

#### **Department of Mathematics**

https://www.juliettebruce.xyz juliette\_bruce1@brown.edu

November 3, 2023

Juliette Bruce Brown University Providence, RI 02912

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to apply for a position as a part-time lecturer in mathematics at Northeastern University. I am interested in this position because I am passionate about teaching and working with students, especially students from diverse backgrounds. Currently, I am a lecturer faculty member at San Francisco State University and a postdoctoral researcher in the Mathematics Department at Brown University. (Note that I live in San Francisco, CA, as I am working at Brown University remotely part-time.) I received my Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2020 under the guidance of my advisor Professor Daniel Erman. From 2020-2022 I was an NSF Postdoctoral Fellow in the Mathematics Department at the University of California, Berkeley.

I am passionate about promoting inclusivity, diversity, and justice in the mathematics community. This passion extends throughout my teaching where I am dedicated to creating an interactive, engaging, and supportive classroom environment that helps students thrive. My goal as an educator is to be an active guide for students, providing them with environments where they feel supported and encouraged to let their own mathematical and quantitative curiosities guide how they engage and learn. By taking this approach, I hope to engage with students as the complete people that they are, asking them to bring all of their experiences, backgrounds, identities, and knowledge into the learning environment. I want students to experience mathematics in a humanistic way, seeing how mathematics and quantitative thinking are integral aspects of their lives. As one of my former students noted, "Juliette obviously wants us to succeed not only in math but in life."

With my application, I have included my curriculum vitae, a teaching statement, a diversity statement, and three reference letters. A few highlights in my file are:

- Capstone Teaching Award (2019) Awarded by the Department of Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin to 1 student recognizing a record of exceptional teaching and service.
- Teaching Assistant Award for Exceptional Service (2018) Awarded by the University of Wisconsin to up to 3 teaching assistants campus-wide recognizing their exceptional service.

Please contact me with any questions, and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely.

Juliette Bruce

Juliette E. Bruce

# Juliette Newton (née Bruce)

October 15, 2023

Department of Mathematics Brown University 151 Thayer Street Providence, RI 02912

juliette\_bruce1@brown.edu https://www.juliettebruce.xyz

# **Employment**

• Brown University Postdoctoral Research Associate	Providence, RI 2022 – Present
• San Francisco State University  Lecturer Faculty	San Francisco, CA 2023 – Present
• University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley, CA
NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow	2020– 2022
• Mathematical Sciences Research Institute	Berkeley, CA
Postdoctoral Fellow	2020– 2021

# Education

• University of Wisconsin	Madison, WI
Ph.D. Mathematics	2014 – August 2020
- Advisor: Daniel Erman	
• University of Wisconsin	Madison, WI
M.A. Mathematics	2014 – 2016
University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
B.S. in Mathematics & Political Science	2010 – 2014

# Awards & Honors

• US Junior Oberwolfach Fellow  Awarded to outstanding junior scientists from US to participate in activities at Oberwolfach.	April 2022
• Capstone Teaching Award  Awarded to one student in the math department for an exceptional record of teaching excellent	October 2019
• Excellence in Mathematical Research Award  Recognizes significant and substantial contributions to research as part of their thesis.	October 2019
• Elizabeth Hirschfelder Prize  Awarded to an outstanding female student.	October 2018
• Mathematics TA Service Award  Dept. of Mathematics - University of Wisconsin	April 2018
• Teaching Assistant Award for Exceptional Service  Campus-wide award recognizing TA's who perform exceptional service	February 2018

• Outstanding Achievement in Mathematics

May 2014

Dept. of Mathematics – University of Michigan

• Phi Beta Kappa

April 2014

University of Michigan

• Chancellor's Opportunity Award

University of Wisconsin

April 2014

### Teaching Experience

### • Math 197: Pre-Calculus I

San Francisco State University

Instructor

Fall 2023

- Sections ranged from 25-35 students on average, with typically teaching two sections at a time.

### • Math 107/110: Business Calculus

San Francisco State University

Instructor

Fall 2023

- Sections ranged from 25-35 students on average, with typically teaching two sections at a time.

## • Math 221: Calculus and Analytic Geometry I

University of Wisconsin

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2014/2018/2019

- Selected as a TA coordinator in 2018 and 2019, and was responsible for overseeing all other TA's and mentoring first year TA's.
- Sections ranged from 25-35 students on average, with typically teaching two sections at a time.
- Average score 4.9/5.0

# • Math 228: Wisconsin Emerging Scholars

University of Wisconsin

Fall 2018

- Course providing students from underrepresented groups additional support.
- Course had approximately 10-15 students.
- Average score: 5.0/5.0, 100% amongst all TA's

## Math 132: Wisconsin Emerging Scholars

University of Wisconsin

Instructor

Instructor

*Spring 2015* 

- Course had approximately 15-25 students.
- Responsible for all aspects of the course.

