
AFTERMATH

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

(1998-1999)

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I would like to begin this year's newsletter by recognizing the distinguished contributions of Professor Ed Burgess, who retires this year, culminating 48 years of service and accomplishment which includes 35 publications, 16 masters students, and 10 doctoral students, among them Jim Cannon of BYU, a leader in geometric group theory. Ed was chair from 1967 to 1977, a time during which the department grew greatly in size, strength, and national recognition. Among his many accomplishments was creation of the instructorship program, which has brought a steady stream of excellent young Ph.D.'s in mathematics to Utah. Among these is Goran Muic, recipient of this year's Instructor of the year award and also the first recipient of the C.E. Burgess Instructorship, a position which Ed and his wife Charlotte June have generously endowed. We all thank Ed for his lifelong contributions to mathematics and to this mathematics department, and we wish him a happy retirement as he assumes the title of Professor Emeritus.

I would also like to recognize two of our faculty members, Graeme Milton and Aaron Fogelson, who received especially significant honors this year. Graeme has been elected

Distinguished Professor of Mathematics in recognition of his fundamental contributions to understanding composite material structures. Aaron has received a Guggenheim fellowship for his work in mathematical biology. We congratulate them both.

Another notable event of the year was approval of by the state legislature of funds to remodel the Cowles Building for the Mathematics Department, ending a two-decade long search for adequate office space and classrooms. Construction will probably begin in January of the year 2000 — A new building for the new millennium. There will also be a third building, the Eccles Math Center, which will connect Widstoe and Cowles and provide much-needed space for student services — tutoring, study space, and labs. The Math Center, as the name suggests, is made possible by a generous gift from the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation. It will do much to improve the education of our students.

Remodeling of Cowles and construction of the Math Center has another millennial consequence as well: the temporary classroom buildings 122 and 129 will finally be demolished. There will be plenty of crowding and inconvenience during the construction period, but it will be worth it.

I'd like to commend both the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Advisory Committees, who took the initiative of starting two very successful colloquium series. These add much to the intellectual and educational atmosphere of our department, and I hope that the series will continue next year. I'd also like to commend the USAC for the career day that it organized. It brought to many students the news that an education in mathematics offers a wide variety of good employment opportunities. Angie Gardiner and David Eyre did a great job of helping the USAC plan and put on this event.

In closing, I would like to recognize our students graduating this year with Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees. May their studies here lead to fulfilling and productive careers. I personally thank the staff for the excellent job that they do, and on whom students and professors depend so critically for a good environment for research and learning. Finally, I would like to recognize our superb faculty for its hard work and many, many outstanding contributions to mathematics, to our students, and to the running of this department.

Jim Carlson

ED BURGESS RETIRES

Professor C. E. Burgess is retiring after 48 years at the University of Utah. Ed received his B.S. degree from West Texas State University and went on to earn his Ph.D.

from the University of Texas. In 1951, he came to Utah and, has been an important part of the department ever since. He served as chair for 1967 until 1977, a period when the department underwent rapid growth in both size and quality.

Ed published 35 research papers in his specialty Topology. In addition, he supervised 10 Ph.D. students and 16 M.S. students. He has been an invited speaker at Universities all over the world. The Mathematical Association of America awarded him the Certificate of Meritorious Service in 1985 and, in 1987, a special issue of the journal *Topology and its Applications* honored his work.

Ed and his wife Charlotte June have endowed the C. E. Burgess Instructorship. We will miss them both and extend our best wishes for a most pleasant retirement.

DEGREES AWARDED IN 1998

There are 150 undergraduates majoring in Mathematics. In May, 38 students will receive a baccalaureate degree in Mathematics. A total of 14 M.S. degrees will be awarded. Students receiving the Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1998-1999 are Charles Harris, Jon Jacobsen, Liz Jones, Mikolaos Tzoliias, Toshio Yoshikawa, and Hayou Yu.

CHANGES TO THE FACULTY

New Instructors for 1999 (and the year, University and specialty of their Ph.D.'s) are Prakash Belkale (1999, University of Chi-

cago, Algebraic Geometry), Xia Chen (1997, Case Western Reserve University, Probability and Statistics), Ilie Grigorescu (1997, Courant Institute, Probability and Statistics), Bingtuan Li (1998, Arizona State University, Ordinary Differential Equations), and A. Singh (1998, University of Michigan, Commutative Algebra).

Daniel Allcock, Dean Bottino, Yury Grabovsky, Holgar Kley, and Yimin Xiao have finished their terms as Instructor and will be leaving. We wish them well.

PROMOTIONS

Professor Graeme Milton was named to a Distinguished Professorship.

Professor C. E. Burgess has been named Professor Emeritus

Associate Professor Nat Smale was promoted to Professor.

FACULTY AWARDS AND ACTIVITIES

Professor Aaron Folelson received a Guggenheim Fellowship.

Professor Peter Alfeld received an ASUU Student's Choice Award for Teaching.

Professor Fletcher Gross received the Faculty Undergraduate Teaching Award.

The Outstanding Instructor Award, given for distinction in both teaching and research goes to Goran Muic.

Professors Aaron Bertram, Aaron Fogelson, Grant Gustafson, Misha Kapovich, Nick Korevaar, Andrejs Treibergs, and Bruce Kleiner will be on leave for portions of the academic year 1999-2000.

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

Sean Sather-Wagstaff has been awarded a Graduate Research Fellowship.

The recipient of the award for outstanding teaching by a graduate student is Bonnie Amende.

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

Continuing Departmental Scholarships

Maria Bell

Karim Khader

Susan Catherine Christiansen Memorial Award

Elizabeth J. Beddoes

Hurd Award

Lawrence E. Gold

Biesele Award

Jamie Richings

Gibson Award

Courtlan Erickson

D. Keith Reed Memorial Award

Michael J. Nicholas

George C. Barton Award

Heidi Rust Fargo

Copley Scholarship

Larsen E. Louder

Mathematics Faculty Scholarship

Kristine Jensen

Stephen E. Newman, Jr., Mathematics Alumni
Scholarship

Spencer D. Stirling

Steffensen Cannon Scholarship

Heidi Rust Fargo

Service Learning Scholarship

Stacey Ford

Kennecott Scholarship

Neil Christensen

Putnam Contest Award

Honzhi Zhang

Phi Beta Kappa Membership

Elizabeth J. Beddoes

Courtlan Erickson

Phi Kappa Phi

Toby M. Ennis

Courtlan Erickson

Lawrence E. Gold

Elizabeth Jones

Phi Mu Epsilon Membership

Spencer Bartholomew

Elizabeth J. Beddoes

John Brinton

Stacey Ford

Christian Garayochea

Lawrence E. Gold

Aaron Hall

Junalyn Navarra Madsen

Blake Nelson

Shelley Spencer

Calvin S. Whetstone

Graduation Magna Cum Laude

Lawrence E. Gold

Calvin S. Whetstone

Graduation Cum Laude

Elizabeth J. Beddoes

Lisa Bjordal

Toby M. Ennis

Jamie Richins

Honors Bachelor's Degree

Stacey Ford ("Lung function decline
due to opportunistic disease in patients
with cystic fibrosis")

COMAP Modeling Contest, Honorable
Mention

Parrish Brady

Mike Petersen

Reid Mumford

WEB SITE

Information concerning the department
and its activities can be found at the web site
www.math.utah.edu

INFORMATION FROM ALUMNI

The Department welcomes news and in-
formation from alumni. If you have any spe-
cial news, please send it to us and we will try
to include it in a similar newsletter next year.
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