



News

General News

Australian Mathematical Trust

Canberra street named after David Paget

[The editors of the *Gazette* thank Peter Taylor and the Australian Mathematics Trust for granting permission to reproduce this article.]

A street in the Canberra suburb of Bruce, a few hundred metres behind the Australian Mathematics Trust's office at the University of Canberra, has been named after Dr David Paget (1943–1997), who was for several years the Leader of the Australian team at the International Mathematical Olympiad, Director of Training of the Australian Mathematics Olympiad program and Director of the Australian Mathematical Olympiad Committee for the state of Tasmania.



Behind the signpost can be seen the Canberra Stadium, Australian Institute of Sport and Black Mountain with the Telstra Tower.

Streets in Bruce are generally named after Australian academics. David was a Senior Lecturer in Mathematics at the University of Tasmania for many years.

David radically developed the training programme for the Olympiad teams to essentially the same structure we use to this day.

AustMS

A disturbing set of numbers

President of the AustMS, Nalini Joshi, had an article published in *The Australian* on 18 February 2009:

Mathematics is critical to modern life and it will be essential for formulating a response to the present economic crisis. Yet Australian school children are coming out of schools not knowing that doing a calculation with pencil and paper is the way to learn mathematics. . . .

You can read the whole article at

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25069225-25192,00.html>.

CSIRO

CSIRO operations researchers hosted an international meeting of wine logistics specialists in Melbourne in January. Keynote speaker, Georgia Tech's (US) Professor John Bartholdi discussed how to reduce time from purchase order placement to receipt of merchandise. Other topics included: planning harvest, winery and packaging programs; and the future of wine supply chains with changing climate and consumer preferences. CSIRO's Adaptive Supply Networks team, led by Dr Simon Dunstall, uses operations research to simulate and optimise supply chains in a range of industries. The team recently developed a grape maturity forecasting system which is being used in Australia and New Zealand to estimate when grapes will be ready to harvest. More information at

<http://www.csiro.au/news/International-supply-chains-for-wine.html>.

CSIRO Mathematical and Information Sciences (CMIS) last year produced a brochure of highlights from 2007–2008. The document covers top business and sciences outcomes, visitors, most cited papers, staff and student numbers, and others. It can be downloaded as a pdf from

<http://www.csiro.au/resources/CMIS-Snapshot-Booklet-2008.html>.

The full CSIRO Annual Report can be viewed at

<http://www.csiro.au/resources/AnnualReport0708.html>.

University of Ballarat

On 1 January 2009, the School of Information Technology and Mathematical Sciences (ITMS) at the University of Ballarat (UB) became the Graduate School of ITMS. UB will invest \$3 million over the next five years to guarantee its success. This investment will fund a large number of well-paid scholarships for students from around the world, to come to Ballarat to undertake advanced research in mathematical sciences and information technology. At a time when computing and mathematics departments in universities across Australia are shrinking, this Graduate School is an exciting development.

The University of Ballarat is already one of the biggest players in the international student market. It is renowned for producing industry-ready graduates and well-known for its strong collaboration with IBM. UB and IBM have just announced a \$10 million expansion of IBM activities on the UB Technology Park. The new Graduate School builds on the existing strengths that ITMS has in teaching and research, by expanding collaboration with universities around the world.

University of Sydney

James Parkinson has taken over from Mary Myerscough as local correspondent for the *Gazette*. The *Gazette* thanks Mary for her time as correspondent.

Victoria University

The School of Computer Science and Mathematics has been subsumed within the School of Engineering and Science.

Completed PhDs

Curtin University

- Dr Somkid Amornsamankul, *Mathematical modelling and numerical simulation of blood flow through stenotic arteries*, supervisor: Yong Hong Wu.
- Dr Christina Burt, *An optimisation approach to materials handling in surface mines*, supervisor: Lou Caccetta.
- Dr Chun-Min Liu, *A study of optimization problems involving stochastic systems with jumps*, supervisors: K.L. Teo and Dr Quan-Xi Shao (from CSIRO).

Edith Cowan University

- Dr Ellen Bandarian, *Linear transformation methods for multivariate geostatistical simulation*.

