



News Archive

June 2000 – September 2004

August 2004: Welcome to new staff

The summer months have seen some significant changes in the Department of Mathematics at LSE.

Dr Robert Simon joined us at the start of July. Bob joins us from the Department of Mathematics at the University of Göttingen, Germany. His main research field is mathematical game theory, especially Bayesian games, stochastic games and games with incomplete information on one side. In the coming academic year Bob will be teaching MA201 Further Mathematical Methods (Linear Algebra) and MA311 Discrete Mathematics.

We also welcome Dr Amol Sasane, who started with us on 1st August. Amol got his PhD from the University of Groningen in Holland in 2001 and until recently he was working as a senior research associate in the Aerospace and Ocean Engineering Department at Virginia Tech., USA. His main research interests are infinite-dimensional systems theory, the behavioural approach to control theory and adaptive control for distributed parameter systems. Amol will be responsible for the courses MA103 Introduction to Abstract Mathematics (with Dr van den Heuvel) and MA305 Control Theory in the coming academic year.

Unfortunately we also have some goodbyes to say...

Dr Robert Johnson, who joined us for a year in September 2003, is leaving at the end of August to take up a permanent lectureship at QMW. Dr Matthew Johnson, a senior research officer funded for two years by the EPSRC, is also leaving, at the end of September, to take up a permanent lectureship in Durham. Our thanks go to both of them for all their work, along with our best wishes for the future in their careers.

August 2004: Congratulations to Pavitra Kumar and Peter Chapman, prizewinners in the Mathematics Department.

Congratulations from the Department of Mathematics go to Pavitra Kumar and Peter Chapman, who have been jointly awarded the Cyril Offord Prize for their excellent academic achievements. They are jointly the fourth winners of the prize, which is awarded for outstanding performance in mathematics. We also congratulate John Eloff, who was awarded the LSE-wide C.S. MacTaggart 2nd Year Prize for his performance in second year examinations.

Pavitra achieved a remarkable 9 first-class marks out of 9, with a degree average of nearly 86%. Her scores of 100% in MA200 and 96% in MA203, as well as 95% in EC202 are particularly notable.

Peter's achievements are equally impressive. He was also awarded 9 first-class marks out of 9, with a degree average of 84%. His impressive final year scores include a 100% in MA303 and 97% in MA305, and his final year average was nearly 88%.

Update: Peter has also been awarded the LSE-wide Huw Weldon Prize for his final year achievements.

John averaged a very impressive 86% in his second year examinations, which included a mark of 95% for EC202, as well as having impressed during his first year, to win the School-wide C. S. MacTaggart 2nd Year Prize.

The Department congratulates all of them on their achievements and would like to wish them well in their future studies/careers.

August 2004: Prize winners

The Department of Mathematics would like to congratulate Gillian Colkin, Dr James Spelling and Dr James Ward on winning three of the School's Occasional Teacher Prizes 2004. These are awarded annually by LSE's Teaching and Learning Committee based on a number of factors, including the termly surveys of students' opinions of class teaching.

We would like to thank all our class teachers for their excellent work over the last year.

July 2004

A selection of photographs from the Graduation Party in July 2004

January 2004: EU Sixth Framework Grant Success for Mathematics and Statistics

Dr Martin Anthony (Mathematics Department and Centre for Discrete and Applicable Mathematics) and Professor Henry Wynn (Statistics Department and CDAM) are the LSE partners on a newly-announced Network of Excellence funded by the EU Sixth Framework Programme. The project, entitled PASCAL (Pattern Analysis, Statistical Modelling and Computational Learning) creates a Europe-wide distributed research institute which will pioneer theories and methods of pattern analysis, statistical modelling and computational learning. A particular aim is to investigate how such methods can be used to better enable multi-modal interfacing between computers and humans.

The project, funded for four years at 5.44M ECU, will foster interaction between a wide range of researchers based across Europe. Participating researchers have expertise in learning theory and statistics, algorithmics, machine vision, speech, haptics, brain-computer interfaces, natural language processing, information-retrieval, textual information processing and user modelling for computer-human interaction.

September 2003: Yale Visit

Dr Bernhard von Stengel, (LSE Reader in Mathematics) and his PhD student Rahul Savani each gave successful talks at Cowles Foundation Workshop on Complexity in Economic Theory at Yale University, New Haven.

September 2003: All change in the Department of Mathematics: new faces, some goodbyes, and a new degree

The summer months have seen some significant changes in the Department of Mathematics at LSE.

