

Math Alliance News

Building a New American Community in the Mathematical and Statistical Sciences

December 2014
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Upcoming Events

UMaRch Puerto Rico 2015University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez
February 27, 2015

SAMSI Undergraduate Workshop

Research Triangle Park February 26-27, 2015

Infinite Possibilities Conference

Oregon State University March 1-3, 2015

Bioinformatics: Discovering Patterns in Human Microbiome Data (HMD)

Research Triangle Park March 16-18, 2015

Graduate Workshop on Current Issues in Statistical Ecology

University of Tennessee, Knoxville April 15-17, 2015

Research Experiences for Undergraduate Faculty (REUF)

Providence, RI July 20-24, 2015

2015 Field of Dreams Conference

Birmingham, AL

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http://www.flickr.com/mathalliance



2014 Field of Dreams Conference Report November 7-9, 2014













We are pleased to report another successful Field of Dreams Conference for the books! The 2014 Field of Dreams Conference was once again held at the Hilton Phoenix/Mesa Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona. Over 325 participants, including 187 undergraduate students, 129 faculty, and many other representatives from additional organizations, were in attendance from over 110 universities, colleges, and organizations nationwide.

Friday afternoon kicked off with and interactive workshop on maximizing your opportunities at a conference. This workshop highlighted the importance of preparation, prioritization and networking during a conference to make sure you receive the greatest experience possible. Postdoctoral Fellows from seven of eight the Math Sciences Institutes followed with informational presentations on their specific research area. Friday closed with an evening reception with an outstanding 56 exhibitors during the Graduate/Career/Summer Programs Fair.

We were honored to have Dr. Jim Gates, University of Maryland, to give the Math Science Talk Saturday morning entitled "On the Subtle influences of Style & Culture in STEM Disciplines". There was something for everyone on Saturday with panels ranging from "How to Succeed in a Doctoral Program" and "Careers in the Mathematical Sciences" for Alliance Scholars and panels discussing mentoring experiences, tips, and lessons for Alliance Mentors.

A new edition to this year's program was a panel on the Facilitated Graduate Applications Process (formally the Uniform Admissions Process). A panel comprised of faculty who have nominated and worked with students in this process, as well as students who successfully completed the process last year, discussed how the program works and the improvements that are being made. Another highlight included Dr. Phil Kutzko, Alliance Director, Dr. Jennifer Pearl, National Science Foundation, and Dr. Donald McClure, American Mathematical Society shared some exciting new developments within the Math Alliance alongside. Dr. Kimberly Weems, North Carolina State University, Dr. Leslie McClure, University of Alabama at Birmingham, and Dr. Snehalata Huzurbazar, University of Wyoming shared an update from the Statistics Initiative and a tribute to the late Dr. Kathryn Chaloner. We were pleased to have Dr. Joan Evans, Texas Southern University, close the evening with her powerful keynote speech at dinner. For a full agenda of events please visit the Field of Dreams website.

We would like to thank everyone who helped prior and during the conference, and all our sponsors and panelist for making this conference our best one yet! Check out our <u>Flickr</u> site for plenty of photos from the 2014 Field of Dreams Conference. If you'd like to share your stories or photos from the conference send them to <u>miles-dietz@uiowa.edu.</u>



University of Chicago REU Opportunity

This is a call for applicants to the University of Chicago Mathematics summer REU. Our REU has been in operation since 2000, But it has in the past been limited to University of Chicago participants. It generally has around 80 participants each summer. With some new NSF RTG funding available, we would now like to reach out to the wider community, especially to groups traditionally underrepresented in mathematics.

The REU is run by University of Chicago faculty members and graduate students and is focused on exposing participants to a broad swathe of mathematics at the highest level. It is not focused on original undergraduate research per se, but all participants must write a paper on a topic of their choice. All are closely mentored by graduate students.

Chicago's REU has served as a springboard for current graduate students at most of the top departments of mathematics in the United States. We would like to use the resources of Chicago's research community to reach out to a few ambitious undergraduates with talent and a love of mathematics but without current direct access to such a research community. For more information and contact information visit: http://math.uchicago.edu/~may/REU2015.

University of Nebraska—Lincoln REU Opportunity



The Nebraska REU in Applied Mathematics is administered by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln **Department of Mathematics** and is funded by the **National Science Foundation.** The REU site was established in 2002.



Our program strives to give students as full of a research experience as possible, including background reading and exercises in their subject; the skills needed on how to define a good problem, how to solve the problem and (in many projects) give rigorous proofs; and the tools for writing mathematics and giving a talk or presenting a poster. We also offer research, educational, and social activities that cultivate an environment which emphasizes interaction and collaboration.

