THE SEAWAY CURRENT

A Newsletter of the Seaway Section of the Mathematical Association of America

Volume 29, Number 1   Fall, 2005

Spring Meeting: SUNY Geneseo, October 28-29

SUNY Geneseo will host this Fall's meeting on Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29.   Located in the village of Geneseo, on the edge of the Finger Lakes Region and near the roaring waters of the Genesee river, SUNY Geneseo is a four-year, public liberal arts college; the most selective institution in the State University of New York. Founded in 1871 as the Wadsworth Normal and Training School, SUNY Geneseo became an original member of SUNY in 1948. SUNY Geneseo offers 48 undergraduate majors in the arts and sciences, business, education, and the performing arts. The College typically enrolls about 4,950 full-time undergraduate students and 50 graduate students. SUNY Geneseo is one of 19 members of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges, an alliance which promotes nationally the values of superior undergraduate liberal education in a public college setting. In concert with other national higher education associations, COPLAC has become a strong voice for the indispensable role of the liberal arts and sciences – "the arts befitting a free people."

Both the Friday evening and Saturday programs will take place on campus. The activities on Friday begin at 3:00 pm in MacVittie College Union with a meeting of the Executive Committee.   Friday evening's activities also take place in MacVittie Union. The ever-popular social hour begins at 6:00 pm, followed by the banquet.

After dinner, **Colm Mulcahy** of Spelman College will speak on "Eine Kleine Nachtmagic". Colm Mulcahy earned a B.Sc and M.Sc. in Mathematical Science from University College Dublin, in Ireland, in the late 1970s. A few years after getting his Ph.D. for research in abstract algebra under the direction of Alex F.T.W. Rosenberg at Cornell University in 1985, he joined the faculty at Spelman College, in Atlanta, Georgia. His interests have since expanded to include number theory, geometry, geometric design, image processing and data compression, as well as the math of voting and mathematical biology. He got hooked on mathematical card tricks a few years ago, and is now is a member of Georgia's Ring 9 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. He likes music, running, eating and cooking, not necessarily in that order. In his spare time he is the chair of the Department of Mathematics at Spelman.

The meeting resumes Saturday morning at 8:40 am in Newton Lecture Hall with a welcoming statement by **Christopher Dahl**, President of SUNY Geneseo. This will be followed by a talk by **Peter Turner** of Clarkson University. The talk is titled "Overcoming the effects of the Logarithmic Distribution of Numbers: Gradual and Tapered Overflow and Underflow".   Peter Turner grew up in England – in the Liverpool area in the Beatles era. He received his B.Sc. (Honors) in Mathematics in 1970 and his Ph.D. in Pure Mathematics in 1973, both from the University of Sheffield. After a year as a postdoc in Applied Mathematics at Sheffield, he joined the faculty of the University of Lancaster as a Lecturer in Numerical Analysis. During this time his research interests developed to include systems of computer arithmetic. In 1987, Turner moved to the U.S. Naval Academy where he stayed until taking up his current position as Chair of Mathematics and Computer Science at Clarkson in 2002. He has published four undergraduate texts in scientific computing, edited three volumes of conference proceedings, (co-)authored more than 40 research papers, and served on national committees for SIAM.

After a short break, the talks resume at 9:45 with "Episodes in the Early History of the Lucasian Chair" by **Jim Tattersall** of Providence College.   Jim received his undergraduate degree in mathematics from the University of Virginia, a Master's degree in mathematics from the University of Massachusetts, and a Ph.D. degree in mathematics from the University of Oklahoma. On a number of occasions he has been a visiting scholar at the Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics at Cambridge University. He spent the summer of 1991 as a visiting mathematician at the American Mathematical Society. In 1995-1996, he spent eighteen months as a visiting professor at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He was given awards

for distinguished service (1992) and distinguished college teaching (1997) from the Northeastern Section of the MAA. He is former President of the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Mathematics, the Archivist/Historian of Northeastern Section of the MAA, and an Associate Secretary of the Mathematical Association of America.

