



News Archive

September 2017 – August 2018



September 2017: Congratulations to Dr Barnaby Roberts

It's the start of term for most of us but for some, it's the end of an era... Dr Barnaby Roberts has been awarded his PhD in Mathematics, with his thesis entitled "Structure and randomness in external combinatorics". Welcome to the Department of Mathematics' alumni family and congratulations on all your hard work. We wish you every success in your new venture!



October 2017: Mathematics Careers Evening

Our annual Mathematics Careers Evening was a great success, well attended by both undergraduates and postgraduates. The event provided the perfect opportunity for students to discover just what they can do with their Mathematics degree by networking with our recent graduate alumni. It's so inspiring to hear how alumni are progressing and the aspirations our current students have! We're grateful to our colleagues in LSE Careers who co-organised the event.



October 2017: Women in Mathematics Seminar - Dr Eugénie Hunsicker

Further details about the speaker can be found [here](#).



October 2017: ERC Grant Award

[Dr László Végh](#), Associate Professor of Mathematics at LSE, has been awarded a starting grant from the European Research Council for a project entitled '[Scaling Methods for Discrete and Continuous Optimization](#)'. There are currently two opportunities to join this project:

1. A [Research Officer](#) post (equivalent to a postdoc position), available for 1 year with possible extensions. The closing date for applications is 8 December 2017 (23.59 UK time) and the starting date is flexible.

2. A number of **PhD positions**. Interested applicants should contact László directly before submitting an application to the LSE PhD system. Please visit our [departmental PhD application website](#) for further

guidance. The application deadline for positions in this project is 28 February 2018, but early application is encouraged.



November 2017: Public Lecture: Game Theory Through the Computational Lens

Date: Thursday 30 November 2017

Speaker: [Prof Tim Roughgarden](#)

Chair: [Martin Anthony](#)

Tim Roughgarden is a Professor in the Computer Science and (by courtesy) Management Science and Engineering Departments, Stanford University, as well as a Visiting Professor in the Department of Mathematics.

The fields of computer science and game theory both trace their roots to the first half of the 20th century, with the work of Turing, von Neumann, Nash, and others. Fast forwarding to the present, there are now many fruitful points of contact between these two fields. Game theory plays an important role in 21st-century computer science applications, ranging from social networks to routing in the Internet. The flow of ideas also travels in the other direction, with computer science offering a number of tools to reason about economic problems in novel ways. For example, computational complexity theory sheds new light on the “bounded rationality” of decision-makers. Approximation guarantees, originally developed to analyse fast heuristic algorithms, can be usefully applied to Nash equilibria. Computationally efficient algorithms are an essential ingredient to modern, large-scale auction designs. In this lecture, Tim Roughgarden will survey the key ideas behind these connections and their implications.

More information on this event is available [here](#), along with a podcast and video recording.



November 2017: Congratulations to Drs Ewan Davies and Daniel Quiroz!

We are thrilled for Ewan and Daniel on their fantastic achievements and embrace them into the Department of Mathematics' alumni family! We're so happy for you to have been awarded your PhDs in Mathematics.

For details of their thesis titles and to view the ever-growing list of PhD alumni of the department, please view our PhD "[Roll of Honour](#)".



December 2017: Our New Website

We are very excited to launch our new departmental website. We've streamlined the page-flow and added lots of new content for prospective and current students, as well as those interested in our research topics. We hope you enjoy taking a look around!



December 2017: Winter Graduation Ceremony

What better way to celebrate the end of the year than with our MSc and PhD graduation ceremony? We all had a wonderful day, sharing memories, applauding achievements and looking forward to our graduates' futures. You all deserve so much - good luck and stay in touch by [registering with LSE Alumni!](#)



December 2017: Prizewinners

We are pleased to announce the initiation of a new PhD prize in Mathematics: [The Department of Mathematics' PhD Prize for Outstanding Academic Performance](#).

This year, we have made our awards retrospectively, covering the time period September 2014 to October 2017 and awards have been made to Matthew Jennsen (Discrete Mathematics, graduated 2017), Barnaby Roberts (Discrete Mathematics, graduated 2017) and Yavor Stoev (Financial Mathematics, graduated 2015). Congratulations to them all! In addition, Martin Antonov has been awarded the [Haya Freedman Prize](#) for the Best MSc Dissertation 2016/7. Excellent work Martin!

More information can be found [here](#).



March 2018: ICA Medal awarded to Robin Wilson

Our Visiting Professor, [Robin Wilson](#), has been awarded the 2017 Stanton Medal, awarded every two years by the Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications for outreach activities in combinatorial mathematics. Information about the ICA medals can be found on the ICA web page: <http://luca-giuzzi.unibs.it/ICA/medals.php> Dr Robin Wilson has, for fifty years, been an outstanding ambassador for graph theory to the general public. He has lectured widely (giving some 1500 public lectures), and extended the reach of his lectures through television, radio, and videotape. He has also published extensively (authoring or editing some 40 books) on combinatorial ideas, written in a style that is engaging and accessible. He has provided direction, encouragement, and support to colleagues and students at all levels. His superb talents at conveying the beauty of graph-theoretic ideas, and inviting his readers and listeners to join in, have enthused many students, teachers, and researchers. Professor Wilson's advocacy

and outreach for combinatorics continue to yield many positive impacts that are enjoyed by researchers and non-specialists alike.



April 2018: Congratulations to Professor Young

We are delighted to share the news that our Centennial Professor [H. Peyton Young](#) has been elected as member of the [American Academy of Arts and Sciences](#). Peyton has been a Visiting Professor in the Department since 2015 and makes a valued contribution to the academic life of the Department, through our [seminar](#) and [public lecture](#) series.