#### Inquiry Based Learning Courses

University of Michigan

Course Assistant

2012-2014

- Assisted with advanced undergraduate courses on topology, analysis, and probability.
- Courses had approximately 25-35 students.
- Facilitated inquiry based learning in the classroom, and responsible for office hours, grading, and review sessions.

#### **Publications**

15. M. Brandt, J. Bruce, M. Chan, M. Melo, G. Moreland, C. Wolfe. On the Top-weight Cohomology of  $A_g$ . Geometry & Topology, To appear. E-Print: arXiv:2012.02892

- 14. J. Bruce, D. Corey, D. Erman, S. Goldstein, R. Laudone, and J. Yang. Syzygies of  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ : Data and Conjectures. *Journal of Algebra*, **593** (2022) no. 1, 589-621. E-Print: arXiv:2104.14598
- 13. J. Bruce, D. Erman, S. Goldstein, and J. Yang. The Schur-Veronese package in Macaulay2. *Journal of Software for Algebra and Geometry*, **11** (2021), 83-87 E-print: arXiv:1905.12661.
- 12. J. Bruce. The Quantitative Behavior of Asymptotic Syzygies for Hirzebruch Surfaces. *Journal of Commutative Algebra*, To appear. E-Print: arXiv:1906.07333.
- 11. A. Almousa, J. Bruce, M. Loper, and M. Sayrafi. The Virtual Resolutions Package for Macaulay2. *Journal of Software for Algebra and Geometry*, **10** (2020), 50-60. E-print: arXiv:1905.07022.
- 10. J. Bruce and D. Erman. A probabilistic approach to systems of parameters and Noether normalization. *Algebra and Number Theory*, **13** (2019), no. 9, 2081–2102. E-print: arXiv:1604.01704.
- 9. J. Bruce and W. Li. Effective bounds on the dimensions of Jacobians covering abelian varieties. *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, **148** (2020), no. 2, 535-551. E-print: arXiv:1804.11015.
- 8. J. Bruce, D. Erman, S. Goldstein, and J. Yang. Conjectures and computations about Veronese syzygies. *Experimental Mathematics*, **29** (2020), 398-413. E-print: arXiv:1711.03513.
- 7. M. Brandt, J. Bruce, T. Brysiewicz, R. Krone, and E. Robeva. The degree of SO(n). Combinatorial Algebraic Geometry, 207-224, Fields Inst. Commun. 80 (2017). E-print: arXiv:1701.03200.
- 6. J. Bruce, M. Logue, and R. Walker. Monomial valuations, cusp singularities, and continued fractions. *Journal of Commutative Algebra*, **7** (2015) no. 4, 495-522. E-print: arXiv:1311.6493.
- 5. J. Bruce, P. Kao, E. Nash, B. Perez, and P. Vermeire. Betti tables of reducible algebraic curves. *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.* **142** (2014) 4039-4051. E-print: arXiv:1210.3064.

### **Pre-Prints**

- 4. M. Brandt, J. Bruce, D. Corey. The virtual Euler characteristic for binary matroids. *Submitted*. E-Print: arXiv:2301.10108
- 3. J. Bruce, L. Cranton Heller, M. Sayrafi. Bounds on Multigraded Regularity. *Submitted*. E-Print: arXiv:2208.11115
- 2. J. Bruce, L. Cranton Heller, M. Sayrafi. Characterizing Multigraded Regularity on Products of Projective Space. *Submitted*. E-Print: arXiv:2110.10705
- 1. J. Bruce. Asymptotic Syzygies in the Setting of Semi-Ample Growth. Submitted. E-Print: arXiv:1904.04944

#### Software

- 4. SchurVeronese, (with D. Erman, S. Goldstein, and J. Yang). Submitted for distribution with future releases of Macaulay2, a compute algebra system focused on computations in algebraic geometry and commutative algebra.
- 3. VirtualResolutions, (with A. Almousa, M. Loper, and M. Sayrafi). Distributed with version 1.14 of Macaulay2 (2019).
- 2. Frobenius Thresholds, (with D. Hernández, K. Schwede, D. Smolkin, P. Teixeira, and E. Witt). Distributed with version 1.14 of Macaulay2 (2019).
- 1. TestIdeals, (with E. Bela, A. Boix, D. Ellingson, D. Hernández, Z. Kadyrsizova, M. Katzman, S. Malec, M. Mastroeni, M. Mostafazadehfard, M. Robinson, K. Schwede, D. Smolkin, P. Teixeira, and E. Witt). Distributed with version 1.14 of Macaulay2 (2019).

