



Completed PhDs

Curtin University

- Dr Anamai Na-Udon, *Experimental design methodology for modelling response from computer simulated experiments*, supervisor: Ritu Gupta.
- Dr Tung Gia An Hon, *A numerical technique for identifying geomechanical parameters*, supervisor: YH Wu.

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

- Dr Nimalsiri Pinnawala, *Properties of trace maps and their applications to coding theory*, supervisors: Asha Rao and Kristine Lally.

Swinburne University

- Dr Joe Sampson, *Some solutions of the shallow water wave equations*, supervisors: Professor Alan Easton and Dr Manmohan Singh

University of Adelaide

- Dr Rowland Ernest Dickinson, *Exact solution to the stochastic spread of social contagion – using rumours*, supervisor: Charles Pearce.
- Dr Tijjana Evancevic, *Geometric neurodynamical classifiers applied to breast cancer detection*, supervisors: Charles Pearce and Murk Bottema.

University of Melbourne

- Dr Raymond Lubansky, *Pointwise axiomatic spectral theory in Banach algebras*, supervisor: Associate Professor Jerry Koliha.
- Dr Bell Foozwell, *Haken n -manifolds*, supervisor: Professor Hyam Rubinstein.

Awards and other achievements

Professor Ian H. Sloan honoured

We are delighted to report that Professor Ian H. Sloan has been appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours list. The citation reads:

For service to education through the study of mathematics, particularly in the field of computational mathematics, as an academic, researcher and mentor, and to a range of national and international professional associations.

Dr Bob Anderssen awarded DSc (honoris causa)

Congratulations to Dr Bob Anderssen who has been awarded a DSc (honoris causa) for his services to applied mathematics by La Trobe University on 9 May. This is excellent news for Bob, recognising his wonderful and many contributions to mathematics. (See page 158 of this issue of the *Gazette* for the full citation.)

Swinburne University

- Professor Will Phillips (Professor of Mathematics), Professor Ian Young (Vice-Chancellor) and Associate Professor Alex Babanin have won an ARC Linkage grant (\$510 000) for their project with Woodside Energy Ltd on ‘Oceanic conditions within extreme tropical cyclones’.
http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/lp/LP08_Rd2_Org.htm

University of Queensland

- Gareth Evans has received a scholarship to attend Apple’s World Wide Developers Conference in San Francisco in June 2008.

Appointments, departures and promotions**Australian Defence Force Academy, University of New South Wales**

- Geoff Mercer has been promoted to Associate Professor.

Curtin University

- Mr Adrian Wong, Associate Professor, Actuarial Science, from Nanyang Technology University, since 1 January 2008.
- Mr T.J. Kyng, Senior Lecturer, Actuarial Science, from Macquarie University, will start in July 2008.
- Dr Ken Siu, Associate Professor, Financial Mathematics and Actuarial Science, from Heriot-Watt University, will start in June 2008.

Queensland University of Technology

- Dr John H. Knight, appointed as postdoctoral research associate in the School of Mathematical Sciences, started 1 May 2008.

Swinburne University of Technology

- Dr Vladimir Gurarii has been appointed Adjunct Professor of Mathematics.

University of Adelaide

- Dr Richard Clarke has departed the School of Mathematical Sciences, University of Adelaide, to commence an appointment as Lecturer in the Department of Engineering Science at the University of Auckland.
- Trent Mattner is taking over from David Parrott as local correspondent. The *Gazette* thanks David for his time as correspondent.

University of Melbourne

- Associate Professor Natasha Boland is leaving to take up a chair at the University of Newcastle.
- Arun Ram, formerly of the University of Wisconsin, has commenced his appointment as Professor of Mathematics.
- Dr Craig Westerland has been appointed at Lecturer B level.
- Dr Nora Ganter has been appointed at Lecturer B level.
- Dr Alex Ghitza has been appointed at Lecturer B level.
- Dr Peter Tingley has been appointed as Research Fellow.

University of New South Wales

- Dr Rika Hagihara has just joined the Department of Pure Mathematics as a postdoc with Tony Dooley. Her PhD is from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
- Chris Tisdell has taken over from from Mike Hirschhorn as local correspondent. The *Gazette* thanks Mike for his time as correspondent.

University of Queensland

- Dr Min-chun Hong has been given continuing appointment as a Lecturer C.
- Dr Barbara Maenhaut has been promoted to Lecturer. Barbara's research is in combinatorial design theory and graph theory.