We have unfortunately said goodbye to our temporary lecturer, Dr Grant Galbraith, and also to two of our research officers, Mr Alberto Pompermaier and Dr Leonidas Pitsoulis. We would like to thank all three of them for their good work in their time here and wish them very well in their future careers.

On a more positive note, we are welcoming two new members of staff to the Department: Dr Malwina Luczak is joining us as a permanent lecturer in September. Malwina joins us from the Statistical Laboratory of the Centre for Mathematical Sciences at University of Cambridge. Her main research fields are probability and discrete mathematics, and she gained her DPhil in Mathematical Sciences from University of Oxford at the beginning of 2001. In the coming academic year Malwina will be teaching MA303 Chaos in Dynamical Systems and MA313 Probability for Finance and Economics.

We also welcome Dr Robert Johnson, who will be joining us in September as a temporary lecturer for the next academic year. Robert is also coming to us from the University of Cambridge, where he has recently completed his PhD. His research focuses on combinatorics and graph theory. Robert will be responsible for the courses MA201 Further Mathematical Methods (Linear Algebra) and MA311 Discrete Mathematics in the coming academic year.

And finally... the Mathematics Department is proud to present its new degree programme: the MSc in Applicable Mathematics. This new Masters programme, which will commence in October 2004, is a major step for the Department and we will be expanding accordingly. This is our first MSc programme; the plan is to launch others within the next few years.

August 2003: Congratulations to Noor Drummond, Marios Kalotychos, Pavitra Kumar, Binyamin Radomsky and Kanishk Sarin, prize winners in the Mathematics Department

Congratulations from the Department of Mathematics go to Noor Drummond, Marios Kalotychos, Pavitra Kumar, Binyamin Radomsky and Kanishk Sarin, all of whom have been awarded prizes for their respective academic achievements.

Kanishk is the third winner of the Cyril Offord Prize, which is awarded for outstanding performance in Mathematics. He was a BSc Mathematics and Economics student who graduated in July 2003 with a first-class degree, having achieved a degree average mark of 83% and having gained 8 first-class marks out of 9.

Noor also graduated in July 2003 with a first-class degree on the BSc Mathematics and Economics. He was awarded one of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) prizes by the Department for his academic excellence, which included a degree average of nearly 80%, and 7 first-class marks.

Binyamin graduated with a 1st class degree from the BSc Business Mathematics and Statistics degree in July 2003, and was also awarded one of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) prizes by the Department for his academic excellence. His results included 91% in MA301 and 88% in MA311.

Marios is the second winner of the Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein sponsored 2nd year BMS Prize for best performance in that year of the BSc Business Mathematics and Statistics. Marios achieved 6 first-class marks in his six 2nd year exams, including 95% for ST277.

Pavitra is, to our knowledge, the first winner from the Mathematics Department of the School-wide CS Mactaggart Prize for second year students. This prize is one of three awarded for best performance in examinations to students in their second undergraduate year of study at LSE. Pavitra (a BSc Mathematics and Economics student) achieved firsts in all her 2nd year exams, with a 2nd year average of 90%, including a mark of 100% for the course MA200.

The Department would like to wish all of them well in their future careers and/or studies.

August 2003: Prize winners

The Department of Mathematics would like to congratulate Mark Baltovic, Rahul Savani, and Dr Tony Whelan on winning three of the School's Occasional Teacher Prizes 2003. These are awarded annually by LSE's Teaching and Learning Committee based on a number of factors, including the termly surveys of students' opinions of class teaching.

We would like to thank all our class teachers for their excellent work over the last year.

July 2003: Stony Brook visit

At the end of July, Dr Bernhard von Stengel, (LSE Reader in Mathematics), organised the Stony Brook Game Theory Conference in New York. LSE Maths PhD students Arndt von Schemde and Rahul Savani also gave successful talks at the event.

June 2003: New MSc course

The Department of Mathematics will launch an MSc in Applicable Mathematics, with the first intake of students to arrive in September 2004.

March 2003: Congratulations to Philipp Reinfeld

Congratulations to Philipp Reinfeld, who has just been awarded his PhD in Mathematics. Well done, Dr Philipp!

November 2002: Maths & Stats Society Event - A talk from MLP

Orientation Seminar for Maths & Econ 1st year students - how to improve your applications for internships and summer work. Two former BMS students will be speaking at the Orientation Seminar for BMS 1st year students.