### Non-Research Articles

- 2. J. Bruce. A Word from... Juliette Bruce, Inaugural President of Spectra. *Notices of the AMS*, **69** (2022) no. 6, 898–899.
- 1. A. Bonato, J. Bruce, and R. Buckmire. Spaces for All: The Rise of LGBTQ+ Mathematics Conferences. *Notices of the AMS*, **68** (2021) no. 6, 998-1003. https://doi.org/10.1090/noti2288

### Multimedia

1. SyzygyData.com, (with D. Erman, S. Goldstein, and J. Yang). An online public database on large-scale syzygy computations.

#### Grants

• Conference Grant – \$23,000 Fields Institute / National Science Foundation	July 2022
• Postdoctoral Research Fellowship – \$150,000 National Science Foundation	2020 – 2022
• Conference Grant DMS-1908799 – \$15,000 National Science Foundation	March 2019
• Graduate Research Fellowship National Science Foundation	2015 – 2018
• Conference Grant DMS-1812462 – \$15,000 National Science Foundation	February 2018
• Professional Development Grant – \$1000 Graduate School – University of Wisconsin	December 2016

# Seminar and Colloquium Talks

• University of Vermont - Mathematics Colloquium	May 2023
Princeton University - Algebraic Geometry Seminar	April 2023
Dartmouth College - Algebra & Number Theory Seminar	April 2023
Bowdoin College - Mathematics Colloquium	February 2023
• University of Texas - Austin - Geometry Seminar	December 2022
Harvard/MIT - Algebraic Geometry Seminar	November 2022
• University of Kentucky - Algebra Seminar	November 2022
• San Francisco State University - Mathematistas Raising Voices Colloquium	April 2022
COGENT Seminar - Held Virtually	March 2022
• Simon Fraser University - Number Theory & Algebraic Geometry Seminar	March 2022
Reed College - Mathematics Colloquium	April 2021
• San Francisco State University - Algebra, Geometry, & Combinatorics Seminar	April 2021
Algebra, Geometry, and Combinatorics Online - Held Virtually	February 2021
• MPI MiS - Non-linear Algebra Seminar Online	February 2021
Syracuse University - Algebra Seminar	November 2020
Arizona State University - AWM Seminar	October 2020
Arizona State University - Number Theory Seminar	October 2020
• Louisiana State University - Algebra & Number Theory Seminar	October 2020
• University of Georgia - Algebraic Geometry Seminar	October 2020
Stanford University - Algebraic Geometry Seminar	October 2020
• MSRI - The Fellowship of the Ring	September 2020
• University of Washington - Algebra & Algebraic Geometry Seminar	May $2020^{\dagger}$
• University of Nebraska - Commutative Algebra Seminar	April $2020^{\dagger}$
• University of Michigan - Commutative Algebra Seminar	December 2019
• University of Notre Dame - Algebraic Geometry Seminar	November 2019
• DePaul University - Algebra, Combinatorics, and Number Theory Seminar	October 2019
• Lawerence University - Mathematics Colloquium	October 2019
• University of Utah - Algebraic Geometry Seminar	September 2019
Stanford University - Algebraic Geometry Seminar	May 2019
• University of Kentucky - Algebra Seminar	April 2019
• University of Minnesota - Commutative Algebra Seminar	April 2019
• Rice University- Algebraic Geometry and Number Theory Seminar	September 2018
• DePaul University - Algebra, Combinatorics, and Number Theory Seminar	March 2018
• University of Michigan - Commutative Algebra Seminar	December 2017

