

## Newsletter June 2018 - May 2019

### PROMOTIONS

- ◆ The Department congratulates Alina Stancu on her promotion to Full Professor effective June 1, 2018.
- ◆ Congratulation to Méлина Mailhot who was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor effective June 1, 2018.

### HIRES

- ◆ Ionica Groparu-Cojocaru, who held an LTA position in the Department for three years, was hired as an ETA effective August 1, 2018.
- ◆ Welcome to Almaz Butaev, Dimiter Dryanov, and Ildiko Pelczer who begin their 1<sup>st</sup> year as LTAs effective August 1, 2018.
- ◆ Welcome to Carmen Buffone who will be replacing Debbie Arless as the Interim Graduate Program Assistant during Debbie's temporary one-year assignment.

### DEPARTURES

- ◆ Farewell to Josef Brody who will be retiring on May 31, 2019. Dr. Brody has been a full-time faculty member in the Department since 1968.
- ◆ Good-bye to Almaz Butaev who will be leaving his LTA position to take a post-doctoral position in Calgary, and to Victor Kalvin who has finished his third year as an LTA as of May 14, 2019.
- ◆ Debbie Arless left on May 10, 2019 to take a replacement position for one year in the Student Success Centre.

### DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

- ◆ Frédéric Godin has been appointed as a Fellow of the Science College from June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2022.
- ◆ The Department's Centre of Actuarial Excellence designation, awarded by the Society of Actuaries, was successfully renewed in 2019 for another five years. This designation promotes the program ensuring students that the Department provides an education above regular standards.
- ◆ Giovanni Rosso's FRQNT Nouveau Chercheur grant has been extended to 2020-21.

- ◆ Marco Bertola has been elected to serve on the NSERC Doctoral Committee from June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2020.
- ◆ John Harnad has been elected to serve on the NSERC Master's Committee from June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2020.
- ◆ Chantal David has been elected to serve on the NSERC Vanier and Quebec Merit Scholarship Program for Foreign Nationals (PBEEE) Selection Committee from June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2021.
- ◆ The Department had established *The Professor Dwivedi Memorial Lecture Series* in 2012 thanks to an endowment from the Dwivedi Family. The seventh lecture in this series was held on November 16, 2018.
- ◆ The following competitions were hosted in the Department for interested students who do not have the opportunity to participate in these contests in their school:
  - The *American Mathematical Competition*, a competition through the American Mathematical Association, was held on November 13, 2018, for grade 8 students while the grade 10 competition was held on February 7 and 13, 2019. The competition is highly valued as real measure of math knowledge.
  - The *Gauss competition* was held on May 15 for grade 7 students.
  - The Galois and the Hypatia contests were held for grade 10 and grade 11 students respectively.
  - The *Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC)* is an annual mathematics competition held in Canada during the month of November and run by the Canadian Mathematical Society. Students who score exceptionally well in this competition are selected to participate in the Canadian Mathematical Olympiad. COMC is recognized as an important contest in Canada. Montreal Math Circle is an official writing centre for this contest, even though physically the contest is written in the Department. The best students can be invited to summer math camps or invited to the math Olympiad. COMC is for all high school students; however, in Quebec, first-year college students can also participate. Most often, grades 10-11 and first-year college students participate.
  - The *Canadian Senior and Intermediate Mathematics Contests (CSMC and CIMC)* are two contests designed to give students the opportunity to have fun and to develop their mathematical problem-solving ability. Geared towards students in Grades 9 or 10 or below (CIMC), and Grades 11 or 12 and CÉGEP students. (CSMC). Motivated students in lower grades are also encouraged to participate in these contests.
- ◆ The International Mathematical Olympiad Formula of Unity was held on February 25, 2019. Congratulations to the participant who ranked third internationally.
- ◆ The *Math Kangaroo Contest*, hosted by the Department was held on March 25, 2019, attracting 524 participants. There were 81 winners of whom 60 received national level awards. The award ceremony for the winners took place on June 16, 2019.
- ◆ *The Montreal Math Circle* is a joint project of Concordia's Department of Mathematics and Statistics. The last two sessions of the 2018-2019 edition of the Montreal Math Circle were held in April and May 2019.
- ◆ Participation in the Tournament of Towns was held at Concordia on October 21, 2018 and February 13, 2019.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

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

- ◆ Dr. Vincent Gelinas was an undergraduate student in Honours Pure and Applied Mathematics and did a research project under a summer NSERC with Dr. Robert Raphael in 2011. After he graduated from Concordia, Vincent entered a doctoral program at the University of Toronto and successfully defended his thesis in Homological Algebra in August of 2018. He now has a postdoctoral position at Trinity College, Dublin.

### Convocation Medals in 2019

- ◆ Vanessa Mailhot-Franco (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/ Finance [Co-op]) was presented the *Eric O'Connor Mathematics Medal* which is awarded to the most outstanding graduating student in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.
- ◆ Ali Aziz (BSc - Mathematics and Statistics) received a *Mappin Medal* (awarded to the highest-ranking student graduating with a BSc degree).

