

THE SPRING 2026 NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL CONVENTION OF KAPPA MU EPSILON

We are pleased to announce that the Spring 2026 North Central Regional Convention will be hosted by Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, April 10-11, 2026. Dr. Sarah Cook is the main contact for the convention, sarah.cook@washburn.edu. This letter serves as a call for presentations for the convention.

Registration and lodging information will be given on the KME website. Attending chapters will receive \$250 in reimbursement.

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

It is a unique experience for student members of Kappa Mu Epsilon to be able to attend a regional convention and to have the opportunity to give presentations and listen to others given by fellow students. If your chapter has not been represented at conventions or if your students have not been giving presentations, we encourage you to begin or increase your participation this year. We sincerely hope that every chapter will make an effort to be represented at the convention and that corresponding secretaries will urge their students to attend the convention and to give presentations.

STUDENT PRESENTATION DETAILS

Overview

A significant feature of our regional conventions is presentations by KME student members. The mathematical topic selected by each student should be of interest to the author and of such scope that it can be given adequate treatment in a timed oral presentation. Senior projects and seminar presentations have been a popular way for faculty to guide students in investigating suitable topics. An abstract of the presentation, accompanied by a certifying advisor letter, must be submitted for consideration prior to the convention. At the convention, the Awards Committee will judge all accepted undergraduate presentations on both content and delivery, and the top presentations will receive an award.

Who may submit an abstract for a presentation?

Any undergraduate or graduate student member of Kappa Mu Epsilon may submit an abstract for consideration as a presentation at the regional convention. Presentations may be coauthored.

Presentation topics

Presentations at the convention should discuss material understandable by undergraduates who have completed one semester of calculus.

Presentations may be of original research by the student(s) or exposition of interesting but not widely known results. Presenters should always cite a reference(s).

Presentation time limits

Presentations at the convention should take between 15 minutes and 20 minutes. The abstract should be in accordance with a presentation that can be made with reasonable completeness in this time frame.

How to submit an abstract

Students who wish to make a presentation at the regional convention should submit an abstract of up to 500 words explaining the nature of the presentation and summarizing its content. At least one reference from the literature should be given.

The abstract should be accompanied by a letter from the student's project advisor, certifying that the student is doing the work specified in the abstract and the advisor's belief the student will have a fully prepared presentation by the time of the convention.

Please send the abstract and attached advisor letter, by email, by March 9, 2026 to:

Dr. Katherine Kime
Professor Emeritus, Department of Mathematics and Statistics
University of Nebraska Kearney
kimek@unk.edu

KME North Central Regional Director

Acceptance of presentations

Presentations whose abstracts coherently meet the specifications above will in general be accepted. The Regional Director will notify all authors of the status of their submissions soon after they are received.

Awards

Authors of the best presentations by undergraduates, as decided by the Awards Committee, will receive an award.

Judging criteria include

- Choice and originality of topic
- Literature sources and references
- Depth, significance, and correctness of content
- Clarity and organization of materials
- Adherence to the time constraints
- Effective use of graphs and/or visual aids
- Overall effect

Publication

A presenter who has not prepared a formal written paper by the time of the convention is encouraged to do so soon after the convention, so that the paper can be submitted for possible publication in *The Pentagon*. Unless published elsewhere, papers prepared from the prize-winning presentations will be published in *The Pentagon* after any necessary revisions have been completed. All other papers will be considered for publication.

To have a paper considered for publication, prepare it as a Microsoft Word document or .tex file, and include it as an attachment to an e-mail to the editor, Dr. Doug Brown, Department of Mathematics, Catawba College, dkbrown@catawba.edu. An electronic copy of the paper will be sent to a referee who will prepare an anonymous report. If the referee recommends publication and space is available, the paper will be published in one of the next several issues.

We look forward to receiving the student abstracts and to meeting you and your delegation at the convention in April. Best regards, Dr. Katherine Kime