



News

General News

AMSI vacation scholarships

Applications for the 2013/2014 AMSI Vacation Research Scholarships are now open online: www.amsi.org.au/VRS

Scholarships:

- are available Australia wide
- pay a student stipend of \$450/week for six-weeks
- give students the opportunity to present at CSIRO's Big Day In — February 2014
- offer fully funded travel and accommodation to the Big Day In.

This scholarship program is open to 2nd- and 3rd-year students attending university with an AMSI member (list of members can be found at <http://www.amsi.org.au/members>).

Please let students and colleagues know about this opportunity.

CSIRO restructure

On 1 July, a new CSIRO research Division was formed by the integration of two Divisions within the Information Sciences Group: Mathematics Informatics and Statistics and the ICT Centre. The new Division is called CSIRO Computational Informatics (CCI). Key drivers for its formation are an evolving ICT and mathematical sciences landscape and the opportunity to create an effective capability hub.

The new Division's Chief, Dr Bronwyn Harch, said the change is a response to the fact that advances in digital technologies have triggered an explosion in the volume, velocity and variety of data and information now available. These data and information have to be generated, captured, transmitted and analysed, and the new Division will drive this research in CSIRO.

The new Division's formation will enable CSIRO to remain globally competitive in key research areas across its portfolio of research in order to transform the information and decision making workflows of industry, government and the innovation sectors. It will help CSIRO tackle major national challenges such as productivity decline and an ageing population.

Dr Harch will ensure the Division is known both for its excellent science and impact, and for its culture of collaboration. She extends an invitation to all CSIRO industry and research partners to connect and work with her and members of the Division.

Here are a few facts and figures about CCI:

- Name: CSIRO Computational Informatics
- Chief: Dr Bronwyn Harch
<http://www.csiro.au/people/Bronwyn.Harch.aspx>
- Personnel: Approximately 440 people located on 11 sites in 7 capital cities
- Outputs: Predecessor Divisions have given us innovations like WLAN wireless technology, disease surveillance tools and software, 2D and 3D imaging technologies, sensor networks for farms, autonomous systems, risk analysis tools and maths-based computational models of fluids.

Please contact Bronwyn Harch (Chief), Paul Barnett (Strategic Advisor) or David Williams (Group Executive, Information Sciences) if you have any questions about our new Division.

Griffith University joins AMSI

Griffith University has now joined the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute, as an Associate Member.

More mathematicians in the media

Dr Tim Garoni discussed how maths could reduce the time drivers are stuck in traffic. See <http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/1779191/Comment-Stuck-in-traffic-Maths-can-get-you-on-your-way>.

Prof. Paul Cally discussed NASA's Voyager 1 and 2 spacecrafts on ABC1 radio. See <http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/3785357.htm>.

A/Prof. Steve Siems was in the media discussing a recent study that found increased atmospheric aerosols were linked to a weakening global water cycle. See <http://www.theage.com.au/environment/weather/fall-in-aerosol-use-to-bring-more-rain-to-wet-zones-20130701-2p712.html>.

Dr Jonathan Keith was in the media for his coverage on his fire ant work and for getting a paper accepted in the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS). See <http://theconversation.com/eradicating-the-red-imported-fire-ant-by-numbers-16118>.

Swinburne restructure

Following a restructure of faculties to be implemented at the start of 2014, Swinburne University of Technology will have a Department of Mathematics within the School of Science and in the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology. This shows the emphasis Swinburne is placing on STEM subjects, including mathematics.

Completed PhDs

RMIT

- Dr Majda Idlango, *Differential equation population models in a slowly varying environment*, supervisors: John J. Shepherd and John A. Gear.

UNSW

- Dr Christopher Pardy, *Mutual information as an exploratory measure for genomic data with discrete and continuous variables*, supervisor: Susan R. Wilson.

University of Sydney

- Dr Natalie Aisbett, *Gamma-polynomials of flag homology spheres*, supervisor: Anthony Henderson.

University of Western Australia

- Dr Wei Jin, *Finite s-geodesic transitive graphs*, supervisors: Cheryl Praeger, Alice Devillers and Cai Heng Li.
- Dr Brendan Florio, *The generation and interaction of convection modes in a box of a saturated porous medium*, supervisors: Thomas Stemler, Kevin Judd and Neville Fowkes.

