DEPARTURES

♦ Farewell to Marie-France Leclere who joined the Department in 2011 as the Graduate Program Assistant. Marie-France leaves us for Financial Services in the role of a Financial Officer, Restricted Funds. Thank you to Kristina Millett who replaced her in the interim.

♦ Richard Hall has taken the Voluntary Retirement Package (VRP) and will be retiring on May 31, 2017. He has been a full-time faculty member in the Department since 1972.

♦ Farewell to LTA's Nataliia Rossokhata who has completed her 3-year term and Lakhdar Aggoun who is no longer at the University.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

♦ Effective August 1, 2016, Nadia Hardy became the Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations, Office of the Provost and VP, Faculty Affairs. Yogen Chaubey resumed her Chair duties as the Interim Chair until May 31, 2017, then as Acting Chair for the month of June.

♦ Lea Popovic was appointed as a member to the *Mathematics and Statistics Evaluation Group for the Discovery Grants Program* at NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada) for a 3-year term ending June 30, 2019.

♦ Frédéric Godin, who joined the Department in the Applied Statistics position in August 2016, successfully completed his *Fellowship of the Society of Actuaries (SOA)* in March 2017. He has also been designated the *Accredited Actuary (AcA)* for the accredited program in Actuarial Mathematics from the Canadian Institute of Actuaries (CIA).

♦ Yogen P. Chaubey, José Garrido, Frédéric Godin, and John Harnad received *NSERC Discovery Grants*.

♦ José Garrido has been awarded an official *Volunteer Recognition Award* certificate on June 28, 2016 from the Canadian Institute of Actuaries in recognition of his service on CIA committees and task forces.

♦ Lisa Kakinami received a *CIHR (Canadian Institutes of Health Research)* and a *Concordia-Start-up Team grant.*

♦ Dmitry Korotkin, Lisa Kakinami, and Alina Stancu have been appointed as a *Fellow of the Science College* effective June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2019.

♦ Adrian Iovita, whose expertise is in the field of Algebra and Number Theory, has been invited to deliver a keynote at the *2018 International Congress of Mathematicians* (ICM) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This is a singular honour that has been awarded to fewer than 20 Canadian mathematicians in the 120 years since its inception and this invitation demonstrates the world-wide respect that Adrian has earned for his research contributions.

The ICM is held every four years and it is here that the Fields Medals are awarded and the most important developments in mathematical research are showcased.

- Yogendra P. Chaubey was invited to the Silver Jubilee International Conference on Interdisciplinary Mathematics, Statistics and Computational Techniques of Forum for Interdisciplinary Mathematics in association with Manipal University, India, in December 2016. He presented an invited paper and was also honoured with a '*Life Achievement Award*' for his contributions to Statistical Theory and Practice.

- The International Mathematical Olympiad *Formula of Unity/The Third Millennium* is organized by the St. Petersburg State University and the Euler Foundation, and was first held in the 2013-2014 academic year. During its 2014-2015 edition, it gathered more than 6,000 students from 15 countries. In Montreal, participation in the "Formula of Unity" is facilitated by the Department of Mathematics & Statistics and the ISM (l'Institut des sciences mathématiques).

  The first round, October 20 to November 18, 2016, was held by the correspondence; about 3000 school students (from grades 6-12) from 20 countries took part. The second round was held in February 2017 by invitation.

- The *Math Kangaroo Contest* is an international annual competition for students from elementary school grade 1 to high school grade 12 and is held in different Canadian cities. The Montreal contest is hosted by the Department and the sixth contest was held on March 26, 2017, attracting 440 participants. The award ceremony took place on June 11, 2017 for the 69 winners.

- *The Montreal Math Circle*, a joint project of Concordia's Department of Mathematics a Statistics and the ISM, is an enrichment program which offers an occasion for students interested in mathematics to solve challenging problems at their grade level. In 2017, the Montreal Math Circle benefitted from a Promoscience NSERC grant and an endowment grant from the Canadian Mathematical Society.