### Undergraduate Awards

- ◆ The *Arts and Science Dean's Scholar Awardees* for 2017-18 were given in fall 2018 to:
  - Gianmarco Antonacci (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/ Finance [Co-op])
  - Ali Aziz (BSc - Mathematics and Statistics)
  - Angela Du (BA - Specialization Mathematics and Computational Finance [Co-op])
  - Sofia Giubilaro (BA - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance)
  - Davinder Jaggers-Manchanda (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance)
  - Max Mehta (BSc - Actuarial Mathematics/Finance [Co-op])
  - William Ngo (BSc - Specialization Statistics [Co-op], Minor Computer Science)
  - Cesare Spinoso-Di Piano (BSc - Joint Major Mathematics and Statistics and Computer Applications)
  - Toka Zaini (BSc - Mathematics and Statistics)
- ◆ Mathematics and Statistics students who had achieved a last annual grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.75 are on the 2018-19 *Dean's List*. Their names are published on:  
<https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/about/awards.html#deanlist>
- ◆ Jake Assouline (BA – Mathematics and Statistics) and Declan Pipia (BSc –Major Mathematics and Statistics) received Concordia's *la Bourse d'études Hydro Québec de l'Université Concordia*.
- ◆ *Campaign for the New Millennium Scholarships* were awarded to Angela Du (BA - Specialization Mathematics and Computational Finance [Co-op]), Sofia Giubilaro (BA - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance), and Yako Kato (BSc – Honours Pure and Applied Mathematics).
- ◆ In March, Frédéric Godin and Mélina Mailhot organized the 3rd *Concordia Actuarial Mathematics Case Competition* sponsored by Mercer. The competition was a success with 10 participants. The winning team was Aryan Agharazi (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics), Julien Lies (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics [Co-op]), Colin McIntyre (BA - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance), and Max Mehta (BSc - Actuarial Mathematics/Finance [Co-op]). The 2<sup>nd</sup> prize winning team consisted of Katherine Cahoon (BA - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance), Maryem Gagnon (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics), and Marissa Genier (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics), while the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize winning team was Julie Perugini (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics [Co-op]) and John Tsatas (BSc - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics (Co-op)).

- ◆ Cesare Spinoso-Di Piano (BSc - Joint Major Mathematics and Statistics and Computer Applications) was awarded a *Concordia University 25th Anniversary Scholarship*.
- ◆ Marc-Andrew Lavigne (BA - Honours Pure and Applied Mathematics) was a winner of the *Concordia Undergraduate Student Research Award (CUSRA)* - Summer 2019.
- ◆ The *Economical Insurance Award* is the highest-value undergraduate scholarship for actuarial students. Simon Desrosiers (BA - Specialization Actuarial Mathematics/Finance, Extended Credit Program) is an award recipient and Max Mehta (BSc - Actuarial Mathematics/Finance [Co-op]) received this award for a second time.
- ◆ Ethan Wong (BA – Honours Actuarial Mathematics) received a *Loyola Foundation Inc. Entrance Scholarship*.
- ◆ The *Morneau-Shepell Scholarship* recognises and rewards excellence in Actuarial Mathematics students who are entering their second year of studies. Taline Bedrossian (BSc – Specialization Actuarial Mathematics) was the recipient of this scholarship.
- ◆ Cameron Gallinger (BSc - Honours Pure and Applied Mathematics) won an *NSERC – USRA (Undergraduate Summer Research Award)* for Summer 2019.
- ◆ The *R. Howard Webster Athletic Financial Awards* was given to Ladonna Lamonth (BA - Major Mathematics and Statistics).
- ◆ The *Robert V. Tucker Memorial Award* is intended to encourage and reward promising full-time students Bachelor of Science program, with a Specialization in Actuarial Mathematics. Sitraka Raveloson was the recipient of this award.
- ◆ Renaud Gendron (BS – Statistics) received the *Student and Enrollment Services Scholarship Award*.
- ◆ Je Won Kim (BA - Major Mathematics and Statistics) and Ali Kadum (BSC - Joint Major Mathematics and Statistics and Computer Applications) were awarded a *Student Contributions Undergraduate Student Aid*.
- ◆ David Gray (BA -Joint Major Mathematics and Statistics and Computer Applications, Extended Credit Program) was awarded the *T. D. Dwivedi and S. N. Mishra Statistics Scholarship*.
- ◆ William Ngo (BSc - Specialization Statistics [Co-op], Minor Computer Science) and Tony Yuan (BSc- Specialization Statistics, Minor Computer Science) are recipients of the *Vincent, Olga, and Denis Nicolas-Diniacopoulos Scholarship*. Tony won this scholarship for two consecutive years.

## Graduate Awards

- ◆ Caspar Barendrecht and Laura Marino joined us for their Master's first year in Fall 2018 under the *ALGANT* program. They will be supervised by Dr. Adrian Iovita. Marta Benozzo will join us for her Master's second year in Fall 2019. Her supervisor will be Giovanni Rosso.
- ◆ Newly admitted students under the *ALGANT program* and supervised by Giovanni Rosso are Habib Alizadeh, Marta Benozzo, and Jim van der Valk Bouman. They shall spend their first year at Concordia during 2019-20.
- ◆ Dalia El-Farawi (MSc - Mathematics Education) and Neha Nanda (MSc - Number Theory) are the winners of a *Brenda Carter and David Wheeler Memorial Award*.

- ◆ Abhirupa Sen (PhD - Actuarial and Financial Mathematics) received a *Concordia International Tuition Award of Excellence* from 2018 through 2022.
- ◆ A *Concordia Merit Scholarship* was awarded Martin Čech (PhD – Number Theory).
  
- ◆ Laura Broley (PhD - Mathematics) received the *Concordia University Conference and Exposition Award*, and the *Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship* for 2018-19.
  
- ◆ Martin Čech (PhD – Number Theory) received a *Concordia University Graduate Fellowship*.
  
- ◆ Kenzy Abdel-Malek (MSc – Mathematics) received a 2019 *Concordia University Special Entrance Award*.
  
- ◆ Roba Bairakdar (PhD – Actuarial Mathematics) received the *Jacques Goulet Graduate Scholarship in Actuarial Mathematics* as well as the *Mitacs Accelerate Award 2019*.
  
- ◆ The *Nick Herscovics Award* was given to Dalia El-Farawi (MSc – Mathematics Education).