Awards and other achievements

Monash University

- A/Prof Steve Siems/Dr Hamish Ramsay/Prof Michael Manton and Prof Christian Jakob/Prof Michael Reeder have had two successful ARC Linkage grants submitted from the School of Mathematical Sciences (from two submissions).
- Dr Christoph Federrath has won the 2013 Faculty of Science Excellence in Research Award by an Early Career Researcher.

University of Adelaide

- Dr Olumide Adisa received 'The Outstanding Professional Achievement Award' for Young African Australians at the African Australian National Awards Night at the Parliament House in Canberra for 'exceptional achievements and remarkable contributions to Australia and Africa through education, research and science'.
- Dr Joshua Ross is a Tall Poppy Award winner.

University of South Australia

- Professor John Boland was awarded the best paper prize at the International Conference of Energy Meteorology, Toulouse, 25–28 June, 2013 for his presentation ‘Climate statistical analysis for energy meteorology’.

University of Sydney

- David Ivers was awarded funding in the University’s Sydney Research Networks Scheme (http://sydney.edu.au/news/research_support/2379.html?newscategoryid=215&newsstoryid=11733).
- Mary Myerscough was awarded a Thompson Fellowship for 2014 (http://sydney.edu.au/research_support/funding/sydney/thompson.shtml).

University of Wollongong

- 2013 Vice Chancellor’s Awards for Research Excellence:
 - Award for Research Culture: A/Prof David Pask;
 - Award for Outstanding Achievement in Research Partnership: Prof Brian Cullis and his research partner Grains Research Development Corporation.
- ARC Linkage project:
 - Prof Brian Cullis, Dr Alison Smith and Dr Haydn Kutchel, were awarded \$554336 for their project entitled ‘Genomic selection: a new frontier for higher rates of genetic gain in wheat’.
 - Former PhD student Dr Duangkamon Baowan has received the 2013 Young Thai Scientist of the Year award for her work on mathematical modelling in nanotechnology.

Appointments, departures and promotions

LaTrobe University

- Dr Thi Dinh Tran started a full time one-year Research Officer Level A position in July.
- Dr Theodoros Kouloukas will commence a full time six-month Research Officer Level A position in August.

Both will be working with Professor Quispel.

Monash University

- Dr Pascal Buenzli commenced on 1 July as Lecturer in the School. Pascal’s areas of interest include mathematical and computational biology, cell population models, mechanobiology, cancer models, complex systems, statistical mechanics, fluctuation-induced phenomena (Casimir force).
- Dr Ingrida Steponavice commenced on 1 July as Research Fellow in the School. Ingrida’s research interests include multiobjective optimisation,

robust optimisation, optimal design, simulation-based optimisation, multicriteria decision making. She is also interested in model predictive control, surrogate modeling, evolutionary algorithms, and optimisation applications in energy.

- Dr Enrico Carlini commenced on 5 August as Senior Lecturer in the School. Enrico's research interests include Polynomial Algebra, Waring Problems, Higher Secant Varieties and Special Subvarieties of Algebraic Varieties.

University of Adelaide

- Mathai Varghese has been appointed Elder Professor of Mathematics.
- Danny Stevenson has been appointed as Senior Lecturer.
- Peter Hochs has been appointed as Lecturer.
- Hang Wang has been appointed as Lecturer.

UNSW

- Professor Igor Shparlinski has joined the Department of Pure Mathematics. Professor Shparlinski was previously at Macquarie University.

University of Newcastle

- Dr Mumtaz Hussain has joined the University of Newcastle as a Research Associate.
- Wadim Zudilin has been promoted to Professor.
- Dr Francisco Aragon has left the University of Newcastle for an appointment in Luxembourg.

University of South Australia

- Dr Amie Albrecht has been appointed as Lecturer (Level B, continuing) in the School of Information Technology and Mathematical Sciences.

University of Southern Queensland

- Dr Nathan Downs joined the School of Agricultural, Computational, Environmental Sciences (formerly known as the Department of Mathematics and Computing, name change as of 1 July) on 1 July 2013 as a full-time associate lecturer in mathematics. Nathan has a PhD from USQ in Applied Physics (UV Sciences).