University of Southern Queensland

- Dr Peter Dunn has accepted voluntary redundancy from August 2008. He will commence a new position as Associate Professor in Biostatistics at the University of the Sunshine Coast.
- Mr Paul Fahey has accepted voluntary redundancy from July 2008. He will join the Health Statistics Centre in Queensland Health as a Senior Analyst.
- Professor Tony Roberts has accepted voluntary redundancy from July 2008. He will commence a position as Professor at the University of Adelaide in September.

University of Sydney

- Associate Professor Matthew Dyer has been appointed as Senior Research Associate for two years from June 2008.
- Dr Paul Spicer has been appointed as a Research Associate.
- Dr Bill Palmer will retire in July.

University of Technology, Sydney

- Professor Lindsay Botten was recently appointed as the new Director of the National Computational Infrastructure (NCI). NCI is an initiative of the Australian Government being conducted as part of the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy, where the project is being hosted by The Australian National University.

University of Western Sydney

- Dr Andrew Francis has been promoted to Associate Professor.
 - Dr Volker Gebhardt has been promoted to Senior Lecturer.
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New Books**Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology**

- Horadam, K.J. (2007). *Hadamard Matrices and Their Applications*. Princeton University Press, Princeton and Oxford. ISBN13: 978-0-691-11921-2.

University of Sydney

- Molev, A. (2006). *Yangians and Classical Lie Algebras*. Mathematical Surveys and Monographs Series, No. 143. American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI. ISBN: 978-0-8218-4374-1.
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Conferences and Courses

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

ATNAC 2008

Date: 7–10 December 2008

Venue: National Wine Centre, Adelaide, SA

Web: <http://www.plevin.com.au/atnac2008>

Australasian Telecommunication Networks and Applications Conference 2008.

7th Australia–New Zealand Mathematics Convention

Date: 8–12 December 2008

Venue: Christchurch, New Zealand

Web: <http://www.math.canterbury.ac.nz/ANZMC2008/>

Special theme program on group theory, combinatorics and computation

Date: 5–16 January 2009

Venue: The University of Western Australia, Perth

Web: <http://sponsored.uwa.edu.au/gcc09/>

The first week will be an international conference in honour of Cheryl Praeger's 60th birthday. This will be followed by an informal week of short courses, workshops and problem sessions, especially beneficial to early career researchers and postgraduate students.

1st PRIMA Congress 2009

Date: 6–10 July 2009

Venue: University of New South Wales, Sydney

Web: <http://www.primath.org/prima2009>

Contacts: Alejandro Adem (adem@pims.math.ca); Local Arrangements Committee (prima2009@maths.unsw.edu.au)

The Pacific Rim Mathematical Association (PRIMA) is an association of mathematical sciences institutes, departments and societies from around the Pacific Rim. It was established in 2005 to promote and facilitate the development of the mathematical sciences throughout the Pacific Rim region. PRIMA aims to hold an international congress every four years.

The first PRIMA Congress will be held at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, 6–10 July 2009. As well as plenary addresses by leading international speakers there will be a range of special sessions on topics reflecting the breadth and diversity of research in the mathematical sciences across the region.

Confirmed Plenary Speakers: Myles Allen (University of Oxford, UK); Frederico Ardila (SFSU, USA & U. de Los Andes, Colombia); Nassif Ghoussoub (University of British Columbia, Canada); Kenji Fukaya (Kyoto University, Japan); Seok-Jin Kang (Seoul National University, Korea); Yujiro Kawamata (Tokyo University, Japan); Shige Peng (Shandong University, China); Linda Petzold (UC Santa Barbara, USA); Cheryl Praeger (University of Western Australia); Gang Tian (Princeton University, USA & Peking University, China); Gunther Uhlmann (University of Washington, USA);

Confirmed Special Sessions: Symplectic Geometry (K. Fukaya, Kyoto; Y. Eliashberg, Stanford); Orbifolds and Stringy Topology (A. Adem, PIMS; Y. Ruan, U. Michigan; C. Westerland, U. Melbourne); Geometric Analysis (G. Tian, Princeton & Peking U.; J. Chen, U. British Columbia; W. Ding, Peking U.); Mathematics of Climate Change (M. England, U. New South Wales; C. Jones, U. North Carolina); Partial Differential Equations (N. Ghoussoub, U. British Columbia; Y. Long, Nankai Institute); Inverse Problems (G. Uhlmann, U. Washington; G. Bal, Columbia U.); Dynamical Systems (D. Lind, U. Washington; A. Dooley, U. New South Wales; G. Froyland, U. New South Wales); Scientific Computing (L. Petzold, UC Santa Barbara; I. Sloan, U. New South Wales); Mathematical Physics (R. Benguria, U. Catolica de Chile; A. Guttmann, U. Melbourne); Math Finance (S. Peng, Shandong U.; I. Ekeland, U. British Columbia);