La Trobe University, Bundoora

- Sa-aat Niwitpong, *Predictive inference for time series*, supervisor: Associate Professor Paul Kabaila.
- Khreshna Syuhada, *Prediction intervals for financial time series and their assessment*, supervisors: Associate Professor Paul Kabaila and Dr Luke Prendergast.
- Khageswor Giri, *Confidence intervals in regression utilizing prior information*, supervisors: Associate Professor Paul Kabaila and Dr Luke Prendergast.

University of Adelaide

- Dr Jeremy McMahon, *Time-dependence in Markovian decision processes*, supervisors: Nigel Bean, Michael Rumsewicz.
- Dr Maria Lobo, *Boundary element methods for the solution of a class of infiltration problems*, supervisor: David Clements.
- Dr Tony Scoleri, *Fundamental numerical schemes for parameter estimation in computer vision*, supervisors: Michael Murray, Mike Brooks.
- Dr Rongmin Lu, *Regularized equivariant Euler classes and Gamma functions*, supervisors: Mathai Varghese, Nicholas Buchdahl.

University of Queensland

- Dr Sho Nariai, *Cross-entropy method in telecommunication systems*, principal advisor: Dirk Kroese.

University of New South Wales

- Dr Stephen Howe, *The deprioritised approach to prioritised algorithms*, supervisor: Catherine Greenhill.

University of South Australia

- Dr Barbara Ridley, *Mathematical modelling of solar radiation, and other weather variables, for quality assured weather data sets*, supervisor: John Boland.

University of Sydney

- Dr Mike Hay, *Discrete Lax pairs, reductions and hierarchies*, supervisor: Professor Nalini Joshi.
- Dr Kevin Ho Shon, *Real estate leases and real options*, supervisor: Associate Professor Peter Buchen.
- Dr Shakti Menon, *Bifurcation problems in chaotically stirred reaction-diffusion systems*, supervisor: Associate Professor Georg Gottwald.

University of Western Australia

- Dr Ranga Muhandirange, *Maritime manoeuvring optimization: path planning in minefield threat environments*, supervisors: Natasha Boland and Song Wang,

Victoria University

- Dr Robert A. Moore, *Computer recognition of musical instruments: an examination of within class variation*, supervisors: P. Cerone (principal) and Neil Diamond (cosupervisor).

Awards and other achievements

B.H. Neumann Prize

The BH Neumann prize was awarded to Nicole Kleinstreuer from the University of Canterbury for her talk entitled ‘Modeling autoregulation in the rat kidney’ in December 2008 in Christchurch.

There were also three honourable mentions: Parinya Sa Ngiamsunthorn, University of Sydney, who’s talk was entitled ‘An abstract approach to domain perturbation for parabolic equations’; Michael Pauley, University of Western Australia, who’s talk was entitled ‘Quadratures for null Lie quadratics in $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ and $\mathrm{SO}(3)$ ’; and Raymond Vozzo, University of Adelaide, who’s talk was entitled ‘String structures and characteristic classes for loop group bundles’.

Swedish prize for former Australian PhD Student

Andreas Axelsson, who graduated from ANU in 2003 with a PhD under the supervision of Alan McIntosh, has been awarded the Tage Erlander prize in science and technology, by the Swedish Royal Academy of Science ‘for his contributions to the development of the functional calculus in harmonic analysis, which led to the proof of Lions’ conjecture’. One such prize is awarded each year to a younger Swedish scientist. It is A\$18 000 for research and an additional A\$9000 for organising a symposium or workshop.

For further information, see <http://www2.math.su.se/~andax/>.

Macquarie University

On Friday 14 November 2008, the Moyal Medal was awarded to Professor Alan Carey who gave a lecture entitled ‘Index theory in Mathematics and Physics’.

Monash University

Long-service awards. For 25 years of service: Dr Rosemary Mardling, Ms Linda Mayer, Dr Michael Page. For 35+ years of service: Dr Tom Hall, Professor J. Monaghan, Dr Andrew Prentice.

University of New South Wales

The School of Mathematics and Statistics is very proud to congratulate Peter Brown who was awarded the Vice Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence.

