

Newsletter 2013-2014

PROMOTIONS

♦ The Department congratulates Nadia Hardy and Alexey Kokotov for their promotion to Associate Professor effective June 1, 2014.

HIRES

- ♦ Abdellatif Bellahnid and Dimiter Dryanov have been renewed for a 2nd year as an LTA. Welcome to Madjid Amir, Jeremy Macdonald, and Nataliia Rossokhata who have been hired as LTAs effective August 15, 2014.
- ♦ The Department welcomes Lisa Kakinami as a tenure-track addition to the Department effective July 1, 2014.

DEPARTURES

• Farewell to LTA Johan Brannlund who is no longer at the University.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

- Yogen Chaubey has stepped down as the Chair on May 31, 2014 after 9 consecutive years. Nadia Hardy has assumed this role for the next three-year term.
- In January 2014, Cody Hyndman together with team members Caroline Hillairet (École Polytechnique, France) and Ying Jiao (Université Paris Diderot, France), received a grant from The Montreal Institute of Structured Finance and Derivatives for the research project, "Disorderly hedge fund liquidation under asymmetric information and market impact".
- The third Montreal-held Math Kangaroo Contest attracting children from ages 6 to 16 with 120 participants was hosted in the Department in March 2014.
- ♦ The Department had established *The Dwivedi Memorial Lecture Series* in 2012 thanks to an endowment from the Dwivedi Family. The third lecture in this series was held in April 2014.
- In June 2013, Chantal David was awarded Concordia's Aid to Research Related Events, Exhibition, Publication and Dissemination Activities (ARRE) Program from June 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014 for her project entitled, "Scholar Conference".
- Lisa Kakinami was selected on August 22, 2014 by the University Communications Services as Concordia's Newsmaker of the Week for her innovative and dynamic research in "The Effect of Income Differences in Weight Loss".

- The Actuarial Program holds provisional accreditation by the Canadian Institute of Actuaries for the third year. This accreditation applies to courses starting on or after September 1, 2012. It gives students, who achieve certain minimum grades in their actuarial courses, the option to apply to the CIA for exemptions from the preliminary professional actuarial exams.
- This is the second year Concordia University sent two students to Chicago for the Student Summit organized by the Society of Actuaries for all universities holding the title CAE (Centre of Actuarial Excellence). This year, Messrs. Jason Azzoparde (BS -Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) and Vincent Chartier (BS -Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) represented the University.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

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

2013

Graduate Awards

- MSc students Misses Samia El-Khoury and Nijun Wei, and Messrs. Haridas Das and Wenjun Jiang received The Faculty of Arts and Science Fellowship from September 2013 to August 2015. PhD student Mr. Ethan Mombourquette received this Fellowship from September 2013 to August 2016.
- MTM student Mr. David Pearce received the *Nick Herscovics Memorial Scholarship* for 2013-14 as well as the *Brenda Carter and David Wheeler Memorial Award*.
- ♦ The Harriet and Abe Gold Entrance Bursary was awarded to Mr. Qingcheng Zhang (MSc) from September 2013 to August 2014.
- Ms. Manuela Girotti (PhD) won the Faculty of Arts and Science's Campaign for a New Millenium Graduate Scholarship.
- The Concordia Merit Scholarship was awarded to MSc students Messrs Haridas Das and Wenjun Jiang.
- Mr. Mehran Moghtadai (MSc) was awarded the *Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la nature et les technologies (F.Q.R.N.T)* scholarship for a second year.
- ♦ International Fee Remission was awarded to MSc student Mr. Daniele Dona from September 2013 to August 2014 and to PhD student Ms. Elnaz Ghadimi from September 2013 to August 2016.
- During the 2013-14 academic year, ISM Scholarships were given to MSc students Mr. Nicholas Beck, Ms. Samia El-Khoury, Mr. Shan Shi, Ms. Samira Shirgir, Mr. Chengrong Xie, Ms. Nijun Wei, and to PhD student Mr. Ethan Mombourquette.
- ♦ The Partial Tuition Fee Remission was awarded MSc students Ms. Nijun Wei and Mr. Haridas Das from September 2013 to August 2014.
- Ms. Huirong Zhu was awarded the Concordia University Retired Faculty-Staff Award for 3 terms from September 2013 to August 2014.
- ♦ A *Bonus Award* is given to PhD students who have completed their degree by their 12th semester. The recipients are Messrs. Zhenyang Li and James Parks.

