Elissa Ross

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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Citizenship: Canadian

Speaks: English, some French

Research Interests

discrete geometry, rigidity theory, tilings, topological graph theory, symmetry, computational geometry, mathematical biology, mathematical crystallography, interdisciplinarity

Current Position

Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Mathematical Sciences, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester

January 1, 2014 – present

Positions Held

(Maternity leave, April 2012 – January 2014.)

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, York University, Toronto January 1, 2012 – June 30, 2012.

Postdoctoral Fellow, Fields Institute, Toronto

Thematic Program on Discrete Geometry and Applications

July 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011.

Education

Ph.D. Mathematics, York University, 2006 – 2011

Thesis: Geometric and combinatorial rigidity of periodic frameworks as graphs on a torus.

Supervisor: Walter Whiteley

M.Sc. Mathematics, University of British Columbia, 2003 – 2005

Thesis: The non-local growth of Penrose tilings.

Supervisor: William Casselman

B.Sc. Mathematics, University of Guelph, 1999 – 2003, With Distinction

Minor Studio Art

Other Education

University Teaching Practicum, York University, 2007 – 2011

Completion of a self-directed program of professional development in university teaching and learning, through the Centre for the Support of Teaching.

Honours and Awards

National and Provincial

Ontario Graduate Scholarship, 2009 - 2010

Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology (OGSST), 2008 - 2009

NSERC PGS M, 2004 - 2005

Communication

Peter Rodney Memorial Book Prize for best student talk, Ontario Combinatorics Workshop, University of Waterloo, May 2009

Institutional

Travel Award, Graduate Development Fund, Faculty of Graduate Studies, York University, September 2009

NSERC Top-up award, Department of Mathematics, University of British Columbia, 2004 - 2005

Special Graduate Entrance Scholarship, September 2003

University of Guelph Department of Mathematics Book Award for Academic Excellence, (3 awards: 2000, 2001, 2002)

University of Guelph Department of Mathematics Year Two Award, November 2001

Publications

- 1. Periodic rigidity on a variable torus using inductive constructions, with A. Nixon (submitted).
- 2. Inductive constructions for frameworks on a two-dimensional fixed torus, (submitted).
- 3. One brick at a time: a survey of inductive constructions in rigidity theory, with A. Nixon. To appear in the Fields Communications Series, "Rigidity and Symmetry" edited by Robert Connelly, Walter Whiteley and Asia Weiss.
- 4. The rigidity of periodic frameworks as graphs on a fixed torus, (to appear in Contributions to Discrete Mathematics).
- 5. The rigidity of periodic body-bar frameworks on the three-dimensional fixed torus, Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A, 372 (2008) (Feb., 2014).
- 6. The Rigidity of Spherical Frameworks: Swapping Blocks and Holes, with W. Finbow, and W. Whiteley, SIAM Journal on Discrete Mathematics, 26(1), 280 304 (Feb., 2012).
- 7. Finite motions from periodic frameworks with added symmetry, with B. Schulze and W. Whiteley, International Journal of Solids and Structures, 48, 1711 1728 (Feb., 2011).

Selected Presentations (\star by invitation)

- * AMS Special Session on Discrete Geometry and Crystallography, Baltimore, 2014
- * Discrete Math Seminar, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 2014
- * Royal Society Theo Murphy International Scientific Meeting on Rigidity of Periodic and Symmetric Structures in Nature and Engineering, England, 2012
- CMS Special Session on Discrete Geometry, Toronto, 2011
- * Workshop on Rigidity and Symmetry, Fields Institute, 2011
- Canadian Discrete and Algorithmic Mathematics Conference (CanaDAM), Victoria, 2011
- * Carleton-Ottawa Discrete Math seminar, 2011
- Geometry Day, York University, 2011
- \star Rigidity in Lancaster, England, 2010
- ★ CMS Special Session on Discrete Geometry, Fredericton 2010
- Rigidity Day, York University, 2010
- * CMS Special Session on Recent Trends in Discrete Geometry, Windsor, 2009
- ★ Workshop on Rigidity and Volume Inequalities, Budapest, 2009
- Ontario Combinatorics Workshop, University of Waterloo, 2009
- * AMS Special Session on Discrete Geometry, Worcester, 2009
- ★ Discrete Geometry Day, Field's Institute, 2009
- ★ Discrete Geometry and Combinatorics seminar, Cornell University, 2008
- * Recent Progress in Rigidity Theory, BIRS, 2008
- Rigidity seminar series, York University, 2007

