

ANZIAM 2004

Kerry Landman

The 40th Applied Mathematics Conference was held in Hobart from 1–5 February 2004. Larry Forbes and his committee of Karen Bradford, Peter Trotter, Simon Wither- spoon did a wonderful job organising the whole event, which ran very successfully and smoothly. It was great to get to catch up with everyone at this conference after the vast scale of ICIAM 2003.

Greeting us on arrival on the docks near The Grand Chancellor Hotel was Super Star Leo, a luxury cruise liner, 270m long, 32m wide, with capacity of 2000 guests and 1000 staff. Its scale was quite breathtaking.

The invited speakers covered a range of interesting topics. We heard about simulations of the Antarctic and Southern ocean systems from Nathan Bind-off (Tasmania), magnetic imaging electric impedance tomography in medical imaging, by Jin Keun Seo (Yonsie University), the connection between population models and Painleve equations from Nalini Joshi (Sydney), moving contact lines and cell motion by John King (Nottingham), cubic graphs and Hamiltonian cycles by Stephen Lucas (South Australia), thin-layer fluid mechanics by Len Schwartz (Delaware) and capacity reconfiguration in logically fully-connected loss networks by Peter Taylor (Melbourne).

The conference dinner was a very friendly evening, with the new ANZIAM Chair Robert McKibbin being the master of ceremonies. Who was the genius that thought up the idea of dispensing with an after-dinner speaker, and having a live jazz trio and dance music? It might have been nice to see a few more people dancing, but I enjoyed dancing with several people.

At the Conference Dinner, the ANZIAM medal was awarded to Roger Grimshaw,

who unfortunately was not with us. We hope to congratulate him in person and celebrate his achievements in 2005. Congratulations to Mark Nelson (Wollongong) for the J.H. Michell medal, awarded to an outstanding new researcher. We look forward to hearing his invited talk at Anziam 2005.

This year there were 25 student talks competing for the T.M. Cherry Award. These talks are often the highlight of the conference because they are so well prepared. Congratulations to Kaseem Mustapha (UNSW), the winner of the T.M. Cherry prize. He gave an excellent talk on his PhD research on a Galerkin method with quadrature for nonlinear parabolic problems. There were five honorary mentions: Chris Green (Melbourne), Hartmann (James Cook), Jason Looker (Melbourne), Angus Munro (Tasmania) and Ana Novak (Melbourne). The students awarded the Cherry Ripe prize this year to Stephen Lucas (South Australia) for his excellent talk associated with his award of the 2002 J.H. Michell medal, with honorary mentions to Larry Forbes (Tasmania), Peter Taylor and Kerry Landman (Melbourne).

The Hobart Mercury, the local newspaper, showed a lot of interest in ANZIAM. Michelle Paine, the reporter, communicated the mathematical questions and ideas well to her Tasmanian readership. She interviewed a number of us and articles appeared three days running, covering SARS epidemics, frisbee aerodynamics, paint films, the timing of elections, and birth defects.

We all had a great time. Thank you Larry, Karen, Peter and Simon! We look forward to ANZIAM 2005 in Napier, New Zealand.

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