May 2018: Prize-winning teaching in the Department!

We mark the success of staff in the Department in winning teaching prizes this year. [Konrad Swanepoel](#) and [Johannes Ruf](#) won promotion teaching prizes. [James Ward](#) is Runner-up in the [Student-Led Teaching Excellence Awards](#) in the category Sharing Subject Knowledge. Winners of Class teacher awards this year are [Siri Kouletsis](#), [Niccolo' Salvatori](#), and [Tony Whelan](#), with [George Zouros](#) and [Laurence O'Toole](#) as highly commended. The class teacher awards were presented on 9 May at an event at LSE Students' Union. Congratulations to all of our winners!



May 2018: PhD Poster Presentation Prize winners

Congratulations to the PhD Poster Presentation prizewinners at the [Colloquia in Combinatorics 2018](#).

1st prize: **Attila Dankovics** (LSE) '[Low Independence Number and Hamiltonicity Implies Pancyclicity](#)'

2nd prize: **Yanitsa Pehova** (Warwick) '[Decomposing Graphs into Edges and Triangles](#)'

Highly Commended: **Alberto Espuny Diaz** (Birmingham) '[Edge Correlations in Random Regular Hypergraphs and Applications to Subgraph Testing](#)'

The judging panel comprised a number of the event's speakers.



May 2018: Celebrating our talented new teachers

Congratulations to the six winners of this year's Departmental Teaching Prizes! These are awarded to recognise the achievements of those new to teaching in our Department. 2017-18 winners are: Rowland Bennett, David Kohan Marzagão, Siri Kouletsis, Stan Kučera, Asuka Kumon and Niccolo' Salvatori.



July 2018: Academic Prize Winners

Cyril Offord Prize

Congratulations to **Tarek Chaaoui** (pictured), a BSc Mathematics with Economics student, who has been awarded the Cyril Offord Prize for Outstanding Performance in Mathematics. To find out more about Professor Cyril Offord, the first Professor of Mathematics at the LSE, please read his [obituary](#). [Details of the Prize can be read here](#).



Farr Prize

The Farr Prize is awarded to the best performer in final year examinations for a BSc student in the Department of Mathematics or Statistics. This year, we congratulate **Bo Wei Ooi** on their outstanding performance in their exam. [More information on the Prize can be found here](#).

Wynne-Roberts Prizes

The Wynne-Roberts Prizes are awarded to both first and second year students who have achieved best performance in their mathematics courses. The winner from our first year cohort is **Harvey Bains** – congratulations Harvey!

We have joint winners this year for best performance in second year mathematics courses. Congratulations to **Xenia Dimitrakopoulou** and **Justin Tan**! [More information on the Prize can be found here](#).

Joseph Abraham Prize

The Joseph Abraham Prize, named after an MSc Financial Mathematics student who sadly died in 2015, is given to those on the same programme who have shown outstanding achievement in their studies on the MSc Financial Mathematics degree. This year our winner is **Benjamin Auve** – congratulations Ben! [More information on the Prize can be found here](#).



July 2018: Citizenship Prize Winners

This is the first year that we have awarded the [John Ying Wah Gibson Awards for Citizenship and Voluntary Work](#). These prizes are given to students from any programme run by the Department of Mathematics and students can either nominate themselves or their peers for the award.

The John Ying Wah Gibson Citizenship Prize goes to a student of good academic achievement who demonstrates strong service to society and the LSE community generally. This year our winner is **Diego Skromne Carrasco**, a final year BSc Mathematics and Economics student, who was nominated for dedicating his whole time at LSE to raising money

for charity and generally contributing to the LSE community. He was a LSESU Raising and Giving committee member and is noted as a humble, generous and hardworking individual, who also excelled in his academic career. Well done Diego!

The John Ying Wah Gibson Voluntary Award is made to support Mathematics student(s) pursuing voluntary work aimed at making the world a better place. This year's winner is **Zhihong Zhang**, a final year BSc Mathematics and Economics student, who was awarded for his volunteering work in Egypt over the summer. His project with the Alexandria Regional Centre for Women's Health and Development revolved around eradicating gender inequality and tackling the key global issues he is passionate about. Well done to Zhihong!



July 2018: Graduation - Class of 2018

As a Department, we want to congratulate all our Mathematics students who graduated yesterday afternoon! We are immensely proud of all of your achievements whilst you studied with us here at the LSE, and we wish you all the best in your futures!



July 2018: Robert Wilson Symposium & Honorary Degree Award

We are honoured to have had [Robert Wilson](#) (Stanford University) in our midst this week. Not only did he receive an honorary degree from LSE at yesterday's graduation, he also had a symposium on [Auctions and Computational Game Theory](#) in his honour.

Congratulations Robert for your degree, and thank you to all those involved in the organisation and delivery of the symposium over the last two days!



July 2018: Fulkerson Prize

We are delighted to announce that [Dr Peter Allen](#) and [Dr Julia Böttcher](#) of the Department of Mathematics have been awarded the prestigious Delbert Ray Fulkerson Prize at the 2018 [International Symposium on Mathematical Programming](#) earlier this month. This was a result of their joint work with Simon Griffiths, Yoshiharu Kohayakawa and Robert Morris on the chromatic thresholds of graphs.

The prize in question is given to outstanding papers in discrete mathematics, and is sponsored jointly by the Mathematical Optimization Society and the American Mathematical Society. A huge congratulations to Peter and Julia, as well as their youngest child who also got to enjoy the spotlight!