# Conference Talks

 $<sup>^\</sup>dagger \text{Canceled}$  due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Workshop for Graduate Students: Syzygies & Regularity - UIC     AMS State of St	April 2023	
• Spring AMS Southeastern Sectional - Georgia Tech University	March 2023	
Algebraic Geometry Northeast Series (AGNES) - UMass Amherst      HAMS Market Series (AGNES) - UMass Amherst      HAMS Market Series (AGNES) - UMass Amherst	November 2022	
• Fall AMS Western Sectional - University of Utah	October 2022	
• Fall AMS Southeastern Sectional - University of Tennessee, Chattanooga	October 2022	
BATMOBILE - Brown University	May 2022	
• CA+ - Iowa State University	April 2022	
• Joint Math Meetings (x2) - Seattle, WA	January 2022	
CMS Winter Meetings - Held Virtually	December 2021	
• Queer Research Showcase, QAtCanSTEM - Held Virtually	November 2021	
Fall AMS Central Sectional - Held Virtually	October 2021	-
• SIAM Conference on Applied Algebraic Geometry 2021	August 2021	-
• Queer and Trans in Combinatorics	June 2021	
• Math Summer Program for Inclusive Excellence	June 2021	-
Spring AMS Western Sectional - Held Virtually	May 2021	
Spring AMS Central Sectional - Held Virtually	April 2021	
• Bay Area Discrete (BAD) Math Day - Held Virtually	April 2021	-
Spring AMS Southeastern Sectional - Held Virtually	March 2021	
• LGBTQ+Math - Fields Institute	November 2020	,
Written Geometry: Commutative Algebra - CIRM	October 2020	†
• Early Commutative Algebra Researchers (eCARS) - Held Virtually	June 2020	,
• Foundations of Computational Mathematics - Simon Fraser University	June 2020	†
Western Algebraic Geometry Online (WAGON) - Held Virtually	April 2020	,
CA+ - Iowa State University	April 2020	†
• Joint Math Meetings - Denver, CO	January 2020	,
• Fall AMS Central Sectional - University of Wisconsin	September 2019	,
• SIAM Conference on Applied Algebraic Geometry 2019	July 2019	,
KUMUNUjr - University of Nebraska	March 2019	,
Spring AMS Southeastern Sectional - Auburn University	March 2019	,
• Joint Math Meetings - Baltimore, MD	January 2019	)
Fall AMS Central Sectional - University of Michigan	October 2018	
• Structures on Free Resolutions - Texas Tech University	October 2017	,
• Midwest Algebraic Geometry Graduate Conference - University of Illinois, Chicago	April 2015	,

# Poster Talks

•	AWM Poster Session - Joint Math Meetings	January	2020
•	Summer School on Randomness and Learning in NLA - Max Plank Institute, Leipzig	July	2019
•	2019 AWM Research Symposium - Rice University	April	2019
•	AWM Poster Session - Joint Math Meetings	January	2018
•	AGNES Poster Session - Brown University Se	eptember	2018

• Lectures on Arithmetic Geometry - Rice University	February 2017
• Introductory Workshop: Combinatorial Algebraic Geometry - Fields Institute	August 2016
• Commutative Algebra and Its Interactions with Algebraic Geometry	July 2016
• Midwest Commutative Algebra and Algebraic Geometry Conference	May 2016

# Conference & Seminar Organizing

• GEMS in Combinatorics  March 27-31, 2023	AIM
• Trans Math Day December 3, 2022	Held Virtually
• BATMOBILE September 30, 2022	Amherst College
• Spec $(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$ July 6-8, 2022	Fields Institute
• LGBTQ+ Math Day November 18, 2021	Fields Institute
• GEMS in Combinatorics September 1-2, 2021	Held Virtually
• Trans Math Day  June 14-15, 2021	Held Virtually
<ul> <li>Western Algebraic Geometry Symposium (WAGS)</li> <li>April 23 - April 24, 2021</li> </ul>	Held Virtually
• Trans Math Day December 5, 2020	Held Virtually
• CAZoom  April 25 - April 26, 2020	Held Virtually
• GWCAWMMG April 12 - April 14, 2019	University of Minnesota
• Geometry & Arithmetic of Surfaces February 9 - February 10, 2019	University of Wisconsin
• M2@UW April 14-17, 2018	University of Wisconsin
• Math Careers Beyond Academia April 14, 2017	University of Wisconsin

# Seminar & Session Organizing

Special Session on Combinatorial Algebraic Geometry
 October 1 - October 2, 2022

 Commutative Algebra & Algebraic Geometry Seminar

AMS Sectional

• Commutative Algebra & Algebraic Geometry Seminar September 2021 - May 2022 UC Berkeley

Special Session on Commutative Algebra

May 1 - May 2, 2021

Experimental Talks in Algebraic Geometry

May - July, 2020

Held Virtually

• Special Session on Combinatorial Algebraic Geometry September 14 - September 15, 2019

**AMS Sectional** 

**AMS Sectional** 

### Outreach Activities

# · Virtual Directed Readings in Geometry

Held Virtually

Organizer

February 2021 - April 2021

- Created a virtual, open access, directed reading program for undergraduate students.
- Approximately 30 students signed up for the 5-week reading group.

# Algebraic Geometry in the Time of COVID Shepard

Held Virtually

*June 2020 – October 2020* 

- A virtual, open access introductory course in algebraic geometry.
- Approximately 1600 registered participants.

## Undergrad Directed Reading Program Mentor

University of Wisconsin January 2018 – May 2019

- Lead two semester long reading projects on commutative algebra and algebraic geometry.
- Lead an undergraduate women on a two semester reading project, and provided guidance on applying for REU's and graduate school.

