



News

General News

Monash University

Darcy Best (a PhD student with Ian Wanless and Daniel Horsley) coached the Monash teams for the South Pacific Regional Finals (<https://sppregional.org/results/>) of the ACM-ICPC (International Collegiate Programming Competition). The team Monash Epsilon (consisting of Daniel Anderson, Xin Wei Chow and Peter Whalan) advanced to the ICPC World Finals (to be held in May 2017) as one of the top 130 teams in the world, having solved 8 out of 11 problems and finishing in third place behind only the teams from UNSW. The ICPC World Finals is the most prestigious and largest programming competition in the world.

Ian Wanless gave a most entertaining talk at The LaboraStory on 5 October, as part of their annual Villains Edition:

<http://thelaborastory.com/stories/professor-ian-wanless-eliyahu-rips/>.

Michael Brand's mathematical puzzles website 'Using your Head is Permitted' marks its tenth anniversary in March 2017. See: <http://www.brand.site.co.il/riddles/usingyourhead.html>.

Mathematics in the media

Some reflections on the purpose of teaching mathematics: <https://theconversation.com/what-to-say-if-your-child-asks-whats-the-point-of-maths-69628>.

Michael Brand from Monash University had an article published in *The Conversation*, 27 September 2016, entitled 'Can Facebook influence an election result?': <https://theconversation.com/can-facebook-influence-an-election-result-65541>.

This attracted a lot of interest, including an ABC News 24 TV interview (28 September; see <https://youtu.be/YE1-eH4ZsIE>), a France 24 TV interview (11 November), three radio interviews, and a quotation in the Washington Post (30 September): <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-intersect/wp/2016/09/30/how-facebook-could-swing-the-election-and-who-will-benefit-if-it-does/>.

Completed PhDs

Australian National University

- Dr Adrian Dudek, *Explicit estimates in the theory of prime numbers*, supervisor: Timothy Trudgian.
- Dr Nishan (Michael) Canagasaby, *Fusion rules in logarithmic superconformal minimal models*, supervisor: David Ridout.

- Dr Kowshik Bettadapura, *Supersymmetric field theories and categorification*, supervisor: Peter Bouwknegt.

Curtin University

- Dr Lin Yee Hin, *Analysis and modelling of implied market parameters*, supervisor: Nikolai Dokuchaev.
- Dr Yee Hong Ben, *Markov and long-memory modelling of bounded financial processes: the case of a currency band*, supervisor: Nikolai Dokuchaev.

Griffith University

- Dr Venkata Vijay Kumar Maddali, *An investigation into the separation and extraction of carbon from carbon dioxide — a novel technology for processing greenhouse gas emissions*, supervisors: Gurudeo Anand Tularam and Patrick Glynn.

Monash University

- Dr Eric Zhou, *Phase transitions of some discrete models in statistical mechanics*, supervisors: Tim Garoni, Greg Markowsky and Daniel Tokarev.

Murdoch University

- Dr Hanan Abdulmotalab M Omar, *Intrusion flow into a density stratified reservoir*, supervisor: Graeme Hocking.

Queensland University of Technology

- Dr Brenda Vo, *Novel likelihood-free Bayesian parameter estimation methods for stochastic models of collective cell spreading*, supervisors: Christopher Drovandi and Tony Pettitt.
- Dr Kelly Victor, *Echocardiographic measures of pulmonary hypertension and the prediction of end-points in sickle cell disease*, supervisors: Kerrie Mengersen and Fiona Harden.
- Dr Zoe Van Havre, *Bayesian estimation of the number of components in mixture and hidden Markov models: methods and applications*, supervisors: Kerrie Mengersen and Nicole White.
- Dr Ravindra Pethiyagoda, *Mathematical and computational analysis of Kelvin ship wave patterns*, supervisors: Scott McCue and Matthew Simpson.
- Dr Samuel Patterson, *Optimising the operational energy efficiency of an open-pit coal mine system*, supervisors: Erhan Kozan and Paul Hyland.
- Dr Gnai Nishani Musfer, *Non-linear univariate and multivariate spatial modelling and optimal design*, supervisors: Helen Thompson, Rodney Wolff and Erhan Kozan.
- Dr Jeff Ching-Fu Hsieh, *Bayesian statistical models for understanding health-related outcomes for women screened for breast cancer*, supervisors: Kerrie Mengersen and James McGree.
- Dr Ava Greenwood, *Mathematical modelling of the dilute acid pretreatment of sugarcane bagasse*, supervisors: Troy Farrell and Ian O'Hara.

