

INTRODUCTION

The seventeenth biennial conference of the Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences was hosted by Wheaton College from May 27 to May 30, 2009. One hundred and sixteen participants plus a number of family guests interacted on the contents of six invited presentations and thirty two contributed papers. Invited speakers included Mathematics Association of America President Dr. David Bressoud from Macalester College, Penn State University Director of Undergraduate Mathematics Dr. James Sellers, and emeritus professor of mathematics Dr. James Bradley from Calvin College.

Contributed papers were organized into four thematic streams: (i) Computer Science, (ii) Mathematics, (iii) History and Foundations of Math, and (iv) Classroom Connections. A majority of the conference presenters rendered their talks into written form, and their papers are included in these Proceedings. In addition to invited and contributed papers, three concurrent panel discussion sessions were held on the first full conference day, and these forums focused upon (i) Undergraduate Student Research, (ii) Calculus Reform and Innovation, and (iii) Computer Science Issues.

A variety of informal activities and programs complemented the range of formal sessions. Each evening a significant gathering of participants hiked en masse into Wheaton's small-town business district for ice cream and other caloric wonders. The Friday evening banquet event concluded with an absolutely delightful musical presentation of Broadway tunes improved by new mathematical lyrics (compliments of Kim Jongerius) and presented by professional Christian vocalist Mr. Kit Bogan and pianist Katie Barkman. Mr. Bogan uses his outstanding voice in ministry as a church music director and professionally as a member of the Chicago Symphony Chorus. Fellowship and sharing, as well as pre-planned devotional presentations, culminated in a traditional and uplifting worship service prepared by conference delegates from Taylor University including speaker Dr. David Neuhouser.

As the 1977 inaugural site of the ACMS and its biennial conferences, Wheaton College was privileged to have the seventeenth edition of this organization's biennial event back on its own campus. Twenty two of this year's conference participants were themselves graduates of Wheaton's Math Department. For them, and for the dozens of our math and computer science Christian colleagues at multiple other campuses, we at Wheaton wish you God's special blessing in your respective ministries until the next ACMS biennial event. The 2011 summer conference is scheduled to be held in California where Westmont College has already graciously volunteered to serve as the host site.

Terry Perciante
Conference Coordinator