
A f t e r m a t h

Graduate Recruitment

Last weekend, the Math Department hosted fourteen prospective graduate students, eleven from out of state and three locals. A number of them have already written to say how impressed they were with the department and what a good time they had with their graduate student hosts. Activities like snowboarding, snowshoeing, and a symphony performance were planned for Saturday so the prospective students could get a good idea of what life in Salt Lake is like. On Sunday, the future Chair, Graeme Milton, welcomed them, after which Peter Trombi gave an overview of the program. They then had lunch and a campus tour. The Mathematical Biology group hosted a reception for those who applied for a fellowship in mathematical biology. The entire class then met for an overview of the research program, with presentations by faculty from the various research groups. After the department reception, the afternoon ended with a dinner downtown with the graduate students.

The weekend went very well and was extremely well-organized. The purpose of the weekend was to get potential graduate students to accept the department's offers by giving them a sense of what their class would be like. This was the most successful of the three such weekends and, at print date, two of the students had accepted their offers. Emily Putnam, one of those who accepted, wrote, "I had anticipated this decision to be much harder than it turned out to be. However, once I visited, there was no question... the department has a seemingly unique combination of being friendly, collaborative, and top-notch in many areas of research." Thanks to all the faculty, staff, and graduate students who helped plan the event.



Aaron McDonald (left), who has accepted his offer, wrote, "You have a wonderful department and awesome, charismatic graduate students that would make anyone feel welcome and appreciated. I am glad that you are giving me a once in a lifetime opportunity to become part of it..."

New Chair Named

Effective July 1, 2002 Distinguished Professor Graeme Milton will become the new Chair of the Mathematics Department. Professor Milton will provide strong guidance for the department at this exciting time, with the new and renovated buildings, the continuation of the VIGRE grant, and the new John E. and Marva M. Warnock Chair for Faculty Development in Mathematics.

We would like to thank outgoing Chair, Jim Carlson, who has served in this capacity for the past seven years, for his excellent leadership.

Calculus Challenge

\$\$ CASH AWARDS UP FOR GRABS \$\$

The third annual Calculus Challenge will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 9:00 - 12:00 in LCB 219. The contest is open to all undergraduates at the University of Utah. There will be six questions, covering material from Calculus I and II (through infinite series). First prize is \$300, second prize is \$150, and third prize is \$100. There will be a free lunch and discussion of the solutions at noon. Please notify Angie Gardiner, gardiner@math.utah.edu, if you plan to participate. For more information, visit www.math.utah.edu/ugrad/calc_challenge.



Say Cheese!

Paula Tooman is updating the department's picture directory. If you haven't done so already, please stop by the department office to have your picture taken. Photo tip: Don't wear white because, against the background, your face will look flushed.

Say Keys!

If you still have old keys (which you most likely do, with all the moving that's been going on) to offices in INSCC, Kennecott, or JWB, please return them to Paula in the main office ASAP.

Summer REU

This summer, Davar Khoshnevisan will conduct a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) focusing on random walks and simulation. The REU will be held July 3 - August 16, 2002, and offers a stipend. This program is supported by an NSF VIGRE grant and the University of Utah. US citizens, nationals, or permanent residents are eligible to apply. For more information, contact the department VIGRE coordinator, Sarah Strong (strong@math.utah.edu, 581-8341), or visit www.math.utah.edu/vigre/reu/summer02.html. Applications can be obtained from the web site or the Rushing Student Center and must be submitted by April 30, 2002.

Upcoming Events

Friday, April 5 - LCB/Math Center Dedication
3:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 13 - Calculus Challenge 9:00 -
12:00 LCB 219.

Thursday, May 2 - Math Department Awards
Ceremony 3:00 p.m. JWB 335.

Aftermath is published monthly during the academic year. Issues of the newsletter will be archived on the web at:

www.math.utah.edu/newsletter

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