Peter does a magnificent job of conveying the beauty of mathematics to a wide range of students as well as helping and encouraging the School’s staff in learning and teaching. Peter has been chair of the School’s Learning and Teaching committee which in 2008, was successful in obtaining a learning and teaching grant for ‘Out of Class Support for Students in Mathematics and Statistics’. This has enabled the School to both develop online teaching resources as well as extending the Student Support Scheme to incorporate more first-year courses. He has also been deeply involved over many years with the university–high school interface.

Most of us have also attended one or more of Peter’s seminar series on learning and teaching. These have proven to be invaluable to the staff and his choice of speakers has helped us understand the requirements that other schools have of Mathematics.

I think it is also important to mention that Peter’s nomination was pushed by his students as well as other academics, once again showing his wonderful teaching talent.

Once again, congratulations to Peter Brown — a very deserving recipient of the VC Award for Teaching Excellence.

Appointments, departures and promotions

ADFA, UNSW Canberra Campus

In December 2008, Associate Professor Geoff Mercer and Dr Steve Barry both accepted voluntary redundancies. This together with the retirements of Professor Colin Pask, Dr Wendy Anderson and Ms Barbara Catchpole and the very sad and untimely passing of Professor Rowland Sammut has reduced Mathematics and Statistics at UNSW at ADFA to a rather feeble seven staff members.

CSIRO

CSIRO Mathematical and Information Sciences (CMIS) has a new Chief of Division, Dr Louise Ryan, as of 2 February 2009. Dr Ryan replaces Dr Murray Cameron who was Chief of CMIS for eight years and is now a Research Fellow with CSIRO. Louise Ryan will be based in Sydney at CSIRO on the Macquarie University campus.

Dr Ryan, an Australian who earned her BSc at Macquarie University and PhD at Harvard, is very eager to play a role in the mathematical and statistical research community in Australia. Dr Ryan lived in Brisbane and Sydney before heading to the US, and comes to CSIRO from Harvard University where she was Professor of Biostatistics. She has a long association with CSIRO, most recently visiting in July on a Harvard Fellowship. Dr Ryan has a distinguished career in biostatistics. Her research to date has included studies on arsenic toxicity in drinking water, the effects of house mice on childhood allergies, and the incidence of hospital admissions of heart attack patients.

More information about Dr Ryan is available at www.csiro.au/people/Louise.Ryan. Her email address is louise.ryan@csiro.au and she would love to hear from AustMS members.

Curtin University

- Lorenzo Ntogramatzidis: Post-Doctoral Fellow and Lecturer from University of Melbourne will be at Curtin until the end of 2011.
- Kuen Siu, Associate Professor in applied statistics and financial mathematics, from Scotland, continuing position.

Edith Cowan University

- Dr Tapan Rai left in December 2008.
- Dr Miccal Matthews joined us in July 2008 from the University of Wollongong.
- Dr Steven Richardson joined us in January 2009 from the University of Western Australia.

Flinders University

- Dr Denis Potapov resigned with effect from December 2008, to take up a position at the UNSW.
- Dr Gobert Lee and Dr Nurulla Azamov, both graduates of Flinders University, have been appointed as Lecturers in Mathematics/Statistics at Flinders.

Dr Lee has been working as an RA in the Graduate School of Medicine at Gifu University, Japan, and will take up her position in April 2009. Dr Nurulla Azamov has been an Associate Lecturer at Flinders since February 2008.

La Trobe University, Bundoora

- Phil Broadbridge has been appointed as Head of School of the School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences at La Trobe University. He started his employment on 23 February 2009.
- Brian Davey has been appointed to a Personal Chair.
- Mitra Jazayeri has been appointed in a continuing position as an Associate Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.
- Peter Stacey has retired as Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Macquarie University

- Dr Stuart Hawkins has joined the Mathematics Department as a Lecturer. He was previously at UNSW.