October 2002: Congratulations to Li Shan Shi, Cassandra Hannibal and Gabriel Dauvin, prize winners in the Mathematics Department

Congratulations from the Department of Mathematics go to Li Shan Shi, Cassandra Hannibal and Gabriel Dauvin, who were awarded the Cyril Offord Prize, the IMA Prize, and the DKRW 2nd Year BMS Prize, respectively, for their academic achievements.

Li Shan is the second winner of the Cyril Offord Prize, which is awarded for outstanding performance in Mathematics. She was a BSc Mathematics and Economics student who graduated in July 2002 with a 1st class degree, having achieved a degree average mark of 84%.

Cassandra also graduated in July 2002 with a 1st class degree on the BSc Mathematics and Economics. She was awarded one of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) prizes by the Department for her academic excellence, which included a mark of 99% for her Game Theory exam.

Gabriel is the first winner of the Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein sponsored 2nd year BMS Prize for best performance in that year of the BSc Business Mathematics and Statistics. Gabriel achieved five 1st class marks in his five second year exams, with an average of 88% for each exam. The Department would like to wish all of them well in their future careers and/or studies.

August 2002

[A selection of photos from the 2002 Leaver's Party and Graduation Party now online...](#)

June 2002: studentship available

LSE Department of Mathematics has an EPSRC-funded PhD studentship available.

May 2002: Professor W T Tutte

Obituary of Professor W T Tutte in the Independent, by Professor Norman Biggs.

January 2002: new book by Joan Davies

Joan Davies, lecturer in the Maths Department, has had her new book (and course text for MA100) 'Calculus' published.

September 2001: Congratulations to the Kevin Sheedy and Luke Thomas, prize winners in the Mathematics Department

Congratulations from the Department of Mathematics go to Kevin Sheedy and Luke Thomas, who were awarded the Cyril Offord Prize and the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications Prize, respectively, for their academic achievements.

Kevin is the first winner of the new Cyril Offord Prize, more details of which can be viewed [here](#). He was a BSc Mathematics and Economics student who graduated in July 2001 with a 1st class degree, having achieved firsts for every module of his degree.

Luke also graduated in July 2001 with a 1st class degree from the BSc Business Mathematics and Statistics. He was awarded one of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) prizes by the Department for his academic excellence. He achieved an overall degree average mark of nearly 84%.

The Department would like to wish both of them well in their future careers.

July 2001

[A selection of photos from the 2001 graduation party now available to view...](#)

June 2001: The Cyril Offord Prize, in memory of the first LSE Professor of Mathematics, has been established

Professor Cyril Offord was the first Professor of Mathematics at the LSE. He was world famous for his work in classical analysis and was a pioneer in the field of probabilistic analysis. He died in June 2000, aged 93. You can read more about his in his <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2000/jul/05/guardianobituaries3>.

In memory of Professor Offord, the Department has established the Cyril Offord Prize. It will be awarded annually for Outstanding Performance in Mathematics on one of the following degree programmes: the BSc in Mathematics and Economics, the BSc Mathematics with Economics, and the BSc in Business Mathematics and Statistics.

The prize consists of £200 and a book chosen by the Department. The winner(s) of the prize will be chosen by the staff at the Examination Sub-Board Meeting in late June/early July each year. We hope that this is a very positive way of remembering Professor Offord, and also of rewarding our students for excellence.

October 2000: Maths Department Winner of the ESRC Essay Competition

Congratulations to Wai Wing Li, now in the 2nd year of the BSc Mathematics and Economics degree, who has won the Young Contributor's prize for his article *Privatising British Universities* which appeared in the Summer 2000 edition of the journal *Britain and Overseas*. Wai Wing was awarded a prize of £200 for his contribution.

September 2000

Obituary of Professor John C. Harsanyi by Bernhard von Stengel

June 2000: Excellent Education in Mathematics and Statistics

At the end of 1999, the LSE's Departments of Mathematics and Statistics were thoroughly reviewed by the Quality Assurance Agency. Our work was assessed with respect to six aspects of provision:

- Curriculum Design, Content and Organisation
- Teaching, Learning and Assessment
- Student Progression and Achievement
- Student Support and Guidance
- Learning Resources
- Quality Management and Enhancement

The Departments obtained the maximum rating in four of these aspects, and a total score of 22 points out of a possible 24. This result fully justifies our claim to provide an excellent education in Mathematics and Statistics, in the context of the LSE's international standing in the social sciences.