University of Sydney

The following staff members have joined the School of Mathematics and Statistics

- Nicola Armstrong: Lecturer in Statistics
- Martina Chirilus-Bruckner: Lecturer in Applied Mathematics
- Peter McNamara: Research Fellow
- Milena Radnovic: Research Fellow
- Andrew Papanicolaou: Lecturer in Applied Mathematics
- Alan Stapledon: Postdoctoral Fellow working
- Geoffrey Vasil: Lecturer in Applied Mathematics
- Oded Yacobi: Lecturer in Pure Mathematics.

University of Western Australia

- Professor Cai Heng Li has been promoted to Winthrop Professor.
- Dr Luke Morgan commenced as a Research Associate.
- Dr Simon Smith commenced as a Research Associate on an ARC Discovery Early Career Research Award.

University of Wollongong

- Prof Graham Williams has been appointed Associate Dean (Education) of the Faculty of Law, Humanities and The Arts.
- The School of Mathematics and Applied Statistics is one of seven schools in the new Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences.

New Books**University of Western Australia**

- Fu, X.C., Small, M. and Chen, G.R. (2014). *Propagation Dynamics on Complex Networks: Models, Methods and Stability*. John Wiley.

Conferences and Courses

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

Australian-Japanese Workshop on Real and Complex Singularities

Date: 9–13 September 2013

Venue: University of Sydney

Web: www.maths.usyd.edu.au/u/laurent/RCSW

AMSI-Mahler Lecture Tour

Date: 23 September – 11 October 2013

Venue: various

Web: <http://www.amsi.org.au/index.php/component/content/article/275-uncategorised/1098-amsi-mahler-lecturer-2013>

For more information, please visit this website, or see the advertisement on p. 267.

AMSI workshop on Infectious Disease Modelling

Date: 25–27 September 2013

Venue: Newcastle, Australia

Web: <http://carma.newcastle.edu.au/meetings/indimo/>

For more information, please see the conference website, or *Gazette* 40(3), p. 232.

Annual Conference of the Australian Mathematical Society

Date: 30 September – 3 October 2013

Venue: University of Sydney

Web: www.maths.usyd.edu.au/u/austms2013/index.html

The conference will take the usual format, with a welcome reception and registration and women's dinner on the Sunday evening, 29 September; official opening on Monday morning; a mathematics education afternoon for teachers on Tuesday, followed by a public lecture by Sommer Gentry; the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday afternoon, 2 October, followed by the conference dinner that evening.

The conference is expected to close by 6pm on Thursday 3 October. Note that, as part of his Mahler tour, Akshay Venkatesh will also deliver a Public Lecture that evening ('Two centuries of prime numbers').

The Annual Early-Career Workshop will be held on the Saturday before the Conference, in Leura in the Blue Mountains. If you have registered for the ECW then you will shortly be receiving email communications from the organisers about accommodation and other details.

The plenary talks include:

- Natashia Boland (Hanna Neumann Lecturer, University of Newcastle, Australia), 'Integer programming: trends and recent advances'
- Robert Bryant (University of California, Berkeley/MSRI, USA), 'Progress in the geometry of differential equations'
- Nicolas Champagnat (Université de Lorraine, Nancy/INRIA Nancy, France), 'Deterministic and stochastic approaches to study evolutionary branching in adaptive dynamics'
- Markus Hegland (ANZIAM Lecturer, Australian National University), 'Computational mathematics, challenges and opportunities'
- Anthony Henderson (University of Sydney, Australia), 'A partial history of the Schur functor'
- Donghoon Hyeon (Pohang University of Science and Technology, South Korea), 'Log minimal model program for the moduli space of curves'
- Iain Johnstone (Stanford University, USA), 'Random matrices in statistics: testing in spiked models'
- Mattias Jonsson (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA), 'Non-Archimedean geometry'
- Masatoshi Noumi (Kobe University, Japan), 'Discrete Painleve equations and special functions'
- Claus M. Ringel (University of Bielefeld, Germany), 'Hidden symmetries of root systems'
- Akshay Venkatesh (Mahler Lecturer, Stanford University, USA), TBA
- Stephen Boyd (Planet Earth Plenary Speaker, Stanford University, USA), 'From embedded real-time to large-scale distributed'
- Sommer Gentry (early career lecturer, United States Naval Academy, USA), 'Faster, safer, healthier: adventures in operations research'.

