



AMSI News

Geoff Prince*

AMSI welcomes four external board members

We are delighted to welcome four new members to the AMSI board: Dr Adelle Howse, Professor Arvind Gupta, Lily Serna and Dr Mark Lawrence. Following the review of AMSI in February 2011, we have a new board structure with significantly more independent members. Adelle, Arvind, Lily and Mark each hold a distinctive place within the mathematical sciences community, and their fresh perspectives and different experiences will enrich all aspects of the Institute.

Dr Adelle Howse is currently the Executive General Manager of Investment, Divestments & Acquisitions for Leighton Holdings, one of Australia's largest construction and development companies, and holds a PhD in mathematics from The University of Queensland. Adelle's experience in working with industry will help us strengthen our links with the Australian business community. Her keen interest and experience in promoting the benefits of mathematics to the broader community—in particular at the pre-university level—will be invaluable to AMSI's advocacy role.

Professor Arvind Gupta has a PhD in computer science from the University of Toronto and is the CEO and Scientific Director of Mitacs, AMSI Intern's Canadian counterpart. A professor of computer science at the University of British Columbia, Arvind hopes to help us to develop joint programs between Canada and Australia through our flagship higher education programs.

Lily Serna, widely known for her role as the arithmetical guru on SBS's Letters and Numbers, shares AMSI's vision to inspire more students to study mathematics at tertiary level. Her experience in the public spotlight will be of immense value in building AMSI's public profile and facilitating communication and collaboration among our members and stakeholders.

Dr Mark Lawrence is a risk management specialist and has a PhD in mathematics from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Born and raised in Adelaide, he was one of the first 'rocket scientists of Wall Street' in the mid-1980s. After serving as Chief Risk Officer at ANZ, he established the Mark Lawrence Group in 2008. The firm advises major Australian and international financial service organisations and regulators on risk management and governance issues, and I believe that Mark's experience in dealing with government and industry at these levels will serve AMSI well.

*Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute, Building 161, c/- The University of Melbourne, VIC 3010. E-mail: director@amsi.org.au

The other members of AMSI's Board are:

- Ron Sandland (Chair)
- Geoff Prince (Director)
- Mark Gould (UQ) (Deputy Director)
- Eileen Doyle (External)
- Aleks Owczarek (UMelb Lead Agent representative)
- Stephen Roberts (ANU full member representative)
- Dann Mallet (QUT associate member representative)
- David Easdown (USyd full member representative)
- Stan Miklavcic (UniSA associate member representative).

Make sure that you see our other notices in this issue of the *Gazette* to get the latest news about Mathematics of Planet Earth, BioInfoSummer, our workshop program and Access Grid activity, and the Vacation Research Scholarships.



I was a Monash undergraduate and took out a La Trobe PhD in 1981 in geometric mechanics and Lie groups. This was followed by a postdoc at the Institute for Advanced Study in Dublin. I've enjoyed teaching at RMIT, UNE and La Trobe. My research interests lie mainly in differential equations, differential geometry and the calculus of variations. I'm a proud Fellow of the Society, currently a Council and Steering Committee Member. I became AMSI director in September 2009.