RMIT University

- Dr Mohammad Adib Khairuddin, *Power of posts: a quantitative analysis of Facebook election campaigning interactions*, supervisors: Asha Rao and John Postill.
- Dr Jessica Liebig, *Identifying significant behaviour in complex bipartite networks*, supervisors: Asha Rao and Kathy Horadam.

Swinburne University of Technology

- Dr Zahra Roshan Zamir, *Application of convex optimization techniques for feature extraction from EEG signals*, supervisors: Nadezda Sukhorukova and Sergey Suslov.
- Dr Karl Jackson, *Assessing player performance in Australian football using spatial data*, supervisors: Denny Meyer and Stephen Clarke.

University of New South Wales

- Dr Sabarina Shafie, *Mixed finite element methods for nonlinear equations: a priori and a posteriori error estimates*, supervisor: Thanh Tran.

University of South Australia

- Dr Nazmul Islam, *Fluid flow and particle transport through periodic capillaries*, supervisors: Bronwyn Hajek, Stan Miklavcic and Lee White.
- Dr Kylie Foster, *The biophysics of the salt stress response of plant roots. A mathematical study of passive and active transport of water and ions in plant roots*, supervisor: Stan Miklavcic.

University of Sydney

- Dr Dario Strbenac, *Novel preprocessing approaches for omics data types and their performance evaluation*, supervisor: Jean Yang.

University of Wollongong

- Dr Margo Barr, *Quality issues in multipurpose ongoing population health surveys*, supervisors: David Steel and Carole Birrell.
- Dr Sumonkanti Das, *Robust inference in poverty mapping*, supervisors: Ray Chambers and David Steel.

Awards and other achievements

Australian National University

- Professor Michael Barnsley received the 2016 Colleges of Science Award for Teaching Excellence. Michael was recognised for being an innovative educator who has influenced generations of students to embrace mathematics. His approach to teaching recognizes the different abilities of students and encourages them all to consider the open questions in fractal geometry and

chaotic dynamics. His approach is research-led and uses current research ideas to illustrate the relationship between the mathematics being taught and innovative development and translational possibilities.

Monash University

- Daniel Horsley (School of Mathematical Sciences) and Rebecca Stones (Monash Mathematics PhD graduate, adjunct researcher in the Faculty of I.T., now at Nankai University, China) have each been awarded a Kirkman Medal by the Institute for Combinatorics and its Applications. The medal is a worldwide award for outstanding discoveries by early career researchers in combinatorics. A full list of ICA awards is at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Institute_of_Combinatorics_and_its_Applications.

Swinburne University of Technology

- Professor Birgit Loch (now at La Trobe University) received
 - Vice-Chancellor’s Teaching Excellence Award,
 - Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology Teaching Excellence Award,
 - Australian Award for University Teaching.

University of New South Wales

- Dr Shane Keating was awarded a 2016 Vice Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence for Contributions to Student Learning.
- Peter Brown was awarded a 2016 UNSW Science Faculty Staff Excellence Award for ‘Best Lecturer’ as voted by students.
- Martin Thompson was awarded a 2016 UNSW Science Faculty Staff Excellence Award for Excellence in research Quality in recognition of his hard work in supporting researchers throughout the Faculty of Science, providing advice and support of multiple research systems such as the Katana HPC cluster and the CCRC storage and computer systems.
- Associate Professor Chris Tisdell has been announced as one of the 15 inaugural UNSW Scientia Education Fellows.
- PhD student Thais Rodrigues was the recipient of three separate awards: the 2016 EJG Pitman Prize for the most outstanding talk by a young statistician at the annual Australian Statistical Conference; the 2016 J.B. Douglas Award at the Statistical Society of Australia’s Postgraduate Awards Day; and the UNSW School of mathematics and Statistics award for ‘best student presentation’ at our School annual postgraduate conference.

