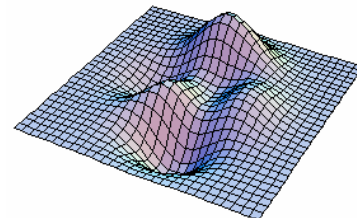
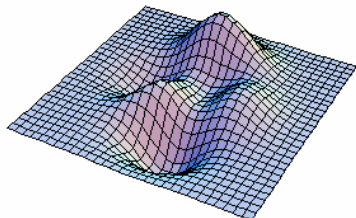


University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
Mathematics Department
Student Newsletter



Vol. 4 No. 2

Spring '00

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT RECEPTION

All Mathematics Majors are invited to the 5th annual Mathematics Department Student Reception.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19TH, 5:00 - 7:00 PM
CLEARY CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM AND
GATHERING CENTER

Sign up sheets will be up in April. All students should sign up in the Math Department Office (1020 Cowley Hall) or the tutor room (102 Cowley Hall) by April 12th. If you are a senior, please let us know so that we can have a certificate ready for you. At the reception, we will be announcing the Outstanding Junior and Senior Mathematics Student awards for this year. Past winners are listed in the display case across from the tutor room (102 Cowley Hall).

ATTENTION ALL MATH MAJORS PLANNING TO GRADUATE IN MAY:

Please stop by Bruce Riley's office (1034 Cowley) by **March 3, 2000** to notify the Department of your plans. Also, make sure you fill out an "Intent to Graduate" form from the Records and Registration Office in 117 Graff Main Hall by **March 3, 2000**.

SEARCH-AND-SCREEN NOW IN PROGRESS

The Mathematics Department will be hiring two new faculty members this spring. The search committee is currently screening the applications. Interviews should occur in late February and/or early March. At each interview, the candidate will give a talk for students and faculty. The dates and times for these talks will be announced as soon as possible. Please consider attending these talks and giving us your feedback on the candidates.

CHALLENGING PROBLEMS SOLVED

Fall Semester saw many students submit solutions to the Math Department's biweekly challenging problem with a few students solving several problems. The top solvers were Victor Feltes and John Sullivan, each solving five of the six problems. Students submitting at least one correct solution were: Scott Battaglia, John Chervenka, David Dodson, Andrew Erickson, Victor Feltes, Chris Glenz, Dan (King) Groothousen, Laura Heitman, Sean McHugh, James Murray,

Laurie Nekola, Matthew Pevan, Julie Pomplum, Nick Roland, Chris Servais, Karen Sobota, Peggy Stelzig, Jason Stolte, John Sullivan, Brian Trewyn, Eric Vershure, Jasen Whitehead, and Ben Williams.

THE CHALLENGE CONTINUES

The Math Department's challenging problem competition continues this semester. The competition is just for fun, with the intention of stimulating interest in mathematics. The competition is open to all students at all levels and all majors. In recent years, the top problem solvers were awarded small prizes for their efforts.

Here's how it works for those of you who are new to it. A challenging problem will be posted every two weeks on the Math Club bulletin board outside the tutor room (102 Cowley Hall). After a problem has been up for two weeks all correct solvers will be acknowledged on the bulletin board. A correct solution will also be posted on the bulletin board along with the next challenging problem. If no correct solutions are received in the first two weeks, the problem will remain open until a correct solution is submitted. Students can pick up a copy of the current problem from the envelope on the Math Club bulletin board.

MATH CLUB

After a great first semester, the Math Club is working on the schedule for the second semester. They typically meet every two weeks, either on a Tuesday or a Thursday at 4:00 p.m. The schedule will be announced shortly.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH GRANTS

The UW-L Undergraduate Research Grant Competition continues this year. Funding is given on a competitive basis to promote and support meaningful undergraduate research activities. All full-time and part-time undergraduates students are eligible to apply. Interested students should enlist a faculty sponsor and pick up application forms and guidelines from the Provost/Vice Chancellor's office in **145 Graff Main Hall**. The guidelines are also available online on the University webpage at <http://perth.uwlax.edu/urc/grant-guidelines.html>. Proposals are due on **Wednesday, March 22nd, 2000**. Papers for projects which have been funded in the past two years have been published in the UW-L Journal of Undergraduate Research, Vol. I and II.