Monash University

- Professor Kate Smith-Miles commenced on 1 February 2009, as new Head of School of Mathematical Sciences. Her areas of research interests include operations research, particularly combinatorial optimisation solved using meta-heuristic approaches; data mining; meta-learning; automated algorithm selection.
- Dr Jesse Andries commenced on 17 October 2008 as Marie Curie Fellow. His areas of research include solar physics, magnetohydrodynamics (MHD), MHD waves and spectroscopy, special analysis, coronal seismology.
- Dr Maria Lugaro commenced on 3 November 2008 as Monash Fellow. Her research interests are in studying how heavy elements from carbon lead are produced by nuclear reactions inside stars.
- Dr Sergio Zlotnik commenced on 13 November 2008 as Research Fellow. His research interests lie in computational geodynamics, and include plate tectonics, self-consistent lithosphere and mantle dynamics, rock deformation and rheology.
- Dr Margarete Jadamic commenced on 8 December 2008 as Research Fellow. Her research interests are in: plate boundary zones – subduction zone dynamics, continental deformation; visualisation in science – 3D visualisation of complex geologic and geophysical systems; primary methods – numerical modelling, analytic modelling and field mapping.
- Dr John Haynes commenced on 15 December 2008. His research interests are in characterisation of the structure of tropical and middle latitude cloud systems and their associated precipitation features.
- Dr Nicholas Cavaghan has departed the School of Mathematical Sciences and accepted a position in the Department of Mathematics, The University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand.
- Dr Cristina Varsavsky has been promoted from Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor.

- Associate Professor Louis Moresi has been promoted from Associate Professor to Professor.

Murdoch University

- Dr Leanne Scott has been appointed as a Senior Lecturer for a three-year term.
- Ryan Admiraal has been appointed as a Lecturer.

Swinburne University of Technology

- On 21 November 2008 Professor Geoff Brooks took over the leadership of the Mathematics Discipline in the Faculty of Industrial Sciences from Professor Will Phillips.

University of Adelaide

- Mathai Varghese has been appointed Director of the Institute for Geometry and its Applications.
- Professor Robert Elliott has commenced as an ARC Professorial Fellow, from the University of Calgary.
- Associate Professor Inge Koch has commenced as Associate Professor of Statistics, from the University of New South Wales.
- Dr Ben Binder has commenced as Lecturer in Applied Mathematics, from the University of Melbourne.

University of Melbourne

- Dr John Sader has been promoted to Professor.
- Mr Brendan Kite, OR Consultant, commenced 12 January 2009.
- Dr Yong Shi, Research Fellow, commenced 11 December 2008.
- Dr David Walker, Research Fellow, commenced 5 January 2009.
- Dr Ben Binder, Research Fellow, departed 21 November 2008.
- Dr Jinghao Xue, Research Fellow, 31 October 2008.

University of Newcastle

- Natasha Boland was appointed as Professor of Mathematics early in 2008.
- Dr Peter Howley has been promoted to Senior Lecturer in Statistics.

University of New England

- Dr Adam Harris was promoted from level B to C.
- Dr Beatrice Bleile was promoted from level A to B.

University of Queensland

- Dr Stephan Tillmann has been appointed as a Lecturer in Pure Mathematics. Stephan will take up his position on 1 July 2009. His research interests are geometry and topology of low dimensional manifolds and related areas.
- Dr Darryn Bryant has been promoted to Professor. His main research interests are in graph theory and design theory.

- Dr Iadine Chades joins the Mathematics Department from the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (Toulouse). She has a 12-month appointment from July 2008 as Research Fellow working with Hugh Possingham and Phil Pollett on a project titled ‘Strategies for managing invasive species in space: deciding whether to eradicate, contain or control’, which is partially funded by ACERA, MASCOS and AEDA. She has research interests in mathematical modelling and decision making in ecology.
- Dr Ross McVinish joins the Mathematics Department from QUT and has a three-year appointment as Research Fellow from September 2008 working with Phil Pollett. Ross has research experience in a number of areas of probability and statistics, from Lévy processes and stochastic processes displaying long memory, to Bayesian nonparametrics and computation for Bayesian statistics and time series analysis.
- In February Dr Eric Mortenson will be commencing as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Pure Mathematics working with Professor Ole Warnaar on partitions and modular forms.

