MAA

MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

YUEH-GIN GUNG AND DR. CHARLES Y. HU AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO MATHEMATICS

THE Gung and Hu Award for Distinguished Service to Mathematics, first presented in 1990, is the endowed successor to the Association's Award for Distinguished Service to Mathematics, first presented in 1962. This award is intended to be the most prestigious award for service offered by the Association. It honors distinguished contributions to mathematics and mathematical education—in one particular aspect or many, and in a short period or over a career. The initial endowment was contributed by husband and wife, Dr. Charles Y. Hu and Yueh-Gin Gung. It is worth noting that Dr. Hu and Yueh-Gin Gung were not mathematicians, but rather a professor of geography at the University of Maryland and a librarian at the University of Chicago, respectively. They contributed generously to our discipline, writing, "We always have high regard and great respect for the intellectual agility and high quality of mind of mathematicians and consider mathematics as the most vital field of study in the technological age we are living in."

CITATION

Deanna Haunsperger

Carleton College

The Gung and Hu Award Committee recommends that the 2021 award go to Deanna Haunsperger for her prolific service to mathematics, including with the Mathematical Association of America; for her influential leadership of women in mathematics; for her long focus on inclusion and on building inclusive mathematical communities; and for a laudable career that has been rich in mathematical research, mathematical education, and mathematical exposition.

There are many ways one might influence the course of our discipline in Gung Hu-worthy ways. The main theme of Deanna's way is inclusion, in the sense of working to make learning and doing mathematics, from elementary to advanced levels, interesting and viable for many and various people. Deanna's deep interest in welcoming and helping a broad range of students to the study of mathematics is clear and evident. Both the goal of building a mathematical community and Deanna's efforts to this end are about as thoroughly MAA-centered as one could imagine. Deanna Haunsperger was MAA president (2017–2018) and is a professor of Mathematics at Carleton College, where she has been teaching for over

twenty-five years. She earned her BA in mathematics and computer science from Simpson College and her Ph.D. in mathematics from Northwestern University, focusing on voting theory applications to decision making.

As a faculty member at Carleton College, co-editor of *Math Horizons*, co-founder and co-director of the NSF-funded Summer Mathematics Program for Women Undergraduates [SMP], the second vice president and president of the MAA, chair of the Strategic Planning Group on Students, chair of the Council on Outreach Programs, co-chair of the Centennial Planning Committee, a member of many more MAA committees, and a member of the Mathematics Community as a whole, Deanna has done a tremendous job of encouraging, mentoring, and envisioning programs to help undergraduates pursue graduate study and careers in the mathematical sciences.

Carleton's Summer Math Program for women (SMP) was recognized by the AMS as a 2014 Program That Makes a Difference. As the co-founders and co-directors from 1995 through 2014, Deanna and fellow mathematician and husband Stephen Kennedy created a community of several hundred female mathematicians who support, encourage, and inspire one another, and who mentor younger women who are thinking of going into mathematics. The impact of this group of female mathematicians can be felt throughout the country. The community of women built by this program, whose members started as undergraduates, now boasts over 110 Ph.D.s in mathematics or a mathematical science, with over 30 members currently in graduate school in mathematics. These women will invariably tell you how grateful they were to SMP and Deanna and Stephen for helping them get where they are now in mathematics.

In addition to the leadership and mentoring that Deanna and Stephen provided to students during SMP, they have continued to foster the community of former SMPers long after the NSF stopped funding summer programs for women. Every year, they organize an SMP reunion at the Joint Mathematics Meetings, which now brings together approximately 40–50 alumnae at various stages in their mathematical careers. While SMP still had some NSF funding, they would help organize a JMM workshop, the Graduate Education Mentoring Workshop (GEM), to offer continued mentoring and networking for former SMPers who were pursuing graduate studies. This workshop was run by former SMPers who had tenure-track jobs themselves, but Deanna and Stephen's ideas, enthusiasm, and encouragement would be felt every step of the way.

Deanna was recognized in 2012 by the AWM with the M. Gweneth Humphreys Award for Mentorship of Undergraduate Women in Mathematics. She won, with Stephen Kennedy, the MAA Meritorious Service Award in 2016. She is also on the Board of Directors of Pro Mathematica Arte, which oversees the Budapest Semesters in Mathematics, and she was co-chair of the Human Resources Advisory Committee of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute.

Deanna co-edited the books *The Edge of the Universe* and *A Century of Advancing Mathematics* and is working on a new book on mathematical communities. Deanna's co-editorship of the fourth edition of the MAA's popular *101 Careers in Mathematics* is yet another example of Deanna's MAA-related community effort. This one nicely combines Deanna's editorial skills with an explicitly broad outreach mission: to encourage students and other young mathematicians to see mathematical careers as possible and viable for themselves. The 125 people featured in this edition are notably diverse in every sense of the word.

As MAA president and past-president, Deanna helped launch a new MAA Award and then served as the first chair of the Committee on the Inclusivity Prize. And if that were not enough, she and Stephen financially support the MAA and are members of the MAA Icosahedron Society.

As an Association, MAA is stronger and a model for others because of Deanna Haunsperger's insistence that we be fair, inclusive, and welcoming, which has expanded our community with mathematicians who respect and include all. This is distinguished service from which the MAA and the profession will long benefit.

Biographical Note

Deanna Haunsperger, a first-generation college student from central Iowa, earned her BA (1986) in mathematics and computer science from Simpson College and her Ph.D. (1991) from Northwestern University in mathematics under Donald Saari in voting theory applications to decision making. She married fellow mathematician Stephen Kennedy in 1990. From 1991–94, they worked at St. Olaf College alongside past MAA president Lynn Steen and future MAA president Paul Zorn. Since 1994, they have worked at Carleton College, where Deanna chaired the Department of Mathematics, 2011–14. Together they edited *Math Horizons*, 1999–2004 and have nurtured the award-winning NSF-funded Carleton Summer Mathematics Program since 1995. Deanna is a former president of the MAA, an inaugural AWM fellow, and a winner of the AWM's M. Gweneth Humphreys Award for Mentorship of Undergraduate Women. Deanna and Stephen have two adult children, Sam and Maggie.

Response from Deanna Haunsperger

The work that I do for the Association and mathematics is very fulfilling; it brings me great happiness. To be recognized by my friends and by our Association for that work is an incredible honor.

When I was in graduate school, one of my colleagues asked what I wanted to do with my Ph.D. when I finished, and I explained that my goal was to teach at a liberal arts college. He told me that I should belong to the MAA—the organization that supports professors and their students, embraces research-based pedagogy,

promotes research by faculty and students, publishes exceptional exposition, and creates a community where all are welcomed and encouraged to contribute. He was absolutely right, so I joined the MAA, and I married him.

Many of the accomplishments listed above wouldn't have been possible, or at least not nearly as fun, without Stephen Kennedy by my side. We have been on many adventures together, mathematical and otherwise, and I thank him for his support. I would also like to thank my colleagues at Carleton and my kids Sam and Maggie for always supporting me when I say yes to new responsibilities. Finally, I would like to thank all the MAA friends I have made along the way for being my mathematical family.

Together, I hope we will continue to welcome all people and voices into our community and give them opportunities to contribute. We will be richer for it.