

## Math professor named AMS Congressional Fellow and elected to new position at MAA

**St. Paul, Minn.** – Prof. Karen Saxe has been named the American Mathematical Society (AMS) 2013-14 Congressional Fellow.

The AMS, in conjunction with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), sponsors a Congressional Fellow each year who spends the year working on the staff of a member of congress, on a congressional committee, or working as a special legislative assistant in legislative and policy areas requiring scientific and technical input. The year-long program is designed to provide a unique public policy learning experience, to demonstrate the value of science-government interaction, and to bring a technical background and external perspective to the decision-making process in the Congress.

Saxe, who's been teaching at Macalester since 1991, is finishing her time as chair of the Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science Department.

"I felt like doing something really different," she said, "and if I wanted to try something, this was a really good time to do it."

The Congressional Fellowship is one of several fellowships offered through the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science & Technology Policy Fellowships program.

Saxe has always been interested and active in politics, especially in K-12 education policy. She is looking forward to living and working in the Washington, D.C. area. A two-week orientation for the fellowship begins in September.

Because the application process ended months ago, she was pleasantly surprised when she heard she received the fellowship. "It seems rather unbelievable to me partly because I had put it out of my mind."

Saxe received other news this week. She won the national election to be Second Vice President of the Mathematics Association of America (MAA). She will serve two years from January 2014 - January 2016.

Saxe received her PhD and MS in mathematics from the University of Oregon and her BA in mathematics from Bard College.

Macalester College, founded in 1874, is a national liberal arts college with a full-time enrollment of 2,035 students. Macalester is nationally recognized for its long-standing commitment to academic excellence,



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