

# **SCHPM**

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Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Mathematics

Société canadienne d'histoire et de philosophie des mathématiques

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### ABOUT THE SOCIETY

Founded in 1974, the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Mathematics / Société canadienne d'histoire et philosophie des mathématiques (CSHPM/SCHPM) promotes research and teaching in the history and philosophy of mathematics. Officers of the Society are:

President: Elaine Landry, UC Davis, Davis, CA 95616, USA, emlandry@ucdavis.edu

Vice-President: **Dirk Schlimm**, McGill University, Montréal, QC H3A 2T7, CA, dirk.schlimm@mcgill.ca

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The Society's Web Page (www.cshpm.org) is maintained by Michael Molinsky, University of Maine at Farmington, Farmington, ME 04938, USA, michael. molinsky@maine.edu. The Proceedings of the Annual Meeting are edited by Maria Zack, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA 92106, USA, mzack@plnu.edu. The Society's Archives are managed by Michael Molinsky (see above). The position of CMS Liaison is vacant.

New Members are most cordially welcome; please contact the Secretary.

### From the President

Over the past several years, the CSHPM has been expanding its scope and its reach, both with respect to our joint meetings and various collaborations with other associations and societies, and now with our newly founded public *Proceedings*. This is not only exciting for our membership, coming as we do to the history and philosophy of mathematics with various interests and perspectives, but it further reflects well the strength and reputation of the CSHPM. We should be proud of these accomplishments, especially when other professional organizations are both diminishing in their membership and in their representation of members' interests. I believe this is because we have managed to find and maintain the right combination of upholding our mission and of extending ourselves to those associations and societies with shared goals and interests.

Those who know me know, and those who do not will soon discover, that one of the things I am most proud of is that I am Canadian. This extends too to my desire to ensure that the CSHPM maintains the very best aspects of its collaborations and its Canadianness. To me, this means continuing to see and appreciate the unity in our differences, all the while building on our strengths and resources in a way that allows us to continue to flourish in the same thoughtful and respectful manner. And, moreover, that we grow steadily in pursuing our purpose of sharing our knowledge and seeking to learn from each other; that we strive to maintain our individuality as a Society, but also aim to expand with this purpose as our common cause.

My goal as President is to continue and strengthen our existing collaborations and to further facilitate this aim by investigating the establishment of an online HPM Archive, similar to the PhilSci-Archive (philsci-archive.pitt.edu/) in philosophy of science and ArXiv (arxiv.org/) in mathematics. The objective, then, is to have a public, searchable index of papers in history and philosophy of mathematics, with the intention of both receiving comments on our works in progress and accessing the very latest research. Again, my hope is that those associations and societies with whom we have already established collaborations will be part of this exciting venture, and that we can further extend this to include others. I

invite you all to contact me to share your ideas on this and to offer much needed advice and assistance!

Not only will the *HPM Archive* allow us to expand the reach of the CSHPM as well as our own personal research networks, but my hope is that it will deepen our intellectual exchanges. As we no doubt have all felt, as the meetings of societies and associations have increased the number of both talks and collaborative meetings, the time allotted for conference and workshop talks has dramatically decreased. We are now lucky if we have 15 minutes to speak; for philosophers and historians, this is often when the fun is just beginning! My hope is that the Archive will provide a new means for us to share our ideas with greater complexity and develop the mission of the CSHPM.

As I begin my term as President, I thank you all in advance for your support and assistance, but already I would especially like to thank Amy Ackerberg-Hastings, Patricia Allaire, Tom Archibald, Jean-Pierre Marquis, Michael Molinsky, Dirk Schlimm, Glen Van Brummelen and last, but certainly not least, Maria Zack. It is my honor and a great pleasure to serve you all!

Elaine Landry

#### Announcements

Peace to the memory of Jacqueline ("Jackie") Stedall, former BSHM Council member, BSHM Bulletin editor, and friend of CSHPM, who passed away on September 27, 2014. A memorial will appear in our May 2015 issue. In the meantime, David Orenstein discussed one of her final publications, The History of Mathematics: A Very Short Introduction, in our May 2014 issue. Similarly, Tom Drucker wrote: "I had expected the volume on history of mathematics to give a brief history of the subject of mathematics. Instead, I'd describe it as an introduction to how one does history of mathematics. Since that seems analogous to a volume on mathematics itself, I shouldn't have been surprised. Still, it was an interesting choice, and one that makes it useful in some settings where another account of how mathematics developed would be superfluous."

Taming the Unknown: A History of Algebra from Antiquity to the Early Twentieth Century, by Victor J. Katz and Karen Hunger Parshall, was published by

Princeton University Press in June 2014.

Jeff Oaks was a visiting professor at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris in March 2014. He gave four talks on medieval algebra and arithmetic while there. On March 6, he presented "Algorithms and creative thinking in Arabic and Italian algebra" at the workshop "Pratiques algorithmiques dans les mathématiques pré-algébriques," held in Paris March 4–7. On June 17, he delivered "Al-Khayyām's scientific revision of algebra" at the Workshop on History of Mathematics, held at Tel Aviv University. On June 18, he gave "Polynomials and equations in Arabic algebra" at the second joint meeting of the American Mathematical Society and the Israeli Mathematical Union, held at Tel Aviv University.

Tom Drucker received the 2013 Concern for Adults Returning to Education Award from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater School of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education Services, now immortalized in "Equation for Success," www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5ZHGcdy5dE.

A meeting celebrating Jeremy Gray's many achievements and to honor his retirement from the Open University was held September 11–12 in Milton Keynes. Speakers included: Snezana Lawrence, Umberto Bottazzini, Karine Chemla, Leo Corry, Niccolò Guicciardini, Erhard Scholz, Moritz Epple, Jesper Lützen, June Barrow-Green, and Jeremy Gray.

Dominic Klyve was one of the recipients of the Henry L. Alder Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Faculty Member at MathFest 2014.

Gary Towsley and Toke Knudsen organized a session on "History of Mathematics in the Classroom" at the MAA Seaway Section meeting at Buffalo State University on April 25–26. Speakers included: Mark McKinzie, Angeliki Kazas-Pontisakos, Toke Knudsen, Bob Rogers, Chuck Rocca, Jeff Johannes, and Gary Towsley. Keith Jones and Toke Knudsen also gave a special presentation on "Bhāskara II: A Remarkable Mathematician".

Olivier Bruneau, Pierre Couchet, and Scott Walter organized the annual meeting of the Digital HPS Consortium in Nancy, France, on September 1–3.

BSHM meetings and events this fall included: "From Dürer to Sudoku: 500 Years of Recreational Maths" on September 6 at the British Science Festival in Birmingham; "Open University Videos on the History of Mathematics" on October 11 in Birmingham; "History of Statistics" on October 30 at Gresham College; the launch of the new joint Portuguese/UK philatelic website on November 21 at Oxford; and the Christmas Meeting and AGM on December 6 in Birmingham. Meetings in 2015 will include a research in progress session on February 21 in Oxford and "History of Symmetry" on May 23 at Birkbeck College, along with the joint meeting with CSHPM.

The ARITHMOS reading group met in Danbury, Connecticut, September 27–28, and studied *Begriffschrift* by Gottlob Frege. The 50th session will feature early papers by Leonhard Euler on number theory and be held in Schenectady, New York, January 31–February 1, 2015. For information, contact Kim Plofker, *plofkerk@union.edu*.

The 6th International Symposium on Ancient Chinese Books and Records of Science was held in New York City on October 3–5. See socrates.bmcc.cuny.edu/ ISABRST2014/bmcc/conference/index.html.

Michel Serfati announces the fall semester program for the annual seminar on Epistemology and History of Mathematical Ideas, held Wednesdays at 2:00 pm at the Institut Henri Poincaré in Paris: Maurice Margenstern (Lorraine), "Les automates cellulaires, point de rencontre entre physique, mathématiques et informatique" on October 8; Gabriel Sabbagh (Paris VII), "Bicquilley, mathématicien et économiste" on October 15; Michel Serfati (IREM), "Sur la philosophie du symbolisme mathématique. L'émergence de la composition, de Descartes à Leibniz. mathématiques et épistémologiques" on November 12; Patrick Iglesias-Zemmour (LATP/CNRS), "Diffeology" on November 26; Philippe Seguin (IREM), "Hilbert, la 'prétendue école combinatoire' et le formalisme" on December 10; Michel Serfati (IREM), "L'origine des mathématiques, selon Leibniz" on January 21; and Régine Douady (Diderot & IREM), "Évolution des connaissance mathématiques des élèves en milieu scolaire. Libertés et contraintes de l'enseignant et de ses élèves dans leur relation à un certain savoir à enseigner. Une étude de cas" on January 28.

The seventh Portuguese-Brazilian Meeting on History of Mathematics was held in Óbidos, Portugal, on October 15–19. See encontrohistoriamatematicaobidos.com/.

The Forum for the History of the Mathematical Sci-

ences (FoHoMS) again will hold a luncheon, sponsored by the Legacy of R. L. Moore Project, during the 2014 History of Science Society Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, November 6–9. History and philosophy of mathematics on the HSS program includes: the FoHoMS session on "'The Center of Gravity of Mathematics Has Moved More Definitely Toward America': The Mathematical Sciences in America, 1930-1950"; a session on "Einstein and the Relation between Physics and Mathematics"; a session on "Euler: Mathematical Genius in the Enlightenment" with participation by Judy Grabiner, Ron Calinger, Rob Bradley, and Dominic Klyve; a session on "Mathematics and Mechanics" with participation by Edith Sylla and Paul Wolfson; a session on "Mathematical Laboratory/Paper Physics: Concepts, Pedagogy, and Methods of Mathematical Physics"; a session on "Evidence in Mathematical Understanding"; and a session on "Number and Narratives: New Approaches to the History of the Mathematical Sciences" with participation by Emily Redman, Massimo Mazzotti, and Amir Alexander. Other individual talks of interest include: Stephanie Dick, "Looking for Limits: Configuring Minds, Mathematics, and Machines in the Mid-Twentieth Century"; and Guido Caniglia, "Mathematics and Natural Observations at the Origins of Sociobiology: The Epistemology of Hamilton's Work on Tropical Social Wasps (1963–1968)". Posters on the history of mathematics include: Kathleen Clark, "Deciphering Mathematical Problems of the 'Shoebox Collection' of the Paul A.M. Dirac Papers at Florida State University".