This will be followed, at 10:35 by a Business Meeting. The morning program ends with this year's John F. Randolph Lecture by **David Poole** of Trent University: "Everybody Wins: Why Mathematics Courses for Elementary School Teachers Matter and How They Can Benefit All Students". Professor Poole received his B.Sc. in Mathematics from Acadia University and his Ph.D. from McMaster University. Since 1984 he has been in the Department of Mathematics at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario. He served as Chair of that Department for six years and is currently Trent's Associate Dean of Arts & Science (Teaching & Learning). Professor Poole has been a frequent participant in education sessions and working groups of the Mathematical Association of America, the Canadian Mathematical Society, the Canadian Mathematics Education Study Group, and the Mathematics Education Forum of the Fields Institute. For the CMS, he has also served on the Education Committee and chaired the Human Rights Committee. In Ontario, he is a member of the provincial advisory panel for the high school mathematics curriculum. Professor Poole's research interests are in ring theory, discrete mathematics, and mathematics education. He is the author of the textbook Linear Algebra: A Modern Introduction (Brooks/Cole), now in its second edition. While at Trent University, Professor Poole has received three merit awards for excellence in teaching as well as the university's highest award for teaching excellence, the Symons Award. In 2002, he was awarded an Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations Teaching Award and in 2003, he received a 3M Teaching Fellowship, the highest award for university teaching in Canada.

After lunch at noon in the Mary Jenison Dining Hall, the conference resumes in Newton Lecture Hall. Starting at 1:30, there will be several parallel sessions of contributed talks. Of special note is a panel discussion "Whither the Textbook" from 1:30-3:00 and a session of student talks. Some links to details:

Program:
http://www.geneseo.edu/~johannes/seaprog.html

Abstracts:
 http://www.geneseo.edu/~johannes/seaabs.html

On-line Registration Form:
http://www.geneseo.edu/~johannes/seareg.php

Accomodations:
http://www.geneseo.edu/~johannes/seaacc.html

Maps and Local Information:
http://www.geneseo.edu/~johannes/seamap.html

Just for Students:
http://www.geneseo.edu/~johannes/seastu.html

The Whole Darn Thing:
http://www.geneseo.edu/~johannes/seameet.html

        And Thanks very much to the Local Organizers:

Jeff Johannes, Johannes@geneseo.edu (585)-245-5403

Melissa Sutherland, sutherm@geneseo.edu (585) 345-5494

The MAAthematical Tourist

The Settlement of Geneseo began after the arrival of James and William Wadsworth in 1790 in the Genesee River Valley from Connecticut. They were agents of their Uncle, Colonel Jeremiah Wadsworth, authorized to sell and administer the land he had purchased.

Geneseo became the county seat of Livingston County in 1821 and was incorporated as a village in 1832. The State Normal School, now SUNY Geneseo, was opened in 1871 inside the village.

A portion of the village of Geneseo was designated a National Historic Landmark by the United Stated Department of the Interior in 1991.

Letchworth State Park is a state park located 35 miles (56 km) south of Rochester, New York. The park is roughly 15 miles (24 km) long and can be entered from Mount Morris, Perry, Castile, or Portageville. The park covers roughly 23 square miles (60 km²) of land along the Genesee River. Within the park there are three large waterfalls on the river and perhaps as many as 50 waterfalls found on tributaries that flow into it. It is referred to by many as the "Grand Canyon of the East".

The **Finger Lakes** are glacially formed lakes in upstate New York, mainly linear in shape, each lake oriented on a north-south axis. The longest, Cayuga Lake, is 40 miles from end to end, but never more than 3.5 miles wide and not atypical in shape, reminding early map-makers of the fingers of a hand. Both Cayuga and Seneca Lakes each have a depth of more than 400 feet.

The Finger Lakes Region. Roughly the western half of the Finger Lakes region comprised the Phelps and Gorham Purchase of 1790, the largest land purchase in the world to that date. The Finger Lakes region, together with the Genesee Country of Western New York, has been referred to as the Burned-Over District, where, in the 19th century, the Second Great Awakening was a revival of Christianity, and some new religions were also formed.

