



News

General News

ANZIAM: Nominations for 2010 ANZIAM Medal

A search is underway to identify nominees for the 2010 ANZIAM Medal, and nominations should be forwarded in confidence to the Chair of the Selection Panel, Professor Graeme Wake by the end of October 2009 at g.c.wake@massey.ac.nz.

More information is on <http://www.anziam.org.au/The+ANZIAM+medal>.

ANZIAM Award for outstanding new researchers: J.H. Michell Medal

Nominations are called for the award of the J.H. Michell Medal for 2010, for ANZIAM outstanding new researchers. Nominees must be in their first 10 years of research on 1 January 2010 after the award of their PhD, and be members of ANZIAM for at least three years. Nominations close on 30 September 2009. For further information, see <http://www.anziam.org.au/Medals/michell.html>.

Charles Sturt University

CSU has recently (from 1 July 2009) restructured its Mathematics and Statistics staff into a single cross-campus school of Computing and Mathematics. Previously, Mathematics, Statistics and Computing staff have been fragmented across a number of multidisciplinary schools located at its various regional campuses.

CSIRO

The CSIRO have recently launched their mathematicians in schools program. This is an offshoot of the scientists in schools program they have been running for some time. The idea of the new subprogram is to get mathematicians into schools to interact with the children there, hopefully fostering a more positive view of maths than is commonly held. Information about this program is available at this website www.mathematiciansinschools.edu.au.

University of Queensland

Anthony Richardson has been a stakeholder in creating CARM (Centre for Applications in Natural Resources Mathematics) — a joint venture between the University, CSIRO, DPI&Fisheries with a total amount of funding in 2009 of \$652K indexed each year for five years. CARM will have a Chair and two lectureships attached.

Completed PhDs

Monash University

- Dr Ashley Khey Keat Lim, *Some applications of semimartingale theory to limit theorems*, supervisor: Prof Fima Klebaner.

University of Adelaide

- Dr Raymond Vozzo, *Loop groups, Higgs fields and generalized string classes*, supervisors: Michael Murray and Mathai Varghese.
- Dr Alys Clark, *Mathematical modelling and experimental investigation of nutrient supply to the mammalian oocyte*, supervisors: Dr Yvonne Stokes, Dr David Clements and Dr Jeremy Thompson.

University of Melbourne

- Dr Alana Moore, *Managing biological populations in the face of uncertainty*, supervisor: Peter Taylor
- Dr Thomas Handscomb, *Characteristic classes of surface bundles and Lefschetz fibrations*, supervisors: Paul Norbury and Iain Aitchison.
- Dr Daniel Grixti-Cheng, *Linear relations on normed and Hilbert spaces with applications*, supervisor: Jerry Koliha.

University of Sydney

- Dr Tegan Morrison, *Asymptotics of higher-order Painleve equations*, supervisor: Professor Nalini Joshi.

University of Western Australia

- Dr Giulia Wake, *Exact minimisation of treatment time for the delivery of intensity modulated radiation therapy*, supervisors: Associate Professor Les Jennings (UWA), Associate Professor Natashia Boland (Uni of Melbourne).

Awards and other achievements

James Cook University

Academics from the School of Engineering and Physical Sciences were recently awarded a citation from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC). The names of those involved and title of the submission are: Dr Shaun Belward, Dr Ronald White, Mr Patrick Higgins, Dr D'Arcy Mullamphy: 'For sustained commitment to engaging first year mathematics students through a supportive learning environment, the use of new technologies and community consultation'.

Monash University

Congratulations to Professor John Lattanzio who has been elected a member of the Council of the Astronomical Society of Australia for three years, effective from early July.

University of Ballarat

- Dr A Bagirov became EUROPT (the Continuous Optimization Working Group of EURO) Fellow 2009.

University of Queensland

- Ole Paulsen (University of Oxford, UK), Tomomi Shimogori (Riken Brain Sciences Institute, Japan), Guillemina Lopez-Bendito (University of Alicante, Spain), and Geoffrey Goodhill (The University of Queensland) were recently awarded a US\$1.35 million Human Frontiers Science Program Grant to study how the brain becomes wired up during development using a combination of experimental and theoretical methods.

