

## Meritorious Service Awards

### Abraham Mantell

*Nassau Community College*

Abraham Mantell's contributions to the MAA and the Metro NY Section are quite extensive and span many years. Of particular note is his role as the editor of the section's newsletter, which is highly regarded by our members: he has held this position for over two decades. He also helped to craft the newly revised section by-laws last year. He has represented the section at MathFest and the Joint Meetings on a regular basis; he also recruits new members for the section and provides guidance to our section with his extensive knowledge and experience at the section level.

Over the last two decades, Abe has consistently volunteered to assist the section as needed in a multitude of ways. A few examples are: having attended all our delegate assembly meetings since 1999 and being an integral part of the planning and running of our section meetings; serving as a moderator and/or panelist at sectional meetings and our local Project NExT panel discussions; and chairing or co-chairing some important ad-hoc committees (i.e., Teaching and Service Awards Committees, and the By-Laws Committee).

Additionally, in the fall of 2019 Abe began the process of arranging for his institution to serve as an AMC testing site for students within our section who desire to participate, but whose schools do not. Unfortunately, this has been put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, once we can return to pre-pandemic status, Nassau Community College will be ready to serve in that capacity.

A list of the various positions he has held follows:

#### **MAA Section Level: Metropolitan New York Section**

Newsletter Editor (1999–present)

Speakers Bureau Chair (2006–2014, 2018–present)

Governor (2014–2017)

Chair (2003–2006)

Chair-Elect (2001–2003)

Vice-Chair for Two-Year Colleges (1999–2001)

#### **MAA National Level**

Member of the Committee on Panels, Poster Sessions and Workshops (2018–2021)

Board of Governors (2014–2017)

Member of the Committee on Two-Year Colleges (2015–2018)

### Response

I am honored to be a recipient of the MAA's Meritorious Service Award. My service over the last 20+ years has largely been driven by the desire to not only promote mathematics on a local level, but to also encourage students and colleagues to get involved with professional organizations. I am gratified by the numerous students and faculty who have benefitted from such activity due to my urging. However, as the years progressed, other driving forces emerged. In particular, the camaraderie, friendships, and professional relationships with so many fine and talented individuals that have been forged. All these experiences are what motivate me to maintain my involvement in the MAA for as long as I am able.

### Biographical Sketch

Abraham Mantell is a professor in the Department of Mathematics, Computer Science, and Information

Technology at Nassau Community College, where he began his full-time appointment in 1993. Abe is also an adjunct associate professor in mathematics at Hofstra University, having started there in 1996. He received his BS in mathematics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, an MS in applied mathematics from Stony Brook University, and completed three years of PhD studies also in applied mathematics at Stony Brook.

In addition to his active involvement with the MAA for more than two decades, he has been heavily involved with the New York State Mathematics Association of Two-Year Colleges (NYSMATYC). Positions held with NYSMATYC have been: Webmaster, Scholarship Chair, Member-at-Large, President-Elect, President, and Past-President (having served the presidential cycle twice), and Math League Contest Coordinator since 2009. He has given over thirty presentations at regional and national conferences and as an invited speaker at local area events. He received the 2010 Distinguished Service Award by the Metro NY Section of the MAA and the 2010 Outstanding Contributions Award by NYSMATYC.