- The International Mathematics Competition, called the *Tournament of Towns Contest*, is a worldwide problem solving contest initiated in Russia in late 1970s. This tournament's main goal is to provide an opportunity for a large number of students to participate in a competition with worldwide standards. Participants are from over 120 cities in more than 25 countries. In Montreal, participation in the Tournament of Towns is facilitated by Concordia's Department of Mathematics & Statistics and the ISM, and was held at Concordia in late-February and mid-March 2017.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

We are extremely proud of our student achievements. Congratulations to everyone!

2016

Undergraduate Awards

- Simon Desrosiers (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) received the *Campaign for the New Millennium Scholarship*.

- Matthew Di Nicolantonio (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics) won a *Concordia University Entrance Scholarship*.

- An annual tradition since 2004, through the Concordia Golf Classic, generous sponsors have helped create nearly $4.2 million in bursaries and scholarships for promising students. Mohamed-Amine Mekideche (Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/ Finance [Co-op]) and Lorita Su (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics [Co-op]) were awarded a *Concordia University Golf Classic Entrance Scholarship.*

♦ Sixty-one Mathematics and Statistics students who had achieved a last annual grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.75 are on the 2015-16 *Dean's List.* Their names are published on: http://www.concordia.ca/content/dam/artsci/docs/Dean/2015%20-%202016%20Dean%27s%20List.pdf.

♦ The *Arts and Science Dean's Scholar Awardees* for 2015-16 were given in fall 2016 to:
   - Gianmarco Antonacci (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance)
   - Victor Bellefeuille (BSc - Specialization Mathematical and Computational Finance)
   - Simon Desrosiers (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance)
   - Tobie-Éloi Hinse-Paré (MSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics)
   - Vanessa Mailhot-Franco (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance [Co-op])
   - David Tagliamonti (BSc - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance)
   - Xi Yang (BA - Honours Pure and Applied Mathematics)

♦ The *Economical Insurance Award* is the highest-value undergraduate scholarship for actuarial students. The winners for 2016-17 are Sabrina D'Aquila (Specialization Actuarial Mathematics [Co-op]) and Tobie-Éloi Hinse-Paré (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics).

♦ Daniel Chammas (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics [Co-op]) received the G*uarantee Company of North America Scholarship.*

♦ Roxanne Côté (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance), Ryan D'Orazio (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics (Co-op), Jasmine Lemay-Dagenais (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics), and and David Tagliamonti (BSc - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) won the *2016 Munich Re Cup*. This national actuarial case competition, in its second year, provides an excellent opportunity for students to experience the challenge of solving complex real-world situations that are faced by the insurance industry.

♦ Established in 2010 through the benevolence of Morneau Sheppell, the largest Canadian-based HR services company, the *Morneau-Shepell Scholarship* is intended to recognise and reward excellence in Actuarial Mathematics students who are entering their second year of studies. Vanessa Mailhot-Franco (BSc - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance [Co-op]) was awarded this scholarship for 2016-17. She also won a *Concordia University Entrance Scholarship*.

Graduate Awards

♦ Iakovos (Jake) Chinis (MA/MSc Number Theory) was awarded NSERC's *Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarships* – Doctoral Program (CGSD) and Postgraduate Scholarships – Doctoral Program (PGSD) for three years. He will however be pursuing his PhD in Number Theory at McGill University. He was also the lucky recipient of the *Ann-Marie Agnew Memorial Award*.

♦ *Campaign for the New Millennium* was awarded to MSc student Behnoosh Zamanlooy (MA/MSc Financial Mathematics) and PhD student Shardul Vikram in September 2016.

♦ PhD students Almaz Butaev, Nicolas Essis-Breton, Shan Goa and Patrick Meisner received the *Concordia Accelerator Award* for 2016.

♦ MSc students Roba Bairakdar (MA/MSc Actuarial Mathematics) and Ruhi Ruhi (MA/MSc Statistics) received the *Concordia Merit Scholarship* from September 2016 to August 2017.

♦ Patrick Meisner, PhD student, is a recipient of the *Concordia University Conference and Exposition Award.*

♦ Fatane Mobasheramini, PhD student, was a recipient of the *Concordia University Graduate Fellowship* from September 2016 to August 2019.

