



Graduate Student Chapters

Arizona State University

Established in January 2016, 59 current members.

Mission: To improve the communication of mathematics between disciplines as well as within the mathematics community.

President: Paloma Gutierrez Castillo

Vice President: Jason Yalim

Treasurer: Brady Gilg

Secretary: Theresa Scarnati

Can you share details about your most recent Chapter meeting/event?

In our most recent event, we co-sponsored a colloquium with the department. Mark Lewis, a Professor & Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada spoke about his research on the potential genetic consequences of range expansion due to climate change (event info and abstract here: <https://math.asu.edu/news-events/events/colloquium/2017-03-02/1630>). We provided food in the room prior to the event, allowing Professors and students to mingle together. Over 50 people attended.

Can you share a success story or a time where things didn't go according to plan?

Last April, we hosted our first Poster Conference. We originally had a group of three faculty planned to judge the presentations, two professors and one post-doctoral student. However, one of the professors did not show up! Luckily, the chair of the Math department, Professor Hal Smith, was present and personally volunteered to fill the vacancy.

What do members enjoy most about this AMS Student Chapter?

In our minds, members enjoy the leadership opportunities that the Chapter provides, as well as the occasional break from monotony courtesy our events. The monthly Chapter meetings allow our members to take a break from esoteric classes and research and think about generalizing and leveraging their own skills. And the food that we provide leaves them with a secondary good gut feeling too! Further, as an example of leadership opportunities, with the mentorship program, we provide Graduate students a way to help undergraduate Mathematics students. Our mentors are encouraged to listen to their mentees and then share their own experiences. So far this program seems to be well liked.





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Paloma Gutierrez Castillo
Chapter President, from Malaga, Spain.

How did you become interested in mathematics?

I always liked mathematics.

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

Working as Professor in some place in the world.

How has being the Student Chapter president assisted you with leadership training for your future?

I already had organization and leadership training before being president of the Student Chapter, but it was my first time doing it in the US. Since there exist some cultural differences the procedures sometimes have to be different.

What are your interests?

To do a job that could help other people. Teaching people to do good things in the future and also doing some good research my self. Outside work a like chess, travel and enjoy with family and friends.

What is the best advice you can give to someone pursuing a degree in mathematics?

Be passionate about what you do, work hard and enjoy the way not only the result.