Conferences, Workshops & Research Visits (in addition to those listed above)

American Institute of Mathematics workshop "Configuration spaces of linkages," 2014 (upcoming)

Fields Workshop on Discrete and Computational Geometry, Carleton University, Ottawa, 2010

Research visit, Wendy Finbow, St. Mary's University in Halifax, 2010

Canadian Science Policy Conference, Toronto, 2009

Rigidity, Flexibility, and Motion: Theory, Computation and Applications to Biomolecules, BIRS, 2008

Connecting Women in Mathematics Across Canada, The Fields Institute, 2006

The Coxeter Legacy: Reflections and Projections, The Fields Institute, 2004

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Teaching Activities

Instructor, MA 1024: Calculus IV, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 2014

Instructor, MA 2273: Combinatorics, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 2014

 $Instructor,\,\mathrm{MA}\,2073\colon \mathrm{Introduction}\,\,\mathrm{to}\,\,\mathrm{Matrices}\,\,\mathrm{and}\,\,\mathrm{Linear}\,\,\mathrm{Algebra}\,\,\mathrm{II},\,\mathrm{Worcester}\,\,\mathrm{Polytechnic}\,\,\mathrm{Institute},\,2014$

Course Director, MATH 2022: Linear Algebra II, York University, 2010

Tutorial Leader, MATH 3050: Introduction to Geometries; and MATH 1200: Problems, Conjectures and Proofs; York University, 2010

Tutor, Math Lab, York University, 2006 – 2008

Tutorial Leader and Occasional Guest Instructor, MATH 1300: Differential Calculus with Applications, York University, 2007

Teaching Assistant, MATH 1014: Applied Calculus II, York University, 2007

Teaching Assistant, MATH 3410: Complex Analysis, York University, 2007

Teaching Assistant, various calculus courses, University of British Columbia, 2003 - 2005

Tutor, The Academy for Mathematics and Science, Guelph, 2000 - 2003

Professional Experience

Teaching Development Graduate Assistant

Sep 2009 - Dec 2009

Sole organizer and facilitator of an orientation for new teaching assistants in the mathematics department, attended by over 40 TAs. Initiated and facilitated a four-part seminar series connecting researchers in mathematics education with TAs and faculty in the mathematics department.

Math Lab Coordinator

Sep 2008 – April 2009

Responsible for the administration of York University's math help centre (Math Lab), and management of 20 tutors.

Service

Organizer or co-organizer of

"Making Models: Stimulating Research In Rigidity Theory And Spatial-Visual Reasoning", workshop at the Fields Institute, August 5 - 9, 2014

Discrete Geometry session, Canadian Mathematical Society Winter Meeting, Toronto 2011 "Art Meets Science", York University, 2009 - 2010

Referee for

European Journal of Combinatorics

International Journal of Structures and Solids

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A

ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms (SODA 2012)

27th Annual Symposium on Computational Geometry (SoCG 2011)

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Service, continued

Comittee

Faculty of Graduate Studies Council, York University, 2010 – 2011

Tenure and Promotion Committee, Department of Mathematics, York University, 2010 – 2011

Teaching and Learning Committee, Department of Mathematics, York University, 2009-2010

Department Council (Graduate Student Representative), York University, 2009 – 2010 Graduate Executive Committee, Department of Mathematics, York University, 2008 – 2009

Other

Contributor to "Fields Notes", newsletter of the Fields Institute, December 2011

References

| 1. Walter Whiteley (Ph.D. supervisor) | whiteley@mathstat.yorku.ca |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| York University, Toronto, Canada | |

2. Robert Connelly
Cornell University, Ithaca, U.S.A

3. Brigitte Servatius bservat@wpi.edu
Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, U.S.A

4. **Stephen Power**University of Lancaster, Lancaster, U.K.

5. Mike Zabrocki (concerning teaching)

York University, Toronto, Canada

6. **Asia Weiss** (Ph.D. committee member) *York University, Toronto, Canada*

7. **Bernd Schulze** *University of Lancaster, Lancaster, U.K.*

8. William Casselman (Master's thesis supervisor) University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

9. **Trueman MacHenry** (Ph.D. committee member) *York University, Toronto, Canada*

10. Wendy Finbow-Singh
St. Mary's University, Halifax, Canada

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