University of Southern Queensland

- Dr Richard Watson has resigned from the position of Head of Department of Mathematics and Computing. We would like to express to Richard our gratitude for leading the department at its most difficult times last year. Dr Stijn Dekeyser commenced as new Head of Department in March.
- Linda Galligan has commenced a position as Senior Lecturer (Academic Liaison). She is joining the Department of Mathematics and Computing from the Learning and Teaching Support Unit where she worked with students underprepared for university, particularly in the area of mathematics, including language issues for international students. Her area of expertise is with academic numeracy, i.e. students being confident and competent in using mathematics in economics, statistics, nursing, and other sciences.
- Dr Dmitry Strunin has been promoted to Associate Professor.
- Dr Birgit Loch has been promoted to Senior Lecturer. She just commenced a three-year fractional secondment as Principal Advisor (Learning and Teaching) in the Division of ICT Services.
- Tim Passmore has been promoted to Lecturer.

University of Sydney

- Dr James Parkinson has been appointed as Lecturer in Pure Mathematics.
- Dr Uri Keich has been appointed Senior Lecturer in Statistics.
- Associate Professor Andrew Mathas and Associate Professor Ruibin Zhang have taken up Australian Professorial Fellowships at the University of Sydney
- Dr Xin Liu has been appointed as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow to work with Associate Professor Zhang.

University of Western Australia

- Professor Andrew Bassom has commenced his term as Head of School.
- Dr Alice Niemeyer has been promoted to Associate Professor.

Victoria University

- Pietro Cerone was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor from 1 January 2009.

New Books

Monash University

- Stillwell, J. (2008). *Naive Lie Theory*. Springer, Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics, ISBN 978-0-387-78214-0.
- Polster, B. (2008) *Eye Twisters*. 2007 Constable and Robinson, UK; 2008 Allen & Unwin, Australia, 2008 Sterling, USA.

University of New England

- Beatrice Bleile (2009). *Homotopy Theory of Modules: Absolute and Relative Homotopy Groups of Modules using the Injective Homotopy Category*. VDM Verlag Dr Mueller. ISBN: 3639109538.

Conferences and Courses

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

International workshop on modelling and data analysis for infectious disease control

Date: 9–12 March 2009

Venue: Murramarang, NSW

Web: http://nceph.anu.edu.au/News/modelling_workshop.php

IMST 2009-FIM XVII and IMST 2009-FIM XVIII

During 2009, the Forum for Interdisciplinary Mathematics (FIM) will be sponsoring two International conferences (17th and 18th) on Interdisciplinary Mathematical and Statistical Techniques (IMST). Below are dates, web addresses and some information concerning these conferences. If you are interested in attending, presenting a paper or organising a session, please contact the organisers.

1. IMST 2009-FIM XVII

Date: 23–26 May 2009

Venue: University of West Bohemia, Plzen, Czech Republic

Web: <http://home.zcu.cz/~pgirg/IMST2009/>

[\(http://home.zcu.cz/~pgirg/IMST2009/\)](http://home.zcu.cz/~pgirg/IMST2009/)

2. IMST 2009-FIM XVIII

Date: 2–4 August 2009

Venue: Jaypee University of Information Technology, Wanknaghat/ Shimla, India

Web: http://www.juit.ac.in/IMSTFIM2009/imst_fim_2009.htm

The academic activities of these two conferences will primarily focus on the following areas of mathematical and statistical sciences: combinatorics and graph theory, functional analysis, differential equations, Bayesian statistics, bioinformatics, biostatistics, design and analysis of experiments and multivariate analysis. However, presentations in other areas of mathematical and statistical sciences are also welcome. A special section devoted to undergraduates is planned.

Organiser: Satya Mishra, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL 36688, USA. Office Phone: 251 461 1642; Office FAX: 251-460-7969; E-mail: mishra@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

Second International Conference on Mathematical Modelling and Computation (MMC09) and Fifth East Asia SIAM Conference (EASIAM5)

Date: 8–11 June 2009

Venue: Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei

Web: <http://mmc09.ubd.edu.bn>

Contact: mmc09_easiam5@hotmail.com

The Department of Mathematics in the Faculty of Science at UBD will host this conference. The Department of Mathematics has continuing research interests in the mathematical modelling of biological and physical systems, financial mathematics, and areas such as integral and differential operators and numerical methods. MMC09 and EASIAM5 will provide a venue for the exchange of ideas in these areas and indeed any aspect of mathematical modelling and computation, in promoting both established and newer national and international research relationships. Participants from throughout the region are especially encouraged to attend.

