



News Archive

September 2010 – August 2011

2011: Advent Software Scholarship 2011/12

Congratulations to Ananya Roy, MSc Applicable Mathematics - Ananya is this year's recipient of the Advent Software Scholarship.

June 2011: Search Games Workshop at LSE

Professor Steve Alpern recently organised LSE Mathematics' Annual Search Games Workshop

Tuesday 28 June, 16:00 - 18:00 - Room TW1.U210 (Tower One)

Rendezvous Search Problems

Richard Weber (Cambridge) Informal remarks

Steve Alpern (LSE) Symmetric rendezvous on the line

John Howard (LSE) A simple rendezvous search game with delayed information

Wednesday 29 June, Session One, 11:00 - 13:00 - Room E168 (East Building)

Search for an immobile hider

Tom Lidbetter (LSE) Expanding search for an immobile hider on a network

Scmuel Gal (Haifa) Searching a graph using the Travelling Salesman Path (TSP) tour

Lunch - Senior Dining Room - 13:00 - 14:00

Session Two, 15:00 - 17:00 - Room E168 (East Building)

Search for a mobile hider

Robbert Fokkink (TU Delft) The ambush search game

Jon Pitchford (York) Evolutionary optimality in stochastic search problems

Alec Morton (LSE) Network games of search and ambush

Organiser: **Steve Alpern** (Department of Mathematics)

June 2011: ESRC Game Theory Workshop

"Correlation and Coordination in Games", with speakers Françoise Forges, Vince Crawford, Michalis Drouvelis, Eran Shmaya, Nick Vriend, Joel Sobel.

Organisers: Olivier Gossner and Bernhard von Stengel

2011: Maths Department Manager's song for charity....

Department Manager David Scott's band The Phonic have written and recorded a song for an album released by the charity Forever Searching, who raise awareness about missing and abducted children. The song is called Birthday Girl, all proceeds go to the charity.

2011: Goodbye to Malwina

The Mathematics Department is very sorry to be saying goodbye to Malwina Luczak, who left us at the end of August to take up a Professorship at the University of Sheffield. Malwina joined the department in September 2003. We wish her the very best of luck in her new role.

2011: Cyril Offord Prize 2010/11

Congratulations to Alexander Christou, Vanessa Do and Maathumei Vijayakumaraguru, joint winners of the Cyril Offord Prize for outstanding performance in mathematics for 2010/11.

2011: Welcome (back) to Amol Sasane

The Mathematics Department is delighted to welcome back Dr Amol Sasane. He rejoins us from KTH Stockholm, having been away for 18 months or so.

2011: Congratulations to Ben Veal

Ben, a PhD student in the Maths Department, was formally awarded his PhD in Mathematics on the 31st May 2011. Ben's thesis was entitled 'Binary similarity measures and their applications in machine learning', and he was supervised by Prof. Martin Anthony. Congratulations, Dr Veal!

2011: Two One-Day Colloquia in Combinatorics 2011

The Mathematics Department organised and hosted two linked One-Day Colloquia in Combinatorics in May 2011.

2011: Congratulations to Fares Al-Azemi

Fares, a PhD student in the Maths Department, was formally awarded his PhD in Mathematics on the 31st March 2011. Fares' thesis was entitled 'A Pair of Explicitly Solvable Impulse Control Problems', and he was supervised by Prof. Mihail Zervos. Congratulations, Dr Al-Azemi!

2011: Welcome to Loraine

We're delighted to welcome Loraine Evans to the Maths Department as our new Research Administrator, taking over from Simon Jolly. Loraine has joined us from the London Business School.

January 2011: Congratulations to Wan Huang

Wan, a PhD student in the Maths Department, was formally awarded her PhD in Mathematics on the 31st January 2011. Wan's thesis was entitled 'Equilibrium Computation for Extensive Games', and she was supervised by Prof. Bernhard von Stengel. Congratulations, Dr Huang!

January 2011: Congratulations to Adam and Konrad

We are delighted to announce that Adam Ostaszewski has just been promoted to Professor, and Konrad Swanepoel to Reader. Both titles commence officially from 1st August, but nonetheless we would very much like to wish both Adam and Konrad our heartiest congratulations.

December 2010: Congratulations to Zibo Xu!

Zibo, a PhD student in the Maths Department, was formally awarded his PhD in Mathematics on the 31st December 2010. Zibo was successfully examined for his PhD in early November 2010 and was jointly supervised by Dr Robert Simon and Dr Adam Ostaszewski. His thesis was entitled 'A Stochastic Ramsey Theorem'. Congratulations, Dr Xu!

October 2010: Nobel Prize for LSE Professor of Economics



LSE professor Christopher Pissarides was awarded the Nobel Prize for Economic Sciences today.

He won the 2010 prize jointly for his work on the economics of unemployment, especially job flows and the effects of being out of work. He shares the prize with Peter Diamond from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Dale Mortensen from Northwestern University.

Announcing the new laureates, the Nobel Committee said the award was for analysis of markets with search frictions.

Professor Pissarides is professor of economics at LSE and holder of the Norman Sosnow Chair in Economics. He is also a fellow of the Centre for Economic Performance at LSE and of the Centre for Economic Policy Research. He was awarded his PhD at LSE in 1973 and has been on the faculty since - for 38 years.



Professor Pissarides said he was initially speechless on winning the award and would need time to absorb the news.

He said: 'Our research looks at what happens to someone who loses his or her job because of changes in economic environment. We have created a model which allows us to analyse the processes and decisions, such as policy, which affect how long it is before someone finds productive

employment again. Until we began the work there was no way of thinking about these issues.

'One of the key things we found is that it is important to make sure that people do not stay unemployed too long so they don't lose their feel for the labour force. The ways of dealing with this need not be expensive training - it could be as simple as providing work experience.'

LSE director Howard Davies said: 'I offer my warmest congratulations to him. The Nobel committee clearly felt, as we do, that his work over many years has been of outstanding quality and relevance and the whole LSE community will want to salute his achievement.'

Professor John Van Reenen, director of the Centre for Economic Performance, said: 'I am delighted that Chris has been recognised for his outstanding work in understanding how markets really work. Rather than assuming that workers were being smoothly and instantaneously matched with jobs as in traditional models, he elegantly modelled the process by which both sides are constantly on search for opportunities to find the right match. These "frictions" matter substantially for our understanding of movements between jobs and unemployment. They are not mere analytical inconveniences but fundamental to our analysis of aggregate unemployment and business cycles.'

This award takes the number of Nobel prize winners who have been students or teachers at LSE to 16.

2010: Congratulations to Jackie Everid - winner of a Service Excellence Award

Jackie has just won one of LSE's prestigious Service Excellence Awards 2010 for her outstanding

support and service to students and staff in the Maths Department. We can't think of a more deserving recipient! Well done Jackie.

September 2010: New Staff

The department is delighted to welcome a new lecturer, Dr Luitgard Veraart. Luitgard joins us at the beginning of September, and comes to us from the Institute for Stochastics at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.