

October 2004

---

# ACMS NEWSLETTER

---

Robert L. Brabenec  
ACMS Executive Secretary  
Wheaton College  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
(630)752-5869  
Robert.L.Brabenec@wheaton.edu  
www.acmsonline.org

## JANUARY 7, 2005 DINNER IN ATLANTA

Your ACMS board has decided to try an experiment at the January meetings in Atlanta. In an attempt for ACMS to have a more visible role in the mathematical community, we have decided to make our annual dinner part of the official program and to hold it in a conference hotel. Our request to do this has been approved by the AMS/MAA planning committee. One factor which encouraged us in this direction is the fact that Tom Banchoff agreed to be our speaker, and that his name might encourage others to consider our organization. Another reason is the fact that some of the future joint meetings will include Sunday, when we can again propose to hold a worship service. The board will continue to discuss the idea of continuing this approach in future years – your input is welcomed.

This decision will of course lead to a meal that is more expensive than usual. We expect the cost to be about \$55, but because of contributions from ACMS and some of its members, we will be able to offer a significantly reduced price of \$40 (\$30 for ACMS members whose dues are current and \$20 for students). We will need to sell tickets in advance in order to guarantee an accurate count, so you will need to order your tickets before the meeting. You can do this by sending a check payable to ACMS for the appropriate amount. Use the enclosed form. We would be glad to accept payment above the minimum, but there is no obligation to do so.

Tom will speak on the topic Dali: The Christian Dimension. He will show 10 minutes of a documentary on Salvador Dali as part of his presentation. He met Dali on ten occasions over a period of ten years. Tom has been a featured speaker at two of the ACMS conferences and has been well received. He is a past president of the MAA, and recently received a prestigious award from the NSF for distinguished teaching. We look forward to this evening and invite you to join us there.

## 2005 ACMS CONFERENCE

Plans are well underway for the 2005 ACMS Conference. It will be held at Huntington College in Indiana from Wednesday evening June 1 until Saturday noon, June 4. The planning committee consists of Win Wetherbee, Francis Jones, Patrick Eggleton and Jeff Lehman. Our featured speaker will be Fernando Gouvêa from Colby College in Maine. He is presently the editor of *Focus* and *Focus Online*. He is co-author with William Berlinghoff of the book *Math Through the Ages*. He is also scheduled to present a MAA lecture in Atlanta in January 2005.

You should consider this to be a formal invitation for you to prepare an abstract for a proposed talk at the conference. Send it to the conference coordinator at [wwetherb@huntington.edu](mailto:wwetherb@huntington.edu). The Board will discuss the program during their meeting in Atlanta, so be sure to submit any ideas by the middle of December. The homepage at [www.acmsonline.org](http://www.acmsonline.org) will contain conference information during the coming months.

## ONLINE JOURNAL

We are pleased to announce an Online Journal as a new feature of the ACMS organization. Jim Bradley of Calvin College came up with this idea, and the Board endorsed it along with his offer to serve as Editor. You can access this material through the ACMS webpage. You will see a collection of 27 featured articles taken from past issues of the conference Proceedings, along with information about the journal and how you can submit possible articles for consideration. Jim also asks members whose email address is different from what is listed in the directory to send your current email address to [jbradley@calvin.edu](mailto:jbradley@calvin.edu).

## DIRECTORY UPDATE

A list of new members is enclosed for you to add to your directory. We plan to issue a new directory in 2006. Please keep us informed of changes in your listing.