University of Southern Queensland

- *Successful USQ Learning and Teaching grants*
 - Linda Galligan (team leader), Christine McDonald, Birgit Loch and others from the Faculty of Engineering and Surveying, the Learning and Teaching Support Unit and the Open Access College, on ‘Scaffolding distance learning in mathematics and statistics’ to the value of \$50 000.
 - Birgit Loch (team leader), Christine McDonald and others from USQ’s ICT and ADFI on ‘Evaluating pen-enabled screens’, to the value of \$12 000.
 - Birgit Loch (team leader) and others from all faculties, the Learning and Teaching Support Unit, and the library on ‘Building a mentoring program to engage lecturers in the use of technologies for teaching and learning’, to the value of \$50 000.

University of Sydney

- *Journal of Algebra* honours Professor Gus Lehrer by marking his 60th birthday with a special issue.
- Norm Dancer received a Hannan medal.
- David Easdown was awarded an ALTC 2009 Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning.

Appointments, departures and promotions

Curtin University

- Zudi Lu has left to take up a position at the University of Adelaide.
- Tak Kuen Siu has left to take up a position at Macquarie University.

La Trobe University

- The following eminent researchers have accepted adjunct research positions at the Department: Associate Professor John Roberts (University of New

South Wales): Adjunct Associate Professor; Professor Willy Sarlet (Ghent University, Belgium): Adjunct Professor; Professor Olga Krupkova (Palacky University, Czech Republic): Adjunct Professor; Professor Demeter Krupka (Palacky University, Czech Republic): Adjunct Professor.

- Dion O'Neale has been appointed as a level A Research Officer to work with Reinout Quispel and his group.

Macquarie University

- Dr Stuart Hawkins, who came to us from UNSW, started in January this year as Lecturer.
- Dr Adam Sikora, who came to us from ANU, started on 6 July as Lecturer.

Monash University

- Dr Xin Geng commenced on 3 July 2009 as Research Fellow in the School of Mathematical Sciences. His research interests are in pattern recognition algorithms, computer vision and image processing especially on facial image understanding.

Murdoch University

- Dr Amy Glen has been appointed as a Lecturer. Her research areas are combinatorics on words and discrete mathematics.

University of Adelaide

- Dr Zudi Lu joins us from Curtin University as Associate Professor in Statistics. His research interests include time series analysis, stochastic and financial modelling and biostatistics.
- Dr Thomas Leistner joins us from the University of Hamburg as Lecturer in Pure Mathematics. His research interests are in differential geometry and Lorentzian geometry.
- Dr Sanjeeva Balasuriya joins us from Connecticut College as Senior Lecturer in Applied Mathematics. His research interests include dynamical systems, chaotic mixing, geophysical flows, combustion waves and mathematical ecology.

University of Melbourne

- Dr Mark Sorrell has been appointed as Research Fellow.
- Dr Peter Tingley (Research Fellow) has left.
- Dr Stephan Tillmann (Research Fellow) has left.

University of New South Wales

- Jonathan Kress has been promoted to Senior Lecturer.

University of Southern Queensland

- Dr Yury Stepanyants commenced a position as Associate Professor in Mathematics in July. He joined us from Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, Lucas Heights, where he was appointed as a Senior Research Scientist within the Nuclear Analysis Group.

University of Queensland

- Leonardo Rojas-Nandayapa has been appointed a Lecturer in Statistics commencing in January 2010.
- Ben Burton has been appointed for a five-year fixed-term Lecturer commencing 1 September 2009.
- Graeme Chandler is on long-service leave until March 2010 until he takes early retirement in April 2010. Graeme has made many contributions to mathematics and to the Mathematics Department since he joined the Department in January 1982. We wish him a very happy retirement.

University of Sydney

- Christian Oliver-Ewald has been appointed as Associate Professor, Financial Mathematics.
- Dobrin Marchev has been appointed as Lecturer, Statistics.
- Sanjiban Santra has been appointed as an ARC Australian Postdoctoral Fellow.
- James Atkinson has been appointed as Research Associate.
- Jennifer Chan has been promoted to Senior Lecturer (effective January 2010).
- Samuel Müller has been promoted to Senior Lecturer (effective January 2010).

University of Western Australia

- Dr Thomas Stemler has commenced as Assistant Professor in Applied Mathematics.
- Dr Andrei Volodin has commenced as Professor in Statistics.