University of Sydney

- John Wormell won the prize for the best poster at the MathFest conference ‘Advances in Ergodic Theory, Hyperbolic Dynamics, and Statistical Laws’ in Canberra.
- Geordie Williamson was awarded the New Horizons in Mathematics Prize for pioneering work in geometric representation theory.

- Adrienne Jenner placed 2nd in the inaugural Three-Minute Thesis competition at the Australian Mathematical Society Meeting in Canberra.
- Daniel Hauer was acknowledged at the Australian Mathematical Society Meeting dinner for his work in organising the Three-Minute Thesis competition.
- Thomas Porter was one of two joint-winners of the Three-Minute Thesis competition at the Australian Statistical Meeting in Canberra.
- Pengyi Yang received a JG Russell Award from the Australian Academy of Sciences.

University of Wollongong

- Professor Noel Cressie was awarded the 2017 Georges Matheron Award and Lectureship from the International Association for Mathematical Geosciences.
- Professor Brian Cullis has been awarded a new five-year contract with the Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC) worth over \$5.7m.
- PhD student Michael Mampusti won the AustMS' Three-Minute Thesis competition. Michael is supervised by Aidan Sims and David Pask.

Appointments, departures and promotions

Australian National University

- Dr Alper Jarod departed on 15 December 2016.
- Dr Michael Rose departed on 24 December 2016.
- Associate Professor Anthony Licata was promoted from Academic Level C to Level D.
- Associate Professor Conrad Burden was promoted from Academic Level C to Level D.

Deakin University

- The School of Information Technology welcomed Maia Angelova as a professor in data analytics. She is a mathematician and comes from Northumbria University in the UK.

Federation University

- Dr Andrew Percy has been promoted to Senior Lecturer.
- Dr Julien Ugon has been promoted to Senior Lecturer.

La Trobe University

- Professor Birgit Loch from Swinburne, has accepted a Chair in teaching and learning at La Trobe University.

RMIT University

- Associate Professor Asha Rao has been promoted to Professor.

- Dr Anil Dolgun joined RMIT in February 2017 as a continuing member of staff. Anil comes from the Department of Biostatistics, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey, where she was a staff member from 2004. In 2009 Anil was a Visiting Research Fellow in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Limerick, Ireland. Anil has strong and extensive teaching record. Her research interests are in Applied Statistics, Biostatistics, Computational Statistics, Logistic Regression Analysis and Statistical Methods in Diagnostic Medicine. She has published 48 journal papers and written two book chapters.
- Dr Joanne Hall joined the School of Science (Mathematical Sciences) on 1 February 2017, as a full-time lecturer. Joanne completed her PhD at RMIT in May 2011. From June to July 2011, while awaiting the results of her thesis examination, Joanne was funded by the Slovak National Scholarship Program, to visit the Astronomical Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. She then spent two years as a Post-Doc at Charles University in Prague. Joanne began as a lecturer at QUT in 2013. Despite only working part-time while raising children Joanne has managed to publish 12 papers in reputable journals and joins RMIT with an excellent teaching record.

University of New England

- Dr Imri Bokor retired at the end of 2016.

University of New South Wales

- Scott Sisson has been promoted to Professor.
- Professor Darryn Waugh has been appointed as SHARP Professor in Applied Mathematics.
- Dr Pierre Lafaye de Micheaux has been appointed as Senior Lecturer in Statistics.
- Dr Jan Zika has been appointed as Lecturer in Applied Mathematics
- Dr Jakub Stoklosa has been appointed as Lecturer in Statistics.
- The 2016 Teaching fellow Paul Hancock has returned to his school in Woonona.
- The 2017 Teaching Fellow, Margaret Clemson from Kincoppal-Rose Bay has begun her year at UNSW.

University of Southern Queensland

- Dr Nawin Raj has joined USQ in the School of Agricultural, Computational, and Environmental Sciences. His research area is in non-linear theoretical and computational fluid dynamics.

University of Sydney

- Robby Marangell and Geoff Vasil have been promoted to Senior Lecturer.
- Jennifer Chan, Florica Cirstea, Peter Kim, Stephan Tillmann, and Zhou Zhang have been promoted to Associate Professor.

University of Wollongong

- Andrew Zammit Mangion, Senior Research Fellow in NIASRA, will start on a continuing appointment as Senior Lecturer in Statistics in 2017.

