

## Now Accepting Nominations for the 2015 Field of Dreams Conference!

November 6-8, 2015  
Birmingham, Alabama



"I thought the conference was an excellent experience as well as an *excellent networking tool*. I strongly suggest anyone that is thinking about continuing their studies in mathematics attend this conference because it definitely opened my eyes to the possibly. I am greatly appreciative of the opportunity."



"This conference dramatically improved my *confidence*, and now I will definitely pursue a PhD! Thank you so much for this wonderful opportunity!"

"I had such an *amazing experience*, learned so much new information that I can share with the math community on my campus, & made *friendships* that will last a long time."



Click here for more photos from the  
2014 Field of Dreams Conference

**Mentors**— you can now nominate your scholars for the 2015 Field of Dreams Conference. Please use the link provided in the email sent to you on July 9th to fill out the nomination form. Contact us with any questions regarding the nomination process or conference.

**Scholars**— please talk to your mentor about being nominated. The Field of Dreams is a great place to learn about academic and career opportunities, network with your peers, and even apply to a graduate program!

**FGAP**— We are still taking nomination for the Facilitated Graduate Applications Process. If you have been paired but haven't made contact with your mentor/mentee please do so. If you have any questions contact **Billie Townsend** and she will be happy to help.

We hope to see you all in Birmingham this year, November 6-8! Contact us at [mathalliance@uiowa.edu](mailto:mathalliance@uiowa.edu) if you have any questions about the Field of Dreams Conference or nomination process.

### Faculty, Exhibitors, & Doctoral Students- Register & Reserve Your Room Now!

You can reserve your room now by visiting the [Sheraton Birmingham Hotel site here](#). Room rates are \$99.00 a night and the Alliance Group rate is good through October 4th so make your reservation early! You can also register for the Conference by filling out the [online form here](#). This year we have extra conference space to add additional sessions & panels. If you have a topic you would like to see added to the agenda please email us at [mathalliance@uiowa.edu](mailto:mathalliance@uiowa.edu).

# Math Alliance: Master's Program Groups (MPGs)

*The National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in the Mathematical Sciences is excited to announce an expansion of the current Graduate Program Groups (GPGs) structure. In addition to having PhD programs within the Alliance GPG listings we are now including many Master's programs. We sat down with Alliance Director Phil Kutzko to ask him about these new types of GPGs.*

## What are these new Alliance Master's Program Groups?

As you know we've had Graduate Program Groups (GPGs) for a long time. These are groups of faculty at a wide range of Ph.D. granting departments in the mathematical sciences that have committed themselves to the kind of best practices and mentoring that have made the Alliance such a success. From the beginning three Master's granting departments also hosted GPG's: the math departments at San Francisco State University, the University of Northern Iowa and the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez. These programs had developed curricula that would prepare a student for a doctoral program in a mathematical science and many students graduating from these programs had gone on to earn Ph.D.s With the growth of our Facilitated Graduate Applications Process (FGAP) it became clear that we should increase the number of these Alliance-affiliated Master's programs and that we should give them a separate designation. With these new programs, together with our three Alliance affiliated Post-baccalaureate programs, our FGAP facilitators will be able to offer Alliance students a wide variety of possible paths to the doctoral degree.



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## What are the new Master's Program Groups and how were they picked?

Here are our new MPGs: California Polytechnic State University, Pomona, California State University, Fullerton, California State University, Northridge, Sam Houston State University, University of Texas at El Paso, and University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

We selected them using three criteria:

1. At least three faculty from the department were currently Alliance Mentors
2. The department had a curriculum that would prepare a student for a doctoral program
3. A significant number of students had gone on to earn a Ph.D. after obtaining a Master's degree from the department

## Does the Alliance plan to expand its list of MPG's?

Definitely! We are eager to hear from Master's granting math science departments that are interested in forming an MPG and would also be happy for any recommendations from the Alliance community for potential MPG's. Please contact me at [Philip-kutzko@uiowa.edu](mailto:Philip-kutzko@uiowa.edu) and I will follow up.

