Diversity in Mathematics

Recent studies of the lack of women authors and editors in prominent journals raise serious concerns about the state of mathematics, but a review of the past year’s Notices reveals many positive signs for women and minorities:

The January cover featured nine Joint Meetings Invited Speakers, seven of whom were women or minorities. The same issue featured the seven Trjitzinsky Memorial Award winning undergraduates, six of whom were women.

The February issue featured African-American NFL lineman John Urschel, an MIT math PhD student.

The March issue featured an interview with Elisenda Grigsby, associate professor at Boston College, who won the inaugural AWM-Joan and Joseph Birman Research Prize.

The April cover story on “Gauge Invariance of Degenerate Riemannian Metrics” was by Alice Barbara Tumpach of Lille. The AMS Spring Sectional lecture sampler included Laura Felicia Matusevich, Ricardo Bañuelos, and Steph van Willigenburg. In the Graduate Student Section, Alexander Diaz-Lopez interviewed African-American Duke mathematician Arlie Petters, a pioneer in the mathematical theory of gravitational lensing.

The May and August interviews featured Wisconsin mathematician Melanie Wood, an American Institute of Mathematics Five-Year Fellow, and Helen Moore, Associate...
Director of Quantitative Clinical Pharmacology at Bristol-Myers Squibb.

The September cover story, "Counting in Groups," was by Tufts mathematician Moon Duchin. The same issue carried a review by Mei Kobayashi of NTT Communications of My Search for Ramanujan; "Snapshots of Modern Mathematics from Oberwolfach" by Carla Cederbaum, Andrew Cooper, Jürg Kramer, and Anna-Maria von Pippich; and a story on the new AMS Executive Director, Catherine A. Roberts. Incidentally, the outgoing chair of the AMS Board of Trustees was Ruth Charney and the new chair is Karen Vogtmann.

An October cover story on ‘Lathisms: Latin@s and Hispanics in the Mathematical Sciences’ by Alexander Diaz-Lopez, Pamela E. Harris, Alicia Prieto Langarica, and Gabriel Sosa pictured 24 Hispanic/Latin@ mathematicians, featured daily on social media for Hispanic Heritage Month. The same issue contained “Disruptions of the Academic Math Employment Market” by Amy Cohen and “Joining Forces in International Mathematics Outreach Efforts” by Diana White and Alessandra Pantano.

November had a Doceamus piece, “Todos Cuentan: Cultivating Diversity in Combinatorics,” by Federico Ardila-Mantilla and a lecture sampler by Tulane mathematician Ricardo Cortez.

December had a conversation with Helen G. Grundman, new AMS Director of Education and Diversity; an interview of Karen Saxe, new director of the AMS Washington Office; and an opinion piece on mathematical software by Lisa R. Goldberg.

And more, with more to come.

The new Notices Editorial Board for 2016 included for the first time a graduate student, Alexander Diaz-Lopez, and we also added an additional board of Consultants. Notices is grateful for the varied contributions from our growing mathematical family.