## **LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY ACMS AND ITS MEMBERS:**

1. 14 conferences planned and hosted by Point Loma University (2003), Calvin College (2001, 1987), Gordon College (1999), Wheaton College (1997,1991, 1983, 1981, 1979, 1977), Taylor University (1995), Westmont College (1993), Messiah College (1989), The King's College (1985).
2. Proceedings printed and still available for all 14 conferences.
3. Dinners with speakers at all January joint meetings since 1985.
4. Worship service provided at joint meetings in 2002.
5. Webpage designed and maintained at [www.acmsonline.org](http://www.acmsonline.org) by Brian Dawson.
6. *The Bibliography of Christianity and Mathematics* was prepared by Gene Chase and Cal Jongsma in 1983. Gene is currently working on an extensive revision.
7. Online journal began in 2004 by Jim Bradley.
8. *Mathematics in a Postmodern Age* was written by several ACMS individuals under the editorship of Russ Howell and Jim Bradley.
9. Russ Howell, Gene Chase, and Jim Bradley led 21 participants in a CCCU Disciplinary workshop in Mathematics and Computer Science in May 2003 to help integrate Christian faith with these disciplines.
10. ACMS is a charter member of the Coalition of Christian Scholarly Societies.
11. A computer science subgroup and listserv ([cs-christianity@listserv.messiah.edu](mailto:cs-christianity@listserv.messiah.edu)) is a link on the ACMS website and is maintained by Gene Chase.
12. Lunch meeting for ACMS members at the SIGCSE conferences are arranged by David Stucki and Cary Gray.
13. In addition, many ACMS members write books, prepare articles, give invited talks, and serve in many capacities in the mathematical community. To give a few examples, Russ Howell and Jim Bradley presented a panel discussion on mathematics in a postmodern age at the 2002 joint meetings; David Lay has participated in developing the linear algebra curriculum and text materials; Wayne Roberts has a long-term role in MAA committee work and calculus reform; Marvin Brubaker and Francis Jones received MAA sectional teaching awards; and Charles Hampton is a leader in the philosophy of mathematics subgroup and contributed papers session.
14. We are always looking for new opportunities and invite you to present your ideas to an ACMS board member.

## **BOARD ELECTIONS**

This spring we will hold our biennial election for 4 new Board members to serve a four year term. If you would like to serve others in ACMS in this way, please send me your name, or that of another person you recommend. The board meets during the joint meetings in January and at the ACMS conferences. In addition, several business matters are handled by email throughout the year. Board members whose terms conclude in June 2005 are David Lay, Sharon Robbert, Ray Rosentrater and Richard Stout. Those whose terms continue until June 2007 are Jim Bradley, Matt DeLong, Charles Hampton, and Angela Hare.

## **SPEAKERS IN ATLANTA**

Last year Sharon Robbert collected a list of ACMS members who were giving talks at the joint meetings. If you will be on the program in Atlanta, please send your name and information about your talk to [Sharon.robber@trnty.edu](mailto:Sharon.robber@trnty.edu). Sharon will have this information posted on the ACMS website and will place written copies under ACMS on the message board.

## **CORRECTIONS FOR THE 2003 PROCEEDINGS**

Peter Rothmaler lists 2 corrections to his article on page 143. On line 6, replace  $n \geq 2$  by  $n > 2$ . The second line from the bottom should read  $Q=1/(1-Z-Z^2)=1/[(1-\phi Z)(1-\tau Z)]$ .

Richard Sherman offers the following paragraph of clarification for his article on pages 69-88:

Unfortunately, texts with portions in some foreign alphabets won't appear with the proper characters unless the program used for printing supports the necessary font. That has happened on pages 83 and 84 of the Proceedings of the Biennial ACMS Conference held at Point Loma Nazarene University May 28-31, 2003. Whereas Hebrew letters were intended in the last column of Appendix A, Greek letters appear in the Proceedings. If you wish to view this appendix with the appropriate Hebrew letters, go to <http://www.biblecodedigest.com/page.php/189>.

## **NEW BOOK**

Baylor University Press announces the forthcoming publication of *Teaching as Believing: Faith in the University*, Studies in Religion and Higher Education Series #2. This book, written by Chris Anderson at Oregon State University, is described as an invaluable resource for those who seek to properly integrate faith and learning in their academic life.