Topics: modelling of biological and physical systems; financial mathematics; numerical methods and computation.

Deadline for abstracts and early registration: 15 May 2009.

NSDS09

Date: 22–27 June 2009

Venue: Sevilla, Spain

Web: <http://congreso.us.es/nsds09>

1st PRIMA Congress

Date: 6–10 July 2009

Venue: University of New South Wales, Sydney

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

Contact: Alejandro Adem (adem@pims.math.ca)

Local Arrangements Committee (prima2009@maths.unsw.edu.au)

Dresden 2009 Conference

Date: 11–17 September 2009

Venue: Dresden, Saxony, Germany

Web:

www.informatik.htw-dresden.de/~paditz/SecondAnnouncementDresden2009.doc

The Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project and The University of Applied Sciences (FH), Dresden (Germany) announce our 10th (Anniversary) International Conference: ‘Models in Developing Mathematics Education’ to be held in full cooperation with the Saxony Ministry of Education.

International organisers: Dr Alan Rogerson, Coordinator of the Mathematics in Society Project (Poland) and Professor Fayez Mina, Faculty of Education, Ain Shams University (Egypt). Chair of the local organising committee: Professor Dr Ludwig Paditz of the Dresden University of Applied Sciences.

You are warmly invited to attend and present a paper at our conference in the heart of the historic and beautiful city of Dresden. For all further information, please email: alan@rogerson.pol.pl.

Third Japanese/Australian workshop on real and complex singularities

Date: 15-18 September 2009

Venue: The University of Sydney (Medical Foundation Auditorium)

Web: <http://www.maths.usyd.edu.au:8000/u/laurent/RCSW>

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)

The first-ever Australian Mathematical Society Early Career Researchers Workshop will be held at Mt Lofty House on Sunday 27 September 2009. This is the day before the start of the Society’s Annual Meeting, to be held at the University of South Australia in the following week.

The Early Career Researchers Workshop will consist of short research presentations by leading ECRs, advice presentations on various aspects of mathematical careers in academia and industry by more senior mathematicians, and a panel discussion.

Research speakers: Thomas Britz (University of New South Wales), Akshay Venkatesh (Stanford University), Zhiyou Wu (University of Ballarat)

Advice speakers: Jan de Gier (University of Melbourne), Kerry Landman (University of Melbourne), industry representative TBA.

Participants in the Workshop will also be invited to a special ECR lunch during the Annual Meeting, attended by the plenary speakers.

Registration is free for any registered participant in the Society's 2009 Annual Meeting who is an ECR or PhD student in the mathematical sciences at an Australian university or research organisation. (An ECR is defined as having no more than approximately five years' full-time equivalent research experience since award of PhD.) Numbers for the Workshop are strictly limited, so those who wish to attend are advised to register early.

Meals at the venue and return coach from central Adelaide will be provided free of charge to all registered participants. Partial reimbursement for accommodation in Adelaide on the night of the 26th will be available for the first 50 registrants. More details of the Workshop will appear on the web page listed above.

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

As at the end of January 2009, the following mathematicians have accepted invitations to be plenary speakers at the meeting: Werner Ballmann (University of Bonn and Max Planck Institute, Bonn); Michael Eastwood (Australian National University); Dennis Gaitsgory (Harvard University); Ezra Getzler (Northwestern University); Kerry Landman (University of Melbourne); William Moran (University of Melbourne and DSTO); Mahler Lecturer Terence Tao (University of California at Los Angeles); ANZIAM Lecturer Peter Taylor (University of Melbourne); Jacqui Ramagge (University of Wollongong); Early Career Lecturer Akshay Venkatesh (Stanford University).

The conference will host special sessions that cover a broad range of topics in mathematical research and its applications. Topics and organisers of the special sessions will be announced in the near future; suggestions for additional topics and organisers are welcome.

The conference will also host the following events: ECR Workshop (a one-day event on Sunday 27 September for early-career researchers); Education Afternoon (talks for high-school teachers); Public Lecture (featuring the 2006 Fields Medal recipient Terence Tao).

