

Goodsell Gazette

Carleton College

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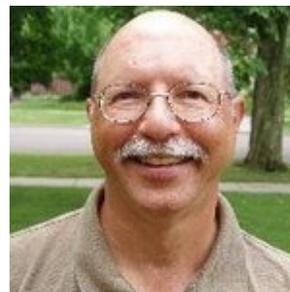
The newsletter for the Carleton mathematics and statistics community

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Goodbye Jack!

Professor Jack Goldfeather will be retiring after this year, and this term is his last teaching term. Professor Goldfeather has taught more than 25 different courses in his 38 years at Carleton, including advanced courses in both mathematics and computer science. He developed and taught one of the first undergraduate computer graphics courses in the country in 1986 and has taught various computer science courses in six different computer languages. Although his main mathematics teaching interests are in Algebra and Topology, he has also taught courses in Number Theory, Real Analysis, Dynamical Systems, and Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations. In 2009, he was awarded an endowed chair and named the William H. Laird Professor of Mathematics, Computer Science, and the Liberal Arts. Thank you for so many years of teaching, Jack! We will miss you!



Six-word Memoir Contest

Thank you to the students and faculty who participated in the 6-word memoir contest! Here are a few of the ones we received:

Too young, too simple, sometimes naïve. — Jialin Liang

Wrote the Elements and lived forever. — Euclid

It's New! It's Old! What Happened? — Jack Goldfeather

Twenty-three problems; I need more answers. — Hilbert

And the winner of our tiny treat from our Cape Cod sabbatical is Trish Hare, who penned:
Grapes in the microwave, never again.

Trish, please see Sue Jandro to pick up your prize.

Job & Summer Opportunities

Valparaiso Experience in Research by Undergraduate Mathematicians (VERUM)

VERUM provides an opportunity for rising sophomores and juniors to engage in their first research experience in mathematics. VERUM is currently looking for exceptional students who want a research experience that will help them to decide if graduate studies in the mathematical sciences should be part of their future plans. First generation college students, minority students, and women are particularly encouraged to apply. The VERUM projects for this year will include:

- Statistics: Noise-Induced Stabilization of Stochastic Differential Equations
- Differential Equations: Mathematical Modeling in Ecology: Simulating the Reintroduction of the Extinct Passenger Pigeon
- Combinatorics/Discrete Mathematics: Pattern Avoidance in Symmetric Words

For more details about the program and application process, visit www.valpo.edu/mcs/verum.

WAVE Fellows Program at Caltech

The WAVE Fellows program provides support for undergraduates to conduct a 10-week summer research project at Caltech. This program aims to foster diversity by increasing the participation of underrepresented students in science and engineering Ph.D. programs and to make Caltech's programs more visible and accessible to students not traditionally exposed to Caltech. Students must be current sophomores through non-graduating seniors and must be U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents. A minimum GPA of 3.2 is required. WAVE Fellows will receive a \$6000 award, and an additional \$500 housing and travel supplement will be provided. For more information, visit www.sfp.caltech.edu/programs/wavefellows.

Amgen Scholars Program

Caltech's Amgen Scholars Program is geared towards students in biology, chemistry, and biotechnology fields. Some of these fields include biology, biochemistry, bioengineering, chemical and biomolecular engineering, and chemistry. Students must be current sophomores through non-graduating seniors, must be attending a four-year university in the US, and must be U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents. A minimum GPA of 3.2 is required. Amgen Scholars will receive a \$6000 award, round-trip air transportation, campus housing, and a food allowance. For more information, visit www.sfp.caltech.edu/programs/amgen_scholars.

MTBI Summer Program

The Mathematical and Theoretical Biology Institute Summer Research Program is an intensive eight-week summer research experience for undergraduates in Tempe, Arizona. This REU program prepares students interested in working at the interface of mathematics, statistics, and the natural and social sciences for the rigors of graduate studies. Participants receive instruction in dynamical systems, stochastic processes, computational methods, and modeling. Students must have completed at least their sophomore year with a major in math, biology, or related fields. Participants will receive room & board and a \$4,000 stipend. For more info, visit mtbi.asu.edu/summer-program.

Problems of the Fortnight

In honor of the rapidly approaching break, there is just one problem of the fortnight this issue. Enjoy the break!

Problem 9:

Given a finite collection of two or more points in the plane, not all collinear, prove that there is a line that passes through exactly two of them. Is this claim still true if there are a countably infinite number of points?



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