Local Arrangements Committee: G. Froyland (Chair, University of New South Wales); C. Greenhill (University of New South Wales); A. Guttmann (University of Melbourne); J. Kress (University of New South Wales); D. Lind (University of Washington); I. Sloan (University of New South Wales).

For a more comprehensive list of conference notices, including those published previously in the *Gazette*, please see <http://www.austms.org.au/Events>.

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.

- Dr Florent Autin; Université Paris 7; 15 October 2008 to 15 December 2008; maxisets; USN; M. Raimondo
- Prof Yuri Borovskikh; Transport University; 7 July 2008 to 7 September 2008; asymptotics; USN; N.C. Weber
- Prof Dorin Bucur; Université de Savoie; 1 October 2008 to 30 November 2008; boundary value problems for partial differential equations; USN; E.N. Dancer
- Dr Anna Cai; University of California at Irvine, USA; 8 to 28 August 2008; –; UMB; Prof Kerry Landman
- Dr Angelina Chin; University of Malaya; 1 June 2008 to 21 August 2008; –; UQL; A/Prof Diane Donovan
- Dr Angelina Chin; University of Malaya; 1 to 30 September 2008; computational algebra; USN; J.J. Cannon
- Prof David Clark; SUNY, New Platz, NY, USA; 15 October 2008 to 15 December 2008; universal algebra; LTU; Drs Brian A. Davey and Jane G. Pitkethly
- Ciprian Coman; University of Glasgow; July to August 2008; –; UWA; Prof Andrew Basson
- Prof Nico Van Dijk; University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands; 14 June 2008 to 10 July 2008; –; UMB; Prof Peter Taylor
- Prof Alireza Ematollahi; Shiraz University; 15 September 2007 to 15 September 2008; –; ANU; Alan Welsh
- Prof Ahmad Erfanian; University of Mashland, Iran; May to December 2008; UWA; Prof Cheryl Praeger
- Em/Prof Christopher Field; Dalhousie University; 7 November 2008 to 3 December 2008; asymptotic methods in statistics; USN; J. Robinson
- Prof Nicholas Fisher; Statistical Society of Australia/Int. Statistical Inst.; 1 September 2004 to 31 August 2010; statistics; USN; J. Robinson
- A/Prof Hong Gu; Dalhousie University, Canada; 3 September 2008 to 30 October 2008; –; UMB; Prof Richard Huggins
- Prof Zongming Guo; Henan Normal University, China; 20 July 2008 to 31 August 2008; partial differential equations; UNE; Prof Yihong Du
- Prof Zongming Guo; Henan Normal University, China; 31 August 2008 to 15 November 2008; large solutions of nonlinear elliptic partial differential equations; USN; E.N. Dancer
- Dr Matthew Greenberg; McGill University; 21 July 2008 to 8 August 2008; arithmetic geometry, algorithms; USN; J.J. Cannon
- Prof David Gubbins; University of Leeds; 20 September 2007 to 19 September 2008; magnetohydrodynamic dynamo theory and the geodynamo; USN; D.J. Ivers
- Dr Paul Hammerton; University of East Anglia; 1 August 2008 to 20 September 2008; –; UWA; Prof Andrew Basson