### Graduate Peer Mentoring

University of Wisconsin

Mentor

September 2018 – December 2018

- Mentored 5 first year graduate students from minority genders, organizing monthly dinners where the mentees could discuss issues they were facing.

#### • Girls Math Night Out

University of Wisconsin

Mentor

September 2018 – December 2018

- Lead 2 women from local high schools on a semesters long project about cryptography.

# • Madison Math Circle

University of Wisconsin

Lead Organizer

January 2016 – December 2018

- Lead the creation of a new outreach program, which directly visits high schools around the state of Wisconsin to better serve students from underrepresented groups.
- Expanded the total number of students reached per year from 25 to >250.

### • Madison Math Circle

University of Wisconsin

Student Volunteer

January 2015 – December 2018

• Out in STEM (oSTEM) @ UW-Madison

University of Wisconsin

co-Founder

July 2017 – Math 2018

- Founded, at the time. the only campus resource specifically for LGBTQ+ individuals in STEM, and grew the organization to over 50 members.
- Secured a travel grant to help 11 members (undergraduate and graduate students) attend the national oSTEM conference.

• Madison Mega Math Meet Graded

• Bonding Undergraduate and Graduate Students

Mentor for Undergraduate

• Michigan Math Circle Organizer University of Wisconsin *May 2015* 

University of Wisconsin September 2014 – December 2014

University of Michigan January 2013 – June 2014

### **Outreach Panels**

• Holding AMS Meetings in Localities with Discriminatory Practices

Panelist

Joint Math Meetings

January 2022

• AWM 101: What You Need to Know about Women in Math

Panelist

Joint Math Meetings

January 2022

• Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Mathematics

Panelist

CAIMS

June 2021

• Diversity and Inclusion Panel Womxn in Math at Berkeley Panelist

April 2021

• How to Stay Productive as a Researcher

Panelist

Lunch in the Time of COVID

June 2020

• Mathematics Research Online: Hosting Virtual Events

Panelist

Held Virtually

May 2020

• Supporting Transgender and Non-binary Students

Organizer & Moderator

MAA Panel at the JMM

January 2020

• Out in Math: Professional Issues Facing LGBTQ Mathematicians

MAA Panel at the JMM

Panelist

January 2018

#### **Service**

• Spectra: The Association for LGBTQ+ Mathematicians President

President

September 2020 – January 2022

Communications in Algebra

Communications Editor

September 2020 – Present

• Spectra: The Association for LGBTQ+ Mathematicians

Board Member

Board Member September 2020 – January 2022

• AMS Graduate Student Blog
Writer & Editor September 2015 – September 2018

• Committee on Inclusivity and Diversity

Member

UW Dept. of Mathematics

November 2016 – August 2017

Created policies seeking to make the department a more welcoming, inclusive, and comfortable
place. This included drafting the department's statement on inclusivity, and creating similar
statements for syllabi to be used throughout the department.

• Committee on TA Pay and Performance Member UW Dept. of Mathematics September 2015 – August 2017

- Developed and implemented a new system to evaluate TA performance, with the goal of creating a more transparent, useful, and non-biased system.
- Instructor Excellence Program
  Teaching Mentor
- Society of Undergraduate Math Students
  President and Founder

UW Dept. of Mathematics September 2015 – May 2016 University of Michigan December 2012 – June 2014

## Referee Work

 Algebra & Number Theory, Communications in Algebra, Journal of Algebra, Journal of Commutative Algebra, Journal of Pure and Applied Algebra, Mathematica Scandinavia, Research in the Mathematical Sciences, Rocky Mountain Journal of Mathematics

## Memberships

• Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics

• Association for Women in Mathematics

• American Mathematical Society

January 2017 - Present

January 2016 – Present

September 2014 – Present

### Juliette Bruce's Teaching Statement

- I. Introduction. My goal as an educator is to be an active guide for students, providing them with environments where they feel supported and encouraged to let their own mathematical and quantitative curiosities guide how they engage and learn. By taking this approach, I hope to engage with students as the complete people that they are, asking them to bring all of their experiences, backgrounds, identities, and knowledge into the learning environment. I want students to experience mathematics in a humanistic way, seeing how mathematics and quantitative thinking are integral aspects of their lives. As one of my former students noted, "Juliette obviously wants us to succeed not only in math but in life." Recognizing that learning mathematics is not necessarily confined to the classroom I have sought out new and non-traditional teaching opportunities. My teaching has been recognized through both awards and student evaluations:
- In 2018, I was one of three graduate students recognized campus-wide with the Teaching Assistant Award for Exceptional Service.
- I received two TA awards from the math department, the TA Service Award (2018) and the Capstone Teaching Award (2019), the latter of which is awarded to just one teaching assistant each year, for an exceptional record of teaching excellence and service.
- My student evaluations are generally quite high; for instance, for one course 100% of students agreed that I
  was an effective teacher.