Western Sydney University

- Ms Lyn Dormer and Associate Professor John MacFarlane both retired from Western Sydney University in December 2016 after very long service. Lyn had worked for Western Sydney University (in its various forms) for 25 years, and John for 35 years. Given the University has only existed for 28 years, their experience will be greatly missed.

Several new staff joined us in the course of 2016

- Dr Russell Thomson (statistical consultant, joined in January 2016 from Tasmania)
- Associate Professor Oliver Obst (data science, joined from CSIRO in February 2016)
- Dr Yi Guo (data science, joined from CSIRO in February 2016);
- Dr Huanhuan Li (path algebras, joined as an ARC-funded postdoc from the University of Science and Technology, Hefei, China, in July 2016).

New Books

Deakin University

James, S. (2016). *An Introduction to Data Analysis Using Aggregation Functions in R*. Springer. (<http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319467610>).

University of Southern Queensland

Hine, G., Reaburn, R., Anderson, J., Galligan, L., Carmichael, C., Cavanagh, M., Ngu, B. and White, B. (eds) (2016). *Teaching Secondary Mathematics*. Cambridge University Press.

La Trobe University and Federation University, Australia

Morris, Sidney A. (ed) (2016). *Topological Groups: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow*. MDPI, Basel, Switzerland.

Conferences and Courses

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

Cheryl Praeger Retirement Mini-symposium

Date: 13 April 2017

Venue: Perth

Web: <http://www.cmsc.uwa.edu.au/news/cheryl-praeger-retirement-mini-symposium>

Cheryl began her career at the University of Western Australia in 1976, and has recently retired after 40 years of service.

To celebrate her amazing and influential career, there will be a mini-symposium hosted by the University of Western Australia. There will be four plenary lectures devoted to Cheryl's legacy given by some of her closest colleagues:

- Cai Heng Li (Southern University of Science and Technology China)
- Martin Liebeck (Imperial College, University of London)
- Alice Niemeyer (RWTH Aachen University)
- Jacqui Ramagge (University of Sydney)

The program and the venue will be advised. There is no registration fee, but we do ask that you let the organisers (below) know if you are attending.

Organisers: A/Prof John Bamberg (John.Bamberg@uwa.edu.au), A/Prof Michael Giudici (Michael.Giudici@uwa.edu.au).

Applied Probability @ the Rock

Dates: 17–21 April 2017

Venue: Ayers Rock Resort

Web: <http://www.maths.adelaide.edu.au/APatR/>

AP@R is an international workshop on Applied Probability, bringing together leading researchers from around the world to share recent discoveries and begin new collaborations. It also provides an opportunity to celebrate the 60th birthday of one of Australia's prominent Applied Probabilists, Professor Phil Pollett.

The workshop aims to showcase the full range of topics in Applied Probability, and includes particular themes of 'Networks in Queueing and Telecommunications', 'Stochastic Models in Biology' and 'Limits and Approximation'. These themes are reflected in the interests of the Keynote Speakers, who are Professor Frank Kelly, Professor Ruth Williams, Professor Andrew Barbour and Professor Erik van Doorn.

For further details, please see the website.

Tensor Categories and Field Theory

Date: 5–9 June 2017

Venue: University of Melbourne

Web: <https://sites.google.com/view/tensorcategories2017/home>

Recent years have seen a rich cross-fertilisation of ideas between physics and mathematics that has led to fantastic advances in each field. A prominent example of

this is the notion of a tensor category. These abstract structures have a depth and ubiquity that has made them indispensable knowledge for many modern research fields including conformal field theory and vertex algebras, knot theory, operator algebras and subfactors, quantum groups, representation theory, topological quantum field theory and, more recently, applied fields such as condensed matter physics.

This workshop will bring together a dynamic mix of high profile international experts from the mathematics and mathematical physics communities in order to disseminate this important work to graduate students and early career researchers through introductory lectures and research seminars. There will also be contributed talks from participants. There is a form at the website where you can register for this event.

MATRIX: Computational Inverse Problems

Dates: 11–23 June 2017

Venue: University of Melbourne, Water Street, Creswick, Victoria

Web: <http://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events/computational-inverse-problems/>

Registration is by invitation only. For further details, please see the website.