Summer scholars meet with their mentors almost every weekday. At the conclusion of the 8-week program, students present their research. Often the summer projects result in presentations at a national conferences and research publications. We believe that the participants leave the Nebraska REU Site with an appreciation for the methods of mathematical discovery and have a meaningful and rigorous educational experience.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Mathematics has a national reputation for excellence in education and mentorship. In recognition of their research mentoring for undergraduates, the department received the 2009 AMS Award for *Exemplary Program or Achievement in a Mathematics Department*. For more information and to apply visit: http://www.unl.edu/summerprogram/math.



Harvard School of Public Health Summer Program Opportunity

The Harvard School of Public Health, in conjunction with the Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics, is now accepting applications for their 2015 Summer Program in Epidemiology. The four-week Summer Program (**June 15 - July 10, 2015**) in Epidemiology integrates mathematics and quantitative methods to provide students with an understanding of the skills and processes necessary to pursue a career in public health.

The summer program curriculum consists of three parts: introductory coursework in epidemiology and biostatistics; formal lectures, which are provided by faculty members with different foci in epidemiology; and a group research project (focused on the areas of study above) where students will investigate a question of public health relevance that interests them. Students who participate in the program are also able to meet with current HSPH students. In addition, students have the opportunity to meet with faculty and administrators individually, and the chance to explore the city of Boston. Participants receive summer salary, housing, and funded travel.

The deadline for student applications is March 1, 2015. Recommendation letters are due by March 6, 2014. To learn more about the program and to apply visit: https://harvard.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_8uJA9A7m9Ee7wsl.

Montana Supports the Mathematicians of Tomorrow (MT)²

The (MT)² is a scholarship program sponsored by the National Science Foundation and is based on the premise that building a STEM workforce that can successfully solve complex problems must include all segments of our population.

The (MT)² program seeks to improve undergraduate and graduate mathematics education by providing a learning environment that gives students the financial means, professional guidance and community support they need to pursue degrees in the mathematical sciences. Our goal is to develop a diverse well-educated student body.

(MT)² provides

- scholarships for talented undergraduate math majors,
- fellowships to talented graduate students, and
- summer programs for students in their first two years of college.

The mathematical sciences provide many career opportunities to today's students. In addition to becoming mathematicians or math teachers, those with degrees in the mathematical sciences are highly sought after by graduate and professional programs in science, engineering, finance, law, and medicine. Please see our web page for more information: http://cas.umt.edu/mtsquared/.

UMaRch Puerto Rico 2015: Undergraduate Mathematics Research Conference

The first annual UMaRch Conference Puerto Rico is being hosted by the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez (UPRM), on February 27, 2015. We welcome participants from institutes of higher learning and schools from all of the island. It is a one-day conference held the same day that SIDIM XXX, before the later starts. SIDIM XXX also will be host at UPRM in 2015. In this way undergraduate students will have the opportunity to interact with local and visiting faculty. Visiting faculty will have also the opportunity to enroll students for their REUs, undergraduate conferences etc. One of our original motivations was to make the month of March one of mathematical awareness on the island starting with UMaRch, follow by SIDIM and continous locally in all the centers of mathematics in the island.

UMaRch Conference Puerto Rico is designed specifically for undergraduate students in order to provide them with the opportunity to present their research in a professional environment. As a first step into the academic and professional world, the experience will be valuable for students already considering a degree, graduate studies, or career in mathematics. It will also provide helpful information and inspiration for students still undecided in their area of study. Click here to learn more.

Employment Opportunity: University of San Diego



The University of San Diego, an independent Roman Catholic University, invites applications for the Fletcher Jones Endowed Chair faculty position in applied mathematics. Candidates at the associate or full professor rank are invited to apply for this position to begin in the Fall 2015. Responsibilities will include teaching, maintaining an active research program, developing an applied, integrated mathematics program designed to address real-world problems, mentoring and recruiting students, and establishing and running an industry internship program for majors in the Mathematics and Computer Science department.

An ideal candidate will be an experienced faculty member with expertise in applied mathematics. The candidate will have an impressive record of excellence in teaching, research, and leadership, including experience in establishing connections between academia and industry. A Ph.D. in mathematics, applied mathematics or statistics is required.

Please send to either <u>mathsearch@sandiego.edu</u> or Applied Mathematics Search Committee, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcala Park, San Diego, CA 92110.:

- A cover letter that explains why you are interested in applying for this position at the University of San Diego
- Curriculum Vitae
- Three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should address teaching
- A teaching statement
- A research statement, including experience with undergraduate research
- A statement of leadership experience and vision

Priority will be given to applications received by January 6, 2015 with the search continuing until the position is filled. University of San Diego, an Equal Opportunity Employer, an NSF ADVANCE institution, and a Changemaker Campus, is especially interested in candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community. The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science has a commitment to creating a welcoming environment for all. Click here to visit the online posting.