

# Newsletter

## Mathematics & Statistics

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### This Newsletter

- Paper Accepted
- Klein Bottle
- Congratulations
- Department Research Funds
- Department Visitors

"Mathematicians are like lovers ...  
Grant a mathematician the least  
principle, and he will draw from it a  
consequence which you must also  
grant him, and from this consequence  
another." (Fontenelle)

### PAPERS ACCEPTED

M. Baroni, C. Semple and M. Steel. A framework for representing reticulate evolution. *Annals of Combinatorics*.

E. Mossel and M. Steel. Random biochemical networks and the probability of self-sustaining autocatalysis. *Journal of Theoretical Biology*.

M. Steel. Phylogenetic diversity and the greedy algorithm. *Systematic Biology*.

### KLEIN BOTTLE



A PhD student has successfully implemented a devious plot to enclose the Maths Department within a Klein Bottle. University officials are understandably concerned. Spokesperson for the College of Engineering, Jane Rockstep, said that "These circumstances were not included in the strategic plan. Communication with the Department of Maths and Stats is presently only possible via the fourth dimension, a concept unfamiliar to us in Engineering". University spokesperson, Harry Sop, said "Things are getting desperate: we have no way of sending exam papers to Maths/Stats staff for marking". The interface between the Department and the outside world appears to be made out of glass and may be viewed in the HOD's office. Plans are being made for an attempt to establish contact by sending a 4D mouse through the small aperture in the manifold. However, the mouse is under strict instructions not to reveal to the engineers the route by which they may access the Maths building.

The Department would like to thank the Anonymous PhD Student Donor for their kind gift.

Michael Plank

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Marian Baroni on successfully defending his PhD thesis on "The Constructive Theory of Riesz Spaces and Applications in Mathematical Economics".

*Douglas Bridges*

Congratulations to Michelle Rich (MathStats Grad of 1997) who has completed her final Actuarial Exam, a grueling series of exams and many years of long hard work. Michelle has been working for an international insurance company in New York City and will soon move to London.

*Frank Lad*

## DEPARTMENT RESEARCH FUNDS

Congratulations to the following who have been awarded grants towards conference expenses.

- Douglas Bridges – workshop on Constructive Logic in Munich, November 2004
- To attend the NZMS Dunedin Colloquium in December 2004:
  - Marian & Mihaela Baroni
  - Michael Plank
  - Ian Coope
- Carla Meurk to attend the ANU Bioinformatic Symposium in Canberra, December 2004.

*Associate Professor Ian Coope*

## DEPARTMENT VISITORS

| <b>Current Visitors</b>                     | <b>Name of Organisation</b>                                     | <b>From</b> | <b>To</b>   | <b>Room</b> | <b>Ext No</b> |
|---|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Prof. John Chapman                          | University of Oxford  | 25-Sep-04   | 30-Nov-04   | 501         | 8376          |
| <b>Visitors due to arrive</b>               | <b>Name of Organisation</b>                                     | <b>From</b> | <b>To</b>   | <b>Room</b> | <b>Ext No</b> |
| Prof. Jotun Hein and Dr Annamette Hein      | University of Oxford  | 5 Jan 2005  | 8 Apr 2005  | 620?        | 7431          |
| Prof. Claude Belisle                        | Université Laval  | 15 Dec 2004 | 30 Jun 2005 | 501?        | 8376          |
| Prof. Vincent Moulton<br>Dr Katherine Huber | University of East Anglia                                       | 7 Feb 2005  | 9 Apr 2005  | 607?        | 8875          |
| Prof. Hajime Ishihara                       | Japan Adv Institute of Science Tech                             | 14 Feb 2005 | 1 Mar 2005  | 605?        | 8028          |
| Dr Burkard Polster                          | Monash University   | 21 Feb 05   | 10 Jun 2005 | 605?        | 8028          |
| Prof. James Oxley<br>Prof. Geoff Whittle    | Louisiana State University<br>Victoria University of Wellington | 14 Mar 2005 | 18 Mar 2005 | 710?        | 7694          |
| Associate Professor<br>Richard Laugeson     | University of Illinois  | 1 Jun 2005  | 16 Aug 2005 | 607?        | 8875          |
| Prof. Daniel Naiman                         | John Hopkins University, Maryland                               | 9 Jul 2005  | 14 Aug 2005 | 620?        | 7431          |
| Prof. Dominic Welsh                         | University of Oxford  | 1 Sep 2005  | 1 Dec 2005  | 620?        | 7431          |