NEW COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING VISION STATEMENT

“Globally connected, we will grow through our inspirational teaching and innovative research, and become one of the top 10 Engineering Colleges in the Southern Hemisphere by 2023.”

TRANSIT OF VENUS

This stunning photo of the transit of Venus comes to us courtesy of Jeanette McLeod and was taken by her collaborator at ANU Canberra, Prof. Brendan MacKay, using a standard camera. Jeanette was on a research visit to Brendan at the time, working on problems to do with graph reconstruction and switching stable graphs. She was there from 3 – 14 June and visited the ANU Mt Stromlo observatory on 6 June to watch the transit of Venus.
Welcome to new PhD students Ealasukanthan (Sukanthan) Thavanayagam and Chitraka Wickamarachchi from Sri Lanka, who are probably in a state of shock given the weather they’ve encountered on arrival in Christchurch!

Sukanthan, who hails from Karaitivu in Sri Lanka, is based in Erskine 516. He is doing a PhD in Mathematical Biology under the supervision of David Wall. Sukanthan completed his BSc(Hons) and MSc (Industrial Mathematics) in Sri Lanka and then went on to the UK where he completed a second Masters degree in Applied Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing. His interests include chess, the card game 304, cricket and badminton.

Chitraka is based in Room 510 with James Dent. He is married with 3 daughters and a son. His first degree was a BSc Special Degree in Statistics at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura in Sri Lanka. He also has an MSc (Applied Statistics) and an M.Phil. degree, both from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. He has been working as a Lecturer in Statistics in the Department of Statistics and Computer Science at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. His research interests are Categorical Data Analysis and Classification Techniques, and when he’s not working he enjoys playing cricket and watching rugby.

### WELCOME TO OUR DEPARTMENT VISITORS

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<td>Ana-Maria Magdalina</td>
<td>NCRE Visitor</td>
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<td>David Liberles</td>
<td>Wyoming</td>
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<td>Michael Matschiner</td>
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<td>Charles Gonnaud</td>
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<td>P Wilson</td>
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<td>Markus Stroppel (Erskine)</td>
<td>Stuttgart</td>
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### ERSKINE FELLOWS

Professor Hajime Ishihara is coming to us from the School of Information Science at the Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology. His research interests include Theoretical Computer Science, Proof Theory and Constructive Mathematics. He will be lecturing in MATH230 and MATH336 as well as presenting a seminar and being a major figure at a workshop on Constructive Analysis and Topology. Professor Ishihara will be hosted by Douglas Bridges and based in Erskine 714.

Huaxiong Huang is a Professor of Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at York University, Toronto. His field of special interest is Industrial and Biological Mathematical Modelling. He will be lecturing in MATH270/EMTH271 and MATH442, as well as presenting a seminar, undertaking a research field trip with Mathematical Modellers and interacting with postgraduate students. Professor Huang will be hosted by Phil Wilson and based in Erskine 501.

Professor Markus Stroppel comes to us from the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics at the University of Stuttgart. His fields of special interest are Topology, Geometry, Lie Groups, and Mathematics for engineering students. He will be giving lectures to EMTH119 and MATH427 and presenting a seminar. Professor Stroppel will be hosted by Gunter Steinke and based in Erskine 607.
PAPERS ACCEPTED

PAPERS PUBLISHED

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE
Congratulations to Jennifer Brown, who has just been elected as a new International Statistical Institute member. Elected membership involves being nominated by another elected member and being supported by three other elected members. There are 14 elected members from New Zealand.

- Mike Steel

CONFERENCES AND VISITS

Computability in Europe Conference
Four Mathematicians associated with UC who presented research at the Computability in Europe conference share a meal in the Eagle pub. The Eagle is where Crick and Watson (discoverers of the structure of DNA) announced that “We have found the secret of life.”

From left, Robin Havea, Matt Hendtlass, Douglas Bridges and Maarten McKubre-Jordens.

ECHO 360
The University Learning and Teaching Committee recently organised a series of workshops on successful teaching and learning tools. There were three broad themes: teaching showcase, blended learning, and community and work based learning. One of the blended learning sessions was presented by Irene David, who spoke on Echo 360 in Teaching.

Echo 360 records and processes lectures automatically and introduces better and faster forms of delivery to students. The system will be in 20 teaching venues for the start of semester 2 and will in time replace the current manual recording process. Irene’s presentation can be seen online at:
http://www.teachlearn.canterbury.ac.nz/Teaching%20Week.shtml

Please contact Irene if you are interested in a demonstration on how the software works in the lecture theatres.


From the Web


Review, comment and vote on items selected for withdrawal from the UC Library collection

"Withdrawal lists added" shows current lists (at present mainly of Central Library books on levels 3 and 4). Lists stay up for 3 weeks.

Do you want to recommend books to the Library? – send the details to the Library Liaison Officer for Physics, Dr Chris Gordon [http://bit.ly/GEWv4z](http://bit.ly/GEWv4z)

John Arnold
Engineering and Physical Sciences Library – Kā Puna Pūkahataka me te Pūtaiao