pm (Hyatt Mineral Hall B)
 - iii. Spectra Off-site reception-Friday January 17th, 6-8pm (Triangle Bar)
2. Other Items
 - a. The AMS is now collecting voluntary membership data about sexual orientation and personal pronouns, and members control how publicly that information can be shared. The MAA might want to adopt something similar.

- b. The Spectra website now has an Out List and an Ally List, for those individuals who wish to identify themselves as such.
- c. Several Spectra members wrote an article for the AMS *Notices* about the history of the formation of a group of LGBTQ+ mathematicians that meets regularly at the JMM. The article appeared in the June/July 2019 issue.
- d. Some Spectra members also submitted a chapter to an MAA Press book proposal on inclusivity and community-building by Deanna Haunsperger et al.
- e. Maintaining an LGBTQ+ presence at other conferences:
 - i. LG&TBQ conference in June 2019, University of Michigan:
<https://www.math.wisc.edu/~kent/LG&TBQ.about.html>;
 - ii. Mathfest 2020/SIAM ED20 Spectra reception in Philadelphia, Thursday July 30, 2020 6-8pm
- f. The Spectra Board wrote to the Joint Math Policy Board (JMPB) to raise concerns about the location of the 2022 International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM): St. Petersburg, Russia. The main concerns were for the safety of LGBTQ+ mathematicians, and an unwillingness to spend tourist money to support a government hostile to LGBTQ+ identities. Last I heard, the presidents of those four societies (MAA, AMS, SIAM, ASA) were drafting a letter to send to the International Mathematical Union (IMU), the organization that oversees the ICM.