♦ Awardees of the *Faculty of Arts & Science Fellowship* from September 2015 to August 2018 is PhD student Ryan Gibara, and from September 2016 to August 2019 are PhD students Michael Baker, Arnab Bose, Hassan Harb, Magloire Loudegui, Fatane Mobasheramini, Aziza Sentissi, Shardul Vikram, and Linh Vu. PhD (Number Theory & Computational Algebra) student Joaquim de Ronde's fellowship is from January 2017 to December 2019 while MSc student Ruhi Ruhi's (MA/MSc Statistics) is from September 2016 to August 2018.

♦ Antoine Comeau-Lapointe, a newly admitted PhD student, was awarded a *FRQNT scholarship* for three years, plus a *top-up award* from Concordia University for one year, as well as a *Special Entrance Award* from one year from September 2016. He works in Number Theory under Chantal David's supervision.

♦ Sarah Mathieu-Soucy (MTM Mathematics Education) was awarded a *FQRSC (Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture)* scholarship for three years, plus a *Top-Up Award* from Concordia University for one year.

♦ *International Fee Remissions* from September 2016 to December 2017 were given to MSc students Mariam Alhilani (MA/MSc Analysis), Irene Asare, Roba Bairakdar (MA/MSC Actuarial & Financial Mathematics), Ruhi Ruhi (MA/MSc Statistics), Daniel Scheel (MA/MSc Statistics), and Behnoosh Zamanlooy (MA/MSc Financial Mathematics), and from September 2016 to August 2017 for ALGANT students Leonardo Colo and Isabelle Negrini. From September 2016 to April 2019 for PhD students Arnab Bose, Xiang Goa, Magloire Loudegui, and Fatane Mobasheramini.

♦ *ISM Scholarships* were awarded to MSc students Mariam Alhilani, Isabella Negrini, Ruhi Ruhi, and Behnoosh Zamanlooy, Leonardo Colo, Daniel Scheel, and Xi Yang. The PhD student receiving the scholarship is Joachim de Ronde (Number Theory & Computational Algebra).

♦ MTM students Mahmoud Yassin received the *Nick Herscovics Award*. This award is based upon academic excellence and can be held by the same person for a maximum of two years.

♦ Eyat Al-Farajat received a *full PhD scholarship* from Jordan. He works under the supervision of Abraham Boyarsky and Pawel Gora.

♦ PhD student Laura Broley (MTM) received a *Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship* for threej years.

2017

Convocation Medals

♦ David Tagliamonti (BSc - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) was presented the *Governor General's Academic Medal (Silver) (*awarded to the highest ranking undergraduate student graduating from Concordia University), and the *Eric O'Connor Mathematics Medal* (awarded to the most outstanding graduating student in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics).

Undergraduate Awards

♦ Wesley Chung (BSc - Honours in Statistics) and Mathew Garabed (BSc – Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics and Finance) made the *Dean's Honour List.*

♦ The *Mercer Case Competition*, organized by Mélina Mailhot, for the Department's undergraduate actuarial students was a success with more than 25 participants. Our winning teams are: Sophie Couture (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics) and Elizabeth Bergeron (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance), Cedric Chamberland (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/ Finance [Co-op]), Hugues Fontaine, and Matthew Garabed (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/ Finance [Co-op]), as well as Xuan Qin (BSc -Specialization Actuarial Mathematics [Co-op]), Kim Ton (BSc - Specialization Actuarial

Mathematics), and Marissa Génier (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics). Moreover, Mercer was so impressed by the students, they decided to give each participant a $200 award.

♦ Emilia Alvarez (BA - Honours Pure and Applied Mathematics) won the Canadian Math Society (CMS) Award for a project she worked on with her professor, Robert Raphael. She is also the recipient of the *Vincent, Olga, and Denis Nicolas-Diniacopoulos Scholarship.*

Graduate Awards

♦ Rima Taki (MTM) was the recipient of the *Brenda Carter and David Wheeler Memorial Award*.

♦ Recipients of the *Concordia University Conference and Exposition Award* are MSc students Sandra Nawar (Mathematics) and Shardul Vikram (Analysis), as well as PhD students Laura Broley (Mathematics), Anastasis Kratsios, and Renjie Wang both in Mathematical and Computational Science.

♦ An *International Fee Remission* was given to Joachim de Ronde (PhD - Number Theory & Computational Algebra) from January 2017 to August 2019.