The 3rd Annual Fields Medal Symposium will be held in Toronto on November 16–20 and feature the theme, "The Many Facets of Entropy: Kinetic Theory, Optimal Transport, Geometry", in honor of Cédric Villani. See www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/fieldsmedalsym/index.html. David Orenstein reported on the 2nd Symposium in our November 2013 issue.

The 25th *Novembertagung* was held in Nancy, France, November 19–21. See novembertagung.org/.

A research workshop on "Mathematical Readers in the Early Modern World" will be held December 18–19 at All Souls College, Oxford. Speakers include: Ken Clements, Nerida Ellerton, Kathryn James, Yelda Nasifoglu, and Benjamin Wardhaugh.

CERME 9 (Congress of European Research in Math-

ematics Education) will be held in Prague, Czech Republic, February 4–8, 2015, and include a Thematic Working Group on "History in Mathematics Education", led by Uffe Jankvist, Renaud Chorlay, Kathy Clark, Snezana Lawrence, and Jan van Maanen. See www.cerme9.org/about-cerme-9/.

The 2015 symposium of the Scientific Instrument Commission has been tentatively scheduled for September 7–11 in Turin, Italy.

ICME-13 (International Congress on Mathematical Education) will be held in Hamburg, Germany, July 24–31, 2016. The team for the Topic Study Group on "History of the Teaching and Learning of Mathematics" includes Fulvia Furinghetti, Alexander Karp, Henrike Allmendinger, Harm Jan Smid, and Johan Prytz; the team for the "Role of History of Mathematics in Mathematics Education" TSG includes Costas Tzanakis, Xiaoqin Wang, Kathleen Clark, Tinne Hoff Kjeldsen, and Sebastian Schorcht. See icme13.org/home.

From 2015, the Hakluyt Society, which studies historical voyages and travel, will award an annual essay prize (or more than one, if the judges so decide) of up to a total of £750. The competition is open to postdoctoral scholars of not more than two years' standing on December 31, 2014, and to undergraduate and graduate students registered as such on that date. Winners will be invited to publish their essays in the online Journal of the Hakluyt Society if they wish to do so, attend the annual meeting, and receive a one-year membership. Submissions were due November 1. See www.hakluyt.com.

Thomas Wolf of Brock University has added a history question to the online Caribou Mathematics Competition that he operates for grades 3–12. Students may participate in one or more of the contests; those who enter at least five of the seven total events may contend for the "Caribou Cup". See cariboutests.com/. The University of Pittsburgh Press in a partnership supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in an ongoing initiative to support innovative research, is seeking new books to significantly expand its list in history and philosophy of science and invites proposals from experienced and new authors that explore scientific thought and practice in any culture during any era. See www.upress.pitt.edu/forAuthors.aspx.

Springer announces a new book series, "European

Studies in Philosophy of Science", edited by Dennis Dieks, Maria Carla Galavotti, and Wenceslao J. Gonzalez. The series is a joint effort of the European Philosophy of Science Association and Philosophy of Science in a European Perspective: ESF Networking Programme. Suggestions of dissertations and manuscripts are welcome.

The IEEE History Center has relocated from Rutgers University to Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey.

The Antiquarian Horological Society, for those interested in the story of time and its material culture, has a new president, Lisa Jardine, and a new website, www.ahsoc.org. The website includes digitized versions of the entire 60-year run of Antiquarian Horology.

The 18th-century Cabinet of Physics of the Science Museum at the University of Coimbra, Portugal, has been listed as a European Historic Site of Physics by the European Physical Society.

The peer-reviewed open access journal, International Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities is preparing a special issue on the history of mathematics.

2014 newsletters for the International History and Philosophy of Science Teaching Group are available at ihpst.net/newsletters/.

HPM Newsletters are found at www.clab.edc.uoc.gr/hpm/NewsLetters.htm. For recent announcements, see grouphpm.wordpress.com/.

Cambridge Archive Editions has begun digitizing its complete collection. See www.archiveeditions.co.uk/.

# Oughtred Society Meeting

My appointment cataloging mathematical instruments for digitization at the Smithsonian ended in December 2013. I decided to spend some of the time opened up by the end of my appointment learning about people who care about instruments, so I headed to Las Vegas on March 1 for the winter meeting of the Oughtred Society, a group of slide rule collectors in North America.

Nearly 40 people from 13 states and three countries gathered in a simple but pleasant meeting room at the National Atomic Testing Museum. After introductions, we heard four presentations of varying quality on the history of logarithms, the operation of slide rules, slide rules for electronics, and previous and upcoming International Meetings of Collectors of Historical Calculating Instruments.

For most attendees, the highlight of the meeting came after lunch, with the slide rule auction. About a dozen collectors brought full tables of rules to display and sell. The rules for the auction were a little complex, but I caught on well enough to bring home an inexpensive Pickett N600-ES, "the slide rule that went to the moon." I also got a free Keuffel & Esser case to replace the one holding my mother-in-law's slide rule that was chewed up by Sparky the Firefighter Dog, and I bought a stack of 1920s drafting magazines that may show up in a future Mathematical Ephemera column even though Sparky ate one of those when I got home. Either Sparky or his person definitely needs obedience training. Anyway, all attendees received gifts of dry roasted macadamia nuts from the Hawaiian member of the society and never-used rules designed in 1951 for the US Air Force to read aerial reconnaissance photos from Walter and Susan Shawlee, who operate the Slide Rule Universe website. A group dinner followed the auction, and several gathered the next day to tour Boulder Dam.

For me, the best part of the meeting was having enjoyable conversations with delightful people, particularly Dick and Sandy Rose, who did most of the meeting organization from their home in Ohio; Bob De Cesaris, the society's president; Ed Chamberlain, whose planned talk at Goddard Space Center the following Monday was snowed out in the never-ending winter of 2014; Kate Matthews, who arranged for video recording of the meeting; and Clark McCoy, who among other things put together the extensive K&E website that I found essential for cataloging the Smithsonian's slide rules. Like CSHPM, the group is graying and eager to share its passions with a younger generation. The group met again on June 21 at the Computer History Museum in California and will host an international meeting in California in fall 2015. See www.oughtred.org.

Amy Ackerberg-Hastings

### **HOM SIGMAA News**

This year marks the final year the HOM SIGMAA was able to use up its accumulated funds. The MAA decided a few years back that SIGMAAs would no longer be allowed to carry excess funds from year to year. And since we had accrued a significant amount, I started spending money! (I love my job of program chair!) To date the HOM SIGMAA has funded in part or in full seven projects, many of which are in cooperation with Carol Mead at the American Archives for Mathematics. The last two of those projects are finished or wrapping up, and to celebrate those projects, I have asked both of those people to be our guest speakers for the HOM annual meeting at the JMM in San Antonio (Saturday evening). We will start off the evening with a presentation from Kathy Clark of FSU on the Dirac Shoebox papers. We will have our usual drinks, snacks and hijinks, then end the evening with our featured speaker, Carl Pomerance of Dartmouth, who will speak on his extensive correspondence with Paul Erdos.

There will also be two HOM sponsored contributed paper sessions at the meetings: Ethnomathematics: A Tribute to Marcia Ascher and Original Sources and Archives in the Classroom.

Returning to funding, Frank Swetz is finishing off the last year of his HOM grant, working hard to bring spectacular images to *Convergence*, www.maa.org/publications/periodicals/convergence/mathematical-treasures. If you have not checked out the Mathematical Treasures site, you are in for a treat. Finally, Walter Meyer has wrapped up work on the Cajori II project. We are looking for a permanent home for this wonderful source on the history of math education in the US. Keep an eye out for it.

Amy Shell-Gellasch

# Quotations in Context

"A man is like a fraction whose numerator is what he is and whose denominator is what he thinks of himself. The larger the denominator the smaller the fraction."

The quotation above has appeared in many publications over the last decade and is always attributed to Russian author Count Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy (more widely known as Leo Tolstoy). The few citations provided for the quotation can all be traced back to a book published by Howard W. Eves in 1988, Return to Mathematical Circles (where the quotation appears as "218°"). Unfortunately, Eves provides no information on the original source of the quotation, and I have found no publication before 1988 that contains the same wording that Eves provides.

One possible source which Eves may have used is a letter Tolstoy wrote a mere fifteen days before his death. Tolstoy was formally excommunicated from the Russian Orthodox Church in 1901, but the Church did not completely abandon him; in particular, Father Dimitri Troitsky continued to visit Tolstoy even after his excommunication in an effort to convince him to repent and return. When Tolstoy's health began to fail in October 1910, Troitsky wrote to Tolstoy urging him to seek the support and guidance of the Church before it was too late. While Tolstoy politely but firmly refused this plea, their conversation continued through a few more letters. In the first paragraph of a brief reply written on the fifth of November, Tolstoy lays out a comparison of a man to a fraction, in a manner not identical but still clearly related to the comparison that was attributed to him by Eves.