The following Special Sessions are planned as part of the conference:

- Algebra
- Calculus of variations and PDE
- Combinatorics
- Computational mathematics
- Differential geometry and its applications
- Dynamics and operator algebras
- Topics in dynamical systems
- Financial mathematics
- General 3 talks
- Geometric analysis
- Topological methods in applied PDEs
- Geometry and topology
- Group actions
- Mathematics in biology and medicine
- Mathematics education
- Mathematical physics
- Number theory
- The optimization of planet Earth
- Plenary
- Probability and statistics

More complete information regarding the conference may be found at the conference website.

Number Theory Down Under

Date: 5 October 2013

Venue: University of Newcastle

Web: <http://carma.newcastle.edu.au/mcoons/DUNT.html>

This is a one-day workshop. Please visit the website for more information.

Representation Theory in Geometry, Topology, and Combinatorics

Miniworkshop, date: 28–31 October 2013

Conference, date: 4–7 November 2013

Venue: The University of Melbourne

Web: <http://www.ms.unimelb.edu.au/~mlanini/RepTheoryConference/>

Miniworkshop speakers:

- Martina Lanini (Melbourne) ‘A short course for graduate students in research in algebra’
- Joan Licata (ANU) ‘A short course for graduate students in research in topology’
- Liz Vivas (IMPA, Brazil) ‘A short course for graduate students in research in analysis’.

Conference speakers:

- Dave Anderson (IMPA, Brazil)
- John Bamberg (UWA)
- Alice Devillers (UWA)
- Ben Elias (MIT, USA)
- Alexander P. Ellis (Oregon, USA)
- Stephen Griffeth (Talca, Chile)
- Anthony Henderson (Sydney)
- Daniel Juteau (Caen, France)
- Masoud Kamgarpour (University of Queensland)
- Nicolas Libedinsky (Santiago, Chile)
- Joan Licata (ANU) Scott Morrison (ANU)
- Peter McNamara (Sydney)
- Peng Shan (Caen, France)
- Valerio Toledano Laredo (Northeastern University, USA)
- Geordie Williamson (MPI Bonn, Germany).

Please visit the website for more details.

Phylomania 2013

Date: 6–8 November 2013

Venue: University of Tasmania

Web: <http://www.maths.utas.edu.au/phylomania/phylomania2013.htm>

Phylogenetics is concerned with the problem of reconstructing the past evolutionary history of organisms from molecular data, such as DNA, or morphological characters. There is ongoing interest in the further development of the mathematics that underlies computational phylogenetic methods. Hidden from view, in the software packages used by biologists, are algorithms performing statistical inference using Markov models on binary trees. The mathematics involved represents a unique confluence of probability theory, discrete mathematics, statistical inference, algebraic geometry, and group theory. There are many important theoretical problems that arise, such as statistical identifiability of models, consistency and convergence of methods. These problems can only be solved using a multidisciplinary approach. Phylomania brings together phylogenetic researchers with a strong theoretical leaning, with the aim of discussing some of the more pressing problems.

Special Event

We are delighted that the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute (through the Mathematics of Planet Earth program) are sponsoring Mike Steel to give a public talk on the ‘Mathematical Challenges in Finding the Tree of Life’ on the evening of Wednesday 6 November. The talk will be held in the Stanley Burbury lecture theatre at the Sandy Bay campus, with drinks and finger-food from 7pm onwards.

Confirmed speakers:

- Mike Steel, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, NZ
- David Penny, Massey University, Palmerston North, NZ
- David Liberles, University of Wyoming, Laramie, United States.

DELTA 2013

Date: 24–29 November 2013

Venue: The Pavillion, Kiama, NSW

Web: www.delta2013.net

For more information, please see the conference website, or *Gazette* 40(1), p. 74.

Recent Developments of Nonlinear Partial Differential Equations

Date: 25–29 November 2013

Venue: Australian National University

Web: <http://maths.anu.edu.au/events/recent-developments-nonlinear-pdes>

This conference is a major event in the 2013 ANU special year on nonlinear partial differential equations. We focus on new developments in several themes of nonlinear PDEs and their applications, which include variational theory of nonlinear equations arising in mathematical physics, fully nonlinear equations arising in geometry and optimal transportation, and evolution equations arising in fluid mechanics, and other nonlinear problems in affine and conformal geometry. This conference will bring together leading international researchers and provide opportunities for Australian researchers, in particular junior researchers, to catch up with recent developments and exchange ideas with overseas experts.