If you have any questions or would just like more information, contact Dr. Aaron Monte, Chair of the Undergraduate Research Committee, 4001 Cowley Hall. His email address is monte.aaro@uwlax.edu.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH DAY

The Third Annual UW-L Undergraduate Research Day will be held on April 7, 2000. Student researchers are encouraged to present results of their research activities either in the form of a poster or oral presentation. For more information, contact

Scott Cooper, Biology Department-
cooper.scot@uwlax.edu

or Aaron Monte, Chemistry Department-
monte.aaro@uwlax.edu

UW-SYSTEM SYMPOSIUM FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

The 2nd Annual UW-System Symposium on Undergraduate Research will be held on **May 22-23, 2000** on the UW-L campus. Application and abstract forms are available from UW-L department chairs and in 145 Graff Main Hall. Each institution will select 30-40 students to present results of research activities at this prestigious conference honoring undergraduate scholarly efforts from all 14 State campuses. For more information contact

Scott Cooper, Biology Department-
cooper.scot@uwlax.edu

or Aaron Monte, Chemistry Department-
monte.aaro@uwlax.edu

Information is also available on the University webpage at <http://perth.uwlax.edu/urc/UW-System-symp-page.html>.

SCHOLARSHIPS

It's that time of year again, applications for UW-L Foundation scholarships will be due soon. A number of endowment funds have been established by alumni, faculty, parents, students, businesses and other organizations. Annual earnings from the investment of these permanent funds provide scholarships, awards and grants to students. These programs are administered by the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse Foundation, Inc. Further information is available from the Advancement and External Relations Office, 215 Main Hall or at <http://perth.uwlax.edu/Advancement/Foundation/scholarships.html>. **Deadline for application is March 1** for the following fall term. Many of these scholarships are general in nature, open to any student based on academic achievement. Some scholarships are awarded on a financial need basis, while others are reserved for students in particular areas of study. The following scholarships should be of particular interest to mathematics students:

AAUW Scholarship in Math and Science (junior or senior math or science majors)

John Gruden Memorial Scholarship (junior computer science or math major)

Eric McIlraith Scholarship in Mathematics (math majors only)

Leo and Gertrude Schnur Scholarship in Mathematics (math majors only)

Oliver A. Stoffer Scholarship (junior or senior math, biology, chemistry, geography, or physics majors)

Strzelczyk Award in Science & Allied Health (seniors in College of Science & Allied Health)

Arnold Temte Mathematics Honors Scholarship (junior or senior math majors only)

300 and 400 LEVEL COURSE OFFERINGS FOR FALL 2000 and SPRING 2001

In order to help you begin to plan your schedule for next year, we thought it might be helpful to give you some information on the schedule for the next two semesters.

The courses above MTH 310 being offered for the Fall 2000 semester include:

MTH 311	Number Theory
MTH 341	Probability and Statistics I
MTH 353	Differential Equations
MTH 407	Advanced Calculus
MTH 411	Abstract Algebra
MTH 441	Mathematical Statistics I
MTH 447	Nonparametric Statistics

The courses above MTH 310 being offered for the Spring 2001 semester include:

MTH 320	History of Mathematics
MTH 331	Introduction to Modern Geometry
MTH 341	Probability and Statistics I
MTH 342	Probability and Statistics II
MTH 371	Introduction to Numerical Methods
MTH 408	Advanced Calculus II
MTH 413	Topics in Linear Algebra
MTH 445	General Linear Models
MTH 461	Mathematical Physics
MTH 480	Studies on Applied Mathematics

INFO ON ACTUARIAL EXAMS

The actuarial exams will be offered on campus (331 Cartwright) on May 24th, 2000. The exam structure has changed significantly since last year. Students who have completed the calculus sequence (MTH 207, 208, 309, 310) and MTH 341, 441, and perhaps parts of 442 should be prepared to take the Course 1 Examination - Mathematical Foundations of Actuarial Science. The cost is \$75 and the applications must be sent in by **April 1, 2000**. The exams are also offered in November. For additional information on the actuarial profession, as well as further details or application forms for the exam, contact Dr. Jack Scheidt, 1023 Cowley Hall.