The English translation of the paragraph below is from the article "The Last Days of Leo Tolstoy" by Alexander Kaun, published on pages 299–306 of the *Atlantic Monthly* in March 1922:

I have received your letter, Dimitri Yegorovich, and thank you for it. I perfectly agree with you that humility is the greatest and most needful virtue. As I always say, man is like a fraction, in which the denominator indicates his opinion of himself. It is best for this denominator to be zero (complete humility), and it is terrible when it is augmented to infinity. In the first case, man has a true significance, whatever the denominator; but in the second case—none.

While trying to track down the source of the Tolstoy quotation, I ran across an interesting earlier comparison between humans and fractions by the political philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau in his work  $\acute{E}mile$ , ou De l'éducation, published in 1762. While Tolstoy promoted the importance of humility, Rousseau instead used a fraction metaphor to illustrate the competing goals of society and the individual. The En-

glish translation below is from Barbara Foxley, and appears on the Project Gutenberg website:

The natural man lives for himself; he is the unit, the whole, dependent only on himself and on his like. The citizen is but the numerator of a fraction, whose value depends on its denominator; his value depends upon the whole, that is, on the community. Good social institutions are those best fitted to make a man unnatural, to exchange his independence for dependence, to merge the unit in the group, so that he no longer regards himself as one, but as a part of the whole, and is only conscious of the common life.

Mike Molinsky

## CSHPM's 40th Anniversary

As we mentioned in the May 2014 issue, 2014 marks the 40th anniversary of CSHPM's first official meeting. Archivist Mike Molinsky has shared several items related to the founding of the Society, including a letter circulated in 1973 announcing the plans to establish CSHPM, an article on the beginning of the Society from the first issue of the newsletter that preceded the *Bulletin*, and, in this issue, an analysis of early membership data. He has also compiled lists of AGM Special Sessions (November 2011) and charter members (May 2010).

The Archives section of our website provides other materials of historical interest. Perhaps most relevant in this milestone year is a substantial article on "The Formation of the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Mathematics," by Charles V. Jones, whose many titles in the Society included "temporary organizational chairman" when CSHPM was founded. The piece was appended to the Fall 1985 Newsletter, www.cshpm.org/archives/bulletins/1985Fall.pdf. If you get to page 7, you will learn why there is no "the" in our name. Page 10 alludes to the longstanding presence of Americans in a Canadian society.

President Len Berggren gave a tribute to Ken May in the Spring 1979 issue, www.cshpm.org/archives/bulletins/Spring1979.pdf. Skimming through the issues from the 1970s and 1980s, it is impressive to

note how many names continue to be active participants. The Content Editor is rather disconcerted to realize that she joined the Society shortly after its 20th anniversary. Alas, that anniversary fell within a gap of publication for the *Bulletin*.

# Book Review: Laplace's Correspondence

Correspondence de Pierre Simon Laplace (1749-1827), edited and annotated by Roger Hahn, 2 vol., Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2013, xiv + 1416 pp. €120,00. ISBN 987-2-503-54129-7.

This book truly represents the life's work of two great scholars: the editor, Roger Hahn, and the subject, Pierre Simon Laplace (1749–1827). Roger Hahn's early and sudden death in 2011 meant that he never saw his completed work, but thankfully his work was continued and finished by the International Academy of the History of Science.

Prior to his death, Roger Hahn had devoted 50 years of his life to the study of Laplace's life and works. This includes the definitive biography (Hahn, 2005), numerous journal articles, and an early listing of Laplace's correspondence (Hahn, 1982), to name a few. In comparing (Hahn, 1982) and the volumes under review, it is clear that Hahn was able to greatly increase the extent of known correspondence during the 30 years between publications. As noted by Ellen Hahn in her Foreword to this book, Hahn devoted much of his European travels to searching for more examples of Laplace's correspondence (Hahn, 2013, p. vii). A fire in the early 20th century, which destroyed much of Laplace's library, had made research into the great mathematician difficult before Hahn located many previously lost or forgotten works.

These volumes provide a different insight into Laplace than has previously been possible. The reader is able to learn about Laplace from the man himself. Hahn has included not only Laplace's correspondence, but also documents and letters that give a fuller understanding of Laplace's everyday life. Through Laplace's letters we can also see the evolution of Laplace as a person. The first letter is from Jean le Rond d'Alembert (1717–1783), telling Laplace of his appointment as professor at the École Militaire in Paris. The reader is next given an introduction

to the young academic trying to introduce himself to the academic community. Laplace sent letters to Joseph-Louis Lagrange (1736–1813), Nicolas de Condorcet (1743–1794) and Leonhard Euler (1707–1783). Laplace's correspondence with Lagrange became quite prolific, with the two men exchanging letters relatively frequently until Lagrange moved to Paris in 1787. In many of these early letters, the purpose is primarily to exchange scientific findings. There is usually a mention of thanks for sending a recent paper, and the content is generally discussing points of confusion or contention within the academic works that have been exchanged. These letters give the reader insight into both the politics of academic community and the individual papers that were under discussion.

After the death of Étienne Bézout (1730–1783), Laplace was appointed examiner for artillery students. This appointment continued into the French Revolution. During his time at this post, Laplace sent regular correspondence with the results of the examinations. Laplace included who passed and should be appointed officer, who should be allowed to be a student, those who did not pass for the first or second attempt, and those who did not show up. Through this correspondence, we can see the names of individuals who would later have a great impact on France, including Napoleon Bonaparte who passed his exam in 1785 (Hahn, 2013, p. 198).

The vast majority of the correspondence in the volumes under review was in the French language. One rare exception was Charles Blagden (1748–1820). While Blagden begins writing in French, he quickly states that he can express himself better in English and the remainder of his letters are written in English. Laplace's letters to Blagden are entirely in French. In one letter, Blagden comments on Laplace's translation of an English paper and gives Laplace some suggestions as to the nuances in the original text.

Laplace kept his letters mostly on the topic of science. While Jean-André Deluc (1727–1817) informed Laplace of his recent marriage in a letter to Laplace (Hahn, 2013, p. 185), in the letters that we have at hand, there is no evidence that Laplace mentions his own marriage or the birth of his children. He did later say, in a letter to Deluc, that he would like to visit England but having a wife and two children makes this impossible (the timing being during the Terror might also be a reason for being unable to travel to England)

(Hahn, 2013, p. 379). Hahn includes items such as Laplace's marriage certificate and documents related to the birth of his children, both of which show the timeline of Laplace's personal life that is sometimes missing in his scientific correspondence.

Laplace made little mention of the revolution in his letters, though he does mention in letters to Barnaba Oriani (1752–1832) in Milan and Deluc in England that things have become difficult. To Oriani he writes, "Vous êtes bien heureux d'habiter un pays tranquille où vous pouvez vous occuper sans distraction de l'étude des sciences. Ici les affaires publiques tournent vers elles tous les esprit, et d'ici à quelque temps au moins, les sciences souffriront de cette diversion" (You are very lucky to live in a peaceful country where you can study science without distraction. Here, public affairs have caught the hearts and souls of everyone, and sooner or later, science will suffer from this distraction.) (Hahn, 2013, p. 315).

Through Laplace's correspondence, we can also see the impact of the revolution in the change to referring to colleagues as "citoyen" and the change to using the new dating system. Hahn also includes documents such as passports, receipts and certificates of residence.

Around 1800, Laplace began to be addressed as "Citoyen Sénateur" or as "Sénateur." At this time the reader sees letters written in a more official tone. In addition to letters detailing official appointments of instructors to central schools and correspondence between Laplace and Napoleon (including a request by Napoleon for Laplace to find comediens for his journey to Egypt, preferably ones who could dance (Hahn, 2013, p. 562)), the reader is shown letters from Mme. Laplace inviting different individuals to dinners. The volumes under review also contain letters between Mme Laplace and Laplace. These letters provide more information about their relationship than is generally available to a researcher. During the revolution and into Laplace's career as a Senator and public figure, Laplace maintained his scientific correspondence. While previous letters dealt with a range of topics, often at the same time, these later letters convey a stronger emphasis on celestial mechanics.

Overall, the two volumes contained in the work under review represent an insight into Laplace which was not previously possible. The scholarly world has been given a tremendous gift in this final work painstakingly compiled by Roger Hahn.

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## 2015 Meeting Local Information

As you can see in the Call for Papers and meeting minutes, next year's joint meeting of CSHPM, BSHM, HOMSIGMAA, and POMSIGMAA will be packed with paper presentations. (Get your own abstract in early!) The MAA is also planning a very full schedule of pageants, cultural events, lectures by big names, conversations with past MAA presidents, giveaways, and historical videos and exhibits. Historical materials can already be found in the Centennial areas of www.maa.org. Offsite, Peggy Kidwell is putting together a display case on American mathematics education ca 1915 at the National Museum of American History.

Registration and lodging (the Marriott Wardman Park is the conference hotel) will be expensive, but I hope as many of you as possible will make the necessary sacrifices to attend and that we can induce several of our colleagues and friends from BSHM to venture across the Atlantic. If you are willing to commute a bit, there are plenty of moderately-priced hotels; feel free to email me for advice about places you are considering. Washington, DC, is a place where many people move to work and stay to live, so here is some "insider" information to help you maximize your visit and possibly extend your stay to include sightseeing. First, the meeting is in August, which means that those of you familiar with surprisingly snowy JMMs in DC and Baltimore are in for something different. Our legendary humidity is real, and the outdoors feels like a sauna with temperatures typically between 80 and 100 °F. However, everywhere in the region is air-conditioned, and the early mornings can be quite The National Zoo grounds, a couple of blocks from the Wardman, open at 6:00 am, so locals go to exercise and catch a glimpse of the baby panda, who will be nearly two when you arrive. Be aware that the grounds are a continuous downhill from Connecticut Avenue, so save enough energy for the uphill return trip.

