

BANFF MEETING FOR CHAIRS OF MATH DEPARTMENTS

BANFF INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH STATION, SEPTEMBER 18 – 20, 2003

This is the fifth annual meeting of chairs of Canadian mathematics departments, held at BIRS. Heads will get to know each other; we will find out how other math departments work, and bring this information back to our own department. There will be a Special Session on the Math Department – Industry Interface.

ORGANIZED BY: Ted Bisztriczky (Calgary), Bob Erdahl (Queen's), Yvan Saint-Aubin (Montreal).

PARTICIPATING HEADS:

Tom Archibald (Acadia) – Tom.Archibald@acadiu.ca
Cyril W. L. Garner (Carleton) - cgarner@math.carleton.ca
Patrick Keast (Dalhousie) - keast@mathstat.dal.ca
Kohur Gowrisankaran (McGill) - gowri@math.mcgill.ca
Matthew A. Valeriot (McMaster) - valeriot@mcmaster.ca
Robert M. Erdahl (Queen's) - erdahlr@post.queensu.ca
Norman Reilly (Simon Fraser) - nreilly@cs.sfu.ca
Yvan Saint-Aubin (U. de Montreal) - saint@CRM.UMontreal.CA
Robert V. Anderson (U. du Québec à Montréal) - anderson@math.uqam.ca
Anthony T. Lau (U. of Alberta) - tlau@math.ualberta.ca
Brian Marcus (U. of British Columbia) - marcus@math.ubc.ca
Tibor T. Bisztriczky (U. of Calgary) - tbisztri@math.ucalgary.ca
O. Brian Allen (U. of Guelph) - ballen@uoguelph.ca
Wolfgang H. Holzmann (U. of Lethbridge) - holzmann@cs.uleth.ca
Guenter Krause (U. of Manitoba) - gkrause@cc.umanitoba.ca
Mayer Alvo (U. of Ottawa) - malvo@science.uottawa.ca
Bruce C. Gilligan (U. of Regina) - gilligan@math.uregina.ca
John S. Bland (U. of Toronto) - bland@math.utoronto.ca
Frank Zorozito (Pure Math, Waterloo) - fazorzit@uwaterloo.ca
Richard Kane (U. of Western Ontario) - rkane@uwo.ca
S. Ejaz Ahmed (U. of Windsor) - seahmed@uwindsor.ca
David C. Vaughan (Wilfrid Laurier) - dvaughan@wlu.ca
Neal Madras (York University) - madras@mathstat.yorku.ca

GUESTS of the CONFERENCE:

Rob Calderbank (AT & T) - calderbank@math.princeton.edu
Graham Wright (Canadian Math Society) - gwright@cms.math.ca

Arvind Gupta (MITACS) - arvind@mitacs.ca
Jack Tuszynski (MITACS) - jtus@phys.ualberta.ca
Jarett Hailes (MITACS) - jhailes@math.ualberta.ca
Ivar Ekeland (PIMS) - director@pims.math.ca
Bob Moody (BIRS) - rmoody@ualberta.ca
Christien Leger (CRM) - directeur@CRM.Umontreal.CA
Betty Teare (Calgary) - bteare@math.ucalgary.ca

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Check-in starting at 4:00pm, followed by a buffet supper in the Main Dining Room of Donald Cameron Hall, 5:30 – 7:30. Following dinner we will meet in the BIRS Lounge in Corbett Hall.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 (most of the talks – a long day)

The Friday program is directed at the inner workings of math departments; how to get things done in math department; what works, what doesn't.

8:45 Opening remarks

9:00 Cyril Garner – Carleton's Mathematics & Statistics Department

10:00 Bland, Allen, Gowrisankaran - Reviews of performance of departments

10:30 BREAK

11:00 Madras, Vaughan, Bland, Lau - Merit assessment

11:30 Brian Marcus – UBC's Mathematics Department

12:30 LUNCH (in the Main Dining Room of Donald Cameron Hall, 11:30 – 1:30)

2:00 Bisztriczky, Garner, Holzmann, Archibald - Advice to new heads

2:30 Saint-Aubin, Gowrisankaran, Madras, Holzmann - Education of future high school teachers

3:00 Matt Valeriote – McMaster's Mathematics and Statistics Department

4:00 BREAK

4:30 Vaughan, Gowrisankaran, Marcus, Ahmed - Budget planning

5:00 Ahmed, Valeriote - Non-tenure stream faculty

6:00 CMS RECEPTION (in the Trans Canada Pipeline Pavilion Building)

7:30 BANQUET (in the Trans Canada Pipeline Pavilion Building)

SATURDAY – The Math Department – Industry Interface

The math institutes have taken the lead in promoting closer ties between universities and industry, and it is important that math departments become aware of the dynamics of these important initiatives. We have been able to attract Rob Calderbank, who had a particularly good vantage point to follow the dynamics on the interface between mathematics departments and industry. Rob was formerly Vice President, Research, of AT & T; he will report on the difficulties Bell Labs recently came face-to-face with, and how these calamitous events will result in out-sourcing of industrial research. MITACS is the other main contributor for the Saturday Special Session – the contributors will describe how MITACS is shaping the university-industry interface.