The Finger Lakes region is an important agricultural belt of New York. Especially around Keuka Lake and the south ends of both Canandaigua and Seneca Lakes are many vineyards and wineries where one can often taste the wines before purchasing them. Most of the area was originally forested with oak, maple, chestnut, ask, hemlock, and beech trees, but the Iroquois maintained, by annual burning, the land between Cayuga and Seneca Lakes as prairie, with herds of bison, normally thought of as a western animal. Today the Finger Lakes area is still known for fishing and hunting.

The southern ends of the lakes are characterized by steeper hills and glacial *hanging valleys* which are tributaries that drop steeply to the lake, often with waterfalls. Taughannock Falls State Park, Fillmore Glen, and Watkins Glen are especially scenic examples that have been made into parks. The Village of Watkins Glen is a producer of table salt and the site of an auto racing course.

Source: **Wikepedia- *The Free Encylopedia* (www.wikipedia.org)**

Future File

Spring 2006: The Spring Meeting will be held at Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY, April 28-29, 2006.   The deadline for contributed talks is February 20th, 2006.

The Seaway section is entitled to a Polya lecturer this year. The Polya lectureship was established by the MAA in 1990 to embody the high standards of exposition exemplified by George Polya. Each year the MAA appoints

two outstanding speakers to be Polya lecturers. The MAA sponsors a Polya lecture for each section every five years. We are delighted to have **Steven Rudich** of Carnegie Melon delivering the Polya lecture for us at our Spring meeting.

Steven Rudich is in the computer science department at Carnegie Mellon University His particular academic interests are in the 'P versus NP' problem, and the mathematical foundations of cryptography. He is editor of the Journal of Crytography. We look forward to his lecture! More information about the Polya lectureship, and about Steven Rudich may be found at http://www.maa.org/sections/Polya_rotate.html.

We will also, as always have a Gehman lecture at the Spring meeting. The Gehman lecture is intended to focus on the applications of mathematics. If you have suggestions for this speaker, send them to Bill Hooper, Clarkson University (hooper@clarkson.edu), chair of the Gehman lecture selection committee.

As always Seaway NExT is planning a workshop for new and recent faculty members – and interested old-timers! Contact Carol Bell, SUNY Cortland (bellc@cortland.edu), the new chair of Seaway NExT, with questions and suggestions.

Fall 2006:
There are tentative plans for a joint meeting with the metro section for fall 06, at Marist college, tentative dates 13-14 October, details still to be finalized!

Chairman's Report

Gary Towsley

It is raining hard in Geneseo this morning as I sit to write this report. I hope that the weather improves before next week's Fall Meeting of the Seaway Section that we are hosting. I hope to see many of you at what promises to be a meeting rich with excellent talks and opportunities for discussion.

We have the section meeting planned for Spring 2006 at Ithaca College, April 28-29. The deadline for contributed talks is February 20, a long way in the future it seems but we know that future dates are always much closer than they appear. Margaret Morrow would love to receive your talk abstract and other suggestions for the program well before the deadline. You can contact her at Mmorrowseaway@aol.com .

Plans are well underway for the Fall 2006 section meeting at Marist College. The location is outside the Seaway Section because this will be a joint meeting with the Metro Section. Details will be forthcoming when they have been finalized.

Speaking of meetings, we are looking for hosts for the Spring 2007 and Fall 2007 meetings.

We are very pleased to have Sam Northshield as the new editor of Seaway Current. It will be his job to catch all the errors of grammar and spelling that I will commit in this Chair's Report.

Finally I urge each of you to look around your department and see if there isn't someone who deserves a nomination for the Clarence Stephens Distinguished Teaching Award. The nomination form is on the section's website and nominations are due by February 1, 2006.