If you fly into National Airport—locals know there already was a Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center downtown (which, by the way, has an excellent food court) and don't use the newer name for the airport—you will be able to use the Metro subway system throughout your visit. A trip planner, information about the extensive bus services, and a primer on the complicated fare system (just get a SmarTrip card) are found at www.wmata.org. The unwritten rule is that we walk left, stand right on the many escalators in the Metro system. Dulles and BWI are not that far away, but they require use of a rental car, Super Shuttle, or the Washington Flyer taxi service. DC cabs are now metered (rather than zoned) and are supposed to take credit cards, so rides should be straightforward. I personally prefer Metro and walking. It is about 15 minutes by Metro from the Wardman to the National Mall, which is the focal point for museums and monuments.

One good thing about August is that many locals go on vacation and the number of tourist groups starts to decrease as children head back to school, so it is our best traffic month of the year. If you are interested in iconic tourist destinations, particularly the White House, U.S. Capitol, and Washington Monument, start making arrangements far in advance. The combination of popularity and security considerations has made visiting these places complicated. Smithsonian museums, the National Archives, and the Library of Congress can be visited on a walk-up basis but do have security screenings. And, there are several prominent museums with entry fees that seem high to those of us spoiled by the many DC sites offering free admission, such as the Newseum, the Spy Museum, and National Museum of Crime and Punishment.

Many of the places I like to visit are well-known enough to be covered by sites such as washington. org and www.culturaltourismdc.org (my favorite tourism website) but are generally not that crowded: DC's memorial to World War I, the Folger Shakespeare Library, the African Art Museum and Sackler/Freer, National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden,

the U.S. Naval Observatory tour (another hard-to-get ticket but so worth it), the National Cathedral, and the National Arboretum (not Metro-accessible). DC history and African-American history are intertwined, so a trip to the U Street Corridor is a must. Ben's Chili Bowl only takes cash, but if you go all the way to the back, there is a seating area with wait staff. The Washingtonia collections at the Martin Luther King and Georgetown Libraries are priceless. Metro's Yellow Line crosses over the Potomac (the Blue and Orange lines run underneath the river) and offers a good view of the monuments between the L'Enfant and Pentagon stations, although the view is somewhat obscured in August by leafy trees.

We have several celebrity chefs, including Jose Andres (small plates and tapas), Michel Richard (Central), and Bryan Voltaggio (further afield in Frederick, MD). The head of the Library of Congress's folklife collections, who lives in the Woodley Park neighborhood near the Wardman, recommends Afghan Grill (kabobs and more), Lebanese Taverna (a local chain with Middle Eastern food), District Kitchen (its take on comfort food made an immediate sensation), Petits Plats (French and American), Umi (Japanese), City Heights (for a splurge), and Chipotle (the national chain that started the quick serve and sustainable suppliers trends, a location is next door to the Wardman). She urges us to avoid the Woodley Cafe. The DC area has several local chains that suit my Midwestern, parent-of-a-six-year-old tastes: Hard Times Cafe (chili), Guapo's (Tex-Mex), Bread and Chocolate (the name is self-explanatory), Five Guys (burgers), and Cake Love (cupcakes). We have a plethora of farmers' markets.

Although some theaters go dark in August, the National and other locales book a variety of productions year-round. The Kennedy Center has a free concert every day at 6:00 pm. Olney Theatre in the Maryland suburbs is our regional theater, and Wolf Trap in the Virginia suburbs is our outdoor venue (our Ravinia, for Chicagoans). For current movies in a classic setting, the Uptown Theater is the place to go. For arthouse films, as a suburbanite I head to Bethesda Row or the AFI in Silver Spring (both Metro accessible). The Washington Nationals (baseball), Washington Mystics (women's basketball), and DC United (soccer) are all in season in August. My aforementioned six-year-old would be happy to help you get

tickets and to keep you company at the game!

Amy Ackerberg-Hastings

# MAA Convergence's 10th Anniversary

Founded in 2004 by well-known mathematics historians and educators, Victor Katz and Frank Swetz, *Convergence* is both an online journal on mathematics history and its use in teaching and an ever-expanding collection of online resources to help its readers teach mathematics using its history.

Convergence is celebrating ten years of publication by continuing to bring mathematics professors and teachers interesting articles and features on the history of grades 8–16 mathematics as well as exciting ideas and resources for sharing this history with students.

Articles published in 2014 include:

- "Proofs Without Words and Beyond" explores history and philosophy of visual proofs, along with dynamic, interactive "proofs without words 2.0."
- "David Hilbert's Radio Address" features an audio recording, transcription, and translation into English of Hilbert's 4-minute radio version of his longer 1930 address with its famous finale, "Wir müssen wissen; wir werden wissen."
- "Cubes, Conic Sections, and Crockett Johnson" shows how this author and illustrator painted an answer to his own question, "What do the straightedge lines and compass arcs do when two parabolas and a hyperbola double a cube, just stand watching?"
- "An Investigation of Subtraction Algorithms from the 18th and 19th Centuries" is based on a study of handwritten cyphering books as well as printed arithmetic texts.

We're honoring the best of our ten-year publication history by presenting new, more interactive versions of some of our favorite articles:

• "Van Schooten's Ruler Constructions," by Ed Sandifer, was among the articles that appeared in the first issue of *MAA Convergence* in April 2004.

- "Historical Activities for the Calculus Classroom" (2007), by Gabriela Sanchis, consists of three modules that present curve-sketching, tangent lines, and optimization in the context of historical aims and problems, with the aid of 24 interactive applets and 10 animations.
- "When Nine Points Are Worth But Eight: Euler's Resolution of Cramer's Paradox" (2011), by Rob Bradley and Lee Stemkoski, features a translation of a long lost letter from Euler to Cramer, along with an interactive presentation of Euler's "elegant example" resolving the paradox.

See all of these articles and more at *MAA Convergence*: www.maa.org/publications/periodicals/convergence. CSHPM members are also invited to submit articles for publication.

Janet Beery

# ESU-7 in Copenhagen

Since 1993 HPM has organized a meeting called the European Summer University approximately every four years in various locations on the European continent. The audience has been an interesting mix of researchers, practitioners, and students of the history of mathematics. I have been fortunate to attend six of these meetings. This year's meeting took place July 16–18 at the Emdrup campus of Aarhus University, just a short ride from downtown Copenhagen.

Each day began with a plenary lecture based on one of the seven themes of the conference. These themes were:

- 1. Tools of history and epistemology, theoretical and/or conceptual frameworks for integrating history in mathematics education;
- Classroom experiments and teaching materials, considered from either the cognitive or/and affective points of view; surveys of curricula and textbooks;
- 3. Original sources in the classroom, and their educational effects;
- 4. History and epistemology as tools for an interdisciplinary approach in the teaching and learning of mathematics and the sciences:

- 5. Culture and mathematics;
- 6. Topics in the history of mathematics education;
- 7. History of mathematics in the Nordic countries.

See grouphpm.wordpress.com/2013/09/17/7th-european-summer-university-on-the-history-and-epistemology-in-mathematics-education/ as well as conferences.au.dk/ESU-7/.

Mornings continued with either two-hour parallel workshops or panel discussions. Afternoons were filled with three-hour parallel workshops, followed by a series of short oral and poster presentations. After a lively panel discussion on Wednesday, the group adjourned to Nyhaven downtown for a boat tour of Copenhagen harbor. This was followed by a walking tour of the Christiania community led by a local resident. Later that evening the group enjoyed a wonderful conference dinner at a nice local restaurant.

This year's meeting was organized by Uffe Thomas Jankvist, Tinne Hoffe Kjeldsen, and Evelyn Barbin. There were about 140 participants from a wide range of countries. It is always good to see old friends at these meetings. I was particularly happy to see Frank Swetz. He was a bit of a mentor to me in my early days in the history of mathematics. I am looking forward to the next meeting, ESU-8. While the date and location is not yet firm, I understand that there is great interest in having it on the isle of Crete.

Jim Kiernan

### CSHPS at Brock

Our CSHPM 2014 meeting at Brock University, on the brow of the Niagara Escarpment in St. Catherines, Ontario, ran two and a half days, from Sunday, May 25, to Tuesday, May 27. We overlapped with CSHPS, which ran from Saturday, May 24, to Monday, May 26, primarily in the Lowenberger Residence on the west side of campus. I attended CSHPS for the first day and a half before trekking east to the Earp Fireplace Lounge. The individual papers were given in three parallel sessions throughout the meeting.

I certainly had a busy Saturday morning. At breakfast in the residence cafeteria, I was smart enough to check the schedule and, to my surprise, I discovered that the first sessions started at 8:45 am and not at 9:00 am.

This was a good thing, since I was chairing one of them.

It was an all University of Toronto session. I'm an alumnus and frequent visitor, especially to the biweekly Wednesday afternoon colloquia at the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology. The four presenters (Isaac Record, Eric Weidenhammer, Dan Southwick, and Gabby Resch) were all UofT graduate students. Their exciting, rich, and insightful presentations augur well for the future of the field.

Isaac had organised the session, "Remaking the Past: History in 3D", and all four papers involved 3D scanning and printing. For instance, Isaac's paper was an overview of the possibilities of using 3D methods in science studies. He gave a realistic look at what current technologies can actually do to "transform access to artifacts".

After the coffee break, I was up, in the same room, with my own paper (electronic copy available on request to david.orenstein@utoronto.ca), "The Niagara Excursions of Early International Canadian Scientific Congresses", as part of the "Geography and Imperialism" session that Isaac chaired. Also presenting was Marie Lemonnier (UQAM), "Réseaux de contacts et mécanismes d'appropriation des curiosités d'histoire naturelle" (networks and means of acquiring natural history curiosities). Marie's paper was one of only two talks offered in French.

The other was by Elise Aurières, who came over from the Université de Paris I-Panthéon-Sorbonne. I regretfully had to miss her talk, "Le programme de George Sarton pour l'histoire des sciences" (George Sarton's programme for history of science), even though it would tie into the paper I was to deliver to CSHPM.