AMSI Optimise

Dates: 26–30 June 2017

Venue: Melbourne

Web: <http://optimise.amsi.org.au/>

New to 2017, the inaugural AMSI Optimise event aims to strengthen mathematical optimisation research engagement and its applications across industry.

AMSI Optimise will comprise a three-day industry-focused conference, followed by a two-day research workshop, featuring international guest speakers, expert and end-user talks, tutorials, collaboration showcases and industry challenge sessions.

The event is aimed at industry practitioners interested in exploring the benefits of and engagement with optimisation research, and postgraduate students and academics wanting to better understand industry drivers and needs in this area.

AMSI Winter School 2017: Computational Foundations of Data Science

Dates: 26 June to 7 July 2017

Venue: QUT

Web: <http://ws.amsi.org.au/>

For further details, see the AMSI Director's report in this issue.

Mathematics-in-Industry for New Zealand 2017

Date: 26–30 June 2017

Venue: Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand

Web: <http://www.minz.org.nz>

For further details, see the website, or the article in this issue.

MATRIX: Integrability in Low-Dimensional Quantum Systems

Dates: 26 June to 21 July 2017

Venue: University of Melbourne, Water Street, Creswick, Victoria

Web: <http://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events/integrability-in-low-dimensional-quantum-systems/>

Registration is by invitation only. For further details, please see the website.

MERGA 40

Dates: 2–6 July 2017

Venue: Monash University, Clayton

Web: <http://tiny.cc/merga40>

Further details are in a separate article in this issue.

The International Conference on Robust Statistics

Dates: 3–7 July 2017

Venue: University of Wollongong

Web: <http://niasra.uow.edu.au/icors2017/index.html>

The aim of this annual conference is to bring together researchers and practitioners interested in robust statistics, data analysis and related areas. This includes theoretical and applied statisticians as well as data analysts from other fields, and leading experts as well as junior researchers and graduate students.

The ICORS meetings create a forum to discuss recent progress and emerging ideas in statistics and encourage informal contacts and discussions among all the participants. They also play an important role in maintaining a cohesive group of international researchers interested in robust statistics and related topics, whose interactions transcend the meetings and endure year round.

The conference welcomes contributions to applied statistics as well as theoretical statistics, and in particular new problems related to robust statistics and data analysis.

Harmonic Analysis and PDE

Dates: 17–21 July 2017

Venue: Macquarie University

Web: <http://research.amsi.org.au/events/event/harmonic-analysis-pde/>

Harmonic Analysis and Partial Differential Equations (PDEs) have important roles in fundamental and applied mathematical research with extensive applications to other research fields such as complex analysis, mathematical modelling, signal processing, medical imaging.

This workshop, organised on the occasion of Professor Xuan Duong turning 60 in 2017, will bring the leading experts from all over the world, including USA, Europe, China, Japan, to Australia to be together with Australian experts as well as early career researchers and PhD students. The reports to be presented will

be the most recent significant developments and future directions of Harmonic Analysis and PDEs. The workshop will also provide time and ample opportunities for discussions, research collaborations for the participants, and foster potential collaborations in the future.

28th International Workshop on Combinatorial Algorithms

Dates: 17–21 July 2017

Venue: Newcastle

Web: <https://carma.newcastle.edu.au/meetings/iwoca/>

This is a very special IWOCA, dedicated to the memory of Professor Mirka Miller. For further details, please see the website.

12th International Conference on Fixed Point Theory and its Applications

Dates: 24–28 July 2017

Venue: Harbourview Function Centre, Newcastle

Web: <https://carma.newcastle.edu.au/meetings/icfpta/>

Dedicated to the memory of Jonathan M. Borwein in recognition of his prodigious contributions to nonlinear analysis.

Celebrating William (Art) Kirk's 80th birthday and the 70th birthday of Brailey Sims.

The purpose of ICFPTA 2017 is to bring together leading experts and researchers in fixed point theory and to assess new developments, ideas and methods in this important and dynamic field. A special emphasis will be put on applications in related areas, as well as other sciences, such as the natural sciences, medicine, economics and engineering.

WIMSIG Conference 2017: Celebration of Women in Australian Mathematical Sciences

Dates: 24–26 September 2017

Venue: University of South Australia, Adelaide

Web: www.austms.org.au/WIMSIG-conference-2017

For 2017, WIMSIG is organising a Celebration of Women in Australian Mathematical Sciences research conference, showcasing the research of women in the mathematical sciences. This will be the first such conference in Australia. The conference is open to people of any gender, but all the research presentations will be given by women.

