

Final grant report to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
Olga Taussky Todd Celebration of Careers in Mathematics for Women

[Grant DE-FG02-99ER25385]

This grant was proposed to be supplemental funding for a Conference which would be documented by publication of conference information in the AWM Newsletter and then inclusion of the Proceedings and other information generated in a book. The conference was successfully held and documented in the AWM Newsletter (Vol. 29 No. 6; Vol. 30 No. 1). Work is in progress on the extensive and complicated related publication which involves 50 authors beyond those from the conference.

The Olga Taussky Todd Celebration of Careers in Mathematics for Women featured the legacy of Taussky Todd (1906-1995), who was an inspiration to a number of the mathematicians present. The Celebration was held at the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) in Berkeley, CA, on July 16-18, 1999. It was attended by over 100 women and men mathematicians at all career stages. The planning and implementation was accomplished by several committees with the support of experienced staff members at AWM and MSRI.

The primary goals of this celebration were accomplished: encouraging, assisting and inspiring graduate students and postdoctoral participants, providing a forum for networking between mathematicians at various career levels, and promoting the achievements of women in mathematics including the celebration namesake. Employing a productive feature from the AWM Workshops, graduate student and recent Ph. D.'s were matched with senior women mathematicians (from academia and industry) for mentoring, which began with a relaxed lunchtime discussion. The small-group format produced many effective discussions about writing successful grant proposals, job search techniques, childcare, time management, careers in industry, and negotiating the path toward academic tenure, as well as discussions on the mentees' own research.

Thirty-seven graduate students and recent Ph.D participants presented their research in three poster sessions. The conference also featured plenary talks and panels. Two of the talks, a panel, and after-dinner remarks were entered on the work and career path of Taussky Todd. In the eight additional talks, distinguished women in the mathematical sciences discussed their research and their employment while sharing personal experiences and advice. Two panels centered on choices and issues faced by those beginning mathematical careers.

The responses from participants of this conference have been highly positive. As mentioned by many of the participants, the conference provided an excellent opportunity for interaction with fellow women mathematicians in various specializations. The mentors provided wise and realistic advice, and the conference outlined potential strategies to help women pursue more successful careers in the mathematical sciences.

Enclosed are copies of flyers/announcements, programs, and two collections of material in the AWM Newsletter described the conference and presented much of the

DISCLAIMER

This report was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency Thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof.

DISCLAIMER

Portions of this document may be illegible in electronic image products. Images are produced from the best available original document.

useful information which was developed. See Volume 29, Number 6, November-December 1999 and Volume 30, Number 1, January-February, 2000 issues attached.

The proceedings of the conference, including mathematical papers of the plenary speakers, will be in an AWM volume which will also include a recounting of AWM's inception and activities, and selected reprints of valuable first-source papers from the 30 years of the Newsletter which are not available in an achival source. Current negotiations and reviewing are under way which should result in a publication contract.