Instead, I was at the "Technologies" session that afternoon, especially for the history of mathematics presentation by Theresa Thornton (SUNY Buffalo), "Blank Forms and Interchangeable Parts: Mathematical Values and the Creation of Imperial Bureaucracies in the Early American Republic", focusing on the work of Nathaniel Bowditch and George Bomford.

This session was followed by a plenary session in the vast lecture hall, Room 242 Thistle: "Author Meets Critics: Lee Smolin's *Time Reborn: From the Crisis in Physics to the Future of the Universe*".

Three philosophers of science—Richard Arthur (Mc-Master), Kathleen Okruhlik (Western Ontario), and Denis Walsh (Toronto)—looked at Smolin's philosophy of science as it came out of his work in quantum gravity and cosmology. Gord McOuat (King's College, Halifax) organised the session.

Apart from the ample breakfast buffet provided at the Lowenberger Residence cafeteria, I seemed to have most of my lunches and suppers at the grad student pub, Alfie's Place, with its lovely mountain brow location, including a deck that served quite good food and offered an excellent selection of fine local wine and beer.

First up on Sunday was "Microcomputers in Academia: This Time It's Personal", organised by Allan Olley (Toronto). This session started with Zbigniew Stachnial (York) looking at "The MCM/70 in Research and Education", "the earliest microprocessor-based computer designed by a Canadian company". Zbigniew presented a compelling story based on the York University Computer Museum's extensive collection of related artifacts and documents. I noted with nostalgic amazement the use of an APL keyboard, a language so powerful that not even the original programmer could understand how a programme worked.

Scott Campbell's (Waterloo) "Micro-What? Computer Scientists Constructing Microcomputers at the University of Waterloo" looked at when Canada's leading computer science department decided to build their own microcomputer "to cheaply expand the reach of the existing centralized mainframe". Allan focused on the Astronomical Computing department of the popular American astronomy magazine, Sky and Telescope. The column facilitated mutual support between amateur astronomers exploring the capacity of the newly available and increasingly more powerful personal computers to aid their observing and calculating efforts.

My late morning session, featuring our new CSHPM President Elaine Landry (California-Davis), was "Realism". Elaine spoke on "Structural Realism and Category Mistakes", comparing set-theoretic and category-theoretic "account[s] for the structure of the world". She was joined by Alex Manafu (Sorbonne), "On the (im)possibility of a unified science of multiply realized kinds", and Bryson Brown (Lethbridge), "Laws of nature: the role of predicates in systematization". This was the only CSHPS Philosophy session that I

attended, but it was very understandable and encouragingly provocative. I even got to ask a few good questions. Lunch was served at the CSHPS AGM. Most noteworthy were the announcements of further annual CSHPS venues. Next year CSHPS will meet with CFHSS at the University of Ottawa from May 30 to June 5. In 2016 there will be two meetings. One will be at CFHSS in Calgary (May 28–June 3), mostly for the philosophers of science. Why? Because CSHPS will also be meeting jointly with the (American) History of Science Society (HSS) and the British Society for the History of Science (BSHS) in Edmonton that year. After lunch, I transitioned to the CSHPM meeting.

David Orenstein

## AGM of CSHPM/SCHPM

The Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Mathematics took place at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, on May 26, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 12:20 pm by Glen Van Brummelen, President, with 35 members in attendance.

#### Agenda for the General Meeting

- 1. Approval of agenda
- 2. Approval of minutes of 2013 AGM
- 3. Treasurer's report
- 4. Secretary's report
- 5. Bulletin Editor's report
- 6. Proceedings Editor's report
- 7. New Proceedings
- 8. Webmaster's report
- 9. Archivist's report
- 10. Future Meetings
- 11. CSHPM Award
- 12. Phil Math Preprint Archive
- 13. Election results
- 14. Other business
- 15. Thanks from the President
- 1. The agenda for the general meeting was approved.
- 2. **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting as printed in the November 2013 *Bulletin*. Carried unanimously.
- 3. a) Dirk Schlimm pointed out that we have two accounts, \$US and \$Can. PayPal requires that all

payments go into the \$Can account. Dirk transfers some funds to the \$US account in order to pay bills and to keep the balance high enough to avoid fees. b) Dirk reinvested a maturing GIC into a fund with an interest rate that will vary between 1% and 9%, the rate being tied to the stock market. c) Motion: To approve the report. Passed unanimously.

- 4. a) Patricia Allaire thanked outgoing Treasurer Dirk Schlimm for the smooth coordination with her job as Secretary. b) Pat presented comparative membership data for 2013 and 2014. (Please refer to the CSHPM Executive Council Minutes in this issue of the *Bulletin* for this data and the Secretary's comments.) The number of members paying online has increased.
- 5. a) Content Editor, Amy Ackerberg-Hastings, expressed thanks to the other *Bulletin* editors (Eisso Atzema and Maria Zack), to the Secretary and the Webmaster (Pat Allaire and Mike Molinsky), and to all of the contributors. b) Last year, we spoke of the possibility of reconfiguring the *Bulletin*. However, since we are in the process of reconfiguring the *Proceedings*, the *Bulletin* will remain as-is for now.
- c) CSHPM now has a column in CMS *Notes*. The first column was written by Tom Archibald, and Craig Fraser is writing the second. There are six issues per year, and we would like to have a column in each issue. In response to a question by Tom Drucker, Amy said that one need not be a member of CSHPM to write an article for the column. Amy and Hardy Grant are looking for future contributors and have suggestions for topics should someone need an idea about what to write. Glen thanked Amy and Hardy for their work on this project.
- 6. Tom Archibald sent a report that the *Proceedings* are ready for printing. The full text of Tom's report is in the minutes of the Executive Council.
- 7. a) Glen Van Brummelen presented a brief history of the *Proceedings*, which began in 1988 as an in-house, unrefereed document. At that time, it was a useful place for academics to publish their papers. Such is not the case now. b) The following motion was presented by Glen and Amy A.-H.:
- That the CSHPM change the *Proceedings* from its current members-only publication to an annual volume available to the public.
- To authorize the President of the CSHPM to sign

- an agreement on behalf of the Society for a threeyear trial arrangement with Springer/Birkhäuser to publish such a volume.
- To appoint Maria Zack and Elaine Landry as editors for the trial period.
- To revisit the arrangement and the question of the nature of the *Proceedings* as a publication at the 2016 Annual General Meeting.
- c) The following points were made with regard to the motion: i) The President will be authorized to sign a 3-year trial arrangement with Birkhäuser. At the end of two years, we will decide whether to continue at the end of the trial period. ii) We had to choose between an academic publisher (for which we have available editors) or an open-source model (for which we have no editor available). iii) Maria and Elaine will be the history and philosophy editors, respectively. iv) Maria described the refereeing process and noted that she has a very competent assistant to aid with the mechanical aspects of the process.
- d) Cost: Birkhäuser requires that a minimum of 35 copies be purchased, with an electronic version priced at \$29, softcover at \$36, and hardcover at \$49. Birkhäuser will cover the mailing. The price is guaranteed for 3 years. CSHPM will subsidize the price charged to students, retirees, and members from developing nations. On request, they may obtain an electronic copy for \$15.
- e) Copyrights: Birkhäuser's language about copyright is as follows:
- "Author retains, in addition to uses permitted by law, the right to communicate the content of the Contribution to other scientists, to share the Contribution with them in manuscript form, to perform or present the Contribution or to use the content for non-commercial internal and educational purposes provided the Springer publication is mentioned as the original source of publication in any printed or electronic materials.
- "Author retains the right to republish the Contribution in any collection consisting solely of Author's own works without change and subject only to notifying Springer in writing prior to such publication of the intent to do so and to ensuring that the publication by Springer is properly credited and that the relevant copyright notice is repeated verbatim."

- f) Refereeing Process: Criteria will be established. The referee will determine whether the paper is accepted, accepted with minor changes, or rejected. There will be no other options. g) Papers will be accepted in both English and French. h) If a paper is to be published, it must be presented at the meeting. i) A policy on plagiarism (including self-plagiarism) will be established. j) Michael Williams expressed concerns that it is customary for publishers to charge considerably more if a copy is mailed to a library, and it has happened that a volume mailed to an institutional address is treated by the publisher as mailed to a library. He also is concerned that the author be able to do what he wishes with the paper.
- 8. The Webmaster, Mike Molinsky, reported that the email discussion list will be closed because it has been used very rarely. The announcement list, consisting of all members, will remain open.
- 9. As Archivist, Mike Molinsky reported that he adds the current *Bulletins* and *Proceedings* to the electronic archives each year and will continue to work on scanning material into the archives and on doing an inventory. He would like photos and papers from the early days of CSHPM.

The meeting was interrupted at 1:25 pm, when lunch arrived, and resumed at 1:45.

10. a) Glen Van Brummelen noted that in 2015 we will be meeting jointly with BSHM and MAA at MathFest in Washington, DC. MathFest is August 5–8; we will meet August 6–8. 2015 is the centennial of MAA. Steve Kennedy is co-chair of the Centennial Committee, and Amy, Victor Katz, and Maria (as CSHPM's session organizer) are on that committee. Robin Wilson and June Barrow-Green will represent the BSHM on the planning committee. Additional organizers will be needed. Amy volunteered to be the local organizer; Jean-Pierre Marquis will help with the proposed speakers in the philosophy sessions. The theme will be Mathematical Communities. Karen Parshall will be the May Speaker. Larry D'Antonio suggested that the Euler Society participate. Tom Drucker suggested that the Philosophy of Mathematics Association join us.

b) For future meetings, our practice has been to default to meeting with the Learneds, which will be in Calgary in 2016. We do not know where CMS will be meeting. Tom Drucker noted that we do want to maintain our visibility with CMS.

