

STAPLES

**The Project NExT Colloquium  
in New Orleans, Louisiana at the Joint Mathematics Meetings  
Wednesday, January 10 - Saturday, January 13, 2000**

**Tuesday, January 9, 6 – 9 p.m.:** Dinner with your Project NExT friends, Bayside C, Sheraton New Orleans Hotel.

**Wednesday, January 10, noon, through Saturday, January 13, noon:** Project NExT booth, next to the MAA exhibit in the Exhibit Area.

**Wednesday, January 10, through Saturday, January 13:** Project NExT room, Grand Ballroom D, Sheraton New Orleans.

**Project NExT Program Schedule**

**UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE, ALL EVENTS ARE IN GRAND BALLROOM D, SHERATON NEW ORLEANS.**

**Wednesday, January 10**

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.      *Writing Letters of Recommendation*

Panel: Charlotte Kappe, SUNY Binghamton  
Gail Nelson, Carleton College  
Bette Warren, Eastern Michigan University

This session is devoted to letters of recommendation, and in particular to writing letters of recommendation for our students. The first half of this session will be a panel discussion and the second half will combine a large group discussion with a question and answer period. The panelists will discuss the process they go through when writing a letter of recommendation, and they will critique some sample letters.

Organizers (gold dots): Eric Egge, Gettysburg College  
Emily Hynds, Samford University

9:45 - 10:45 a.m.      *Advising Students based on their Career Goals*

Panel: G. Alan Cannon, Southeastern Louisiana University  
Luise-Charlotte Kappe, SUNY Binghamton  
Jennifer McNulty, University of Montana  
Cheryl Chute Miller, SUNY Potsdam  
Thomas Pfaff, University of Wisconsin-Superior

Topics that will be addressed include helping students find career paths for which a math major is important, recruiting and retaining math majors, helping students choose graduate schools, locating resources about careers in mathematics so as to promote meaningful career discussions between faculty and students, learning effective techniques for helping students structure their major, and pitfalls of advising.

Organizers (gold dots): Maria Fung, University of Wisconsin-Stout  
Thomas Pfaff, University of Wisconsin-Superior  
Katherine Roegner, Southeastern Louisiana University.

## Wednesday, January 10

11:30 - 1:00 p.m.      *Mathematics Education Swap Session I*  
Project NExT Fellows and consultants will share ideas that have worked for them in courses for future teachers at the elementary, middle and high school levels. There will be time for discussion. A second such session will be held on Thursday, January 11, 3:00 - 5 p.m.  
Organizer:                      Judith Covington, Louisiana State University in Shreveport

1:00 - 2:15 p.m.      *Share your Pedagogical Experience: A Swap Session*  
At this swap session, Project NExT Fellows are invited to share their recent teaching experiences and innovations. Find out if new pedagogical techniques could work for you!  
Organizers (gold dots): Grady Bullington, Huntingdon College  
   Laura Taalman, James Madison University

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.      *Keeping Active in Research.*  
Mardi Gras Ballroom D, 3rd floor, Marriott.  
Young Mathematicians Network-Project NExT Panel Discussion  
This panel is part of the regular MAA program and is open to all meeting attendees. Further details can be found in the Joint Meetings Program.

## Thursday, January 11

9:00 - 10:30 a.m.      *How to attract more Students into Advanced Mathematics Classes.*  
Mardi Gras Ballroom E, 3rd floor, Marriott.  
This panel is part of the regular MAA program and is open to all meeting attendees. Panelists include Kirby A. Baker, University of California at Los Angeles, Mary D. Shepherd, SUNY-College at Potsdam, Paul Zorn, St. Olaf College, and the moderator is Joseph A. Gallian, University of Minnesota, Duluth. Further details can be found in the Joint Meetings Program.

11:00 - noon              *Creating and Teaching Interdisciplinary Courses*  
Panel: Daniel P. Maki, Indiana University  
   Dorothy I. Wallace, Dartmouth College  
Courses that combine mathematics with other subjects are increasingly popular as well as highly valued by many departments and by funding agencies. Daniel Maki and Dorothy Wallace are leaders in the NSF-funded Mathematics Across the Curriculum program. They have developed and implemented over thirty courses integrating mathematics with such diverse subjects as literature, criminal justice, economics, linguistics, kinesiology, journalism, and many others. Professors Maki and Wallace will present information about their programs and advice for developing such courses, including details on logistics, classroom format, and student experiences. Their presentations will be followed by extensive time for questions. A collection of syllabi for successful interdisciplinary courses will also be available.  
Organizers (gold dots): Jeff Johannes, University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
   Julia Wilson, State University of New York, Fredonia

## Thursday, January 11

1:00 - 2:15 p.m.      *Research with Undergraduates*

Panel: Carl Cowen, Purdue University  
Gavin LaRose, University of Michigan  
Brigitte Servatius, Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
John Swallow, Davidson College

The panel will discuss undergraduate research from different perspectives. The panelists represent various kinds of schools, and various research areas. They will discuss how they get students interested, how they get started, where they find problems, where they have students publish or present their work, and the value of "minor" research by undergraduates, among other things.

Organizers (gold dots): Crista Coles, Elon College  
Carl Lienert, University of Arizona  
Alexander Richman, Purdue University  
Cameron Sawyer, Southwestern University  
Amy Shell, United States Military Academy

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.      *Project NExT and Young Mathematicians Network Poster Session*

Pontchartrain A, 3rd Floor, Sheraton

This poster session is part of the regular MAA program and is open to all meeting attendees. Further details can be found in the Joint Meetings Program.