'Mathematical sciences' will be broadly interpreted to include pure mathematics, applied mathematics, mathematical statistics, applied statistics, biostatistics, bioinformatics, mathematical biology, mathematics in industry, etc.

We are planning special sessions, plenary speakers, a poster session, a conference dinner, a panel on gender equity in the mathematical sciences and beyond, and a professional development workshop. Childcare will be available.

WIMSIG believes this conference will play a really important role in advancing gender equity in Australian mathematical sciences. Both female researchers and senior leaders (of any gender) in our discipline will find it eye-opening and inspiring to be in a majority-female research environment, even for a few days; not to mention the development of potential research collaborations, networking, exposure to potential candidates for hiring, etc.

Information about registration and submission of abstracts will be available soon.

Organising Committee

- Associate Professor Lesley Ward, University of South Australia,
Email: Lesley.Ward@unisa.edu.au
- Dr Giang Nguyen, University of Adelaide,
Email: Giang.Nguyen@adelaide.edu.au
- Professor Lynn Batten, Deakin University,
Email: Lynn.Batten@deakin.edu.au

Administration

- Ms Sue Tyerman, University of South Australia,
Email: ITEE-OUA.Academic.Services@unisa.edu.au

Jonathan M. Borwein Commemorative Conference

Dates: 25–29 September 2017

Venue: Noah's On The Beach, Newcastle, NSW

Web: <https://carma.newcastle.edu.au/meetings/jbcc/>

This conference will be held to commemorate the life and work of Jonathan M. Borwein. It will be devoted to five areas to which Jonathan Borwein made an outstanding contribution:

- Applied Analysis, Optimisation and Convex Functions (chairs: Regina Burachik and Guoyin Li)
- Education (chairs: Judy-anne Osborn and Naomi Borwein)
- Experimental Mathematics and Visualisation (chair: David Bailey)
- Financial Mathematics (chair: Qiji (Jim) Zhu)
- Number Theory, Special Functions and Pi (chair: Richard Brent)

Talks are by invitation only.

MATRIX: Elliptic Partial Differential Equations of Second Order: celebrating 40 years of Gilbarg and Trudinger's book

Dates: 16–28 October 2017

Venue: University of Melbourne, Water Street, Creswick, Victoria

Web: <http://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events/elliptic-differential-equations-of-second-order/>

Registration is by invitation only. For further details, please see the website.

MATRIX: Combinatorics, Statistical Mechanics, and Conformal Field Theory

Dates: 29 October to 18 November 2017

Venue: University of Melbourne, Water Street, Creswick, Victoria

Web: <http://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events/combinatorics-statistical-mechanics-and-conformal-field-theory/>

Registration is by invitation only. For further details, please see the website.

Mathematics of Risk

Date: 20 November to 8 December 2017

Venue: University of Melbourne, Water Street, Creswick, Victoria

Web: <http://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events/mathematics-of-risk/>

Registration is by invitation only. For further details, please see the website.

Incorporating workshop on mathematical modelling of risk and contiguous topics.

Date: 27 November to 1 December 2017

Venue: as above.

Tutte Centenary Retreat

Dates: 26 November to 2 December 2017

Venue: University of Melbourne, Water Street, Creswick, Victoria

Web: <http://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events/tutte-centenary-retreat/>

Registration is by invitation only. For further details, please see the website.

5th International Combinatorics Conference (5ICC)

Dates: 4–9 December 2017

Venue: Monash University, Clayton campus

Web: <http://www.monash.edu/5icc/>

5ICC is the fifth in a series of major combinatorics conferences that are run once per decade by the Combinatorial Mathematics Society of Australasia. Researchers in any area of combinatorics (interpreted broadly) are warmly invited. Students are also encouraged to attend, and there will be a prize for the best student talk.