Governor's Report
Luise-Charlotte Kappe

This was my fifth Board of Governors Meeting and the last one at a MathFest. This summer MathFest was held at Albuquerque, NM, in the first week of August. For me it was a venue I had not visited before. It is hot there in the summer, but dry, perhaps an ideal place for a winter meeting. Since I usually have such a full schedule at these meetings keeping me indoors for most of the time, it really does not matter for me where these meetings are held. At least I managed to visit the old town one evening and join the rest of the crowd at the Los Amigos Roundup, a barbecue at an Indian reservation outside of Albuquerque. Aside from the Board of Governors meeting, my time is
filled with other meetings, networking, and at least I try to go to some of the lectures. On short notice I had to take over the organization of a panel for graduate students on the academic job search. There was a good turn-out and everyone involved thought it was a success. I used the opportunity to talk to some of the officers of the Metropolitan Section about a joint section meeting in Fall of 2006 at Marist College and this time there is a good chance of success, contrary to what happened in our first attempt where we ran into insurmountable scheduling problems for such a meeting at West Point. As always, I tried to go to some of the lectures. With pure math talks I do not fare so well, since they induce thinking about my own mathematics in my brain. That's different for other topics. As highlights I want to mention the talk by Alan Tucker at the Saturday banquet, who in his address "The Mathematical Basis of 'Standard-based' Tests: It Makes Cold Fusion Look Respectable" reported on the rather sad state of such tests in New York, and the Leitzel Lecture. William Y. Velez of the University of Arizona got a standing ovation for his talk "Increasing the number of mathematics majors: lessons learned from working with the minority community". As he emphasized, there are no miracle cures. The road to success is full of work, personal commitment and involvement and requires thinking outside the box. You can see more on his website: www.math.arizona.edu/~velez. But now back to the Board of Governors meeting. One thing on the agenda was a restructuring of the membership fee schedule. At the moment governors were only asked about feed-back on something which was not yet very well thought through and most of us did not feel very comfortable about it. It is expected that a finished proposal will come before the board at the next meeting. On the brighter side, we heard that the third annual study tour to the Home of the Ancient Maya was a full success. Next years trip to China looks very tempting, but I seem to have again a scheduling conflict. It is highly recommended to anyone who is interested in it.

Report of the Nomination Committee
John Maceli

The two nominees for Section Governor (To replace Luise Kappe) are **Robert Rogers** of Fredonia and **Jack Narayan** of Oswego. The MAA will run the election and people will get a ballot from MAA after January.

Report of the Clarence Stephens Award Committee
Olympia Nicodemi

The committee requests nominations for the Clarence Stephens Award (previously known as the Distinguished Teaching Award).   To submit nominations, contact Olympia at (nicodemi@geneseo.edu). The deadline for nominations is Jan 31, 2006.

Report of the Seaway Next/PFF Advisory Committee
Joel Foisy (past chair)

Summary of Activities and Expenses:

Fall 2004: MAA departmental liaisons were contacted and asked for names of new faculty members. Those new members were encouraged to join the Seaway NExT list-serve. Several new members did indeed join the list serve.

Spring 2005: The Spring workshop was held before the Spring Seaway Meeting at Queen's University, April 1, 2003. We had four different presentations. **Gary Towsley** (SUNY Geneseo) presented "Integrating Biology into the Calculus II Curriculum." **Luise Charotte Kappe** organized a panel discussion on "Preparing students for graduate school." Panel participants included **Leo Jonker** (faculty, Queen's University), **Luise Charlotte Kappe** (faculty, Binghamton University), **Mark Kleiner** (faculty, Syracuse University), **Bronlyn Wassink** (graduate student, Binghamton University), and **Markus Reitenback** (graduate student, Syracuse University). **Morris Orzech** (Queen's University) presented on "getting students to write good proofs, I, and **Melissa Sutherland** (SUNY Geneseo) and **Jeff Johannes** presented "Getting students to write good proofs, II."

New Seaway NExT Fellows who participated in the sessions included: **Marlo Brown** (Niagara University), **Gordon Craig** (Bishops University), **Karen Hale** (SUNY OCC) (Project ACCESS), **Scosha Merovitz** (Bishops University), **Geanina Tudose** (York University), **Justin Wampler** (SUNY Plattsburgh), **Brad Wilms** (Bishops Univesity).

Graduate student participants included: **Bronlyn Wassink** (Binghamton University), and **Markus Reitenback** (Syracuse Univesity)

Returning fellows who participated included: **Carol Bell** (SUNY Cortland), **Harold Ellingsen** (SUNY Potsdam), **Joel Foisy** (SUNY Potsdam), **Jeff Johannes** (SUNY Geneseo), and **Melissa Sutherland** (SUNY Geneseo).