## Suppose a student is interested in one of the Alliance Master's Program Groups. How do they find out about it?

We will be redesigning the website so when you visit the Graduate Program Groups page there will be separate listing for Doctoral Program Groups (DPGs) and Master's Program Groups (MPGs). Each Alliance Master's Program Group will have its own webpage with information about their program. We will also be automatically informing our graduating seniors about these programs through our Facilitated Graduate Applications Program. If you have further questions about the Master's Program Groups please make sure to get in touch with me, Billie or Miles.

CAL POLY POMONA



California State University  
**Northridge**



The University of Texas  
**Rio Grande Valley**

**Sam Houston**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

## Position Announcement: Visiting Assistant Professor of Mathematics

The Department of Mathematics at Grand Valley State University invites applications for three one-year visiting faculty positions beginning August 2015. These positions are non-tenure-track, nine-month contract positions that may be renewed on an annual basis for up to two additional years.

**Qualifications:** Ph.D. in Mathematics expected by August 2015; dedication to excellence in teaching undergraduate mathematics; evidence of reflective thinking about the teaching and learning of mathematics at the undergraduate level; commitment to promote student engagement in learning via student-centered instructional approaches and the use of appropriate technological tools in the classroom; interest in teaching precalculus and calculus courses.

**Responsibilities:** Duties include teaching 12 credits (3 or 4 courses) each semester consisting primarily of precalculus and calculus courses. Visiting faculty do not have scholarship or service expectations beyond participating in mentoring and course coordination meetings.

**Department:** Grand Valley State University and the Department of Mathematics emphasize teaching excellence. The department offers undergraduate majors in mathematics, mathematics for future elementary teachers, and mathematics for future secondary teachers, as well as courses in support of other undergraduate majors and the university's general education program. The department offers a collegial climate where over twenty mathematicians, more than a dozen mathematics educators, twelve affiliate faculty, and several adjunct faculty work collaboratively. Class sizes are small with no class exceeding 32 students. The department is committed to creating learning environments that are student-centered and to engaging students in mathematics beyond the classroom. Faculty in the department employ diverse teaching methods, including the use of manipulatives, technology/graphing calculators, and cooperative learning, along with multiple methods of assessment. Computer facilities are extensive, and each classroom includes wireless and network access with overhead digital projectors and full audio and visual capabilities. For more information, see [www.gvsu.edu/math](http://www.gvsu.edu/math).

**How to Apply:** To apply, send the following documents via e-mail to [kuzeej@gvsu.edu](mailto:kuzeej@gvsu.edu), with the subject line Mathematics Visitor Search.

1. A current curriculum vitae
2. A personal statement (3 pages maximum) that includes:
  - A summary of your teaching experience, philosophy, and methodology
  - A reflection on your recent teaching experience, including discussion of your strengths as a teacher, challenges you face in instruction, and plans or goals for growth.
3. A copy of your undergraduate and graduate transcripts. (Unofficial transcripts are acceptable.)
4. The names and contact information of at least two references who can comment on your teaching.

**Deadline:** Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled.

For More Information: If you have questions or would like more information, please send an e-mail to: Dr. Jonathan Hodge, Chair, Department of Mathematics, [hodgejo@gvsu.edu](mailto:hodgejo@gvsu.edu). Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.



## Graduate Fellowship Opportunity

The purpose of the (MT)<sup>2</sup> Fellows program is to provide financial and academic support to talented mathematics students with financial need, focusing especially on women, under-represented minorities, and first-generation college students. Each year two (MT)<sup>2</sup> Fellows are awarded.

As a (MT)<sup>2</sup> Fellow, you will receive:

- An annual stipend of up to \$15,000 (PhD) and \$10,000 (MA) for your first two years in our program (with possibility of renewal)
- A full tuition waiver
- Travel stipend of \$500 each year to attend a mathematics conference
- Enhanced support services, including faculty and graduate student mentors, and the opportunity to serve as a mentor to undergraduate scholars in our program
- Continued support as a Teaching Assistant for the remainder of your program as long as you continue to make satisfactory progress towards the degree

Your responsibilities will include:

- One semester of teaching per year for your two years as a Fellow
- Participation in a bi-weekly seminar for (MT)<sup>2</sup> Scholars and Fellows
- Participation in a 3-credit research course in your second semester in the program