8:45 Rob Calderbank – The changing interface between math departments and industry

:9:45 BREAK

10:00 Graham Wright – New directions for the CMS

10:30 Arvind Gupta – MITACS – the next seven years

11:00 Jack Tuszynski & Jarett Hailes – Experiences in industrial mathematics through MITACS

12:00 END OF BANFF CONFERENCE.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE:

Participants should arrive on Thursday afternoon for a 4pm check-in at the Front Desk of the Professional Development Centre. Following, there will be a buffet dinner in the Main Dining Room of Donald Cameron Hall (\$22), and then an informal gathering in the BIRS Lounge located in Corbett Hall. The formal part of the program will begin on Friday morning; check-out is noon, Saturday.

There is a registration fee of \$80, which covers the cost of the Friday banquet (additional banquet tickets can be purchased for \$50). The registration fee will not be collected at the registration desk; our official organizer will be Betty Teare from Calgary – she will collect the registration fee.

It is up to BIRS participants and organizers to find their own way to the Banff Centre. There are many shuttle bus services to and from Banff and the Calgary airport; www.banffairporter.com will drop you off right at the Banff Centre. Go to: <http://www.banffcentre.ca/conferences/visitor/location.asp> for detailed directions, information, maps and shuttle bus services.

ACCOMODATIONS:

Guests of the BIRS 2-day Workshops will be staying in Corbett Hall, as guests of BIRS. Each bedroom has one queen bed along with one desk with a Sun Ray Terminal ("thin client") and an ethernet port for Internet access with your laptop. A bathroom is shared between two guest rooms.

Breakfast on Friday and Saturday are covered by BIRS – a continental breakfast in the BIRS Lounge in Corbett Hall. Lunches and dinners are in the Main Dining Room of Donald Cameron Hall. The buffet lunch is \$12 for BIRS participants and runs from 11:30 am-1:30 pm; the dinner is \$22 and runs from 5:30-7:30 pm; these charges will be added to your room bill. There are also many restaurants in the town of Banff.

Spouses are welcomed at BIRS. If you come with your spouse an \$11 fee will be added to your room bill, to cover the breakfast and a service charge.

If you would like to stay an extra night or two in Banff you must make your own arrangements. Since Corbett Hall, the site of BIRS, will be in use for other scheduled workshops, you will need to either change buildings in the Banff Centre or book elsewhere in Banff. You can call 1-877-760-4595 or email reservations@banffcentre.ca to book a room at the Banff Centre. By indicating you are a BIRS participant you get a conference rate on a room (\$115 - \$130 per night); your event booking code is PIM0309F.

If you are planning to bring your entire family the Banff Centre itself (in which BIRS is located) has guest facilities for families. The town of Banff, most of which is 10-15 minutes walk from the Banff Centre, also has numerous possibilities for accommodations, including bed and breakfasts; www.discoverbanff.com/Wheretostay is an excellent source of alternative accommodation in and around Banff. These costs are borne by the participant.

CMS RECEPTION & HEADS BANQUET:

At 6:00 on Friday night there will be a reception sponsored by the Canadian Mathematics Society, followed by a banquet at 7:30. Both of these events will be in the Trans Canada Pipelines Pavilion Building. (Banquet included in the \$80 registration fee; additional tickets can be purchased for \$50.)

THE BIRS FACILITIES:

The talks will be held in the Max Bell Room 159, which is the Main Lecture Hall with a capacity of 40. This lecture hall has: an LCD projector with remote control for laptop presentations; a projection screen; three chalkboards; a Sun Ray Terminal with internet access

The BIRS Administration Office is located in Corbett Hall, Room 5110 (1st Floor). Telephone: 403-763-6999, Fax: 403-763-6990, E-mail: birsmgr@pims.math.ca. The BIRS staff will be happy to take care of your regular office requirements during administration office hours, including fax and photocopying. Internet connectivity and laser printers are also available.

All BIRS guests are welcome to use the facilities at the Sally Borden Recreational Centre at the Banff Centre. Some of the amenities include: weight room, swimming pool, sauna, running track, gymnasium, and a climbing wall.