In addition to our presenters, other participants included: **Wolfgang Kappe** (Binghamton University) and **Olympia Nicodemi** (SUNY Geneseo)..

Seaway NExT thanks the Seaway Section for their continuing support of the program.

Note: Joel has finished his term as Chair of the committee. The Current Chair of the Seaway NExT/PFF Advisory Committee is **Carol Bell** of SUNY-Cortland.

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance: (Dec. 31, 2004) $11 576.60

Income:

Spring MAA Book Sale 283.70

Spring Meeting Receipts (US funds) 3260.00

Total $3543.70

Expenses:

Spring MAA Book Sale 283.70

Speakers' Expenses 369.30

Honorariums 400.00

Meeting expenses (US Funds) 3268.68

Miscellaneous 28.52

Total $4350.02

Ending Balance (June 30, 2005) $10,770.10

Minutes of Business Meeting

MAA Spring 2005 Business Meeting held at Queen's University on April 2nd.
By Leonard T. Malinowski

Cheri Boyd opened the meeting and immediately thanked the local organizing committee. Grace Orzech was the site coordinator for this meeting. The faculty and students of Queen's University were complimented for doing an outstanding job of organizing and running the meeting.

The minutes of the fall 2004 business meeting were presented and approved. The treasurer's report was presented and approved.   The treasury has a balance of $11,576.60 as of December 31, 2004.

In the governor's report, Luise-Charlotte Kappe stated the MAA Headquarters is acting to determine future needs to be addressed in a strategic plan. MAA Headquarters would like a part of section meetings to act as forums or focus groups for information gathering purposes. The Seaway Section will comply with this request.

The program committee reported that the section meetings will be at SUNY at Geneseo on Oct. 28th and 29th, 2005 and at Ithaca College on April 28th and 29th, 2006. The deadline for submission of contributed talks in the fall is Sept. 20th and for the spring meeting the deadline for contributed talks to be submitted is Feb. 20th. The Polya lecturer for the spring 2006 meeting is Steven Rudich. The committee hopes to have a constantly updated program at the host institution's website for the meeting. Sam Northshield is thanked for his efforts on the program committee.

The Executive Committee reported that Marist College is being considered to host the section meeting for the fall of 2006. The fall 2006 meeting may be a joint meeting with the MAA Metropolitan section. The Seaway Current is going electronic. Once the newsletter is available, the membership will be sent a postcard indicating that the newsletter is available for downloading from the website.

At this meeting, Julie Held from Corning Community College was elected as the Second Vice-Chair for the section. Jim Conklin was announced as the section's recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award. Gary Towsley assumes his new role as the Chair of the MAA Seaway Section. The local site committee was again recognized for the outstanding work that they did to host the meeting and the business meeting was adjourned.

Departmental News

Binghamton University
We have two new faculty members in postdoctoral positions:

Chris Dwyer who works in Algebraic Topology and **Chris Hanusa** who works in Enumerative Combinatorics. Also new in the department is Visiting Professor **Bi-Zhong Hu** who works in Differential Geometry. Professor **Luise C. Kappe**, the Seaway Section Governor, retired at the end of the 2003-2004 academic year. She now holds the Bartle Professorship.

Buffalo State

The Mathematics Department happily welcomes Associate Professor **Valentin Brimkov** (Ph.D. Univ. Sofia) who joined the department this fall in a tenure track line. Buffalo State College Math faculty members **Sue McMillen, Jody Magner, Peter Mercer** and **Margaret Sherman** have received a Math Science Partnership (MSP) grant in partnership with the Buffalo Public Schools. This project seeks to increase the academic achievement of Buffalo students in mathematics by broadening the content knowledge and teaching skills of teachers of mathematics in grades 3 through 12.

Clarkson University

A new faculty member this year, **Joe Skufca** received his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland this year, in the area of dynamical systems.

Daemen College

The Mathematics and Computer Science department hired **Claudiu Mihai** at the Assistant Professor level. He graduated from Louisiana State University with Ph.D. degree in December 2004 and started at Daemen College in January 2005. His area of study is in the field is Laplace Transform and Asymptotic Analysis.

