Mathematics People

Coifman Appointed to MPS Advisory Committee

Ronald Coifman of Yale University has been appointed to the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Advisory Committee of the National Science Foundation. The other mathematicians on the 21-member board are Richard H. Herman of the University of Maryland and Margaret Wright of AT&T Bell Laboratories, who will succeed Herman as chair of the committee.

—Allyn Jackson

Minority Scholars Receive NRC Fellowships

The National Research Council (NRC) administers the Ford Foundation fellowship programs, which seek to increase the presence of underrepresented minority groups on the nation's college and university campuses. These programs provide fellowships for predoctoral, dissertation, and postdoctoral work.

Among the 100 awardees for 1996 are two in the mathematical sciences: Margi Lau Calder of the University of California, Los Angeles, and Daniel Lee Hunt of the University of Mississippi. Both received predoctoral fellowships.

—from NRC Announcement

Rose Named Bunting Fellow

Lauren L. Rose, an independent mathematician, has been selected as a Fellow for 1996–1997 at the Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute of Radcliffe College. Her area of research is algebraic combinatorics of multivariate splines.

The Bunting Institute is a multidisciplinary research center for women scholars, scientists, artists, and writers and provides one of the major fellowship programs for the support of women doing advanced study in the United States. For further information about Bunting Institute programs, consult the World Wide Web page `http://www.radcliffe.edu/bunting/index.html`, or contact: Bunting Institute, 34 Concord Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138; telephone 617-495-8212.

Trjitzinsky Memorial Fund Awards Made

The AMS has made awards to four undergraduate mathematics majors through the Waldemar J. Trjitzinsky Memorial Fund. The fund is made possible by a bequest from the estate of Waldemar J., Barbara G., and Juliette Trjitzinsky. The will of Barbara Trjitzinsky stipulates that the income from the bequest should be used to establish a fund in honor of the memory of her husband to assist needy students in mathematics.

Each year the AMS selects four geographically distributed schools to which it makes one-time awards of roughly $3,750 each. The mathematics departments at these schools then choose students to receive the funds to assist them

in their pursuit of careers in mathematics. The schools are selected in a random drawing from the pool of AMS institutional members. This year the four institutions receiving the award funds were Murray State University, Stanford University, Union College, and Western Illinois University.

Murray State University chose to present the award to Christie M. Safin. Safin is currently in her junior year majoring in mathematics and is also pursuing certification for teaching at the high school level. While maintaining a grade point average of 3.8, she works at a local Wal-Mart store approximately twenty hours a week and does tutoring. Apart from the Trjitzinsky award, the only financial aid she has received is a $400 scholarship given by the mathematics department. After finishing her bachelor's degree Safin plans to teach mathematics at the high school level or attend graduate school with the goal of teaching at the college level. The department chose her for "her work ethic, her desire for a mathematics career, and her need for financial assistance."

Stanford University chose Andreea Nicoara to receive the award. Nicoara is one of Stanford's best undergraduate mathematics majors. She has done well in her coursework in mathematics and shows an unusual degree of interest in the subject. Her intellectual interests are quite broad and include archaeology and history. Nicoara was born in Romania but did her high school and university work in the U.S. She lives in Houston with her mother. The Stanford mathematics department says that Nicoara "is someone whom we would very much like to encourage to continue in mathematics, particularly given the shortage of women in our profession."

Union College selected Allison Pacelli to receive the award. A senior in mathematics, Pacelli plans to go to graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. According to mathematics department chair Kimmo Rosenthal, "In a department with a long history of strong and distinguished mathematics majors, Allison is one of the best we have had." Receiving straight As in her mathematics courses, Pacelli was chosen for a summer program at Berkeley for women in mathematics and also received recently the highly competitive Goldwater scholarship. She wrote the solutions manual for the textbook *Mathematics and Politics: Strategy, voting, power, and proof*, written by Alan D. Taylor and published in 1995 by Springer-Verlag.

Western Illinois University chose Lorna Renee Sanders for the award. A senior in mathematics with a 4.0 grade point average, Sanders has served as vice-president of the Western Illinois University Student Chapter of the Mathematical Association of America. She expects to graduate in May 1997 and begin teaching mathematics at the high school level while working on her master's degree in mathematics. After graduating from high school she worked in cosmetology and attended a community college. When she transferred to Western Illinois in 1993 as a chemistry major, she found that calculus rekindled her love for mathematics and led her to change her major to mathematics. She says that mathematics was always fun, "but more like playing with numbers and manipulating expressions." When she began studying mathematics at a deeper level, she said, "my appreciation for mathematics and its importance in science [was] elevated to greater heights than I would ever have imagined."

For more information about the Trjitzinsky Fund, contact Timothy J. Goggins, Development Officer, AMS, P.O. Box 6248, Providence, RI 02940-6248; e-mail tjg@ams.org.

