

HIRES

- ◆ Welcome to Rima Baroudi who is the Department's new Undergraduate Program Assistant as of February 15, 2016. Rima comes to us from CIISE (Concordia Institute for Information Systems Engineering) in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science.
- ◆ The Department welcomes Frédéric Godin as a tenure-track addition in Statistics effective August 1, 2016. He is also a recipient of the FQRNT Nouveau chercheur award.
- ◆ Lakhdar Aggoun and Ionica Groparu-Cojocararu have been renewed for a 2nd year as LTAs, and Nataliia Rossokhata has been renewed for a 3rd year as an LTA. Welcome to Jeremy Macdonald and Victor Kalvin who have been hired as LTAs effective August 1, 2016. Jeremy was an LTA in 2014-15 and Victor has been a researcher or visiting scholar in the Department since 2011.

DEPARTURES

- ◆ The Department expressed its profound sadness at the sudden passing of S. Twareque Ali on January 24, 2016, whilst on an academic visit to Malaysia. Twareque had been with the Department since 1981. He is sorely missed.
- ◆ The Department expressed its condolences at Fedor Soloviev's passing on March 24, 2016, after a valiant 4-year battle with cancer. Fedor had been a part-time instructor in the Department since 2015.
- ◆ Farewell to Dimiter Dryanov who has completed his 3rd consecutive year as an LTA.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

- ◆ Congratulations go out to Lea Popovic on the birth of her first baby; a girl, Elin, in mid-January and to Debaraj Sen on the birth of his first son, Debanjan, in late-January.
- ◆ 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 was held in mid-October 2015 and the second round was held in February 2016.
- ◆ Lisa Kakinami was recognized by University Communications Services (UCS) as *Concordia's Newsmaker of the Week* for November 17, 2015 for the coverage received by her research on childhood obesity, poverty and parenting style. She is also a *Co-applicant on a study that was approved by the Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute for 4-years until 2019: Nicotine Dependence in Teens (NDIT) study*. A 13-year cohort from age 12-24: Continued follow-up to age 30 (PI: O'Loughlin).
- ◆ 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 2016.

- ◆ The fifth Montreal-held *Math Kangaroo Contest* attracting children from ages 6 to 16 with over 271 participants was hosted by the Department in March 2016.
- ◆ The Department had established *The Professor Dwivedi Memorial Lecture Series* in 2012 thanks to an endowment from the Dwivedi Family. The fifth lecture in this series was held in April 2016.
- ◆ *The Montreal math circle*, a joint project of Concordia's Department of Mathematics & 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. A pilot session of five topics took place on Sundays from early-October 11 to early-November 2015 and was followed by three more sessions. A fifth session started in early-April until beginning-May 2016. A sixth session was held during May.
- ◆ Marco Bertola, Adrian Iovita, Arush Sen, and Xiaowen Zhou received *NSERC Discovery Grants*. This is a 100% success rate in the Department.
- ◆ José Garrido was a recipient of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries' *2016 Bronze Award for Volunteer Services*. This award is given to individuals who have completed three or more terms on committees and task forces recognized by the Institute in their volunteer policy.
- ◆ Adrian Iovita was awarded the *2016-17 Simons Fellowship Awardee in Mathematics*. This prestigious award provides funds to faculty for up to a semester-long research leave from classroom teaching and administrative obligations.
- ◆ Arush Sen's proposal under *Seed (Individual) Program* has been recommended for funding by the University Research Committee. Project title: Model-checking for multivariate mortality data under random censoring and truncation.
- ◆ This is the fourth consecutive year that Concordia University will be participating in the Student Summit in Chicago organized by the Society of Actuaries for all universities holding the title CAE (Centre of Actuarial Excellence). This year, Sam Clement (BS - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) will be representing the University.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

We are extremely proud of our student achievements. Congratulations go out to all!

2015

Undergraduate Awards

- ◆ *The Dean's Scholar Awards* for fall 2015 were given to Ms. Alessia Di Paolo (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics) and Messrs. Gianmarco Antonacci (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance), Simon Desrosiers (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance), and Zackary Schnarr (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics).

