

Math association chooses officers

by Joseph J Wheeler
Staff Reporter

Bill Aslan, a visiting professor from East Texas State University, would like everyone to appreciate the beauty of mathematics.

"What would our world be without mathematics?" he asked. "For instance, take away the rectangle. What have we got? So many things we have are rectangular shaped. Doors, tables...if you take just one little bit of mathematics away, our world vanishes."

Aslan has been helping students organize a UNLV chapter of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA), a national group that supports math students by offering informative journals, lectures, and scholarship and career information. The group's first meeting was Sept. 27.

A Constitution was approved and officers chosen at the meeting. James Hautzell was elected president, Tatiana Turati vice-president, Alycia Harrison secretary, Angela M. Starr treasurer, and Chris Dorman parliamentarian. Peter Shiue, chairman of the

math department, is sponsoring the UNLV chapter of the MAA.

All the chosen MAA officers, except Turati, are math majors.

More than 50 people attended the meeting. The talk, "Discover the World of Mathematics," was given by Aslan.

Aslan said that today can be called the golden age of mathematics, and that almost as much new mathematical information was contributed during the last six decades than all the previous centuries combined.

As part of the MAA, a new Math Club was set up for those students interested in mathematics but who don't want the journals, and other involvement, offered by the MAA.

Thirteen students have already signed up for the new club, according to Aslan. He said he feels it is important that students learn not to fear mathematics, and that one way of doing that is to meet the professors.

"When students see that math professors are human, they have feelings, they play, they enjoy life; it changes their attitude towards math," Aslan said.



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Math club - Backrow L-R; Alycia Harrison, Bill Aslan, Angela Starr; Front L-R; Chris Dorman and James Hartzell.

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