Invited speakers

- Ben Andrews (CMA, ANU)
- Henri Berestycki (EHESS, France)
- Stefano Bianchini (SISSA, Italy)
- Xavier Cabré (ICREA and UPC, Barcelona)
- Daomin Cao (Chinese Academy of Science)
- Monica Clapp (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)
- Florica Cirstea (University of Sydney)
- Norman Dancer (University of Sydney)
- Manuel Del Pino (University of Chile)
- Yihong Du (University of New England)
- Lawrence Craig Evans (University of California at Berkeley)
- Alberto Farina (University of Picardie)
- Changfeng Gui (University of Connecticut)
- Francois Hamel (University d'Aix-Marseille)
- Minchun Hong (University of Queensland)
- Seick Kim (Yonsei University)
- Ki-ahm Lee (Seoul National University)
- Changshou Lin (National Taiwan University)
- Guozhen Lu (Wayne State University)

- Nikolai Nadirashvili (University d'Aix-Marseille)
- Ludovic Rifford (University of Nice)
- Susanna Terracini (University of Turin)
- Edriss Titi (UC Irvine)
- Laurent Veron (Université François-Rabelais)
- Zhi-Qiang Wang (Utah State University and Nankai University)
- Juncheng Wei (University of British Columbia)
- Zhouping Xin (Chinese University of Hong Kong)
- Shusen Yan (University of New England).

ACWO2013: The 6th Australia-China Workshop on Optimization: Theory, Methods and Applications

Date: 28–30 November 2013

Venue: University of Ballarat

Web: <http://www.ballarat.edu.au/schools/school-of-science-and-technology/research/conferences-and-workshops/the-6th-australia-china-workshop-on-optimization-theory,-methods-and-applications>

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

Researchers in these areas, including students, are welcome to attend this workshop. There are no registration fees.

Keynote speakers

- Professor Pascal Van Hentenryck (NICTA, The University of Melbourne)
- Professor Kok Lay Teo (Curtin University)
- Professor Xinmin Yang (Chongqing Normal University, China)
- Professor Joe Dong (The University of Sydney)
- Professor Duan Li (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Further details are available at the website.

EMAC 2013: 16th Engineering Mathematics and Applications Conference

Date: 1–4 December 2013

Venue: Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane

Web: www.emac2013.com.au

For details, please see the conference website, or *Gazette* 40(2), p. 148–149.

MODSIM2013: International Congress on Modelling and Simulation

Date: 1–6 December 2013

Venue: Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia

Web: <http://mssanz.org.au/modsim2013>

For more information, please see the website, or *Gazette* 40(2), p. 149.

Complex Analysis and Geometry

Date: 2–5 December 2013

Venue: University of New England, Armidale, NSW

Web: <http://www.amsi.org.au/index.php/events-mainmenu/forthcoming-events/165-events/science-events-2013/1129-complex-analysis-and-geometry-workshop>

This workshop is aimed at sharing ideas and discussion of recent results in complex analysis and differential geometry. Over the four days, the workshop will focus on para-complex notions and results of Kähler and CR-geometry and their applications in fluid mechanics, meteorology, image recognition and economics via the Monge–Kantorovich mass transport problem.

By restricting to special structures with symmetries, we expect to gain new insights, which also improve our understanding of more general structures. It will provide early career researchers with a valuable forum to showcase and obtain feedback on their work from leading researchers in the field and gain insights into the open challenges.

The following research questions will be addressed

- clarification of the relation between CR-Geometry and the Monge-Ampere equation
- explicit computability of Cartan connections for CR-manifolds of codimension
- the rigid-sphere-problem, that is the explicit description of real hypersurfaces in complex space that are equivalent to a hypersphere and have a transversal shift symmetry
- CR-manifolds of infinite type
- study of totally geodesic submanifolds of solvable metric Lie groups, in particular, the question when such submanifolds are subgroups.

