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# For Your Information

## Peter March Heads DMS

PETER MARCH, chair of the mathematics department at the Ohio State University, has been named director of the Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) of the National Science Foundation (NSF). He succeeds William Rundell, who has served in that position since 2002 and is returning to Texas A&M University.

March received his B.A. from Dalhousie University and his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in 1983. He was a Courant Instructor at New York University (1983–1985), a visiting member of the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications at the University of Minnesota (1985–1986), and a University Research Fellow at McGill University (1986–1987) and at Carleton University (1987–1988). He joined the faculty of the Ohio State University in 1988. He served as an associate director of the Mathematical Biosciences Institute (2003–2005), which is an NSF-funded mathematics institute based at Ohio State. March's research interests center on probability theory and its applications.

"DMS invests in discovery—of new ideas, new methods, and new techniques," March said. "In this respect DMS plays a crucial, perhaps unique, role in the national mathematical sciences community. Ours is a vital discipline possessed of a deep internal unity and wide-ranging connections to science, engineering, and technology—connections that have broad impact on society. As incoming division director, I see supporting the discovery of new ideas, the development of new connections and the cultivation of a rich, diverse mathematical sciences community as an exciting challenge."

—Allyn Jackson

## New Appointments at AIM

The American Institute of Mathematics (AIM) is pleased to announce the appointment of Steven G. Krantz and Rachel A. Kuske to the AIM Research Conference Center (ARCC).

Steven Krantz, an active researcher in several complex variables and distinguished author, has been appointed

deputy director of ARCC. Having recently served as chairman of mathematics and head of the Division of Natural Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, Krantz has also held academic positions at the University of California, Los Angeles; Princeton University; and Pennsylvania State University.

Awarded the Chauvenet Prize and Beckenbach Book Award from the Mathematical Association of America, Krantz has authored over fifty books on topics of complex variables, partial differential equations, geometry, general mathematics, as well as mathematical writing and education. Founder of the *Journal of Geometric Analysis*, Krantz is also a member of several editorial boards. [Editor's Note: Krantz is a member of the *Notices* Editorial Board.]

Rachel Kuske, a Canadian Research Chair in Applied Mathematics at the University of British Columbia, has been appointed associate director for program diversity at ARCC. Kuske has served on the faculties of Stanford University, Tufts University, and the University of Minnesota, where she was a McKnight Landgrant Professor and associate director of the Minnesota Center for Industrial Mathematics. Her research interests extend over a number of areas of applied mathematics, including modeling in stochastic dynamics, mathematical finance, and mathematical biology.

Kuske is also on the editorial boards for the *SIAM Review* and the *SIAM Journal on Applied Mathematics* (SIAP) and was the founder and director for the Mentor Network of the Association for Women in Mathematics.

—AIM announcement

## New Associate Director at the IMA

In September 2006 Cheri Shakiban will join the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) at the University of Minnesota as associate director for a two-year term. She will succeed Debra Lewis, who is completing a two-year term of service at the IMA and is returning to the University of

California, Santa Cruz, where she is professor of mathematics.

Cheri Shakiban is a professor of mathematics at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, where she served as department chair from 1996 through 2004. Her recent research is mostly in the area of computer vision, in which she studies the detection of symmetries, visual tracking, and the reconstruction of occlusions in space curves, with applications to the description of supercoiled DNA molecules. At St. Thomas she has been very active in support and mentoring of undergraduate research.

Shakiban brings valuable experience to the IMA management team, which also includes Douglas Arnold, director, and Arnd Scheel, deputy director. During the academic year 2006–2007 the IMA expects to host well over 1,000 visitors, most in connection with its thematic program Applications of Algebraic Geometry.

—*IMA announcement*

## From Germany to New Orleans

A recent initiative in Germany aims “to help young German mathematicians establish contacts and initiate research collaborations in the U.S.,” but also “to show strong support for New Orleans.”

Twelve young mathematicians (graduate students and recent Ph.D.’s) will attend the Joint Mathematics Meetings in New Orleans (January 5–8, 2007) and then add a two-week stay at a U.S. university or institute after the meeting. Initially the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation, DFG) had offered ten such travel grants; overwhelmed by the positive response, they added two more.

“We are very grateful to DFG for their generous grants,” says Günter M. Ziegler, the president of the Deutsche Mathematiker Vereinigung (German Mathematical Society, DMV). “We believe that New Orleans is a perfect place to celebrate the excellent German-U.S. relations in mathematics and to talk about new ideas and initiatives.” Indeed, the strength of these relations was recently demonstrated again by the very successful joint DMV-AMS meeting in Mainz in 2005.

—*DMV announcement*