Graduate Awards (cont'd)

The Recipients of the Accelerator Award are PhD students Messrs. Tayeb Aissiou, Syed Chowdhury, and Polynice Oyono Ngou. This award recognizes PhD students who have completed their degree by their 14th semester.

2014

Convocation Medals

• Mr. Charles Lebel-Maranda (BSc – Specialization in Mathematical and Computational Finance) was awarded *The Governor General's Silver Medal* at the Spring 2014 Convocation as the highest ranking undergraduate student graduating from Concordia University. He was also awarded *The Mappin Medal* as the highest ranking student graduating with a BSc degree.

Undergraduate Awards

- Messrs. Iakovos Chinis (BSc Specialization in Pure and Applied Mathematics), Welsey Chung (BSc Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics), Othmane Hifdi (BSc Specialization in Mathematical and Computational Finance), Charles Lebel-Maranda (BSc Specialization in Mathematical and Computational Finance), and David Tagliamonti (BSc Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) were honoured at this year's Faculty of Arts and Science Awards Evening.
- MSc student Mr. Chengrong Xie received The Faculty of Arts and Science Fellowship from January 2014 to December 2015.
- The Concordia Undergraduate Student Research Awards (CUSRA) was given to Ms. Laura Cotarla (BSc –
 Specialization in Pure and Applied Mathematics) and Mr. Othmane Hifdi (BA Specialization in
 Mathematical and Computational Finance).
- ♦ A 2014 NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA) was awarded to Mr. lakovos Chinis (BSc Specialization in Pure and Applied Mathematics)
- Mr. Olivier Brown (BA -Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics is the recipient of the Eric O'Connor Mathematics Medal.
- First year program student Mr Nicolas Vrolyk (BSc -Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics) and second year program student Mr. Tom Riskas (BSc -Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) were awarded the *Towers Watson Scholarship* in January 2014.
- ♦ The *Economical Insurance* is a new award that was implemented this year. It is highest-value undergraduate scholarship for actuarial students. The winners are Ms. Michelle Rutman and Mr. Hugo Lantendresse (BSc − Specialization in Statistics).
- ♦ Mr. Vincent Carrier-Côté (BSc Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance/Co-op) received the Vincent, Olga and Denis Nicolas-Diniacopoulos Scholarship.
- ♦ The BMO Scholarships were awarded to Mr. Joseph Alacchi (BSc Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance) and Mr. Daniel D'Antico (BSc Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics/Finance).

Graduate Awards

- ♦ Mr. Oscar Alberto Quijano Xacur (PhD) was awarded the *Tower-Watson Scholarship* in January 2014.
- MSc student Mr. Chengrong Xie was awarded the Partial Tuition Fee Remission from January to December 2014 and also received The Faculty of Arts and Science Fellowship from January 2014 to December 2015.
- ♦ The first *Ann-Marie Memorial Award* was awarded to MA/MSc student Mr. Borislav Mavrin in March 2014.
- A *Bonus Award* is given to PhD students who have completed their degree by their 12th semester. The recipients are Messrs. Tayeb Aissiou and Syed Chowdhury. This award will no longer be offered in the future.
- Recipients of the Accelerator Award are PhD students Misses Raquel Cabral, Manuela Girotti, and Mariolys Rivas. This award recognizes PhD students who have completed their degree by their 14th semester.
- ♦ The Harriet and Abe Gold Entrance Bursary was awarded to Ms. Samia El-Khoury (MSc) from January to August 2014.