

# Inside the AMS

## AMS Congressional Fellow Chosen

The American Mathematical Society is pleased to announce the selection of BORIS GRANOVSKIY as its Congressional Fellow for 2014-2015.



**Boris Granovskiy**

The fellowship provides a unique public policy learning experience, demonstrates the value of science-government interaction, and brings a technical background and external perspective to the decision-making process in Congress.

Granovskiy earned his Ph.D. in mathematics last year from Uppsala University in Sweden. Prior to accepting the fellowship, he worked at the Institute for Futures Studies in Stockholm as a postdoctoral researcher in collaboration with the Swedish Association of Local Governments. The AMS will sponsor his fellowship through the Congressional Fellowship program administered by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Fellows spend a year working on the staff of a member of Congress or a congressional committee, working as a special legislative assistant in legislative and policy areas requiring scientific and technical input. The fellowship program includes an orientation on congressional and executive branch operations and a year-long seminar series on issues involving science, technology, and public policy. For more information on the AMS-AAAS Congressional Fellowship go to <http://bit.ly/AMSCongressionalFellowship>.

—AMS Washington Office

## AMS Sponsors Exhibit on Capitol Hill

The AMS sponsored an exhibit at the twentieth annual Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) exhibition and reception on Capitol Hill on May 7, 2014. Robert Ghrist, Andrea Mitchell University Professor of Mathematics and Electrical/Systems Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania, presented work on “Topological Sensor Networks.” The exhibition drew more than 280 attendees, including eight members of Congress, to view thirty-seven research and education projects supported by the National Science Foundation.

Ghrist and his collaborators have worked for nearly a decade on applications of algebraic topology to problems of data over networks. The problem of detecting global robust features from networked local data matches perfectly the mathematical tools of algebraic topology developed over the past century. Ghrist’s work, initially funded by the NSF, uses homology, cohomology, and sheaves to address problems in sensor networks ranging from coverage (whether there are any gaps in the network) to data aggregation (how to merge redundant data over the network) and target tracking (how to infer from detections over a network). These novel applications, combined with emerging ideas from computational topology, allow for efficient algorithms with performance guarantees.

The Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) is an alliance of more than 135 scientific and professional societies and universities united by a concern for the future vitality of the national science, mathematics, and engineering enterprise. The coalition is chaired by Samuel M. Rankin III, associate executive director of the AMS and the director of its Washington office.

—AMS Washington Office

## From the AMS Public Awareness Office

**Communicating Mathematics in the Media: A Guide.** Mathematical scientists can play a crucial role in communicating mathematics and issues in education and research funding to the general public. The goals include conveying enthusiasm for mathematics, giving examples of mathematical concepts or applications, showing the beauty of mathematics, offering opinions about issues in mathematics education, advocating for funding basic research, or correcting inaccuracies or misperceptions. Find guidelines for writing and submitting op-eds, letters to the editor, and more. <http://www.ams.org/news/media-info/communicate-math>.

**On Teaching and Learning Mathematics—a new AMS Blog.** The goal for this blog is to stimulate reflection and dialogue by providing mathematicians with high-quality commentary and resources regarding teaching and learning. Because there is no simple solution to the challenges facing mathematics education, this blog will serve as a big tent, giving voice to multiple contributors representing a wide range of ideas. Contributions will include practical “teaching tips,” commentary on current mathematics education research, discussions of social/curricular educational policy, and more. Our focus will include



**Benjamin Braun**

to add your contributions in the comments.”

—*Benjamin Braun, Editor-in-Chief  
University of Kentucky*

Contributors are *Priscilla Bremser (Middlebury College),  
Art Duval (University of Texas at El Paso),  
Elise Lockwood (Oregon State University)*  
and *Diana White (University of Colorado Denver).*  
<http://blogs.ams.org/matheducation/>

**More on AMS Blogs.** There is a lot of interesting advice and opinions on eMentoring Network in the Mathematical Sciences, Blog on Math Blogs, PhD + epsilon, AMS Graduate Student, On Teaching and Learning Mathematics, and Visual Insight blogs. The AMS invites members and the mathematics community to follow the blogs and comment on the postings. <http://blogs.ams.org/>

—*Annette Emerson and Mike Breen  
AMS Public Awareness Officers  
paoffice@ams.org*

## Deaths of AMS Members

PHILIP M. ANSELONE, of Depoe Bay, Oregon, died on December 13, 2013. Born on February 8, 1926, he was a member of the Society for 56 years.