Hobart and William Smith Colleges

The Mathematics and Computer Science Department at Hobart and William Smith Colleges welcomes two new faculty this fall. **Vincenzo Isaia** joins us after having spent three years at Alfred State College. Vin received his B.S from RPI in Structural Engineering and an M.S. from Manhattan College before embarking on a mathematics track. He received an M.S. and Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from the University of Wyoming, the latter in 2002. His background is in Mathematical Finance, as well as intermediate asymptotic behavior of PDEs. **Jennifer Roche** received her Bachelor's degree from Boston College and her Ph.D, in May 2005, from the University of Virginia. Her dissertation research is in non-associative rings and algebras, with motivations from group theory. Jennifer will be presenting a talk entitled "Radices and Matrix Rings" at the Fall meeting.

Ithaca College

Last spring we brought 16 student speakers to the 12th annual Hudson River Undergraduate Mathematics Conference at Williams College. This marks the largest group of speakers that Ithaca College has brought to the conference and represents projects completed with four different faculty members. In the Spring, we also had one student speak at the Seventh Annual Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics. Two of our graduating seniors are now in a Ph.D. program at Wesleyan University. We are excited to welcome **Aaron Weinberg** into a tenure track position starting this fall. Aaron's background in math education will be particularly useful as we work toward starting an MAT program in 2006. The COMPASS grant continues to be supported and recently hosted a fall meeting of the newly created COMPASS POINTS network of schools, mathematics teachers, researchers, mathematicians and administrators committed to the improvement of mathematics education for all students at the high school level through the use of challenging, relevant curriculum. Lastly we expect five students to take part in the Putnam Competition this fall.

Jamestown Community College

After ten years serving as Division Chair and then Assistant Dean of Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology, **Rick Rupprecht** returned to the ranks of the faculty this fall. In addition to teaching mathematics he will continue to hold the title of Director of Aviation working with the Professional Piloting degree program. So far, Rick says "it's just ducky being back in the classroom! I have always looked forward to teaching again and I am already loving it!". **Jean Schrader** has been promoted to the position of Assistant Dean of Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology.

Audrey Sliker and **Sue Sandmeyer** are now Co-coordinators of Mathematics on the Jamestown Campus.

Nazareth College

Matthew Koetz. (A new tenure-track assistant professor) introduces himself: "I was (officially) hired in March, and I started work in August, 2005. I
graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in May, 2005, with my Ph.D.
in mathematics, concentrating in algebraic coding theory. My dissertation was
titled "Algebraic Constructions of Low-Density Parity Check Codes". Prior to
my work at UNL, I received my M.S. in math at Northern Arizona University, and
my B.S. in math at New Mexico Tech. I began teaching as a TA in 1996. I am currently teaching three classes, including a topics class in coding theory. My research in coding theory concerns the construction of codes that have fast decoding algorithms while
still maintaining good error-correcting capabilities".

Cheri Boyd was promoted to associate professor of mathematics. **Kelly Molkenthin** is on sabbatical during Fall 2005. **Len Maley** retired from Nazareth College at the end of the spring 2005 semester. From 1967 until 2005, Len taught in the areas of business, mathematics, and computer science. In recent years, Len was best known on campus for teaching Elementary Statistics.

Queen's University

Troy Day was promoted to Associate Professor and granted tenure. There were three new appointments: **David Steinsaltz**, Associate Professor (Statistics, Demography), **Abdol-Reza Mansouri**, Assistant Professor (Control Theory), and **Julia Brettschneider**, Assistant Professor (Statistics, Microarray analysis; joint with Community Health and Epidemiology).

Professor **Ram Murty** was cross appointed to the Department of Philosophy, Queen's University and Professor **Leo Jonker** was appointed University Chair in Teaching and Learning.

There were three Adjunct Appointments (2005-2008): **Norman Beaulieu** (University of Alberta, Canada Research Chair in Broadband Wireless Communications), **Pietro-Luciano Buono** (UOIT, Dynamical Systems), and **Claude Tardif** (Royal Military College, Combinatorics).

