

Club Spotlight: Dimensions

by Clarke Wellborn
Contributor

Some folks in our American society tend to look upon people who appreciate mathematics as if they were somehow “different”. Words like “geek” or even “smart” come to their minds, as do images of mismatched clothing, thick glasses, and bumping into things while pushing calculator buttons. Athletic ability doesn’t seem part of this image. Also, the perception is that there are not very many of these mathophiles. This may be expected of mathophobes most places and is possibly a valid characterization in some places, but Brevard College is not one of those places. Interest in mathematics is quite high here and a recent gathering of such students showed that the stereotype is way off the mark.

Several years ago students interested in mathematics got together and formed a club. Some were mathematics majors and some minors, many were just fascinated by what they had been studying in their

mathematics courses, and some just noticed that this group comprised very normal, attractive people and they just enjoyed their company. They named their group **Dimensions**. As individuals, the members of the club joined the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) and that organization chartered the club as the Brevard College student chapter of the MAA.

Dimensions has had very active periods and a time when it was dormant. Five years ago, for example, the student body declared it to be the outstanding club on campus. This year, at its opening meeting, there were twenty-one members present: eighteen students and three faculty members. There are several more “adjunct members” out there whose athletic (baseball primarily) or artistic (music primarily) commitments have prevented them from being active in the club.

The club’s president is senior mathematics major, Aaron Baker. Carrilea Potter is the

vice-president, John Hardee the SGA representative, Megan Schulz the secretary, and Clarke Wellborn the faculty advisor. Of its members, one is on each of the following teams: women’s soccer, men’s soccer, tennis, track and cross country, baseball, and softball, and seven are on the football team, so athletics does seem quite compatible with interest in mathematics.

Among the activities planned for this year are “Pizza and a Movie” meetings, participation in the Smoky Mountain Undergraduate Conference on History of Mathematics, puzzle contests in *The Clarion*, and mathematical presentations in the Colloquium Series “Mathematics as a Liberal Art”. Service opportunities discussed include tutoring in the schools and “Relay for Life”. One of the consistent enterprises in which

Dimensions members have been engaged is “Spending the Weekend with a Model”. This refers to the very challenging and rewarding participation in the international Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM). Brevard has fielded eight teams in the past several years, all of which earned “Successful Participant” awards, in company with the most prestigious colleges and universities in the country and the world.

All students are welcome to join **Dimensions**. Keep a lookout for announcements of Colloquia, events, and meetings. Or, email bakeraj@brevard.edu or ccw@brevard.edu.

**Interested in Business?
Looking for a way to get
involved?
Join the Brevard College
Business Club!!
Meetings every Thursday in
MG 113 @ 8:45pm**

Campus Security Report

9-3-07 Text books were reported stolen. The Student who stole them attempted to sell them back to the bookstore. The incident was turned over to campus life

9-5-07 An I-pod was reported stolen.

9-10-07 Textbook reported stolen.

9-22/23-07 It was reported that persons were firing a bow and arrow in the vicinity of the dirt pile near Neely Road.

9-26-07 A student reported that their vehicle was stolen from the parking lot behind Green. The incident was turned over to Brevard PD.

Security can be reached 24-7 at 828-884-5979