Keynote speakers at the workshop include

- Professor Dmitri Alekseevsky, Masaryk University Brno, Czech Republic
- Professor Kang-Tae kim, POSTECH, Korea
- Professor Bernhard Lamel, University of Vienna.

Registration details to be released soon.

BioInfoSummer: AMSI Summer Symposium in Bioinformatics

Date: 2–6 December 2013

Venue: WEHI, Melbourne

Web: <http://www.amsi.org.au/index.php/research-a-higher-education-mainmenu/workshop-programs/forthcoming-workshops/165-events/science-events-2013/1103-bis13>

BioInfoSummer is a major annual bioinformatics educational and outreach event in Australia, bringing together in excess of 150 biologists, statisticians and bioinformatics professionals.

Bioinformatics creates biological information and knowledge by the acquisition, archiving, integration, analysis and interpretation of biological data. Biotechnology, drug development, medicine, cancer research, agriculture and plant science are just a few of the many areas in which bioinformatics is having a massive impact.

The program covers state-of-the-art technologies used in medical and biological research and also teaches fundamentals of data analysis. Many prominent researchers, both national and international will give lectures in the program.

Daily themes are

- Monday 2 December: Introduction to Biology and Bioinformatics
- Tuesday 3 December: Evolutionary Biology
- Wednesday 4 December: Systems Biology
- Thursday 5 December: Next Generation Sequencing
- Friday 6 December: Coding and Algorithms for Bioinformatics

Student travel awards are available.

37ACCMCC: 37th Australasian Conference on Combinatorial Mathematics and Combinatorial Computing

Date: 9–13 December 2013

Venue: University of Western Australia

Web: <http://37accmcc.wordpress.com>

Contact: Director: Professor Gordon Royle (37accmcc at uwa.edu.au)

For more information, please see the conference website, or *Gazette* 40(2), p. 149.

Mathematical Modelling and Numerical Solutions

Date: 9 or 16 December 2013

Venue: Wagga Wagga, NSW

Web: <http://www.amsi.org.au/index.php/events-mainmenu/forthcoming-events/>

This event will be advertised on the website soon.

Limits to Growth

Date: 11–12 December 2013

Venue: University of New South Wales

Web: <http://mathsofplanetearth.org.au/events/limits-to-growth-beyond-the-point-of-inflexion/>

Call for abstracts: Fluids in New Zealand 2014

Date: 29–31 January 2014

Venue: University of Auckland, New Zealand

Web: homepages.engineering.auckland.ac.nz/~jden259/FiNZ2014

Registration is now open for the 2014 Fluids in New Zealand Workshop. The second workshop, organised by the University of Auckland on behalf of the NZ Fluid Mechanics community, will be held at the University of Auckland. The workshop

aims to bring together fluid mechanists from all backgrounds and specialisations to discuss their recent research in a friendly and collaborative setting. Registration is free.

Confirmed keynote speakers are Professor Roger Nokes (University of Canterbury) and Dr Geoff Willmott (Callaghan Innovation).

For more information, please see the conference website.

ANZIAM 2014

Date: 2–6 February 2014

Venue: Millennium Hotel, Rotorua, New Zealand

Web: <http://anziam2014.auckland.ac.nz>

For more information, please see the website, or *Gazette* 40(3), p. 234.

GAGTA8: Geometric and Asymptotic Group Theory with Applications

Date: 21–25 July 2014

Venue: Newcastle, Australia

Web: <https://sites.google.com/site/gagta8/>

GAGTA conferences are devoted to the study of a variety of areas in geometric and combinatorial group theory, including asymptotic and probabilistic methods, as well as algorithmic and computational topics involving groups. In particular, areas of interest include group actions, isoperimetric functions, growth, asymptotic invariants, random walks, algebraic geometry over groups, algorithmic problems and their complexity, generic properties and generic complexity, and applications to non-commutative cryptography.

Vale

Dr Laci Kovács

With deep regret we inform members that Dr Laci Kovács of the ANU passed away on 28 July, after a massive heart attack.

László György Kovács joined the Department of Mathematics in the Research School of Physical Sciences of the Australian National University in 1963. He retired around 2001 and continued as a visiting fellow. He was an active and inspirational group theorist who supervised 18 graduate students and encouraged many other students and colleagues.

