March 16, 2005

The Twenty-Third Annual Friends of Mathematics Awards Banquet will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2005. Professor Tomasz Mrowka of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will be one of our distinguished guests.

Professor Mrowka will speak on "Progress and Prospects in Floer Homology for Three Manifolds" in Cardwell 102 at 2:30 p.m. that afternoon. Containing some discussion of low dimensional topology, Dr. Mrowka's lecture should be accessible to non-mathematicians.

The evening festivities will begin with cider and conversation on the 2nd floor Concourse of the K-State Union at 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. in the `K-S' Rooms of the Union. Following the dinner our Distinguished Alumnus, Judith Penna Henn, of the Addison-Wesley Publishing Company will speak to us on "Back When I Was In School," and Professor Mrowka will speak after the presentation of awards. These talks will be comprehensible to most diners.

For students and their guests, the price of the banquet is $7.50 per person. For others, the price of the banquet is $15.00 per person.

Because Friends of Mathematics bears the cost of the banquet for the one-third of the diners who are honorees, ticket sales do not cover the cost of the banquet; and so, we request contributions beyond the price of the tickets in honor of our special guests. We are often asked about a donation amount, and we suggest paying for one honoree's dinner for each ticket purchased for yourself and your guests. Donations should be made on a separate check; the KSU Foundation will not acknowledge donations that cannot be easily distinguished from payment for services rendered.

We invite all friends and alumni to join us for this important event. Reservations should be made by Monday, April 18, 2005.

JM:sw

Notes on Distinguished Speakers - Mrowka and Penna Henn

Tomasz Mrowka

Dr. Tomasz Mrowka received his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1988. He is presently a professor of mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and he has also taught at Berkeley and the California Institute of Technology. Dr. Mrowka is an expert on differential geometry and gauge theory, and he has 19 publications on low dimensional topology, contact structures, and the invariants of Donaldson and Seiberg-Witten. He proved the "Property P conjecture" concerning the fundamental group of a manifold constructed from Dehn surgery on a knot, using foliations and symplectic geometry. Professor Mrowka has been the thesis advisor for 13 Ph.D. students.

Judith Penna Henn

Judith Penna Henn received her B.S. in mathematics from Kansas State University in 1967, and her M.A. in mathematics from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, in 1969. She was a faculty member at Indiana University, Purdue University, and Butler University in Indianapolis, and she presently works with the editorial and media groups in the Collegiate Mathematics Division of the Addison-Wesley Publishing Company. Judith Penna Henn has written nine textbook on College Algebra, Trigonometry, and Precalculus.

Please return this form by Monday, April 18th to:

Sheree Walsh
Department of Mathematics
138 Cardwell Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506-2602

I have enclosed a check payable to *Friends of Mathematics* in the amount of

$____ for __regular reservations ($15.00 each) and/or

$____ for __student reservations ($7.50 each)

$____ total

for the 2005 Friends of Mathematics Awards Banquet.

I wish my name tag and the name tags of my guests to read as follows:
(please print)

_____
_____
_____
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I have enclosed a separate check payable to *Friends of Mathematics* in the amount

of $____ as a contribution. Donations should be made on a separate check; the KSU Foundation will not acknowledge donations that cannot be easily distinguished from payment for services rendered.

*The meal will be roast beef. Please let us know if you have special dietary needs by filling in the number of dinners for the following:

Vegetarian Spinach and Artichoke crepes #____or **low cholesterol chicken** #____.

Due Date: Monday, April 18, 2005