- 11. Glen Van Brummelen announced that the 2013 winner of the CSHPM Award is Robert Moir, "Rational Discovery of the Natural World: An Algebraic and Geometric Answer to Steiner." Since we received \$779 in contributions earmarked for student travel, we will supplement that amount and award \$800 to the 2014 winner. A committee will be selected once we see the papers that are submitted.
- 12. Elaine Landry asks if we would like to participate in the Phil Math Preprint Archive. The purpose of this archive is to allow an author to place a work-in-progress in order to obtain feedback. Members are asked to send her email expressing thoughts on the question.
- 13. Patricia Allaire reported that 56 electronic ballots and 2 paper ballots were submitted. The results of the election are: President: Elaine Landry

Vice-President: Dirk Schlimm Secretary: Patricia Allaire Treasurer: David Bellhouse

Council: Craig Fraser, Jean-Pierre Marquis, Karen Parchall Loal Silverborg

Parshall, Joel Silverberg

The membership applauded outgoing President Glen Van Brummelen to thank him for his service.

- 14. David Bellhouse announced the time and place of the dinner with Michael Williams, the May Speaker.
- 15. Glen extended the following thanks: Fran Abeles, Greg Lavers, Adrian Rice, and Sylvia Svitak, outgoing Council; Amy Ackerberg-Hastings, Eisso Atzema, and Maria Zack, Bulletin editors; Tom Archibald, Maria Zack, and Elaine Landry, outgoing and incoming Proceedings editors; Amy A.-H. and Hardy Grant, CMS Notes column editors; Mike Molinsky, Webmaster and Archivist; Larry D'Antonio and Chris Baltus, organizers for this meeting; Greg Lavers, representative to CFHSS.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:17 pm.

Patricia Allaire, Secretary

#### HPM Americas Section at IL State

The Americas Section of the International Study Group on the Relations Between History and Pedagogy of Mathematics met at Illinois State University in Normal, IL, April 11–13, 2014. On Friday, April 11, Ken Clements and Nerida Ellerton arranged a tour of Eyestone School, a 19th-century one-room school-house on the university campus, with discussion of textbooks and teaching practices. The group then adjourned to a 21st-century classroom to peruse a selection of Ken's and Nerida's extensive collection of mathematics textbooks and cyphering books.

Talks on Saturday and Sunday included Stuart Moskowitz's hands-on presentation of using historical punchboards to teach probability, Bud Boman's tour of his computerized mapping of Euclid's *Elements*, and Amy Ackerberg-Hastings's report on teaching history of mathematics to young children via art and objects. Herb Kasube reflected on the role of anecdotes in teaching mathematics and its history, Paul Dawkins explored the teaching of axiomatization, and Rebecca Vinsonhaler discussed the teaching of infinitesimals. Nicole Wessman-Enzinger categorized number lines found in arithmetic textbooks, Vince Kirwan looked at the history of the New Math, and Dave Roberts considered the influence of three popular mathematics books on the teaching and learning of mathematics.

Josh Hertel, Nerida Ellerton, and Ken Clements looked at cyphering books for navigation, by girls, and compared to Thomas Jefferson's conceptions about mathematics education, respectively. Abe Edwards reported on his evaluation of prospective teachers' beliefs about mathematics before and after studying the history of mathematics. He joined with Funda Gonulates and Jennifer Nimitz to share results of a similar study of prospective teachers' experiences with the history of calculus. Lucian Ionescu ruminated on lessons he conveys about the history of mathematics. Saturday evening, Ken and Nerida hosted dinner in their home, which is unsurprisingly packed with mathematics textbooks.

Ken and Nerida marshaled several current and former graduate students to help extend hospitality to the attendees, and it is clear that they have created a special place for studying the history of American mathematics education. HPM Americas Section meetings are also characterized by the intermixing of a core group with a variety of people interested in the intersection of history and pedagogy in mathematics education. The group joined with the Midwest History of Mathematics Conference to organize a meeting at Wabash College, October 17–19, and hopes to gather in Washington, DC, in the spring of 2015 to coincide with an exhibition of Man Ray's mathematical artwork at the

Phillips Collection.

Amy Ackerberg-Hastings

# Executive Council Meeting CSHPM/-SCHPM

The meeting of the Executive Council of CSHPM-/SCHPM took place at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, on May 25, 2014. The following members were present: Francine Abeles, Amy Ackerberg-Hastings, Patricia Allaire, Larry D'Antonio, Elaine Landry, Jean-Pierre Marquis, Michael Molinsky, Dirk Schlimm, Sylvia Svitak, Glen Van Brummelen, and Maria Zack. Glen Van Brummelen, President, called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

Minutes from the 2013 Executive Council Meeting were accepted as printed in the November 2013 Bulletin.

President's Report: Glen Van Brummelen noted that he had two goals for his term of office: 1) He hoped to "spread the word" about history and philosophy of mathematics within the academic community. One instance of progress in this direction is the column we now have in the Canadian Mathematical Society's newsletter. (See *Bulletin Editor's report below.*) 2) He hoped to institute a new format for our *Proceedings* to make it more available beyond CSHPM.

Treasurer's Report: Dirk Schlimm reviewed the report distributed to the Council and published in the May 2014 Bulletin. He noted we have a significant surplus. Larry D'Antonio expressed concern about the cost of food for this conference and asked if we might consider raising the Society's portion of the registration fee. As outgoing Treasurer, Dirk thanked in particular Pat Allaire and Mike Molinsky for facilitating the work of the Treasurer over the past few years, so that it was a very pleasant and enjoyable job.

**Secretary's Report:** Patricia Allaire expressed her thanks to Mike and Dirk for facilitating the work of the Secretary.

Pat presented comparative membership data for 2013 and 2014:

	2013	2014		
Total Members	163	164		
Members By Address or Organization				
Can	33	39		
US	88	88		
Other	15	8		
BSHM	17	19		
CSHPS	7	8		
Complimentary	3	2		
Members By Status				
Active	80	76		
Retiree	48	42		
Student	8	7		
Developing Nation	2	2		
Student Associate	3	1		
MathFest Winner	N/A	1		
Members by Pay Method				
On-line	83	93		
Snail mail	53	32		
Complimentary	N/A	2		
New Members	17	13		
Reciprocal Memberships				
To BSHM	46	49		
To CSHPS	28	23		

Journal Subscriptions				
Historia (paper)	60	61		
Historia (electronic)	6	7		
Philosophia	34	37		
Proceedings	62	62		
Paid	33	34		
Complimentary	28	29		
Federation	1	1		
Bulletin				
Electronic	149	ca 127		
Paper	53	51		
Donations				
No. Donors	26	24		
Amount	\$723.00	\$779.00		

51 paper *Bulletins* were mailed, 37 of which went to current members. Others went to the Federation (1), BSHM and CSHPM members (10), and others from whom payment is expected (3).

**Bulletin** Editor's Report: Amy Ackerberg-Hastings reported that reorganization of the *Bulletin* had been considered, but for now the newsletter will remain the same. Looking ahead, suggestions for a new format,

content, frequency, and the like are welcome. Amy expressed thanks to the co-editors, Eisso Atzema and Maria Zack, and to Pat Allaire and Mike Molinsky for their help with electronic distribution.

CSHPM now has a column in the CMS *Notes*, and Tom Archibald was the first contributor. Co-editors Amy A.-H. and Hardy Grant are looking for future contributors. They also have suggestions for topics, should someone need an idea about what to write.

**Proceedings** Editor's Report: Tom Archibald sent the following report, read by Glen Van Brummelen:

"It is doubtless fitting that the CSHPM *Proceedings* moves into the major leagues after my third year of dilatory service. The 2013 *Proceedings* should be off getting printed around the time you hear this report.

"I will confess that I voted against the institution of a *Proceedings* when they were introduced (or maybe I just thought it was a bad idea, but I seem to recall speaking against it). Many very good contributions over the past 26 volumes show me I have been quite wrong.

"Nonetheless, I'll point out that good papers in the history and philosophy of mathematics deserve to find a wider readership than can be the case with the kind of limited-circulation proceedings that we have had until now. The continued publication of the leading journals that accept papers in our field is somewhat at risk, and the field as a whole needs to gain greater visibility if it is to be more than a hobby. Of course, the presence of enthusiastic amateurs is one of the nice features of the CSHPM meetings. But if we want to foster high quality research in a way that leads to employment for scholars, more people need to read our work.

"Hence while I hope you will continue to grace the pages of the CSHPM proceedings with your fine essays, I urge you to submit your research also to the several journals that are widely distributed and subscribed to by university libraries. I'll hope also that the changes in the *Proceedings* will lead them to become one of these journals on their own. I note that the BSHM *Bulletin* is already being indexed by Math-SciNet and Zentralblatt.

"To the proceedings, va de bon coeur, to the future and past authors va pensiero, and to the future editors, nolite illegitimi carborundudum."

Maria Zack, Amy Ackerberg-Hastings, and Elaine

Landry then discussed the new format for the *Proceedings*. A motion will be presented by Glen and Amy to the membership at the AGM. It will be suggested that retirees pay \$15 if they wish a copy of the *Proceedings*. One paper copy will be needed for the Archives.

Webmaster's Report: Mike Molinsky reported that his university no longer supports faculty web servers. Mike is now paying \$2 per month for our web services. He suggested discontinuing the discussion list, as it is seldom used. The Council agreed and suggested that Mike should announce the cancellation at the AGM.

Archivist's Report: Mike Molinsky adds the current *Bulletins* and *Proceedings* to the electronic archives each year and will continue to work on scanning material into the archives. The Archive should contain a job description (list of responsibilities and deadlines) from each officer of CSHPM. However, to date the only job descriptions he has are from the Webmaster, Archivist, and Secretary. Other officers are asked to provide theirs.