Plenary Speakers:

- Bill Chen, Nankai University
- Maria Chudnovsky, Princeton University
- Charlie Colbourn, Arizona State University
- Marston Conder, University of Auckland
- David Eppstein, University of California, Irvine
- Joanna Fawcett, Cambridge University
- Jacob Fox, Stanford University
- Daniela Khn, Birmingham University
- Barbara Maenhaut, University of Queensland
- Brendan McKay, Australian National University

- Alexander Scott, Oxford University
- Paul Seymour, Princeton University
- Le Anh Vinh, Vietnam National University

In the week prior to 5ICC, the Tutte Centenary Retreat will be held at The Mathematical Research Institute MATRIX to celebrate 100 years since the birth of Bill Tutte.

AustMS 2017: 61st Annual Meeting

Dates: 11–14 December 2017

Venue: Macquarie University

Local Organising Committee: Paul Smith and Xuan Duong.

Further details to come.

Geometric R-matrices

Dates: 17–22 December 2017

Venue: University of Melbourne, Water Street, Creswick, Victoria

Web: <http://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events/geometric-r-matrices/>

Registration is by invitation only. For further details, please see the website.

Non-equilibrium Systems and Special Functions

Dates: 7 January to 2 February 2018

Venue: University of Melbourne, Water Street, Creswick, Victoria

Web: <http://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events/non-equilibrium-systems-and-special-functions/>

Registration is by invitation only. For further details, please see the website.

MATRIX: Month of Mathematical Biology

Dates: 27 June to 20 July 2018

Venue: University of Melbourne, Water Street, Creswick, Victoria

Web: <http://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events/month-of-mathematical-biology/>

Registration is by invitation only. For further details, please see the website.

Vale

James J. Cross

With regret, we inform members of the death on 6 January 2017 of Dr Jim Cross, a long-serving staff member of the University of Melbourne. He was a versatile lecturer, eager to learn and teach a variety of subjects. He was also the Society's archivist for a number of years.

Robert Aitken Bryce

With deep regret we inform members of the death on 26 January 2017 of Dr Bob Bryce. Bob was a member of the Society for over 50 years and served the Society in many ways, including as a member of Council and as the inaugural Chair of the Standing Committee on Mathematics Education. He was actively involved with the Australian Mathematical Olympiad Committee and related bodies, representing the Society on their committees for many years. Cheryl Praeger has provided the following information about his work in this area.

Bob was on both the AMC and MCYA Problems committees for many years, almost since their inception. And one of the strongest contributors, not only in posing problems of his own, but providing insight to others. He was 30 years on the AMC committee (1980–1987 and 1990–2011). For the MCYA Committee he was a foundation member and served all 23 years, 1990 to 2012. He was also on other committees, including the Advisory Committee representing AustMS for many years and AMOC. For AMOC he served 1991 to 2012, 22 years in total, the first 8 years representing AustMS, the last 14 representing MCYA. For a number of years, Bob was the mainstay of the Canberra Friday night mathematics enrichment group. Mike Newman and Laci Kovacs founded this many years ago. In 1988 the group shifted its focus to Tournament of Towns. From then it was run by a committee of four: Mike Newman, Malcolm Brooks, Bob Bryce and Peter Taylor. For a decade Bob was the main coordinator, arranging mathematicians from DSTO.

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.

- Mr James Booth; Cornell University; 13 February to 31 May 2017; ANU; Alan Welsh
- A/Prof Hayato Chiba; Kyushu Uni; 24 February to 2 March 2017; applied; USN; Nalini Joshi
- A/Prof Ruth Corran; The American University of France; 18 January to 30 June 2017; pure; USN; David Easdown
- Dr A.E.L. Davis; University College London; 1 January to 31 December 2017; ANU; Lilia Ferrario
- Prof Hendrik De Bie; Ghent; 3–7 April 2017; algebra; USN; Kevin Coulembier
- Ms Li Deng; Central Southern University, China; 21 November 2016 to 20 November 2018; CUT
- Professor Semen Dyatlov; MIT School of Science; 24 March to 5 April 2017; ANU; Andrew Hassell
- Dr Richard Garner; MQU; 23 January to 3 February 2017; pure; USN; Anthony Henderson