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.      *Mathematics Education Swap Session II*

Project NExT Fellows and consultants will share ideas that have worked for them in courses for future teachers at the elementary, middle and high school levels. There will be time for discussion.

Organizer: Judith Covington, Louisiana State University in Shreveport

## Friday, January 12

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.      *Open Discussion with the Fellows' Department Chairs and Heads*

The institutions where the Project NExT Fellows work make a substantial commitment to Project NExT by providing the travel funds needed for the Fellows' participation in Project NExT. This discussion will focus on two questions: How can institutions get the most out of their investment in Project NExT, and how can Project NExT best help mathematics departments? Department chairs or heads for Fellows from all years are invited.

Organizers: Katherine Pedersen, Southeast Louisiana University  
T. Christine Stevens, Saint Louis University

10:30 - noon      *The Mathematical Education of Teachers Document*

Panel: Mary Lindquist, Columbus State University  
Dale Oliver, Humboldt State University

The panelists are members of the steering committee for the Mathematical Education of Teachers document ([www.maa.org/cbms](http://www.maa.org/cbms)) prepared by the Conference Board of Mathematical Sciences. They will share their knowledge of the document.

Organizer: Judith Covington, Louisiana State University in Shreveport

## Friday, January 12

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.      *Formulating a Plan for your Professional Future*

Panel: Richard Cleary, Cornell University  
Anant Godbole, East Tennessee State University  
Patti Frazer Lock, Saint Lawrence University  
Donna Molinek, Davidson College

This session is intended for those who have been out of graduate school for several years, and have questions about directions to pursue in their professional lives. In particular, discussion will be centered on such topics as the roles of teaching, scholarship, and service in that plan; finding ways to invigorate one's research in familiar or unfamiliar fields (in academia or industry); planning for a sabbatical, and using it well; when or whether to take on administrative roles inside and outside your institution; undergoing tenure review, and other evaluative reviews; juggling personal and professional commitments, and how to keep those balanced; and, changing jobs after getting tenure.

Organizers (red, green, blue dots): George Ashline, Saint Michael's College  
Jeremy Case, Taylor University  
Cynthia Woodburn, Pittsburg State University

(This session is open to all meeting attendees.)

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.      *Undergraduate Research Swap Session*

This session is intended for faculty who have tried to involve undergraduates in research. We will share ideas that worked well and those that did not, as well thoughts on what aspects of conducting undergraduate research turned out to be easy, and what turned out to be burdensome. Let us know where you found problems to assign to your undergraduate researchers, and how you determined the match between problem and researcher, whether you needed funding and how you managed to get it. The session is not intended to be a primer on how to get students involved in undergraduate research.

Organizer:                      Apama Higgins, University of Dayton

8:30 - 10:30 p.m.      *Project NExT Reception for all Fellows (national and Section NExT) and Consultants*

There will be complimentary refreshments and a cash bar. This event also marks the opening of the MAA's fundraising drive for Project NExT.

## Saturday, January 13

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.      *What Makes Mathematics Programs Thrive (And How You Can Have an Impact)*

Moderator:      Barbara Ashton, Wittenberg University

This discussion on how to enhance and change your department is expected to be of interest to faculty with a few years (0-6) of experience who are beginning to take on new leadership roles in their department. We invite you to join us to share your success stories.

Organizers (red, green, blue dots): Jeremy Case, Taylor University  
Bernadette Mullins, Birmingham-Southern College  
Barry Spieler, Birmingham-Southern College  
Cynthia Woodburn, Pittsburg State University

(This session is open to all meeting attendees.)

Saturday, January 13

11:15 - 12:15 p.m.      *Writing and Reading in Mathematics*

Panel: Christopher Goff, University of Arizona  
Janet Liou-Mark, New York City Technical College  
John Meier, Lafayette College  
Derek Smith, Lafayette College

Each panelist will discuss her/his experiences including reading/writing assignments in a mathematics course. Christopher Goff requires writing in a Discrete Math course and email discussion groups. Janet Liou-Mark incorporates writing in a Liberal Arts math course and an Intermediate Algebra course. John Meier is a co-author of "Writing in the Teaching and Learning of Mathematics." Derek Smith uses web discussion boards and interesting readings in his junior-level geometry course.

Organizers (gold dots): Christopher Goff, University of Arizona  
Chawne Kimber, Lafayette University

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.      *Grant-writing/ Getting Your Research Off to a Good Start*

Presenters: Lloyd Douglas, National Science Foundation  
Joseph Gallian, University of Minnesota-Duluth

This is a shortened version of the "Project NExT course" offered to Fellows at the Mathfest. The grant-writing presentation will cover topics such as general mathematical proposal writing pitfalls to avoid, incorporation of students in mathematical sciences projects, and various grant opportunities at the National Science Foundation. Project NExT Fellows will also be able to discuss other issues that are of particular concern to them. The presentation on getting your research off to a good start will include advice on how to find research problems, write well, and give good talks. There will also be discussion on where to submit your work, and how to get your work known.

Organizers:              Aparna Higgins, University of Dayton  
                                 T. Christine Stevens, Saint Louis University

Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) is a professional development program for new or recent Ph.D.s in the mathematical sciences who are interested in improving the teaching and learning of undergraduate mathematics. It addresses the full range of faculty responsibilities in teaching, research, and service. Project NExT is a program of the Mathematical Association of America with major funding from the ExxonMobil Foundation and additional funding from the Educational Advancement Foundation.

