EVOLUTION 2007

Participants at the Durmont-Durville workshop on Applied Evolutionary Bioinformatics, held at the Kaikoura Marine Laboratory from 24-27 June. The meeting was funded from France and a follow-up meeting will be held in Montpellier in July next year.

WELCOME
Welcome to Raazesh Sainudiin, who has recently taken up a position as Lecturer in this department. Raazesh comes to us from Oxford University’s Department of Statistics, where he was a Research Fellow. He will be teaching STAT218 in semester 2.

FAREWELL
Post-doctoral Fellow Erick Matsen is returning to the USA to take up a 3-year Miller fellowship at the University of California Berkeley, after a year at Canterbury funded by the Allan Wilson Centre.
CONGRATULATIONS
PhD student Klaas Hartman has obtained funding from Google for a 3-month project writing code for phylogenetic diversity analysis, as part of Google’s “Summer of Code” initiative.

Gabrielle Christenhusz has been accepted for a degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Leuven in Belgium. Because of her outstanding academic background, she has been admitted to the abridged version of this programme and, after 2 years, will enrol for a canonical degree at the Masters level.

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS
Welcome to our new Postdocs: Bhalchandra Thatte (Mike Steel) and Iris Loeb (Douglas Bridges) are joining Britta Basse (Alex James), who arrived in August last year.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION AVAILABLE
This position starts in December 2007 and will be funded by EPSRC for 2.5 years. The project is on statistical techniques for reconstructing pedigrees from genomic data. The candidate will spend 2 years at Oxford University (Statistics) and 6 months in the Biomathematics Research Centre. Enquiries to Mike Steel.

CONFERENCES
Dominic Lee: 3rd IMS-OSBA Joint Meeting, Bormio, Italy, 7 - 11 January 2008


Daniel Lond: International Algebraic Conference dedicated to the 100th anniversary of D K Faddeev, St Petersburg, Russia September 2007


Ben Martin spent 2 weeks in Oberwolfach in June as part of the Research in Pairs programme. He was doing research on algebraic groups with 3 collaborators from the UK.
Douglas Bridges being admitted as a Corresponding Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh during a visit to Scotland this month. From right: Prof. Sean McKee (Industrial Mathematics, University of Strathclyde), DSB, Prof. Andrew Miller (Royal Society), Prof. Sir Michael Atiyah, a Royal Society official, and, on the sofa, Douglas’s daughter Catriona.

WELCOME TO OUR DEPARTMENTAL VISITORS

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<td>Simone Linz</td>
<td>Dusseldorf University, Germany</td>
<td>C Semple</td>
<td>29/9/06</td>
<td>31/8/07</td>
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<td>Will Pyman</td>
<td>Wentworth College, England</td>
<td>A James</td>
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<td>Tobias Thierer</td>
<td>University of Auckland</td>
<td>M Steel</td>
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<td>C Semple</td>
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<td>Prof. Willy Hereman</td>
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<td>AvProf Jane McDougall</td>
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Prof. Willy Hereman

Willy Hereman comes to us from the Colorado School of Mines for Semester 2, during which time he will be lecturing MATH363. His areas of interest include nonlinear wave phenomena, soliton theory, symmetry analysis, integrability, wavelets and software development in mathematica.

Associate Prof. Jane McDougall

Jane McDougall is a former UC honours graduate who went to Northwestern University Chicago for graduate study and currently has a tenured position at Colorado College. Her research interest is in the area of complex analysis and operator theory. She will be helping us with the teaching of MATH108-W in Term 3.
PAPERS SUBMITTED
Erick Matsen, Elchanan Mossel, and Mike Steel: *Mixed-up trees: the structure of phylogenetic mixtures.* (Submitted to Bulletin of Mathematical Biology.)

B Thatte & M Steel: *Reconstructing pedigrees: a stochastic perspective* (Submitted to Journal of Theoretical Biology)

CONFERENCE PAPER ACCEPTED

PAPERS ACCEPTED
M Steel, A Mimoto & A O Mooers: *Quantifying a taxon’s expected contribution to future phylogenetic diversity* (Evolutionary Bioinformatics Online)

F A Matsen & M Steel: *Phylogenetic mixtures on a single tree can mimic a tree of another topology* (Systematic Biology)


D S Bridges & J Berger: *The ant-Specker property, a Heine-Borel property, and uniform continuity* (Archive for Math. Logic)

PAPER PUBLISHED

PhD STUDENTS IN PARTY MODE

Michael Langton

Scott Graybill, Hannes Diener, Sarah Kerr & Daniel Lund

Peter Humphries & Nicole Kleinstreuer