I have sought to develop and refine my skills as an educator, both by viewing each teaching assignment as my own opportunity for growth and learning and by actively seeking out learning from other educators and education experts. In particular, I have implemented evidence-based techniques to support and engage students from diverse backgrounds

II. Teaching Experiences. As a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin - Madison, I served as a teaching assistant and course coordinator for Calculus I for multiple semesters, the instructor of record for Math for Early Education Majors, and the instructor of record for a Calculus I course providing students from generally under-represented groups additional support during their first college math course. Additionally, for several semesters, I held a non-traditional teaching assistantship for my role as the organizer of the Madison Math Circle outreach program. My passion for promoting an interest in and excitement for math – especially for people from generally underrepresented groups – led me to take on teaching and outreach roles through the Girls Math Night Out program and the Wisconsin Directed Reading Program.

My postdoctoral positions at Brown University and the University of California, Berkeley did not allow me to have formal teaching responsibilities, however, I have actively sought out non-traditional teaching opportunities and mentoring opportunities. For example, in 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, I helped Ravi Vakil and others organize Algebraic Geometry in the Time of COVID, a massive open-access virtual algebraic geometry course, which drew over 1500 participants from around the world. Inspired by this experience, in 2021, I organized an online open access course, Virtual Directed Reading in Geometry & Algebra, aimed at undergraduates. During this time I continued to seek to grow as an educator. For example, while at the University of California, Berkeley I actively participated in a reading/working group exploring antiracist and anti-oppressive pedagogy in the mathematics classroom. Further, I personally sought to engage with ways to humanize mathematics and support underrepresented students by exploring the works of Pamela E. Harris, Aris Winger, Rochelle Gutiérrez, Luis Leyva, and Francis Su.

In the Fall of 2023, with a desire to return to the classroom and while working remotely at Brown University, I had the privilege to teach at San Francisco State University. I served as the instructor of record for two sections of Business Calculus and one section of Pre-Calculus I. Two of these sections were part of San Francisco State University's "supportive pathways program" which seeks to improve the retention and success of students from underserved and underrepresented communities by providing them extra support. Further, I participated in multiple teaching communities with the hope of learning more about how I could better support students from underserved and underrepresented communities. This has led to some of the most enriching and motivating teaching experiences I have had.

III. Teaching Philosophy and Strategies for Classroom Success. As an instructor, I view my role is to be an active guide. I encourage my students to explore, engage with, and question the course material for themselves. I try to structure much of the course around guided group work that gives students opportunities

to develop and discuss their understanding and confusion with their fellow students. In addition to encouraging students to take an active role in learning, this format also helps students to learn to vocalize their thought processes and ideas.

Active learning presents challenges to me and my students, most notably, the challenge of managing student mistakes. In many ways, the most significant moments during the learning process are not necessarily the moments of success, but the moments of failure. It is at this moment that students can recognize errors and gaps in their understanding of a subject and begin trying to correct them. It is also the moment that as an instructor I can understand what my students are finding difficult and nudge the conversation in such a way as to overcome these hurdles.

Making mistakes is hard, and most students, like most people, would prefer not to make mistakes. With this in mind, I think it is crucial to promote an inclusive environment where all students feel comfortable and safe participating. This environment encourages students to be open about what confuses them and where they are making mistakes. Creating an inclusive classroom environment requires active attention and work to maintain. However, in my experience, this work is well worth it.

My approach to creating an inclusive classroom environment has been influenced by the semester-long course Inclusive Practices in the College Classroom, which I took through the Delta Program for Integrating Research, Teaching and Learning. For example, one activity I implemented successfully asked students to brainstorm attributes from classes they found productive and attributes from classes they found less productive. After collecting a list of such attributes, we use this as a jumping-off point for forming community standards that we wish to shape our classroom environment. Examples of such community standards that my classes have often adopted include: "Respect everyone" and "Address the problem, not the person when discussing mistakes". I have found this helps the students buy into the belief that the classroom is an inclusive space where it is safe to make mistakes.

