

Department of Mathematics

Dear Friends:

We apologize that it has been so long since we communicated. Our excuse is that the USC Math Department is "On The Move".

Finally after many long years when the department was physically split between DRB and KAP we have been reunited in very nice space in KAP. So we are taking this occasion to communicate with our friends and let you know a little about what has happened recently in the context of our department.

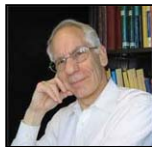


More photographs of the "new" Math Department in KAP can be found at <http://owl.usc.edu/mathphotos>. These include pictures of our attractive Common Room where paintings generously donated by the **Busemann** family have pride of place. Of course Alumni are most welcome to visit and will usually find "goodies" served at 3:00 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



Terrence Tao's CAMS/Whiteman Lecture 2009

New Faculty



New senior faculty have joined the department as part of USC's Senior Hiring Initiative.

Eric Friedlander has come from Northwestern to be Dean's Professor of Mathematics
<http://almaak.usc.edu/~ericmf>



Jin Ma has come from Purdue to be the Director of the Mathematical Finance Program

Susan Friedlander has come from the University of Illinois-Chicago to be the Director of the Center for Applied Mathematical Sciences (<http://cams.usc.edu>)



Also the department has added two rising star assistant professors.



Jay Bartroff, Statistics, from Stanford, <http://www-rcf.usc.edu/~bartroff/>



Aravind Asok, Algebraic Geometry, from UCLA <http://www-rcf.usc.edu/~asok>

Recent outstanding external recognition of faculty members includes:

Eric Friedlander, Elected in 2009 to be the President of the American Mathematical Society
 Elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Robert Penner, Awarded a Major Grant to Establish the Center for Quantum Geometry of Moduli Spaces in Aarhus University in Denmark

Francis Bonahon, Awarded a 5 Year NSF Grant to fund work in Low Dimensional Topology

Michael Waterman, The AMS Einstein Lecturer in 2009
 Elected Fellow of S.I.A.M. in 2009

Susan Friedlander, Appointed in 2008 to the Board of Mathematical Sciences and their Applications of the National Academies.

Robert Guralnick, Keynote Member of the 2009 Program on Algebraic Geometry at the Newton Institute, the University of Cambridge

Ko Honda, 2009 Geometry Prize of the Mathematical Society of Japan

Distinguished Lecturers

Recent Whiteman Memorial Lectures funded by an endowment established by the Whiteman family and friends:

Alexander Lubotzky of Hebrew University, 2008

Terrence Tao of UCLA, 2009

Peter Sarnak of Princeton University, 2010



Peter Baxendale and Haim Brezis

Distinguished Lecturers at the department recently include:

Persi Diaconis of Stanford, the Fall 2008 CAMS Distinguished Lecturer

George Papanicalau of Stanford, the Spring 2009 CAMS Distinguished Lecturer

Haim Brezis of Paris-6, Rutgers, and the Technion, the Fall 2009 CAMS Opening Lecturer

Jianqing Fan of Princeton University, the Fall 2009 Math Finance Colloquium Opening Lecturer

Margaret Wright of the Courant Institute, the Fall 2009 CAMS Distinguished Lecturer



Gary Rosen and Susan Friedlander



Student and Susan Montgomery

In January 2009 USC hosted an international conference on Hopf Algebras and related topics in honor of the 65th birthday of **Susan Montgomery**. Also many of the faculty were plenary lecturers or co-organizers at major national and international meetings. For example, in December 2009 **Susan Friedlander** co-organized at Fudan University in Shanghai the first joint meeting of the American Math Society and the Chinese Math Society.

USC has recently joined **Math for America**. This is an exciting program that trains Mathematicians for a teaching career. Perhaps some of you might like to investigate the program at www.mathforamerica.org/La.

Breaking News: Jason Fulman is promoted to Full Professor. Congratulations Jason!



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Some senior faculty have retired recently, including **Edward Blum**. Ed and his wife have generously contributed to a fund that sponsors prizes for some of our outstanding graduate students. These prizes are also funded by generous contributions from kind donors and their honorees whose names are recalled in the prize description. The five prizes awarded in 2009 are the following:



The University of Southern California Department of Mathematics
Edward and Dolores Blum, Graduate Research Prize
Aleksey Polunchenko

The University of Southern California Department of Mathematics
Dennis Ray Estes, Graduate Research Prize
Vlad Vicol

The University of Southern California Department of Mathematics
Theodore Edward Harris, Graduate Research Prize
Nathan Ross

The University of Southern California Department of Mathematics
Dennis Ray Estes, Graduate Teaching Prize
Mathias Knapé

The University of Southern California Department of Mathematics
Theodore Edward Harris, Graduate Teaching Prize
Vlad Vicol

We're on the Web!
<http://math.usc.edu>



All of us in the department would be delighted to hear from you. E-mail is a simple way to communicate. Perhaps you would like to drop a note to the Newsletter Coordinator, **Fatima Perez** at fc Perez@usc.edu and she will keep the department and friends informed.

We would be very grateful if you would send Fatima at fc Perez@usc.edu a brief message letting us know if you would like to receive future Newsletters.

The USC Math Dept Newsletter Committee
Susan Friedlander **Susan Montgomery**