Phil Math Preprint Archive: Elaine Landry asks if we would like to participate. The purpose of this archive is to allow an author to place a work-in-progress in order to obtain feedback.

2015 Meeting: Maria Zack reported that we will be meeting jointly with BSHM and MAA at Math-Fest in Washington, DC, August 6–8. Robin Wilson and June Barrow-Green of BSHM are already committed. This is the centennial of MAA, and Maria is on the Centennial Committee (along with Amy Ackerberg-Hastings and Victor Katz). Organizers will be needed. Amy volunteered to be the local organizer; Jean-Pierre Marquis will help with the proposed speakers in the philosophy sessions. The theme will be Mathematical Communities. Karen Parshall will be the May Speaker. Larry D'Antonio suggested that the Euler Society participate.

2016 Meeting: CFHSS will be meeting in Calgary in 2016. We do not know where CMS will be meeting. Student Prize: The 2013 winner is Robert Moir, "Rational Discovery of the Natural World: An Algebraic and Geometric Answer to Steiner." A committee will be selected once we see the papers that are submitted for 2014. Since we received \$779 in contributions earmarked for student travel, we will supplement

that amount and award \$800 to the winner.

**2014 Election:** The election was held, and results will be announced at the AGM.

Other Business: Glen expressed thanks to: Greg Lavers (representative at HSSFC AGM); Larry D'Antonio and Chris Baltus (regular and special session organizers); David Bellhouse (local arrangements coordinator); the Nominating Committee (Tom Archibald, Antonella Cupillari, Fred Rickey); and the CMS Notes column editors (Amy Ackerberg-Hastings and Hardy Grant). Special thanks were offered to outgoing Proceedings editor, Tom Archibald, and all the usual suspects from above. The agenda for tomorrow's Annual General Meeting was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Patricia Allaire, Secretary

# Joint AMS/MAA Meetings in San Antonio

A number of events in history and philosophy of mathematics have been planned for the Joint Mathematics Meetings, to be held in San Antonio, Texas, January 10–13, 2015. More information can be found on the MAA or AMS websites: www.maa.org or www.ams.org.

- Saturday, 10 January, 8:00-10:50 and 14:15-18:05, and Sunday, 11 January, 8:00-11:50 and 13:00-15:50: AMS-MAA Special Session on History of Mathematics, organized by Sloan Despeaux, Patti Hunter, Deborah Kent, and Adrian Rice. The Sunday morning session includes a panel discussion of "Recent Trends in the History of American Mathematics," and the Sunday afternoon session includes a panel discussion of "Common Themes in the History of Ancient and Nonwestern Mathematics."
- Saturday, 10 January, 14:15–16:15, and Monday, 12 January, 13:00–15:00: MAA Minicourse on "Humanistic Mathematics," presented by Gizem Karaali and Eric Marland. (NOTE: You must preregister for this course.)
- Saturday, 10 January, 17:00–19:20: HOMSIG-MAA Guest Lectures, Reception and Business Meeting, featuring Kathy Clark and Carl Pomerance.

- Sunday, 11 January, 9:00–9:50: MAA Invited Address, "Golden Numbers and Identities: The Legacy of Rogers and Ramanujan," by Ken Ono.
- Monday, 12 January, 8:00–10:15 and 13:00–14:55: HOMSIGMAA Session on Ethnomathematics, A Tribute to Marcia Ascher, organized by Ximena Catepillan, Amy Shell-Gellasch, and Janet Beery.
- Monday, 12 January, 8:00–10:45 and 13:00–16:45: AMS Special Session on Mathematics in Poland: Interbellum, World War II, and Immediate Post-War Developments, organized by Mohammad Javaheri and Emelie A. Kenney.
- Monday, 12 January, 8:00–10:50: MAA Invited Paper Session on The Mathematics of Rogers and Ramanujan, organized by Ken Ono.
- Monday, 12 January, 9:00–9:50: MAA Invited Address, "Divergent Series and Differential Equations: Past, Present, Future . . ." by Christiane Rousseau.
- Monday, 12 January, 11:10–12:00: AMS-MAA Invited Address, "The Remarkable Journey of the Isoperimetric Problem: From Euler to Steiner to Weierstrauss," by Richard A. Tapia.
- Monday, 12 January, 17:30–19:20: POMSIGMAA Reception and Business Meeting; and Guest Lecture, "Mathematical Authority and Inquiry-Based Learning," by Matt Jones.
- Tuesday, 13 January, 8:00–10:45 and 13:00–17:45: AMS Special Session on The Scottish Book, organized by Krystyna Kuperberg, R. Daniel Mauldin, and Jan Mycielski.
- Tuesday, 13 January, 8:00–10:25 and 13:00–15:55: POMSIGMAA Session on Discovery and Insight in Mathematics, organized by Dan Sloughter and Bonnie Gold.
- Tuesday, 13 January, 8:00–10:50: HOMSIGMAA Session on Original Sources and Archives in the Classroom, organized by Amy Shell-Gellasch and Dominic Klyve.
- Tuesday, 13 January, 13:00–14:40: AMS Session on the History of Mathematics.
- At press time, an MAA General Contributed Paper Session on History and Philosophy of Mathematics, organized by Kristen Meyer, Bem Cayco, and Kimberly Presser, was planned but not yet scheduled.

# Book Review: Count Like an Egyptian

Count Like an Egyptian: A Hands-on Introduction to Ancient Mathematics, by David Reimer, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2014, 233 pp. \$US29.99.

Count Like an Egyptian: A Hands-on Introduction to Ancient Mathematics is exactly that. It is very hands-on, and not just in the sense of providing examples and problems that allow the reader to delve in and truly do the mathematics as it was done in antiquity. This book is hands-on in that it is beautifully laid out and presented. I would almost describe it as a small coffee table book or a presentation book. If you ever wanted to give a nice gift to a teacher who loves math, this would be the gift. It is a roughly 10-inch square hardcover with full color graphics on every one of its heavyweight glossy pages.

This volume is ideal for anyone, and I truly mean anyone, young or old, mathematician, student or teacher, who wants to learn how the ancient Egyptians did mathematics. Along the way, a fair amount of Egyptian mythology and history is presented to set the stage. The text flows smoothly and seamlessly from the basics of Egyptian numbers, through their arithmetic and on through simple algebraic problems, areas and volumes, measurements and Egyptians' methods for fraction decomposition and completion. The author includes a brief introduction to Babylonian mathematics and comparison to Egyptian methods. Finally, a comparison of the Egyptian methods to modern topics such as binary mathematics is given with an eye to showing how, in many instances, the Egyptian methods were more efficient (when compared against modern computations by hand—not with a calculator, of course).

The author engages the idea of viewing the mathematics through the eyes of an Egyptian and not of a modern practitioner. This is vital to presenting the mathematics in the correct historical light. If viewed through the eyes of modern mathematics, any ancient system will seem awkward and ineffective. But when viewed in context, the reasoning and beauty of the system can be conveyed. To do this, one has to try to think like an Egyptian. The author does a good job of presenting what the possible motivations for the problems would be and the settings in which they would be used. In this way, the distinct Egyptian meth-

ods, such as their interesting use of unit fractions, make more sense. Only at the end, after the author has guided us through all the Egyptian mathematics known to us, does he compare it to the modern processes. By making this comparison after the full presentation of the Egyptian methods, including the context, the comparison is much more balanced and the Egyptian methods seem more appropriate. This "seeing through the eyes of the ancients" is something that even experienced historians struggle with, and I was pleased to see it addressed from the very start.

I was also happy to see that the important original sources—the Rhind (A'hmes) Papyrus, the Moscow Papyrus and the Egyptian Mathematical Leather Roll—are all used extensively. Problems are taken from all of these sources and presented in context. Each example is accompanied by well-drawn graphics that allow the reader to visualize the problem. I especially liked that instead of trying to convert the problems into modern algebraic notation, the author used everyday analogies such as money, which students can relate to easily and which are closer to the historical mindset than our modern algebraic one. My only complaint about this volume is that no images of actual Egyptian texts or artwork are given. Though extensively illustrated, all the images are computergenerated graphics.

This book has all the Egyptian mathematics a general mathematician, teacher or student could ever want to learn. In particular it would be a perfect resource for a schoolteacher, elementary through lower division college. The material is presented in a direct and accessible manner. The book is in no way a scholarly work and presents no nuanced historical arguments. Which is as it should be; this is a learner's guide to all the mathematics the Egyptians did. After reading it, you will be well versed in how the ancients did their computations so you can count like an Egyptian. And now good luck with trying to get the Bangles' Walk Like an Egyptian (1986) song out of your head!

Amy Shell-Gellasch

# From the Archives: The First Decade of Membership

Following the approval of its bylaws on June 3, 1974, the CSHPM/SCHPM membership expanded fairly quickly, with 27 paid members by August 27 of that year and 60 paid members by October 24 (including 11 members living in the United States). The following year, the membership more than doubled, increasing to 144 members by October 9, 1975. The membership at that time included 103 living in Canada, as well as members spread across more than a third of the states in the USA, and also members from Australia, Columbia, France, Germany, Israel, South Korea and Venezuela.

The CSHPM/SCHPM managed to maintain this level of membership for the next few years, reporting 144 total members on both October 9, 1975, and July 5, 1976, and then a slight drop to 138 total members by November 2, 1977. The membership continued to be international across this period; for example, the 1977 membership included 92 Canadian addresses, as well as 35 in the United States and 11 more around the world, including members in India, Uruguay, Israel and the Dominican Republic.