- Mr Yongyi Gu; Guangzhou University, China; 25 October 2016 to 31 October 2017; CUT
- Prof Derek Holt; 7 January to 16 March 2017; MAGMA; USN; John Cannon
A/Prof Enkhbayar Jamsranjav; National University of Mongolia; 16 January to 19 March 2017; CUT
- Mr Lars Jensen; Max Planck Institute for Mathematics; 1 February to 30 April 2017; pure; USN; Geordie Williamson
- Dr DE Zhou Kong; Shandong Agricultural University; February 2016 to February 2017; CUT; applied differential equations contact; Ph: 92663534
- A/Prof Nicole Lemire; University of Western Ontario; 30 January to 16 April 2017; pure; USN; Gus Lehrer
- Dr Ming Liu; South China University of Technology, Guangzhou; 27 February to 29 March 2017; pure; USN; Alexander Molev
- Dr Xia Liu; Henan Normal University, China; 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017; SUT; applied mathematics, dynamical systems; Tonghua Zhang
- Dr Yong Liu; Wuhan University of Science and Technology; June 2016 to June 2017; CUT; applied finance and economics; Ph: 92663534
- A/Professor De Xiang Ma; North China Electric Power University; March 2016 to March 2017; CUT; applied differential equations; Ph: 92663534
- Prof Elisabetta Maluta; Politecnico di Milano; 30 July to 5 August 2017; functional analysis; FedUni; David Yost
- Dr Tobias Neckel; Technische Universität München; 17 February to 16 April 2017; ANU; Markus Hegland
- A/Prof Shahar Nevo; Bar-Ilan University; 7 February to 14 March 2017; applied; USN; Milena Radnovic
- Mr Leonardo Patimo; Max Planck Institute for Mathematics; 1 February to 30 April 2017; pure; USN; Geordie Williamson
- Prof Dmitry Pelinovsky; McMasters University; 1 January to 30 June 2018; applied; USN; Nalini Josh
- Prof Shige Peng; 27 February 2017 to 13 March 2017; fine maths; USN; Marek Rutkowski
- Professor David Penneys; University of Toronto; 18–26 March 2017; ANU; Scott Morrison
- Mr James Reoch; Adelaide; 3 August 2015 to 31 December 2017; applied; USN; Peter Sehoon Kim
- A/Prof Ege Rubak; Aalborg University, Denmark; 29 November 2016 to 30 May 2017; CUT
- Mr Yu Shen; Tongji University; 1 December 2016 to 30 April 2017; stats; USN; Qiyang Wang
- A/Prof Scott Sisson; UNSW; 9 January to 3 February 2017; stats; USN; Anthony Henderson
- Mr Dingshi Tian; Xiamen University; 25 February to 25 May 2017; statistics; USN; Qiyang Wang
- A/Prof Peter Tingley; Loyola University; 9 January to 24 March 2017; pure; USN; Oded Yacobi
- Dr Rodrigo Trevino; City University of New York; 7 February to 31 March 2017; ANU; Michael Barnsley

- Ms Jun Wang; University of Science and Technology of China; 1 October 2015 to 1 March 2017; ANU; Ben Andrews
- Ms Pei Wang; Central South University, China; July 2016 to June 2018; CUT; stochastic optimisation; Ph: 92663534
- Mr Alex Weekes; 30 January to 4 March 2017; pure; USN; Oded Yacob
- Dr Simon Wood; 20 August 2016 to 31 December 2017; ANU; Peter Bouwknecht
- Dr Jeroen Wouters; 25 February 2015 to 24 February 2017; applied; USN; Georg Gottwald
- Prof. Yonghui Xia; Huaqiao University, China; 20 March to 3 April 2017; differential equations and dynamic systems; SUT; Tonghua Zhang
- Dr Ying Xu; Hefei University of Technology; 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2017; pure; USN; Ruibin Zhang
- Dr Oksana Yakimova; Friedrich-Schiller-Univ., Jena, Germany; 12 February to 18 March 2017; pure; USN; Alexander Molev
- Prof Clemente Zanco; Università di Milano; 30 July to 5 August 2017; functional analysis; FedUni; David Yost
- Dr Hong-Bing Zeng; Hunan University of Technology; March 2016 to February 2017; sampled-data synchronization control for chaotic neural networks under actuator saturation; CUT; Ph: 92663534
- Mr Yang Zhang; University of Science and Technology, China; 1 October 2015 to 30 September 2017; pure; USN; Ruibin Zhang
- Dr Xuwen Zhu; Stanford University; 24 March to 5 April 2017; ANU; Andrew Hassell
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