

Member-at-Large Candidate

Beverly Diamond
College of Charleston

I have always thought about encouraging “women and girls to study and to have active careers in the mathematical sciences” in terms of best practices for the education of all, in all academic disciplines and otherwise. One wants to approach a student without a preconception of what he or she understands, instruct with an awareness of a variety of learning strategies, challenge students at all levels, and encourage all to achieve their best. I tend to think less about a career in the mathematical sciences, and more about a comfort with analysis, an understanding of logical rules, a confidence and ability to rise to reasonable technical demands wherever.

Unfortunately, not only do many of us fail at best practices, we fail in a systematic way that amounts to discrimination against particular groups. AWM has worked effectively for many years to raise our awareness of best practices and to mitigate systematic discrimination against females. With its various programs that support activities all the way from secondary school through research in the mathematical sciences by tenured female mathematicians, AWM plays a significant role in both the direct development of female mathematicians and the public’s awareness of issues surrounding women in mathematics. Its role continues to be a valuable one, with the ongoing need for gender-specific role models at all levels of education, family-friendly leave policies, and sensitivity to discrimination of any sort. I would be pleased to contribute to AWM’s work by serving on the Executive Committee.

I obtained my Ph.D. from the University of Manitoba and joined the College of Charleston in 1984. I have held visiting positions at the University of Delaware and Montana State University, and I served as a Program Officer at the National Science Foundation from 1996 to 1998. I am currently Professor of Mathematics and Associate Provost at the College of Charleston, with this last position as of August 2007. I expect to work primarily on faculty issues: compensation, workload, budgeting, diversity, etc. I have served on AWM’s Selection Panel for Travel and Mentoring Grants and on the AMS Council as a Member-at-Large.