University of Western Sydney

- Dr Kevin Donegan has left the School of Computing and Mathematics.
 - Dr Eric Beh has left the School of Computing and Mathematics to take a position with the University of Newcastle.
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New Books

University of Adelaide

- Roberts, A.J. (2008). *Elementary Calculus of Financial Mathematics*, (Mathematical Modelling and Computation 15). SIAM, Cambridge University Press.
- Cowpertwait, P.S.P. and Metcalfe, A.V. (2009). *Introductory Time Series with R*. Springer, New York.

Conferences and Courses

Conferences and courses are listed in order of the first day.

The AMSI Workshop on Perturbations, Game Theory, Stochastics, Optimisation and Applications (in honour of Jerzy Filar's 60th birthday)

Date: 26–27 September 2009

Venue: University of South Australia, City West campus

Web: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/maths/research/JerzyFilar/default.asp>

Registration is free, but essential. Please register at the workshop website.

The following mathematicians have accepted invitations to be speakers at the meeting: Konstantin Avrachenkov (INRIA); Vivek Borkar (Tata Institute of Fundamental Research); Vladimir Gaistgory (University of South Australia); Tony Guttman (University of Melbourne); Moshe Haviv (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem); Roger Horn (University of Utah); Phil Howlett (University of South Australia); Jacek Krawczyk (Victoria University of Wellington); Dirk Kroese (University of Queensland); Walter Murray (Stanford University); Giang Nguyen (University of South Australia); T.E.S. Raghavan (University of Illinois at Chicago); Peter Taylor (University of Melbourne); Peter Zograf (Steklov Mathematical Institute, St Petersburg).

AustMS 2009 Early Career Researchers Workshop

Date: 27 September 2009

Venue: Mt Lofty House, Adelaide Hills

Web: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/austms2009/earlycareer/>

Organisers: Bronwyn Hajek (Bronwyn.Hajek@unisa.edu.au),
Anthony Henderson (anthonyh@maths.usyd.edu.au)

53rd AustMS Annual Conference, 2009

Date: 28 September – 1 October 2009

Venue: University of South Australia, City West Campus, Adelaide

Web: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/austms2009/>

E-mail: Austms09@unisa.edu.au

Please note the following amendment: On the night of Friday 2 October 2009, the Royal Institution of Australia is organising a Reception at Adelaide Town Hall, featuring a public lecture 'Cosmic Distance Ladder' by Terence Tao, to which the participants of the AustMS 2009 conference are cordially invited. Please extend your travel arrangements accordingly if you plan to attend this event.

BNH 100

Date: 15 October 2009

Venue: Mathematical Sciences Institute, The Australian National University

Organisers: Mike Newman (Mike.Newman@anu.edu.au) and
L. Kovács (L.G.Kovacs@anu.edu.au)

A celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Bernhard Neumann. Lectures in the Bernhard Neumann Seminar Room (room G35, John Dedman Mathematical Sciences Building): 14:30 Laci Kovács and Mike Newman (ANU); 15:30 afternoon tea; 16:00 Marston Conder (Auckland); 17:15 Cheryl Praeger (Western Australia).

Dinner at University House (details to be confirmed) at 19:00 for 19:30. Intending participants are asked to notify the organisers before the end of September, so we can plan accordingly.

Accommodation on campus: University House (<http://www.anu.edu.au/unihouse>); Liversidge Court Apartments (<http://accom.anu.edu.au/UAS/189.html>). Off campus: Rydges Lakeside Hotel (see the Canberra/ACT Accommodation Directory at <http://www.totaltravel.com.au/travel/nsw/canberraact/directory/accommodation>).

Phylomania: UTas Theoretical Phylogenetics Meeting

Date: 29–30 October 2009

Venue: School of Mathematics and Physics, University of Tasmania

Web: http://www-theory.phys.utas.edu.au/mini_meeting/meeting.html

Organisers: Jeremy Sumner and Peter Jarvis

Phylogenetics is concerned with the problem of reconstructing the past evolutionary history of extant organisms from present day molecular data such as DNA. Currently, there is much interest in further development of the mathematics that underlies computational phylogenetic methods.

Research speakers: David Bryant (University of Auckland), Seth Sullivant (University of North Carolina), Jesús Fernández (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya) and John Rhodes (University of Alaska, Fairbanks).