- A/Prof Chong He; University of Missouri; 13–17 July 2008; –; UMB; Prof Richard Huggins
- Prof Chong Chao Huang; Wuhan University, China; June 2008 to January 2009; –; UWA; A/Prof Song Wang
- A/Prof Wen-Hang Hwang; National Chung Hsin University, Taiwan; 28 June 2008 to 9 September 2008; –; UMB; Prof Richard Huggins
- Mohammadali Iranmanesh; Yazd University, Iran; 24 October 2007 to July 2008; –; UWA; Prof Cheryl Praeger
- Prof John Kolassa; Rutgers; 20 July 2008 to 9 August 2008; asymptotic methods in statistics; USN; J. Robinson
- Rishabh Kothari; Indian Institute of Technology; 1 May 2008 to 10 July 2008; –; UQL; Dirk Kroese
- Prof Tony Krzesinski; University of Stellenbosch, South Africa; 21 November 2008 to 23 December 2008; –; UMB; Prof Peter Taylor
- Dr Uwe Leck; University of Wisconsin, Superior; 6 July 2008 to 6 August 2008; extremal set theory; CDU; Ian Roberts
- Ms Nan Li; The Sichuan Normal University, China; 1 February 2008 to 31 January 2009; –; UWA; A/Prof Song Wang
- Prof Li Ma; Tsinghua University, China; 1 July 2008 to 31 August 2008; partial differential equations; UNE; Prof Yihong Du
- Prof Alex Makin; Moscow State University of Instrument-making and Informatics; 27 July 2008 to 31 August 2008; spectral theory for differential operators; UQL; A/Prof Bevan Thompson
- Dr Christine Mueller; University of Kassel, Germany; 1 October 2008 to 31 December 2008; –; UMB; Prof Richard Huggins
- Dr Alireza Nematollahi; University of Shiraz; 15 December 2007 to 15 December 2008; multivariate analysis and time series; USN; N.C. Weber
- Prof Sen Huat Ong; University of Malaya; 1 June 2008 to 31 October 2008; financial time series modelling; USN; M.S. Peiris
- Prof Shuangjie Peng; Central China Normal University; 15 June 2008 to 31 January 2009; nonlinear elliptic partial differential equations; USN; E.N. Dancer
- Dr Goetz Pfeiffer; National University of Ireland; 25 May 2008 to 16 June 2008; –; UWA; Alice Niemeyer
- Dr Maria Pilar Gil Pons; University of Catalonia; 1 February 2008 to 31 August 2008; SAGB stars to study both evolution and yields of these stars at a wide range of compositions; MNU; Prof John Lattanzio
- Prof Colin Please; University of Southampton, UK; 15 February 2008 to 2 September 2008; –; QUT; –
- Ms Weiwei Ren; Yunnan University, China; August 2007 to August 2008; –; UWA; A/Prof Caiheng Li
- Dr Frederic Robert; Université de Nice; 14 November 2007 to 3 November 2008; applied and nonlinear analysis; ANU; Florica Cirstea
- Kumar Saurav; Indian Institute of Technology; 3–24 August 2008; –; UWA; Prof Cheryl Praeger
- Dr Mahendran Shitan; University Putra, Malaysia; 1 June 2008 to 31 October 2008; theory for the class of generalised autoregression under mathematical statistics/times series analysis; USN; M.S. Peiris

- Dr Qiao Shouhong; Sun Yat-sen University, China; 1 March 2008 to March 2009;
–; UWA; A/Prof Cai Heng Li
- Maryam Solary; Guilan University, Iran; July 2008 to January 2009; –; UWA;
A/Prof Song Wang
- Dr Damien Stehle; Ecole Normale Supérieure, Lyon; 19 July 2008 to 18 July 2009;
computational aspects of lattices; USN; J.J. Cannon
- Prof Dongchu SUN; University of Missouri; 13–17 July 2008; –; UMB; Prof Richard
Huggins
- A/Prof Bijan Taeri; Isfahan University of Technology, Iran; 1 September 2008 to
1 September 2009; –; UWA; Prof Cheryl Praeger
- Prof Vladimir Ulyanov; Moscow State University, Russia; 28 July 2008 to 25 Au-
gust 2008; –; UMB; A/Prof Kostya Borovkov
- Dr Mohammad Wadee; –; 1 July 2008 to 31 August 2008; –; UWA; Prof Andrew
Bassom
- Dr Yan Wang; Yan Tai University, China; 15 July 2008 to 14 August 2008; –;
UMB; Dr Sanming Zhou
- Prof Ruth Williams; University of California at San Diego, USA; 31 July 2008, 1
August 2008, and 5–6 August 2008; –; UMB; A/Prof Kostya Borovkov;
- Dr Huoxiong Wu; Xiamen University, China; January 2008 to November 2008;
harmonic analysis and partial differential equations; MQU; X.T. Duong
- Dr Tina Ying Xu; University of Hong Kong, China; 18 June 2008 to 28 July 2008;
–; UMB; A/Prof Ray Watson
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