The Program Committee consists of Konstantin Borovkov (Melbourne), Regina Burachik (UniSA), Vladimir Ejoy (UniSA and Conference Director), Catherine Greenhill (UNSW), Alex Molev (Sydney), Amnon Neeman (ANU), Garry Newsam (DSTO), Jacqui Ramagge (Wollongong), Bevan Thompson (Queensland), Mathai Varghese (Adelaide), Lesley Ward (UniSA).

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/>

Confirmed speakers: Danny Calegari (California Institute of Technology); Indira Chatterji (Université d'Orleans/Ohio State); Daryl Cooper (University of California at Santa Barbara); Yves de Cornulier (CNRS/Rennes, France); Moon Duchin (University of Michigan); Danny Groves (University of Illinois at Chicago); Joseph Maher (Oklahoma State University); Tim Riley (Bristol); Anne Thomas (Cornell).

The goal of this workshop is to examine the influx of new ideas, trends and advances in the recent past. In particular, we want to focus on the aspects of:

1. Analysis: Baum-Connes conjecture, Kazhdan's property (T), amenability, soficity, rapid decay;
2. Statistics: random walks, random subgroups, percolation, generic properties of groups;
3. Geometry: Cannon conjecture, boundaries, BNS invariants, bounded (co)-homology of groups, isoperimetric functions.

The workshop will run over a week (Monday to Friday). We will schedule 3–4 talks per day with time in between for discussion and collaboration. In addition, Danny Calegari will give a short course on 'Stable Commutator Length'. The workshop concludes with a problem session, and an excursion is planned for Saturday 19 December.

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute, the Australian Mathematical Society, and the School of Mathematics and Physics at the University of Queensland.

Organisers: Murray Elder (University of Queensland, m.elder@uq.edu.au); Lawrence Reeves (University of Melbourne, L.Reeves@ms.unimelb.edu.au); Stephan Tillmann (University of Melbourne/University of Queensland, S.Tillmann@ms.unimelb.edu.au).

Correction

Due to a small error in the data, a corrected version of the article 'Higher degrees and honours bachelor degrees in mathematics and statistics completed in Australia in 2007' by Peter Johnson has been published on the *Gazette* site: <http://www.austms.org.au/Gazette+Volume+35+Number+5+November+2008>.

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 Barbara Baumeister; Freie Universität Berlin; 23 March to 3 April 2009; –; UWA; Cheryl Praeger

- Prof Suhyoung Choi; KAIST, Dept of Mathematical Sciences; 28 February to 31 August 2009; –; UMB; Craig Hodgson
- 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
- Renato da Costa; Pontifical Catholic University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; until July 2009; –; CUT; –
- Dr Ashraf Daneshkhah; Bu-Ali Sina University, Iran; 15 October 2008 to 15 April 2009; –; UWA; Cheryl Praeger
- Dr Alexei Davydov; –; 5 January to 30 June 2009; –; USN; A.I. Molev
- Silvio Dolfi; Uni Firenze, Italy; 27 January to 15 April 2009; –; UWA; Cheryl Praeger
- Prof Zengji Du; School of Mathematical Sciences, Xuzhou Normal University; 22 October 2008 to 22 October 2009; differential equations; UNSW; Chris Tisdell
- Prof Roman Dwilewicz; Missouri University of Science and Technology; April 2009; –; UNE; Adam Harris/Gerd Schmalz
- Professor Philip Griffin; Syracuse University; 1 February to 21 March 2009; financial mathematics; ANU; Ross Maller
- Terry Griggs; Open University; 7 to 31 March 2009; –; UQL; Diane Donovan
- Zhao Guohui; Dalian University of Technology, China; until August 2009; –; CUT
- Dr Rainer Hollerbach; Applied Mathematics, Leeds; February to August 2009; nonlinear simulation of magneto-shear tachocline instabilities in the sun; MNU; Prof Paul Cally
- Prof Tien-Chung Hu; National Tsing Hua University; 24 February to 31 July 2009; Convergent results for sums of dependent random variables, with possible applications to V-Statistics; USN; N.C. Weber
- Wei Jin (student); Central South University, China; 20 September 2008 to September 2010; –; UWA; Cheryl Praeger
- Dr Gwenaél Joret; Université Libre de Bruxelles; 30 March to 24 July 2009; –; UMB; David Wood
- Prof Le Hai Khoi; NTU, Singapore; 12 to 14 April 2009; –; UNE; Gerd Schmalz
- Dr Philip Kokic; ABARE; 8 July 2008 to 7 July 2009; statistical science; ANU; Alan Welsh
- Prof Hideo Kozono; –; 16 to 27 March 2009; PDE theory; USN; N. Dancer
- Ko Wang Kyung; Anyang University, Anyang Korea; until July 2009; –; CUT; –
- Prof Michael Leinert; University of Heidelberg; 30 October 2008 to 8 March 2009; harmonic analysis and Banach algebras; UNSW; Ian Doust
- Prof Fátima Silva Leite; University of Coimbra, Portugal; 1 to 28 April 2009; –; UNE; Krzysztof Krakowski
- Prof C.C. Lindner; Auburn University, USA; 11–25 July 2009; combinatorics; UQL; Liz Billington
- Kek Sie Long; University Tun Hussein Onn, Malaysia; May 2009 to November 2009; –; CUT; –
- Cheng Longsheng; Nanjing University of Science and Technology, Nanjing, China; until June 2009; –; CUT; –