—Allyn Jackson

Visiting Professorships for Women Awards Made

The National Science Foundation has made a number of awards in its Visiting Professorships for Women (VPW) program. This program allows women researchers in science, engineering, and mathematics to pursue their research programs as visiting scholars away from their home institutions. In addition to conducting research, VPW grantees carry out mentoring programs to encourage students and to increase the visibility of women scientists, engineers, and mathematicians on the nation's college and university campuses.

Among the twenty-six awardees receiving grants during fiscal year 1997 are six who work in the mathematical sciences. The following lists their names, home institutions (in parentheses), host institutions, and the titles of their research projects.

Lynne M. Butler (Haverford College), Mathematical Sciences Research Institute, Topological insights in combinatorics; Anne Condon (University of Wisconsin, Madison), University of Washington, DNA algorithms and approximation algorithms for NP-hard problems; Diane M. Meuser (Boston University), Harvard University, Generalized p-adic local zeta functions; Karen V. Parshall (University of Virginia), University of Chicago, Mathematics and its culture through the optic of J. J. Sylvester; Lynne H. Walling (University of Colorado), University of California, Berkeley, Theta series and automorphic forms; and Carla Wofsy (University of New Mexico), University of California, Davis, Mathematical analysis of the early events in cell signaling.

The VPW program is in the process of being revised. For information about changes in the program, contact the program director, Margrete S. Klein, at 703-306-1637, mklein@nsf.gov.

—Allyn Jackson

Deaths

GEORGE ADOMIAN, chief scientist and president of General Analytics Corporation, Athens, Georgia, died on August 10, 1996. Born on March 21, 1922, he was a member of the Society for 33 years.

ROSS A. BEAUMONT, professor emeritus of the University of Washington, died on September 28, 1996. Born in July 1914, he was a member of the Society for 58 years.

JAMES W. ELLIS, dean emeritus of the University of New Orleans, died on August 30, 1996. Born on August 16, 1927, he was a member of the Society for 41 years.

PAUL ERDŐS, of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, died on September 20, 1996. Born on March 26, 1913, he was a member of the Society for 57 years.

IGNACE I. KOLODNER, professor emeritus of Carnegie Mellon University, died on April 9, 1996. Born on April 12, 1920, he was a member of the Society for 45 years.

DAVID C. MURDOCH, retired from the University of British Columbia, died in August 1996. Born on March 31, 1912, he was a member of the Society for 58 years.

BRANKO NAJMAN, professor at the University of Zagreb, Croatia, died in August 1996. Born on December 17, 1949, he was a member of the Society for 10 years.

HANS L. OESTREICHER, U.S. Air Force, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, died on July 19, 1996. Born on April 22, 1912, he was a member of the Society for 36 years.

N. TENNEY PECK, professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana, died on July 5, 1996. Born on February 3, 1937, he was a member of the Society for 34 years.

ERNEST A. PROPES, professor at Eastern New Mexico University, died on November 14, 1995. Born on February 5, 1909, he was a member of the Society for 49 years.

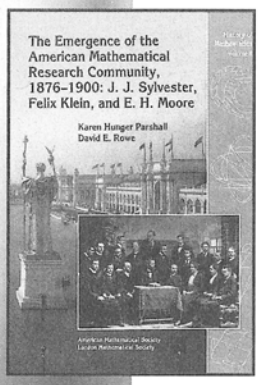
FRANK D. QUIGLEY, professor at Tulane University, died on August 21, 1996. Born on June 5, 1928, he was a member of the Society for 45 years.

American Mathematical Society

ON SALE!

The Emergence of the American Mathematical Research Community, 1876–1900: J. J. Sylvester, Felix Klein, and E. H. Moore

Karen Hunger Parshall, *University of Virginia, Charlottesville,* and **David E. Rowe,** *University of Mainz, Germany*



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—Isis

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—Zentralblatt für Mathematik

This fascinating book is a contribution to the history of American science ... For those of us who have made our careers in American mathematics and are interested in understanding our intellectual heritage, it is essential reading.

—Mathematical Reviews

This volume traces the transformation of the United States from a mathematical backwater to a major presence during the quarter-century from 1876 to 1900. Presenting a detailed study of the major figures involved in this transformation, it focuses on the three most influential individuals and the principal institutions with which they were associated: British algebraist James Joseph Sylvester, Johns Hopkins University; German standard-bearer Felix Klein, Göttingen University; and American mathematician Eliakim Hastings Moore, University of Chicago. This book further analyzes the research traditions these men and institutions represented, the impact these had on the second generation of American mathematical researchers, and the role of the American Mathematical Society in these developments. This is the first work ever written on the history of American mathematics during this period and one of the few books that examines the historical development of American mathematics from a wide perspective. By placing the development of American mathematics within the context of broader external factors affecting historical events, the authors show how the character of American research was decisively affected by the surrounding scientific, educational, and social contexts of the period. Aimed at a general mathematical audience and at historians of science, this book contains an abundance of unpublished archival material, numerous rare photographs, and an extensive bibliography.

Co-published with the London Mathematical Society. Members of the LMS may order directly from the AMS at the AMS member price. The LMS is registered with the Charity Commissioners.

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