Three of the department left as of July 1, 2005: Associate Professor **Grace Orzech**, and Associate Professor **David Pollack**, retired and **Shawn Kraut** resigned. Emeritus Professor **M.T. Wasan**, died in May, 2005.

Associate Professor **Morris Orzech** was awarded The Chancellor A. Charles Baillie Teaching Award by Queen's University.

St. Bonaventure College

We have hired a new faculty member here at St. Bonaventure University: **Dr. Mike Klucznik** started this fall as an assistant professor after a two-year temporary appointment at Central Connecticut State University. He received his doctorate from Brandeis University in 1997 as an algebraist. He has a strong background in biology and will be our department's lead person as we consider possible development of a bio-mathematics program.

Schenectady County Community College

Laurie Lacey has published two papers recently with
Mapleapps.com. They are available for viewing on-line:
"CLIQUES AND TOURNAMENTS" http://www.maplesoft.com/applications/app_center_view.aspx?AID=1876
and "GRAPHICS FOR LINEAR ALGEBRA"
http://www.maplesoft.com/applications/app_center_view.aspx?AID=1875

SUNY Geneseo

Steve West is now the Associate Dean of the College where he will serve for two years.
Filling in as interim chair this year is **Ed Wallace**. **Barbara Stewart** is serving as President of the Association of Mathematics Teachers of New York State this year. **Chris Leary** is on sabbatical for the 2005-2006 academic year pursuing
research in biomathematics at the University of Tubingen, Germany.

SUNY Plattsburgh

We hired two new faculty members last year;   **Justin Wampler** joins us as a lecturer. He writes: "I was born and raised in Delaware, next to the U. of D. where my parents met. I went to the University of Chicago, graduated with honors in the class of 1996, the school's centennial, having sampled classes in most of the physical sciences. I took a year off (not by choice) before going to Penn State for two years to get my graduate degree. It was there I really figured out what I wanted to, as I got into my first teaching assignment and it really felt right. I discovered I'd rather be teaching than researching, as did Penn State, and that's when the two of us parted ways. That year I got three interviews and two offers. Of those, I took Miami University and taught there for five years. Full-time teaching was fantastic and I hated having to leave. As my time there came to an end, I once again found myself interviewing and this time it led me to SUNY Plattsburgh."

   Greg Quenell joins us as an Assistant Professor. He writes (in third person): "Greg is a 1985 graduate of Harvard College, where he majored in mathematics, but spent almost as much time going to choir, close-harmony, and pit orchestra rehearsals as he did going to class. After a short real-world stint as a computer programmer (writing thousands of lines of FORTRAN), he headed west to enter the PhD program at the University of Southern California, in Los Angeles. Since finishing his doctorate there in 1992, he has held positions in the mathematics departments at Bucknell University, Oberlin College, Vassar College, Manhattan College, and Mount Holyoke College. Greg has spent most of his summers and a few winters in the Adirondacks, where he has climbed many of the high peaks and hiked the full length of the Northville-Placid trail twice. He still plays the piano and the clarinet, even if no one asks him to. Finding his musical pursuits not to be noisy enough, he earned his pilot's license in 1999, and can often be seen (and heard) flying a rented Cessna around the North Country. He no longer writes FORTRAN."

SUNY Potsdam

Professor **James Parks** has retired.

Utica College

Dr. Hossein Behforooz, professor of mathematics and
Coordinator of Mathematics Department (Chair), received the Harold T. Clark
Jr. Award during the college's fall convocation ceremony, August 2005. This
award is traditionally given in recognition of scholarly and professional
accomplishments. **Dr. Danhong Zhang**, assistant professor of mathematics joined Utica
College with a Ph.D. degree in Graph Theory from University of Idaho. She
enjoyed MATH FEST 2005 meeting and the Project Next Seminars.

Committees

Program Committee

Margaret Morrow (chair), SUNY Plattsburgh (4/06) mmorrowseaway@aol.com
Julie Held (ex-officio), Corning CC (4/07) held@corning-cc.edu
Sam Northshield, SUNY Plattsburgh (4/06) Samuel.northshield@plattsburgh.edu

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Educational Policies Committee

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The Seaway Current

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