G. U. BRAUER, professor, University of Minnesota, died on July 31, 2013. Born on March 18, 1927, he was a member of the Society for 60 years.

ROBERT GOODELL BROWN, of Jefferson, Maryland, died on October 3, 2013. Born on April 14, 1923, he was a member of the Society for 65 years.

BILLY F. BRYANT, of Nashville, Tennessee, died on April 25, 2014. Born on November 29, 1922, he was a member of the Society for 61 years.

F. EUGENE CLARK, of Falmouth, Maine, died on February 28, 2014. Born on September 16, 1919, he was a member of the Society for 67 years.

ROBERT COLEMAN, professor, University of California Berkeley, died on March 24, 2014. Born on November 22, 1954, he was a member of the Society for 28 years.

BRIAN CONOLLY, of Cambridge, United Kingdom, died on July 7, 2013. Born on May 28, 1923, he was a member of the Society for 43 years.

LOUIS J. COTE, of West Lafayette, Indiana, died on March 14, 2014. Born on July 18, 1921, he was a member of the Society for 60 years.

TAEN-YU DAI, professor, York College (CUNY), died on March 25, 2014. Born on April 1, 1942, he was a member of the Society for 44 years.

WILLIAM BRIAN DEFACIO, of Laredo, Texas, died on March 25, 2014. Born on December 14, 1936, he was a member of the Society for 42 years.

DAVID LITTON FOREMAN, professor, Samford University, died on May 1, 2014. Born on February 26, 1953, he was a member of the Society for 35 years.

HANS-BJØRN FOXBY, of Copenhagen, Denmark, died on April 9, 2014. Born on February 12, 1947, he was a member of the Society for 40 years.

RICHARD D. GECKLER, of La Jolla California, died on September 1, 2013. Born on November 4, 1918, he was a member of the Society for 70 years.

JAMES A. GREEN, of the United Kingdom, died on April 7, 2014. Born on February 26, 1926, he was a member of the Society for 53 years.

EUGENE GUTKIN, of Torun, Poland, died on June 22, 2013. Born on November 6, 1946, he was a member of the Society for 16 years.

THEODORE HAILPERIN, of Nazareth, Pennsylvania, died on February 5, 2014. Born on March 28, 1915, he was a member of the Society for 72 years.

KEITH A. HARDIE, professor, University of Cape Town, died on May 19, 2014. Born on September 21, 1929, he was a member of the Society for 52 years.

A. MURRAY MACBEATH, of Wellesbourne, United Kingdom, died on May 14, 2014. Born on June 30, 1923, he was a member of the Society for 39 years.

WALTER E. MIENTKA, of Lincoln, Nebraska, died on June 1, 2014. Born on October 1, 1925, he was a member of the Society for 62 years.

F. LOCKWOOD MORRIS, professor, Syracuse University, died on March 12, 2014. Born on July 2, 1943, he was a member of the Society for 12 years.

JOHN D. O'NEILL, of Clarkston, Michigan, died on October 28, 2012. Born on July 9, 1929, he was a member of the Society for 46 years.

LESLEY M. SIBNER, of New York, New York, died on September 11, 2013. Born on August 13, 1934, she was a member of the Society for 50 years and a former AMS associate secretary.

HERBERT R. STAHL, of Berlin, Germany, died on April 22, 2013. Born on August 3, 1942, he was a member of the Society for 21 years.

ROBERT STEINBERG, of Pacific Palisades, California, died on May 25, 2014. Born on May 25, 1922, he was a member of the Society for 69 years.

JAMES H. STODDARD, of Chatham, Massachusetts, died on April 16, 2014. Born on June 17, 1930, he was a member of the Society for 55 years.

BEAUREGARD STUBBLEFIELD, of Smyrna, Georgia, died on January 17, 2013. Born on July 31, 1923, he was a member of the Society for 54 years.

MARVIN C. WUNDERLICH, of Silver Spring, Maryland, died on September 27, 2013. Born on May 8, 1937, he was a member of the Society for 50 years.