

Inside the AMS

Math in Moscow Scholarships Awarded

The AMS has made awards to five mathematics students to attend the Math in Moscow program in the spring of 2016. Following are the names of the undergraduate students and their institutions:

IAN CAVEY, Boise State University
JONATHAN GERHARD, James Madison University
JACOB MAYLE, Colgate University
ELISE MCMAHON, Ave Maria University
MAHRUD SAYRAFI, University of California Berkeley.

Each received a cash award of US\$9,800.

Math in Moscow is a program of the Independent University of Moscow that offers foreign students (undergraduate or graduate students specializing in mathematics and/or computer science) the opportunity to spend a semester in Moscow studying mathematics. All instruction is given in English. The fifteen-week program is similar to the Research Experiences for Undergraduates programs that are held each summer across the United States.

The AMS awards several scholarships for US students to attend the Math in Moscow program. The scholarships are made possible through a grant from the National Science Foundation. For more information about Math in Moscow, consult www.mccme.ru/mathinmoscow and the article "Bringing Eastern European Mathematical Traditions to North American Students," *Notices*, November 2003, pages 1250–4.

—Elaine Kehoe

2015 Trjitzinsky Memorial Awards Presented

The AMS has made awards to seven undergraduate students through the Waldemar J. Trjitzinsky Memorial Fund. The fund is made possible by a bequest from the estate of Waldemar J., Barbara G., and Juliette Trjitzinsky. The will of Barbara Trjitzinsky stipulates that the income from the bequest should be used to establish a fund in honor of the memory of her husband to assist needy students in mathematics.

For the 2015 awards, the AMS chose seven geographically dispersed schools to receive one-time awards of US\$3,000 each. The mathematics departments at those schools then chose students to receive the funds to assist

them in pursuit of careers in mathematics. The schools are selected in a random drawing from the pool of AMS institutional members.

Waldemar J. Trjitzinsky was born in Russia in 1901 and received his doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1926. He taught at a number of institutions before taking a position at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he remained for the rest of his professional life. He showed particular concern for students of mathematics and in some cases made personal efforts to ensure that financial considerations would not hinder their studies. Trjitzinsky was the author of about sixty mathematics papers, primarily on quasi-analytic functions and partial differential equations. A member of the AMS for forty-six years, he died in 1973.

Following are the names of the selected schools for 2015, the names of the students receiving Trjitzinsky awards, and brief biographical sketches of these students.

Johns Hopkins University: KIYON HAHM. Hahm, who comes from Irvine, California, will graduate from Johns Hopkins University in 2016 with a degree in mathematics and has plans to attend law school. While at Johns Hopkins, she has been on the dean's list and is actively involved with Phi Mu Sorority. She is also involved with university dance marathons that benefit the Johns Hopkins Children's Center.



Kiyon Hahm

New Mexico State University: STEPHEN W. BRAZIL. Brazil is a junior majoring in applied mathematics with a minor in computer science. He was raised in a rural ranch/farm/oil field community with little exposure to innovations in science and technology. Despite this, he relished mathematics throughout his high school years. His first proof-based class was a revelation, and he was immediately drawn to the wonderful world of higher mathematics. The logical and analytic approach required of mathematics has influenced other aspects of his life, including his musical training. He currently works as a math tutor at New Mexico State, helping students struggling in their freshman and sophomore courses to improve their understanding of mathematics.



Stephen W. Brazil



Josephine A. Sechrist

Oregon State University: JOSEPHINE A. SECHRIST. Sechrist is entering her senior year and is a University Honors College student pursuing a double degree in mathematics and international studies, along with a minor in Spanish and an option in secondary education. She plans to become a high school math and Spanish teacher and perhaps teach English as a second language in Spain or in South America. During the summer of 2015, she studied in Spain, where she gathered materials for her honors

thesis. She is an elected senator of the Associated Students of Oregon State University. As a member of Delta Gamma sorority, she serves as director of philanthropy and as a member of the university-wide Pan-Hellenic Council. She also serves as a student ambassador for the College of Science at Oregon State University.



Alexandra Platt

University of Delaware: ALEXANDRA PLATT. Platt is a senior mathematics and economics major with a human development and family studies minor. She was born and raised in New Jersey, graduating high school with a 3.9 GPA and three honors. She has a love for mathematics and a dedication to helping others. She has tutored her peers for the past six years and hopes to work as a high school math teacher in low-income areas and attend graduate school.



Kristen M. Amman

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: KRISTEN M. AMMAN. Amman is a rising star amongst seniors at the University of Michigan majoring in both pure mathematics and English language and literature. She plans to combine her passions of teaching and learning mathematics in graduate school by contributing to the research of undergraduate mathematics education. In particular, she is interested in how different teaching methods impact students' abilities to conceptualize and create mathematical proofs.



Emily Wardenburg

University of Northern Iowa: EMILY WARDENBURG. Wardenburg is a single mother pursuing a secondary mathematics teaching degree. She grew up in a small, rural Iowa community, began her college education at Kirkwood Community College, and then transferred to the University of Northern Iowa. She wants to become a teacher because she is passionate about making a difference in other people's lives. Currently, she teaches

classes at her church and mentors a middle school student. On a daily basis, Emily faces the challenge of balancing her full-time college education with a part-time job while serving as a good role model for her daughter.

University of Tulsa: SARA CATHERINE FEE. Fee was born to Thomas and Catherine Fee in 1994 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and is the oldest of four girls. She attended Cascia Hall Preparatory School when her father passed away and then went on to the University of Tulsa to pursue a double major in mathematics and education. Sara is currently a senior looking forward to teaching middle and high school students.

—Elaine Kehoe

Erdős Memorial Lecture

The Erdős Memorial Lecture is an annual invited address named for the prolific mathematician Paul Erdős (1913–1996). The lectures are supported by a fund created by Andrew Beal, a Dallas banker and mathematics enthusiast. The Beal Prize Fund, now US\$1,000,000, is being held by the AMS until it is awarded for a correct solution to the Beal Conjecture (see www.math.unt.edu/~mauldin/beal.html). At Mr. Beal's request, the interest from the fund is used to support the Erdős Memorial Lecture.

RAVI VAKIL of Stanford University will present the 2016 Erdős Memorial Lecture during the 2016 Spring Western Section Meeting at the University of Utah, April 9–10, 2016. The title of his talk will be “Cutting and Pasting in Algebraic Geometry.”

—AMS announcement

From the AMS Public Awareness Office

On Teaching and Learning Mathematics Blog. *Providing mathematicians with high-quality commentary and resources regarding teaching and learning.*

Editor-in-chief **Benjamin Braun** and contributing editors **Priscilla Bremser**, **Art Duval**, **Elise Lockwood**, and **Diana White**, offer practical “teaching tips,” commentary on current mathematics education research, discussions of social/curricular educational policy, examples of effective programs, and more. blogs.ams.org/matheducation/.

“**Mathematically Inspired Images**”. See an album of works by Kerry Mitchell on Mathematical Imagery. “I draw from the areas of geometry, fractals, and numerical analysis, and combine them with image processing technology. The resulting images powerfully reflect the beauty of mathematics that is often obscured by dry formulae and analyses.” www.ams.org/mathimagery/.

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