However, beyond simply creating an inclusive learning environment I have also found it important to create a space where students feel comfortable bringing their whole selves, including all of their experiences, backgrounds, challenges, identities, struggles, and knowledge. For example, I recognize that all students, like all people, will have days when negative experiences outside the classroom affect their ability to engage in the classroom. This is even more true for students who face racism, sexism, homo/transphobia, and other systems of oppression. On such a day when students enter the classroom, I look to try to meet the students where they are. For example, sometimes this means I will walk the student to the campus mental health or cultural center, or sometimes it means I create new problems specifically to help keep the student's mind off of whatever is troubling them. I try to make sure my students know I am there to provide them with whatever resources they need to succeed both in the classroom and in their life beyond. However, this human-centered approach also leads to many beautiful moments. For example, by allowing students to bring all of themselves to class they experience mathematics in a humanistic way, seeing how mathematics and quantitative thinking are an integral aspect of their life. I have found this often increases students' motivation, as well as opens themselves up to making mistakes, growing, and learning.

### IV. Sample Student Feedback. The effectiveness of my teaching is highlighted in student comments:

- "I've always struggle with math and I've had a lot of teachers that didn't believe in me so because of this I've always dreaded math courses. But Juliette always showed she cared, was constantly encouraging, believed in our class, and taught the material really clearly. From her constant availability to help and great instructing, her class became one of my favorites and I am more successful in a math course than I've ever been before."
- "She went around and tried helping each student... She cared about each student's success in the class and tried her best to make everyone understand the material."
- "Juliette obviously wants us to succeed not only in math but in life. She is always making sure we know our resources especially when it comes to health. She also always wishes us a good day/weekend and that is awesome."

**V. Conclusion.** As a graduate student and postdoctoral scholar, I have found teaching to be extremely rewarding. I developed a passion for supporting and engaging students from diverse backgrounds. Going forward, I am excited for new opportunities to grow and learn as a teacher, continue to promote inclusivity, diversity, and justice in my teaching, and create human-centered learning environments for my students.

### Juliette Bruce's Diversity Statement

I. Introduction. I believe strongly in the importance of inclusivity, diversity, and justice, and I am passionate about promoting these values within the mathematical community. I have worked hard to create a learning community that was as open and inclusive to as many people as possible. For example, I have worked to make mathematics more inclusive of people from underrepresented groups; by founding events like *Trans Math Day* and leading *Spectra: the Association for LGBTQ+ Mathematicians*. Further, to promote the success of mathematicians from underrepresented groups I organized numerous national and international workshops and conferences. Going forward, I am excited to continue working hard to promote these values through my research, teaching, and service.

II. Organizational Service. I have organized 10+ national/international conferences including M2@UW (45 participants), Geometry and Arithmetic of Surfaces (40 participants), Graduate Workshop in Commutative Algebra for Women & Mathematicians of Minority Genders (35 participants), CAZoom (70 participants), Western Algebraic Geometry Symposium (100 participants), GEMS of Combinatorics (40 participants), Spec( $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ ) (50 participants), BATMOBILE (30 participants), GEMS of Combinatorics II (30 participants), and GEMS of Commutative Algebra (40 participants). Additionally, I organized three special sessions at AMS Sectional Meetings and the Joint Math Meetings.

Multiple of these conferences were specifically aimed a supporting mathematicians from underrepresented groups. For example,  $Graduate\ Workshop\ in\ Commutative\ Algebra\ for\ Women\ \mathcal{E}\ Mathematicians\ of\ Minority\ Genders\ focused\ on\ forming\ communities\ of\ women\ and\ non-binary\ researchers,\ and\ Spec(<math>\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ ) highlighted the research of LGBTQ+ mathematicians in algebra, geometry, and number theory. Further, the "GEMS" workshops sought to build a diverse community of mathematicians to address gender equity in the mathematical community from new perspectives. Going forward I am interested in expanding these "GEMS" workshops to other areas of mathematics and creating cross-field discussions that broaden the standard notion of gender equity in mathematics.

When organizing these conferences I paid particular attention to making them as inclusive of women and non-binary researchers as possible. For example, I designed the registration form to be thoughtful of the concerns of transgender researchers and highlighted the locations of single occupancy and ADA-compliant restrooms. The importance of such efforts was highlighted by the following comment I received from a participant, "I just wanted to thank you for making this workshop inclusive for people with all gender identifications. ... I have always felt out of place when I participated in conferences/workshops for women when they do not specify that non-binary people are welcome ... I really appreciate those questions you put in the registration form. It means a lot to me."

III. National & International Advocacy. As a postdoc, I looked to deepen the impact of my work by attempting to promote underrepresented groups in mathematics beyond just campus. For example, I have worked with the Executive Committee of the Association for Women in Mathematics to consider ways they could expand their support of women and non-binary mathematicians. In Winter 2023 I joined MSRI's Committee on Women in Mathematics. Since Fall 2020 I have organized Trans Math Day, an annual virtual conference promoting the work of transgender and non-binary mathematicians. This conference regularly has 50 participants. Highlighting the importance of such conferences one participant said, "I've been really considering leaving mathematics. [Trans Math Day] reminded me why I'm here and why I want to stay. If a conference like this had been around for me five years ago, my life would have been a lot better." Further, I have been a board member for Spectra: The Association for LGBTQ+ Mathematicians since 2020, including as the inaugural president in 2022. In this role, I have overseen the growth and formalization of the organization, including the creation and adoption of bylaws, the creation of an invited lecture at the Joint Mathematics Meetings, and a \$20,000+ fundraising campaign. Spectra has 500 members.