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Be a US Citizen, permanent resident, or legal refugee
2. Be enrolled as a full-time student in either the MA or PhD program in the mathematical sciences
3. Demonstrate financial need according to the FAFSA

**For more information about the (MT)<sup>2</sup> program and to apply please visit:**

<http://cas.umt.edu/mtsquared/graduate.php>

## Upcoming Events

**Research Experiences for Undergraduate Faculty (REUF)**  
Providence, RI  
July 20-24, 2015

**Interdisciplinary Approaches to Biomedical Data Science Challenges**  
Research Triangle Park, NC  
July 20-24, 2015

**Computational Neuroscience Summer School**  
Research Triangle Park, NC  
July 27-31, 2015

**Joint Statistical Meetings**  
Seattle, WA  
August 8-13, 2015

**Diversity Mentoring Program**  
Seattle, WA  
August 9-12, 2015

**Program on Statistics & Applied Mathematics in Forensic Science**  
Research Triangle Park, NC  
August 27-29, 2015

**Program on Statistics & Applied Mathematics in Forensic Sciences**  
Research Triangle Park, NC  
August 31-September 4, 2015

**Prairie Analysis Seminar 2015**  
Manhattan, KS  
September 25-26, 2015

**Modern Math Workshop**  
Washington DC  
October 28-29, 2015

**SACNAS National Conference**  
Washington DC  
October 29-31, 2015

**2015 Field of Dreams Conference**  
Birmingham, AL  
November 6-8, 2015

## 2015 Modern Math Workshop

**OCTOBER 28—29, 2015**

at the 2015 SACNAS National Conference  
Washington, DC Metropolitan Area

As part of the *Mathematical Sciences Collaborative Diversity Initiatives*, nine mathematics institutes are pleased to host the **2015 Modern Math Workshop** (MMW) during the SACNAS National Conference. The workshop begins with registration at noon on Wednesday, October 28, and ends at noon on Thursday, October 29.

The Modern Math Workshop presents 2 mini-courses for undergraduates and talks related to the research programs at the math institutes that would be of interest to graduate students and early career researchers. It is intended to encourage minority undergraduates to pursue careers in the mathematical sciences and to assist undergraduates, graduate students and recent PhD's in building their research networks.

The workshop will culminate on Thursday, Oct. 29 with a plenary lecture by Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, President of UMBC (The University of Maryland, Baltimore County).

Most participants attending this workshop are supported by SACNAS as part of the SACNAS National Conference. To apply to SACNAS, please see: [www.tinyurl.com/SACNAS-travel-scholarships](http://www.tinyurl.com/SACNAS-travel-scholarships).

There is limited funding available directly from MMW to fund attendance at MMW and SACNAS. Priority for these funds will be given to minority graduate students and early career researchers. Applications will be via MathPrograms.org. The application process will start May 15, 2015 and end July 31, 2015. For more information and to apply for such funding, please visit [www.msri.org/e/MMW2015](http://www.msri.org/e/MMW2015).

## Prairie Analysis Seminar 2015

**SEPTEMBER 25—26, 2015**

Kansas State University  
Manhattan, KS



The conference features David Kinderlehrer, Carnegie Mellon University, who will give two one-hour talks, and also features Rob McCann, University of Toronto and Yekaterina Epshteyn, The University of Utah, who will each give one-hour talks. There is time scheduled for contributed talks; all participants, especially mathematicians early in their careers, are encouraged to contribute a 20-minute talk. The conference is supported by the NSF and funding is available with priority given to students, postdocs and those early in their careers.

Organizers: Marianne Korten, Nathan Albin, Kansas State University, Estela Gavosto, Rodolfo Torres, University of Kansas, and Charles Moore, Washington State University.

For more information please visit <http://www.math.ksu.edu/pas/2015/>



**Date:** Sunday 8/9/2015  
**Time:** 8:00am—9:30am  
**Location:** Convention Center Room 303

**2015 Joint Statistical Meetings  
Statistics Initiative for the Math Alliance**

The National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in the Mathematical Sciences' Statistical Initiative will be having a meeting during the 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings. Any Alliance Mentors who will be attending the 2015 JSM are more than welcome to join! [Click here for a link to the session.](#)