In 1978, there was a significant drop to only 94 members, which was apparently related to the fact that the Society was only able to include a subscription to *Historia Mathematica* as a membership option to members living in Canada. Although a deal was later reached with Academic Press to allow CSHPM/SCHPM to offer memberships that included Historia to those outside of Canada, the membership did not immediately rebound to its previous levels. It did increase slightly to 102 members by May 1982. Another drop in membership occurred at this point, with only 79 members listed in the membership directory that the Society distributed in May 1984. The reduced membership that year included 57 members with Canadian addresses, 16 in the United States and six more from other countries, including Switzerland and Mexico.

Mike Molinsky

#### CALL FOR PAPERS / APPEL A CONTRIBUTION

### Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Mathematics Société canadienne d'histoire et de philosophie des mathématiques

#### **Annual Meeting 2015 / Réunion annuelle 2015**

The annual meeting of the CSHPM/SCHPM will take place August 6–8, 2015, in Washington, DC. The meeting is being held in conjunction with MathFest, the summer meeting of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). This is a joint meeting being organized by the CSHPM, the British Society for the History of Mathematics (BSHM), the History of Mathematics Special Interest Group of the MAA (HOMSIGMAA) and the Philosophy of Mathematics Special Interest Group of the MAA (POMSIGMAA).

The keynote speakers for the gathering are:

- Kenneth May Lecture: Karen Parshall, University of Virginia
- POMSIGMAA Lecture in Philosophy: John Burgess, Princeton University

As well as general paper sessions on the history or philosophy of mathematics, the meeting will feature a number of focused sessions:

- Special Session on Mathematical Communities
- Special Session on the Philosophy of Mathematics
- Special Session in Memory of Jackie Stedall
- Special Session in Honor of Karen Parshall

In addition, MathFest 2015 is the Centennial Celebration for the MAA, so there are a number of special talks and events planned for August 5–8, 2015, that celebrate this major milestone in the history of the MAA.

Abstracts (250 words or less) should be submitted by the deadline of 15 February 2015 to Maria Zack (mzack@pointloma.edu). Maria will then circulate them to the relevant members of the organizing committee (comprised of members of CSHPM, BSHM, HOMSIGMAA and POMSIGMAA). Once the abstracts are accepted by the committee, instructions will be given for how to submit the abstract to the Mathematical Association of America. We are taking advantage of the MAA's electronic submission system for finalizing the schedule for this meeting.

La réunion annuelle de la CSHPM/SCHPM aura lieu du 6 au 8 Août 2015 à Washington DC, Etats-Unis. Cette réunion est organisée en conjonction avec MathFest, qui est la réunion d'été de la Mathematical Association of America (MAA), par la CSHPM, la "British Society for the History of Mathematics (BSHM)", la "History of Mathematics Special Interest Group of the MAA (HOMSIGMAA)" et le "Philosophy of Mathematics Special Interest Group of the MAA (POMSIGMAA)".

Les conférenciers invités pour cet événement sont:

- Conférence Kenneth May: Karen Parshall, University of Virginia
- Conférence POMSIGMAA de Philosophie: John Burgess, Princeton University

En plus des séances plénières sur l'histoire ou la philosophie des mathématiques, cette réunion comportera plusieurs séances spécialisées sur les thèmes suivants:

- Communautés mathématiques
- Philosophie des mathématiques
- Séance spéciale en mémoire de Jackie Stedall
- Séance spéciale en l'honneur de Karen Parshall

De plus, MathFest 2015 fêtera le centième anniversaire de la MAA. Il sera donc organisé, du 5 au 8 Août 2015, des sessions spéciales ainsi que des évènements commémoratifs de ce moment historique pour la MAA.

Les résumés (250 mots ou moins) doivent être soumis avant le 15 février 2015 à Maria Zack (mzack@pointloma.edu). Celle-ci les distribuera aux membres du comité organisateur (Comprenant des membres du CSHPM, BSHM, HOMSIGMAA and POMSIGMAA). Une fois les résumés acceptés par le comité, des instructions seront fournies quant au mode de présentation à la MAA. Nous nous servirons du mode de soumission électronique pour finaliser l'emploi du temps de cette réunion annuelle.

## Changes to the *Proceedings*

For several years, it has been increasingly apparent that the *Proceedings* are too much work for one per-Meanwhile, the nature of scholarly publishing has (and continues to) changed, as have criteria for hiring, promotion, and tenure at many institutions. The Council began exploring options in 2013, with an ad hoc committee of Glen Van Brummelen, Maria Zack, and Amy Ackerberg-Hastings doing a fair amount of the legwork. Glen polled the membership about pursuing a scholarly publisher or open-source publishing in his November 2013 President's Message. In the May 2014 issue of the Bulletin, he announced that Council would present a motion at this year's AGM about signing a three-year agreement to have the *Proceedings* published as a contributed volume by an academic publisher. You can read the motion and details of the discussion in the AGM and Executive Council Minutes in this issue.

When you renew your membership for 2015, you will find that the decisions you have to make about the 2014 *Proceedings* have changed. Instead of paying one rate for a paperback copy typeset by the volunteer *Proceedings* editor (offered gratis to students, unemployed members, retired members, and members from developing nations), there are several formats and price points for a volume professionally typeset and distributed by Birkhäuser:

- Electronic version (i.e., a PDF file) \$29
- Softcover \$36
- Hardcover \$49

Members who pay special membership rates (but not reciprocal members) may order the electronic version at a reduced rate of \$15. All prices are guaranteed for the three years of the agreement.

Additionally, libraries, institutions, and the public will be able to order copies of the volume directly from Birkhäuser. Thus, our research in the history and philosophy of mathematics will be available to a wider audience. The series will be called *Proceedings* of the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Mathematics, with each volume's title referring to the meeting at which the included papers were presented, e.g. Research in History and Philosophy of

Mathematics: The CSHPM 2014 Annual Meeting in St. Catharines, Ontario. At press time, it was not confirmed whether volume numbering would restart from 1 or would continue the existing numbering (currently at volume 27).

If you presented at the 2014 meeting, you are already aware that there will also be some changes in how the *Proceedings* are prepared. Papers were due to the co-editors, Maria Zack and Elaine Landry, by October 15. They will then be lightly refereed by CSHPM members (accepted, accepted with minor changes, or rejected). Between December 15 and January 15, authors will revise their papers and collect formal permissions for any images. The editors will submit the full volume to Birkhäuser for typesetting by March 15, 2015. As always, only CSHPM members who presented a paper at the AGM will be eligible to have their papers published in the *Proceedings*. (For joint meetings, members of the other societies participating in the meeting will also be able to contribute.)

The entire project represents the combination of a way to preserve the strongest features of our *Proceedings*, a way of buying time in a volatile scholarly publishing market, and a way of starting to move the *Proceedings* into the 21st century. The first volume, of course, will be the most difficult; next year, with a tangible book in hand, we will all better visualize the process. Questions may be directed to the editors or to the Council.

#### New Members

Congratulations to the following new members who have joined the Society since our last Bulletin. We look forward to your contributions.

Deborah Bennett
Jersey City, NJ
USA
Barry Davies
Newtown, CT
USA
Eric Franke
Spruce Grove, AB
Canada
Dr. F.N. Kautzmann, III
Springboro, OH
USA

Jenneke Kruger Zwolle The Netherlands Ray Nicholas Guelph, ON Canada Sylvia Nickerson Hamilton, ON Canada Robert Valenza Claremont, CA

**USA** 

Additionally, we welcome the following winners of the 2014 HOMSIGMAA Student Writing Contest.

Jenna Miller University of Missouri–Kansas City Wichita, KS USA Anna Riffe University of Missouri–Kansas City Grandview, MO USA

#### From the Editor

As you can see from this issue, the Society has juggled a lot of initiatives in the past couple of years. Having skimmed through the entire run of our Newsletters and Bulletins last night, I don't think there has ever been a time that CSHPM has rested on its collective laurels. However, the recent past has presented several challenges and opportunities in the academic community that have triggered one of the most productive periods that I can remember. In this issue, you have read about the *Proceedings* and 2015's joint meeting with BSHM, HOMSIGMAA, and POMSIG-MAA, which returns to the USA to explore the nonpolitical delights of its capital. We are not quite at the point at which the CMS Notes column happens automatically, but we are making progress in the collaboration. You can see the three articles that have appeared in 2014 (March-April, September, and October-November) at cms.math.ca/notes/. Many thanks to Glen Van Brummelen, Maria Zack, Hardy Grant, and others who have labored to execute these initiatives.

The next submission deadline for the *Bulletin* is 1 April 2015. As always, the editors seek news items of interest to historians and philosophers of mathematics, reports on conferences attended, and personal and professional announcements. We also welcome suggestions for memorials, book and web reviews, and informative or thought-provoking column-style articles. Plain text and LaTeX files are easiest for the editors to deal with, but we can also convert Word documents. Submissions may be sent to *aackerbe@verizon.net*.

The Bulletin reaches your hands or computer screen due to the continued efforts of Eisso Atzema, Layout Editor; Maria Zack, Production Editor; Pat Allaire, Secretary; and Mike Molinsky, Webmaster. In this season between the Canadian and American Thanksgivings, I am thankful also for our officers, Councillors, and the volunteers who keep the Society's other functions operating smoothly.

Amy Ackerberg-Hastings

### About the Bulletin

The Bulletin is published each May and November by a team of 3 volunteers: Content Editor Amy Ackerberg-Hastings (aackerbe@verizon.net), Layout Editor Eisso Atzema (atzema@math.umaine.edu), and Production Editor Maria Zack (Maria-Zack@pointloma.edu). Material without a byline or other attribution has been written by the editors. Les pages sont chaleureusement ouvertes aux textes soumis en français. Comments and suggestions are welcome and can be directed to any of the editors; submissions should be sent to Amy Ackerberg-Hastings at the above email address, or by postal mail to 5908 Halsey Road, Rockville, MD 20851, USA.