- Mr Li Luo; Chinese Academy of Sciences; 1 January to 30 June 2009; algebra; USN; R. Zhang
- Dr James McCoy; University of Wollongong; 1 January to 30 June 2009; applied and nonlinear analysis; ANU; Ben Andrews
- Hu Ming; Jiangsu University of Science and Technology, Zhenjiang, China; May 2009 to October 2009; –; CUT; –
- Mr Gerriet Mohlmann; –; 22 February to 28 March 2009; computational number theory; USN; J.J. Cannon
- Prof Jesper Moller; Aalborg Uni, Denmark; April 2009; –; UWA; Adrian Baddeley
- Prof Christine Mueller; University of Kassel, Germany; 15 October to 24 December 2009; –; UMB; Prof Richard Huggins
- Dr Toshio Ohnishi; Institute for Statistical Mathematics, Tokyo; 1 December 2008 to 31 March 2009; –; University of the Sunshine Coast; Assoc Prof Peter Dunn
- Prof Mutsuo Oka; Tokyo University of Science; 20 to 25 March 2009; singularity theory; USN; L. Paunescu
- Prof Makoto Ozawa; Komazawa University; 1 April to 31 March 2009; –; UMB; Hyam Rubinstein
- Prof Helen Perk; Oklahoma State University; 1 August 2008 to 31 May 2009; mathematical physics; ANU; Murray Batchelor
- Prof Jacques Perk; Oklahoma State University; 1 August 2008 to 31 May 2009; mathematical physics; ANU; Murray Batchelor
- Dr Pierre Portal; University of Lille; 23 February to 6 April 2009; analysis and geometry; ANU; Alan McIntosh
- Alan Professor Steve Rosenberg; Boston University; 1 March to 1 July 2009; analysis and geometry; ANU; Alan Carey
- Mr Ege Rubak (student); Aalborg Uni, Denmark; April to November 2009; –; UWA; Adrian Baddeley
- Dr Qiao Shouhong; Sun Yat-sen University, China; 1 March 2008 to March 2009; –; UWA; A/Prof Cai Heng Li
- Dr Alan Stapleton; University of Michigan; 22 June to 21 August 2009; invariant theory, cellularity and geometry; USN; G.I. Lehrer
- Dr Damien Stehle; Ecole Normale Supérieure, Lyon; 19 July 2008 to 18 July 2009; computational aspects of lattices; USN; J.J. Cannon
- Dr Alexander Stein; Freie Universität Berlin; 23 March to 3 April 2009; –; UWA; Cheryl Praeger
- Bijan Taeri; Isfashan Uni Technology, Iran; November 2008 to September 2009; –; UWA; Cheryl Praeger
- Moorum Theeraech; Mahidol University, Thailand; until October 2009; –; CUT; –
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