A full obituary will appear in a later issue of the *Gazette*.

Peter Pockley

With regret we inform members that Peter Pockley, the very early founder of the ABC Science Unit in the 1960s, died peacefully on 11 August. Jan Thomas tells us that he was a great friend of mathematical sciences, responsible for considerable

media exposure, who helped her and others within the Society learn more about how to use the media and communicate with wider audiences.

Several obituaries have already appeared online:

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/scienceshow/peter-pockley/4899976>,

<http://www.australasianscience.com.au/article/issue-july-and-august-2013/vale-peter-pockley.html>,

<http://forensicsfossilsfruitbats.wordpress.com/2013/08/12/vale-peter-pockley/>,

<http://blog.physicsworld.com/2013/08/13/australian-science-communicator-peter-pockley-dies/>,

http://www.honeysucklecreek.net/news/Peter_Pockley.html.

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.

Marzieh Akbari; K.N. Toosi University of Technology, Iran; 1 March to 1 October 2013; UWA; Cheryl Praeger

Dr Tarje Bagheer; University of Copenhagen, Denmark; 14 February 2012 to 13 February 2014; UMB; Craig Westerland

Toralf Burghoff; University of Jena, Germany; 2 April 2013 to 31 March 2014; UOM; Kostya Borovkov

Prof Xiaodong Cao; Cornell University; 14 to 22 October 2013; Pure; USN; Zhou Zhang

Prof Arjeh Cohen; Eindhoven University of Technology; 1–13 November 2013; MAGMA; USN; John Cannon

Prof Robert Coquereaux; Centre de Physique Theorique; 4–17 November 2013; Pure; USN; Ruibin Zhang

Prof Ian Grojnowski; Cambridge, Massachusetts; 8 August to 23 September 2013; Pure; USN; Gus Lehrer

Prof Satoshi Koike; Hyogo University; 23 August to 26 September 2013; Pure; USN; Laurentiu Paunescu

Dr Jean Lasserre; LAAS-CNRS Toulouse; (21–30 September 2013; UNC

A/Prof Oleg Lisovyi; Laboratoire de Mathematiques et Physique Theorique; 13 November to 18 December 2013; Painleve theory; USN; Nalini Joshi

Dr Lingzhou; Yangzhou University, China; 26 March to 25 September 2013; non-linear PDE; UNE; Yihong Du

A/Prof Mihai Mihailescu; University of Craiova; 11 September to 11 October 2013; PDE; USN; Florica Cirstea

A/Prof R Joel Moitsheki; University of the Witwatersrand; 15 October to 5 November 2013; applied non-linear PDEs, symmetry analysis; USA; Bronwyn Hajek

Prof Masatoshi Nouri; 26 September to 4 October 2013; Applied; USN; Laurentiu Paunescu

Xiao-Long Peng; Shanghai University; September 2012 to September 2013; UWA; Michael Small

Prof Szymon Peszat; 29 August to 11 September 2013; Fin maths; USN; Ben Goldys

Prof Andreas Prohl; 25 September to 3 October 2013; Fin Maths; USN; Ben Goldys

Adjunct Professor Bill Smyth; 5 August to 27 September 2013; UWA; Gordon Royle

Xiaoran Sun; Harbin Institute of Technology; October 2012 to September 2013; UWA; Michael Small

Sara Taskinen; University of Jyväskylä, Finland; January to December 2013; robust multivariate analysis and applications in ecology; UNSW; David Warton

Michael Tse; Hong Kong Polytechnic; 11 July to 17 September 2013; complex systems; UWA; Michael Small

A/Prof Jerome Vetois; University of Nice; 20 August to 11 September 2013; PDEs; USN; Florica Cirstea

A/Prof Yuezhu Wu; Changsu Institute of Technology; 1 October 2013 to 30 September 2014; Lie superalgebras; USN; Ruibin Zhang

Dr Shona Yu; University of Leeds; 18 July to 24 September 2013; algebra; USN; Alexander Molev

Binzhou Xia; Peking University; 1 September 2012 to 20 March 2014; UWA; Cai Heng Li

Assoc Prof Jin-Xin Zhou; Beijing Jiaotong University; 16 November 2013 to 16 November 2014; UWA; Cai Heng Li
