



## News Archive

### September 2006 – August 2007

#### **June 2007: Welcome to new lecturer**

We are delighted to welcome Dr Pavel Gapeev to the Mathematics Department as a lecturer from September 2007. Pavel comes to us from the Weierstrass Institute for Applied Analysis and Stochastics in Berlin.

#### **June 2007: Congratulations to Jan van den Heuvel and Adam Ostaszewski**

Jan has just been promoted to Professor, and Adam has just been promoted to Reader.

#### **June 2007: London Taught Course Centre for PhD students in the Mathematical Sciences**

EPSRC has approved funding for a bid from a consortium of institutions in the London region for "pump-priming" funds of 400K to establish a Taught Course Centre in London. The consortium, led by QMUL, UCL and Imperial (Statistics), and also comprising KCL, LSE, City, Brunel and Kent, will run a programme of courses in mathematics and statistics for PhD students one day a week at de Morgan House (the Russell Square headquarters of the London Mathematical Society) from October 2007, and also a programme of short intensive courses on "hot topics" in the mathematical sciences.

The London network is one of 6 selected nationally for funding by EPSRC. Our primary objective is to ensure that all mathematical sciences research students experience a broad mathematical culture covering at least one (and ideally more) of the three areas: pure mathematics, applied mathematics and statistics. By pooling our resources we intend to make best use of the huge reservoir of mathematical expertise available in the London region and offer an inspiring programme of modules.

#### **January 2007: Mathematics Professor becomes best-selling author!**

Steve Alpern was one of the contributors featured in the recent number one best-selling book, "Why Don't Penguins' Feet Freeze", (on page 203, to be specific). He answered a question on how two people lost in a large supermarket might best find each other again (an example of a problem Steve has looked into on a number of occasions in his research on Rendezvous Theory).

## **December 2006: LSE Mathematician, Malwina Luczak, wins Humboldt Fellowship**



Dr Malwina Luczak of the Mathematics department has been awarded a prestigious Humboldt Research Fellowship by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, a foundation established by the German government to promote international research collaboration.

The Foundation, "sponsors top-flight, foreign scientists and scholars who come to Germany on the strength of our research fellowships and research awards to spend longer periods of time working together with German colleagues." The Foundation also notes on their website that, "Academic excellence is our premier criterion for selecting new Humboldtians... we sponsor people and not projects."

The fellowship will enable Malwina to spend a period of sabbatical leave at the Computer Department of the Humboldt University in Berlin. There, she will be conducting joint research with members of Hans Jurgen Proemel's Algorithms and Complexity group on random graph processes. This is currently a very active research area, both as an inspiration for new mathematical theory and techniques, and because of important real-life applications (for instance, to study large complex networks, such as the Internet and the World Wide Web).

Our congratulations go to Dr Luczak.

## **September 2006: Congratulations to Mathematics Department Class Teacher Prize winners 2006**

The Department of Mathematics would like to congratulate Luis Cereceda, Dr James Ward and Dr Ioannis Kouletsis on winning three of the School's Occasional Teacher Prizes 2006. 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.

## **September 2006: Congratulations to student prizewinners!**

Sayed Zaman (BSc Business Mathematics and Statistics) has won the Cyril Offord Prize, and from the MSc Applicable Mathematics, Zibo Xu has won both the LSE Robert McKenzie Prize and the University of London Lionel Cooper Prize, whilst Julian Merschen has won the Haya Freedman Prize for 2005/6.

## **September 2006: Appointment of New Chair in Financial Maths**

We're pleased to announce that Mihail Zervos has been appointed to the new Chair in Financial Mathematics. The post is part of an exciting strategic initiative by the School to extend the research and teaching activities of the Mathematics department in the area of financial mathematics.

## **September 2006: Welcome to new staff**

The Mathematics Department would like to welcome two new members of academic staff, who joined us in September: Dr Tugkan Batu and Dr Jozef Skokan.