Going forward I am excited to continue my work supporting LGBTQ+ students, and would love to continue building organizations to do so. In particular, given the amazing successes of programs like MSRI-UP and the EDGE Program, I would love to organize a summer REU program specifically aimed at supporting and promoting LGBTQ+ mathematicians. Further, I am in the early stages of planning a mentorship program to help guide LGBTQ+ undergraduates through the process of applying to graduate programs in

mathematics and helping young LGBTQ+ graduate students establish themselves. The plan would be to break participants into groups with each group having LGBTQ+ mathematicians at various career stages, thus allowing participants to exchange advice, find support, and build mentoring networks.

IIV A More Inclusive Learning Community. During the Fall of 2016, in response to a growing climate of hate, bias, and discrimination on campus, I led the creation of the Mathematics Department's Committee on Inclusivity and Diversity. As a member of this committee, I drafted what would become the department's commitment to inclusivity and non-discrimination. I also created syllabi statements that let students know about these department policies, and that inform them of campus resources. Everyone within the department is encouraged to use these statements.

While a graduate student I co-founded oSTEM@UW as a resource for LGBTQ+ students in STEM, which eventually grew to over fifty members. As one member said, "It made me very happy to see other friendly LGBTQ+ faces around... Thanks so much for organizing this stuff – it's really helpful". From 2017-2020 I led the campus social organization for LGBTQ+ graduate students, which had over 350 members. In this role, I have co-organized a weekly coffee social hour intended to give LGBTQ+ graduate students a place to relax, make friends, and discuss the challenges of being LGBTQ+ at the UW - Madison.

IV. Mentoring. Inspired by the mentoring that helped me navigate the challenges of being a woman in mathematics, I have worked hard to mentor people from underrepresented groups. While a graduate student, I led reading courses with three undergraduates. One of these students, an undergraduate woman, worked with me for over a year, during which time I helped her apply for summer research projects. Working with Girls' Math Night Out I lead two girls in high school through a project exploring cryptography. During 2018-2019, I mentored 6 first-year graduate students (all women, non-binary students, or students of color).

As a postdoc, I began research projects with three graduate students (a majority of whom identify with a generally underrepresented group). These projects have resulted in two pre-prints, with additional projects still ongoing. Throughout the Spring and Summer of 2022, I did a reading course with a first-year graduate woman on algebraic geometry. Additionally, I advised two summer research projects for undergraduate students. The first of these projects ran virtually during Summer 2021 when 6 undergraduates worked on a question related to the moduli space of Abelian varieties. In Summer 2022 I advised an undergraduate student on a research project related to my work on syzygies. This work is ongoing and will hopefully result in a paper. This student is now in graduate school for math and was awarded an NSF Graduate Fellowship.

- V. Virtual Mathematics In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the shift of many mathematical activities to virtual formats, I worked to find ways for these online activities to reach those often at the periphery. During the Summer and Fall of 2020, I helped with Ravi Vakil's Algebraic Geometry in the Time of Covid project. This massive online open-access course in algebraic geometry brought together  $\sim 1,500$  participants from around the world. In Spring 2021, I organized an 8-week virtual reading course for undergraduates in algebraic geometry and commutative algebra.
- IV. Expanding the Learning Community. The Madison Math Circle (MMC) is an outreach program sponsored by the UW Madison Math Department. Its goal is to kindle excitement and appreciation of math in middle and high school students. In Fall 2014, I began volunteering with the MMC. At the time, the circle's main programming was a weekly on-campus lecture given by a member of the math department. After a year of volunteering, I stepped into the role of organizer. During my three years as an organizer, I worked to build stronger connections between the MMC, local schools and other outreach organizations focused on underrepresented groups. These ties helped the weekly attendance more than double, and grow substantially more diverse. I also led the creation of a new outreach arm of the MMC, which visits high schools around the state of Wisconsin to better serve students from underrepresented groups. This program has dramatically expanded the reach of the circle, and during my final year as an organizer, the MMC reached over 300 students.
- VII. Conclusion. I have worked hard to develop programs, policies, and practices that promoted diversity, inclusion, and justice within the mathematical community. Going forward, I will continue promoting these values through my research, teaching, and service.