



Summer 2021 News & Events

by **Spectra Board** in June

Welcome to the first Spectra Newsletter! We are excited to share with you some of the ongoing initiatives Spectra is involved in, showing some exciting opportunities for you to join in. We hope moving forward to have more of these updates; if you would like to join our publicity team, please email us at lgbtmath@gmail.com.

Updates

Trans-Inclusive Naming Policies

by **Juliette Bruce and Michael Hill** in June

Spectra is working with a group of queer and trans academics to help publishers adopt more trans inclusive naming policies. Many trans academics have publications under both their lived name and their “former” or deadname. This requires trans academics both to regularly see their deadname in their publication history and also to out themselves when applying for jobs or going up for promotion in ways that other academics never need to.

In mathematics, we have reached out to the AMS, MAA, and SIAM, and all are working to implement the best practices spelled out in a guest editorial for the Committee On Publication Ethics. Additionally, Mathematical Sciences Publishers and the arXiv are working to adopt these policies. We plan to next reach out to some of the big professional societies in Europe and Asia, and we would love any suggestions or personal connections we could work with to ensure this moves forward!

JMM 2022 Planned Events

by **Chris Goff and Juliette Bruce** in June

The Joint Mathematics Meetings have long held a special place in Spectra's activities and history. With this in mind we are excited to announce that Spectra will be an organizing partner at the 2022 Joint Mathematics Meetings. This partnership will help Spectra to expand its presence and create new and exciting events at the JMM. Currently we are excited to announce the following Spectra organized events:

- **Lavender Lecture:** In order to recognize and highlight the contributions of LGBTQ+ mathematicians Spectra has decided to create the Spectra Lavender Lecture, an honorary lecture to be given annually at the Joint Mathematics Meeting. This event seeks to honor an LGBTQ+ mathematician who has made significant contributions to the mathematical sciences, mathematical education, or the mathematical community at large. The inaugural Lavender Lecture will be given at the 2022 Joint Mathematics Meetings.
- **Panel on Navigating the Job Market:** Navigating the academic job market can present distinct challenges for LGBTQ+ people. Panelists will share their personal experiences and advice addressing key questions such as: Do I want to share my orientation and/or gender identity with potential employers during the job search? If so, what are the ways to do that? How can I gauge the environment/climate at prospective workplaces? How can I identify employers that are welcoming and supportive? How can I navigate reconciling my employment/academic records to reflect my gender identity? Our panelists will discuss these and many more questions relevant to the well-being and inclusion of current and future successful LGBTQ+ mathematicians.
- **Workshop on Inclusive Practices:** The goal of this interactive workshop is to gather and share information about and suggestions for best practices that foster the inclusion and retention of LGBTQ+ mathematicians. Specifically, this workshop will identify specific actions any department of mathematics can take to be supportive and welcoming for LGBTQ+ graduate students, postdocs as well as for tenured and non-tenured faculty. In the first part of the workshop, speakers will provide examples that have fostered inclusion and retention of LGBTQ+ mathematicians at their institution. In the second part of the workshop, the audience will be split into breakout sessions focused on specific topics.
- **Annual Spectra Reception:** Now a long-standing tradition, the annual reception for LGBTQ+ mathematicians and their allies will again take place in the physical world. Keep an eye out for date and time information in the official conference program. We will also send out the information prior to the JMM.

Additionally, Spectra is happy to sponsor the following events:

- **Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon:** Despite its ubiquity Wikipedia has a bias in both who writes articles and who articles are written about. This session will give participants the tools and training needed to create and edit Wikipedia articles, and then focus on adding and improving articles about mathematicians from historically underrepresented groups.

A New Logo!

by **Juliette Bruce** on June 04

Last month Spectra was excited to unveil its new official logo designed by Dr. Rylee Lyman. The dots, edges, and vertices are intended as a reference to the Adams **spectral** sequence, which is a prominent tool in algebraic topology related to the stable homotopy theory of spheres. The colors are a reference to the pride flag.

Spectra Conference

by **David Crombecque and Alexander Hoover** on June 11

Spectra is proud to announce that [the first Spectra Conference](#) will be hosted virtually by the Institute for Computation and Experimental Research in Mathematics (ICERM) on August 18th-20th, 2021. The goal of this conference is to create a meeting for LGBTQ+ mathematicians where all branches of the mathematics community (applied, theoretical, and education) are represented and to create a space for LGBTQ+ mathematicians both to celebrate achievements and to spark conversations of challenges in our community. The conference will feature three plenary speakers from each branch, as well as contributed sessions of short research talks and lightning talks. Additionally, we plan to have social hours via Gather.Town and a panel to discuss the past, present and future of the LGBTQ+ math community. Announcements about registration and abstract submissions will be forthcoming!

Spectra's LGBTQ+ Visibility Project

by **Joseph Nakao and Ron Buckmire** in June

We believe that visibility of openly LGBTQ+ mathematicians is vital for the mathematical sciences community. Spectra has created the LGBTQ+ Visibility Project to increase awareness of the contributions made by LGBTQ+ mathematicians. To help promote visibility, Spectra and its partners are drafting a poster that will celebrate openly LGBTQ+ mathematicians for their significant contributions to the mathematics community in research, education, advocacy and other areas. Similarly to how Mathematically Gifted & Black in February, Lathisms in October, and the Association for Women in Mathematics in

March celebrate exceptional mathematicians each year, Spectra would like to highlight LGBTQ+ mathematicians each day during LGBTQ Pride month (June). Additionally, we also have plans to produce a poster highlighting LGBTQ+ mathematicians similar to [the various posters promoting the diversity of the mathematics community produced by the AMS](#). If you are interested in either of these projects or have your own ideas about enhancing the visibility of LGBTQ+ mathematicians, contact Ron Buckmire ron@oxy.edu or Joseph Nakao nakaoj@udel.edu

If you would like to join Spectra's Out List or Ally List, please fill out the corresponding form on Spectra's website, www.lgbtmath.org.

Spectra supports social justice

by **Spectra Board** in June

Black lives matter. Black trans lives matter. We on the Spectra Board work towards a more inclusive mathematics community, and while the majority of our efforts have an LGBTQ+ focus, we recognize that they are part of a broader goal of building a more equitable world. Part of that is recognizing the continued impact of police brutality (which has targeted many many members of our community, from pre-Stonewall to now). Part of that is also identifying and dismantling how the prison/military-industrial complex adversely impacts people here in the US and around the world. Feminist work continues. Antiracist work continues. Queering the work continues.

We thank the many other organizations who are working to build a more equitable mathematics community for discussions and examples over the past year, including the [Association for Women in Mathematics](#), the [National Association of Mathematicians](#), the [Prison Mathematics Project](#), and the recent MSRI workshop on Math and Racial Justice. We especially thank the [Just Mathematics Collective](#) and those who reached out to us for pushing us to reaffirm our stance, to redouble our efforts, and to explicitly declare that we take no money from the NSA or any of the military adjacent branches of the US government.

More ways to Connect!

- [Slack](#)
- [Discord](#)
- [Google Group](#)

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