Autumn 2017 Newsletter

A Word From the Chair - Autumn 2017

A year gone by, a new newsletter! So much happens in our department over the course of a year that these things basically write themselves! We welcomed two new faculty to the department: Associate Professor Tim Leung joined us in the fall of 2016, coming from Columbia University. Tim works in mathematical finance. He is the new director of the department's Computational Finance and Risk Management (CFRM)... Read more

Applied Mathematical Tools for Modern Financial Problems

By Tim Leung Last summer, I joined UW Applied Math as an Associate Professor and became the Director of the Computational Finance & Risk Management (CFRM) Program. Previously, I had been an Assistant Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering & Operations Research at Columbia University in New York City (2011-2016) and in the Department of Applied Mathematics & Statistics at Johns Hopkins University (2008-2011)... Read more

Mathematical modeling of cancer evolution

By Ivana Bozic Hello everyone! My name is Ivana Bozic (pronounced as “Bozhich”) and I am a new Assistant Professor in the Applied Mathematics department. I received my bachelors and masters degrees in pure mathematics from the University of Belgrade in Serbia, where I am from. After obtaining my masters, and realizing that I am more interested in applied than pure math, I moved to the US to do my PhD in mathematical modeling of cancer. I received my PhD degree in Mathematics from... Read more
Bretherton Sabbatical Year

Prof. Chris Bretherton spent his sabbatical year visiting three powerhouses of atmospheric and cloud modeling, the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Science at MIT, the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colorado, and the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology (MPI) in Hamburg, Germany. In Sept.-Dec. 2016, while at MIT, Chris was a Houghton Lecturer hosted by his doctoral advisor Prof. Kerry Emanuel, a world expert on hurricanes and cumulus clouds. He gave a... Read more

A Collegial Community

By Alan Perry For those who don’t often come in to Lewis Hall, I worked as the front desk Office Assistant for Applied Mathematics from 2015 to 2017. In between tending to the various perplexities involved with issues natural to an older building, I had many great experiences in the department that left me with lifelong impressions. I will be attending graduate school myself this fall, in far-off Chicago, and I think my experiences and the friendships forged at Lewis Hall have... Read more

Our New Postdoctoral Researchers 2017

Daniel Hanson is a Teaching Associate within the department, responsible for graduate-level courses offered by the Computational Finance and Risk Management program. He joined the program full-time last year following a career of over 20 years in quantitative finance, and several years as a part-time instructor. His primary areas of interest are quantitative development in C++, financial modeling in R, and applications of theory to derivatives pricing, risk management, and trading strategies... Read more

Introducing the Graduates of 2017

Doctors of Philosophy Benjamin Lansdell Advisor: Adrienne Fairhall On neural encoding: its estimation, application, and development Yian Ma Advisor: Hong Qian Irreversibility in Stochastic Dynamic Models and Efficient Bayesian
Inference  Susan C. Massey  Advisor: Kristin Swanson
Multi-scale modeling of paracrine PDGF-driven glioma growth and invasion
Scott Moe  Advisor: Randy LeVeque
High order shock capturing methods with compact stencils for use with...
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2017 Departmental Award Recipients

SIAM UW Award
Recipient: Kathleen Champion
For exceptional service to the University of Washington Chapter of SIAM for the 2016-2017 academic year.
Joseph Hammack Endowment Award
Recipients: Hexuan Liu
For exemplary work by a student in the Department of Applied Mathematics.
Tung Family Endowment Award
Recipients: Ronan Keane
For exemplary work by a student in the Department of Applied Mathematics.
Boeing Teaching Award
Recipient: Brisa Davis
For...
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Graduate school is a non-trivial exercise

By Donsub Rim
I came to the Applied Math Department at the University of Washington in 2012. I remember sitting next to a student from Iceland in a conference room in Guggenheim Hall and asking him if he was from Reykjavik. I also remember waiting for Professor Ioana Dumitriu to walk in and give her first lecture on Linear Analysis. I remember how surreal it felt to see Professors Randy LeVeque and Gunther Uhlmann in person - it was as if the people who I had met previously only...
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How I learned to stop worrying and love the oscillations

Recently everyone I know has been asking me how my new job is going. And while I'm flattered that they care, I tend to get weird looks when I tell them that it feels like starting graduate school all over again. But, like, in a good way. As a graduate student I worked with Professor David Masiello in the chemistry department, and I can't say enough about how amazing an experience it was. With his group, I studied how light, heat, and charge can be manipulated and controlled on the nanoscale...
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Ronan Keane's reflection
I wasn't really sure what was going to happen after I graduated with my 4 year degree. School was all I knew. Imagining my life post-academics was like imagining next year's Christmas on December 26. Nonetheless, the day came when I completed my B.S. in applied math. My academic career was over and I now had my professional career to contend with. I thought I would feel liberated. Instead, I felt like I had just finished a marathon and now I was expected to cycle the Tour de France. Resumes,... Read more