9th Engineering Mathematics and Applications Conference (EMAC2009)

Date: 6–9 December 2009

Venue: University of Adelaide, South Australia

Web: <http://www.maths.adelaide.edu.au/emac2009/>

Contact: Andrew Metcalfe (andrew.metcalfe@adelaide.edu.au)

4th Australia–China Optimisation Workshop

Date: 9–11 December 2009

Venue: Ballarat

Web: <http://www.ballarat.edu.au/ard/itms/CIAO/Workshops/ACOW/>

Contact: Adil Baghirov (a.bagirov@ballarat.edu.au)

The workshop will incorporate a one-day ‘Focussed Meeting on Global and Nonsmooth Optimization Problems in Data Analysis, Engineering and Water’.

The workshop aims to bring together experts from Australia, China, the Pacific region and around the world in the area of optimisation theory, methods and applications. It will provide an opportunity for meeting and exchanging recent research findings and discussion on possible collaboration and joint projects.

The topics of the workshop include all areas of optimisation, optimal control and their applications and will include but not be limited to: nonlinear programming; global optimisation; nonsmooth optimisation; integer programming; optimal control; applications: water, data mining, energy sector, transport, sensor networks, mining information security.

Sponsors: AMSI (Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute), ISSNIP (Australian Research Council Research Network on Intelligent Sensors, Sensor Networks and Information Processing).

AMSI workshop: new directions in geometric group theory

Date: 14–18 December 2009

Venue: The University of Queensland, Brisbane

Web: <http://sites.google.com/site/ggtbrisbane/>

NZIMA/NZMRI Summer Workshop

Date: 3–10 January 2010

Venue: Hanmer Springs, New Zealand

Web: http://www.math.auckland.ac.nz/wiki/2010_NZMRI_Summer_Workshop

AMSI ICE–EM 2010 Summer School

Date: 11 January–5 February 2010

Venue: La Trobe University

Contact: Grant Cairns, Director (G.Cairns@latrobe.edu.au)

Call for Contributions:**Educational Interfaces between Mathematics and Industry**

Date: 19–23 April 2010

Venue: Lisbon, Portugal

Web: <http://www.cim.pt/eimi/>

Contact: Gail FitzSimons (gail.fitzsimons@education.monash.edu.au)

International Congress of Mathematicians: ICM2010

Date: 19–27 August 2010

Venue: Hyderabad International Convention Centre, Hyderabad, India

Web: www.icm2010.org.in

There are posters for ICM2010 at <http://www.icm2010.org.in/posters.php>. Feel free to print them out and display them at appropriate locations.

Vale

Edgar Smith

Professor Edgar Smith passed away on Monday 27 July in a hospital in London. Ed was holidaying in Europe with his wife Sian when he became extremely ill and was diagnosed in London at the end of June with myeloid leukaemia. Ed leaves five children. He was 64 years old.

Ed was appointed to the Chair in Applied Mathematics at La Trobe in 1986 from the University of Melbourne where he held a readership. He served as head of the mathematics department in the late 1980s and early 1990s and was Dean of the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering from 1997 until 2000. He was Pro Vice-Chancellor IT from 1995 until 2005.

Ed was held in great affection by everyone in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and he had very many friends in the University and throughout Australian academia.

Visiting mathematicians

Visitors are listed in alphabetical order and details of each visitor are presented in the following format: name of visitor; home institution; dates of visit; principal field of interest; principal host institution; contact for enquiries.

Prof Werner Ballman; Bonn University and MPIM Bonn; 6–8 October 2009; –; UNE; Gerd Schmalz

Dr Mark Blyth; University of East Anglia, UK; October 2009; –; UWA; Andrew Bassom

Dr Florica Cirstea; University of Sydney; 14 July 2008 to 14 July 2011; applied and nonlinear analysis; ANU; Neil Trudinger

Dr Robert Clark; University of Wollongong; 1 July 2008 to 1 July 2011; statistical science; ANU; Alan Welsh

Professor Alexandru Dimca; Universite de Nice Sophia Dieudonne; 1 to 28 March 2010; theory of local Systems on hyper plane complements and configuration spaces; USN; G.I. Lehrer

