

NEWSLETTER

Department of Mathematics & Statistics

Friday, 15th November 2002

This Week: DEPARTMENTAL VISITORS
SEMINAR
ERSKINE TRAVEL GRANT
NZIMA MATH CORE PHD SCHOLARSHIP FOR JEAN GONG
PAPER ACCEPTED
PAPER PUBLISHED
JOKE OF THE DAY

DEPARTMENTAL VISITORS

We now have Adjunct Assoc Prof. Rey Casse, from University of Adelaide who will be doing some research with Dr David Glynn for three weeks. He is in Room 502 and can be contacted at Ext 7663.

Another visitor due to come will be Prof. Dieter Spreen from University of Siegen, Germany. He will arrive on the first week of December 2002.

SEMINAR

Tuesday, 26 Nov 2002, Room 446 at 2.10pm

Bruce van Brunt (Institute of Fundamental Sciences, Massey University) on Holomorphic Solutions To Advanced Functional Differential Equations And Complex Dynamics.



ERSKINE TRAVEL GRANT

Dr Irene Hudson has been awarded a 2002 Erskine grant to work in Australia in November, December and January 2003. Irene will further be teaching and research initiatives at the University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology; ANU; University of Sydney, Wollongong; University of Melbourne and Monash and also University of South Australia.

Douglas Bridges

NZIMA MATH CORE PHD SCHOLARSHIP FOR JEAN GONG

Jean Zhaojing Gong has been awarded a New Zealand Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (NZIMA) PhD scholarship for 3 years. The NZIMA Math CORE (NZIMA) is based at Auckland University and we very much appreciate this support. Jean's thesis is entitled "Improved statistical methods for modelling health outcomes - application to clinical efficacy and equity of access".

Jean will be based in math/stat with Irene as supervisor and Dr Patrick Graham from Christchurch School of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Otago, as associate supervisor.

Go for it Jean!

Irene Hudson

PAPER ACCEPTED

Wake, G.C (with Vetharaniam, I., Davis, S.R., Soboleva T.K., and Shorten, P.R.) "Modeling the interaction of milking frequency and nutrition on mammary gland growth and lactation", J of Dairy Science.

Graeme Wake

PAPER PUBLISHED

Wake, G.C AND mark Nelson (Editors). "Mathematical Modelling of Nonlinear Systems", Special Issue "Mathematical & Computer Modelling.", Vol 36, No. 3, august 2002, 168 pages.

Wake, G. (with Lam, Z., Hwang, K-S, Lee, J-Y, Chase, and J. G.) "Active Insulin Infusion Using Optimal And Derivative-Weighted Control" Journal of Medical Engineering and Physics, Vol. 24(10), 2002, pp. 663-672.

JOKE OF THE DAY

A mathematician, a physicist, and an engineer went to the races and placed their bets. Commiserating in the bar after the race, the engineer said, "I don't understand why I lost all my money. I measured all the horses and calculated their strength and mechanical advantage and figured out how fast they could run --"

The physicist interrupted him: "-- but you didn't take individual variations into account. I did a statistical analysis of their previous performances and bet on the horses with the highest probability of winning."

"If you're so hot, why are you broke?" asked the engineer. Just then the mathematician took out his pipe and they got a glimpse of his well-fattened wallet. Obviously here was a man who knew something about horses. They both demanded to know his secret. "Well," he said, "first I assumed all the horses were identical and spherical . . ."



**"I forgot to make a back-up copy of my brain,
so everything I learned last semester was lost."**