- ◆ The *Economical Insurance Award* is the highest-value undergraduate scholarship for actuarial students. The winners for 2015-16 are Messrs. Ryan D’Orazio (BSc - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) and David Tagliamonti (BSc - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance).
- ◆ Ms. Roxanne Côté (BSc - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) received the *Guarantee Company of North America Scholarship*.
- ◆ Ms. Elizabeth Bergeron (BSc - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) received the *Morneau-Shepell Scholarship* for 2015-16
- ◆ The *Robert V. Tucker Memorial Award* is for a student who took a “non-traditional” educational path towards Actuarial Mathematics. It was awarded to Mr. Oliver Russell (BSc - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics) for 2015-16 who has a degree from McGill University in Neuroscience.
- ◆ The 2016 Munich Re Cup competition required top-of-the-line analytical, presentation and problem-solving skills. The four actuarial winners are Misses. Roxanne Côté, Jasmine Lemay-Dagemais, and Messrs. Ryan D’Orazio and David Tagliamonti.

Graduate Awards

- ◆ MSc ALGANT (Algebra and Number Theory) students Messrs. Daniele Dona and Genaro Hernandez-Mada graduated in Fall 2015. Here for one year are new MSc students to this program: Mr. Fabian Franken and Ms. Clara Lacroce. They were awarded funding as was returning PhD student Ms. Francesca Bergamaschi who had completed her 3rd non-consecutive term in the Department.
- ◆ MTM students Messrs. Daniel Gernazial and John-Mark Fortier were recipients of the *Brenda Carter and David Wheeler Memorial Award* for 2015-16
- ◆ *Campaign for the New Millennium* was awarded in September 2015 to Misses Lu Cao and Yuhan Cao, and Messrs. Chris Keefe and Eric Latse.
- ◆ Awardees of the *Faculty of Arts & Science Fellowship* from September 2015 to August 2017 are MSc students Misses Lu Cao and Yuhan Cao, and Mr. Eric Latse.
- ◆ Ms. Sarah Mathieu-Soucy, admitted in January 2015 as a PhD student in the INDI program, was awarded a *FQRSC Scholarship* for 3 years, a top-up award from Concordia University for one year, and the *SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship* for 3 years.
- ◆ *International Fees Remission* were awarded until August 2016 to MSc students Misses Sandra Nawar and Clara Lacroce, and to Ms. Chana Pevzner (MSc) until December 2016. Ms. Lacroce also received the *Concordia University Graduate Fellowship* from September 2015 to August 2016.
- ◆ *ISM Scholarships* for 2015-16 were awarded to the following students: Misses Lu Cao (MA), Yuhan Cao (MA), Elnaz Ghadimi (PhD), Fatemeh Hosseininasabnajar (MSc), Mehrnoosh Malekiha (MSc), Chengyin Wang (MSc), and to Messrs. Lucas Berry (MA), Eric Latse (MSc), and Shardul Vikram.
- ◆ PhD student Ms. Laura Broley, admitted in Fall 2015 in to the INDI program, was awarded a *SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council) Vanier (top-tier) Scholarship* plus a *Top-Up Award* from Concordia.
- ◆ MSc students Messrs. Iakovos (Jake) Chinis and Chris Keefe each received an *NSERC scholarship* for 2015-16, as well as a top-up award from Concordia University for one year.

- ◆ MTM students Misses Hadas Brandas and Natalia Vasilyeva were recipients of the *Nick Herscovics Memorial Scholarship* for the month of January 2016.
- ◆ Mr. Abeer Al-Zahrani is a recipient of a full *MSc Scholarship from Saudi Arabia*.

2016

Convocation Medals

- ◆ Mr. Joseph Alacchi (BS - Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) was the recipient of the *Eric O'Connor Mathematics Meda*. He also received the *Mappin Medal*.

Undergraduate Awards

- ◆ The Summer 2016 *Concordia Undergraduate Student Research Award (CUSRA)* was awarded to Ms. Lucila Puig (BSc – Specialization in Statistics) and Mr. Xi Yang (BA – Honours in Pure and Applied Mathematics).

Graduate Awards

- ◆ Recipients of the *Accelerator Award* for Winter 2016 were PhD students Ms. Jing Zhang and Messrs. Oscar Quijano- Xacur and Petr Zorin.
- ◆ Ms. Lu Cao received *International Fee Remission* for January to August 2016.