- Prof Zengji Du; School of Mathematical Sciences, Xuzhou Normal University; 22 October 2008 to 22 October 2009; differential equations; UNSW; Chris Tisdell
- Mr Yang Feng; Princeton University; 16 August to 15 November 2009; –; UMB; Prof Peter Hall
- Prof Michael Finkelberg; Independent University of Moscow; 1 to 30 November 2009; algebra; USN; A.I. Molev
- Richard Garner; University of Cambridge; 5 October to 25 December 2009; –; UMQ; A/Prof Dominic Verity
- Prof Zongming Guo; Henan Normal University, China; October to December 2009; nonlinear PDE; UNE; Prof Yihong Du
- Dr Keith Hannabuss; University of Oxford, UK; 1 September to 4 October 2009; –; UAD; –
- Prof Sreenivasa Rao Jammalamadaka; University of California at Santa Barbara; 20 July to 15 November 2009; –; CUT; K.L. Teo
- Wei Jin (student); Central South University, China; 20 September 2008 to September 2010; –; UWA; Cheryl Praeger
- Prof Satoshi Koike; Hyogo University of Teacher Education; 30 August to 30 September 2009; Lipschitz properties of subanalytic sets; USN; L. Paunescu
- Prof Gunter Last; Universitaet Karlsruhe, Germany; 28 August to 28 September 2009; Prof Kostya Borovkov
- Prof Shengjie Li; Chongqing University, China; 1 July to 30 September 2009; –; CUT; K.L. Teo
- Prof Lishan Liu; QuFu Normal University, China; 16 July to 31 December 2009; –; CUT; Prof Yong Hong Wu
- Kek Sie Long; University Tun Hussein Onn, Malaysia; May 2009 to November 2009; –; CUT; –
- Hu Ming; Jiangsu University of Science and Technology, Zhenjiang, China; May 2009 to October 2009; –; CUT; –
- Prof Christine Mueller; University of Kassel, Germany; 15 October to 24 December 2009; –; UMB; Prof Richard Huggins
- Prof Daniel Nakano; University of Georgia; 1 February 2010 to 30 June 2010; classical Lie superalgebras, cohomological transfer theorems; USN; G.I. Lehrer
- Prof Makato Ozawa; Komazawa University, Japan; 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2011; –; UMB; Prof Hyam Rubinstein
- Prof Adam Parusinski; Université d'Angers; 29 June to 30 September 2009; geometry and topology; USN; L. Paunescu
- Emily Riehl; University of Chicago; 12 November 2009 to 26 March 2010; –; MQU; A/Prof Dominic Verity
- Mr Ege Rubak (student); Aalborg Uni, Denmark; April to November 2009; –; UWA; Adrian Baddeley
- Prof Makato Ozawa; Komazawa University, Japan; 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2011; –; UMB; Prof Hyam Rubinstein
- Dr Eric Ragoucy-Aubezon; –; 11 October to 11 November 2009; algebra; USN; A.I. Molev
- Prof Guyan Robertson; University Newcastle, UK; 1 September 2009 to 25 January 2010; –; UAD; –

- Mr Ege Rubak (student); Aalborg University, Denmark; April to November 2009; –; UWA; Adrian Baddeley
- Dr Leonid Rybnikov; IAS, Princeton University; 1 to 30 November 2009; algebra; USN; A.I. Molev
- A/Prof Kentaro Saji; –; 4 to 20 September 2009; geometry and topology; USN; L. Paunescu
- Bijan Taeri; Isfashan Uni Technology, Iran; November 2008 to September 2009; –; UWA; Cheryl Praeger
- Dr Kilkothur Tamizhmani; Pondicherry University; 9 October to 7 November 2009; applied maths; USN; N. Joshi
- Moorum Theeraech; Mahidol University, Thailand; until October 2009; –; CUT; –
- Dr Cipriam A. Tudor; –; 16 to 28 September 2009; statistics; USN; Q. Wang
- Dr Lyudmyla Velychko; Ukraine; December 2009 to March 2010; –; MQU; Prof Paul Smith and Dr Elena Vinogradova
- Prof Yiju Wang; Yiju QuFu Normal University, China; 20 July to 20 October 2009; –; CUT; Prof Lou Caccetta
- Dr Geordie Williamson; Oxford; 23 to 26 September 2009; geometric representation theory; USN; A. Henderson
- Prof Xiao Zhang; –; 14 September to 17 October 2009; algebra; USN; R. Zhang
- Dr Zhitao Zhang; Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing; 15 September to 15 November 2009; nonlinear analysis; USN; E.N. Dancer
- Prof Huansong Zhou; Wuhan Institute of Physics and Mathematics, Chinese Academy of Sciences; October to November 2009; nonlinear PDE; UNE; Prof Yihong Du
- Prof Peter Zograf; Steklov Institute, St Petersburg; 5–6 October 2009; –; UNE; Gerd Schmalz
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