Inside the AMS

2012 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 memory of her husband to assist needy students in mathematics.

For the 2012 awards, the AMS chose seven geographically distributed 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 2012, the names of the students receiving Trjitzinsky awards, and brief biographical sketches of the students.

University of California, Berkeley: ANAKAREN SANTANA. Santana was born and raised in Monterrey, Mexico, and graduated from high school with high honors. At Berkeley she is studying for a double major in mathematics and art practice. She works as a physics tutor.

University of Denver: EMILY MAVADDAT. Mavaddat was inspired to pursue a mathematics major by her AP calculus teacher at Ridgefield High School in Connecticut. As a member of the National Honor Society, she was a peer tutor; she also volunteered with the National Charity League, helping at community events such as Special Olympics. She is a giant slalom racer and loves skiing great mountains.

Hendrix College: MATTHEW P. LARSON. Larson is a double major in mathematics and philosophy at Hendrix College. His goal is to attend graduate school to continue study in mathematics.

Lebanon Valley College: ABIGAIL M. SKELTON. Skelton is a third-year student majoring in mathematics and German. She has participated in summer research in quantum information science with the Mathematical Physics Research Group at Lebanon Valley College and presented results at the undergraduate poster session at the 2012 Joint Mathematics Meeting. She is a peer tutor and participates in the Putnam Exam Team. She wants to continue to study mathematics in graduate school.

University of Missouri, St. Louis: RYAN UDING. Uding participated in mathematics competitions from grade school through high school. He has been working full time in a variety of industrial occupations to support himself and the costs of his education. He plans to graduate in May 2013 with a B.S. in mathematics and hopes to pursue a graduate degree in analytic number theory or analysis.

Pennsylvania State University: BENJAMIN HEEBNER. Heebner is a third-year student majoring in actuarial mathematics and minoring in economics and statistics. In each of the past four years he has volunteered for a week at an overnight camp for children who have experienced abuse, neglect, or abandonment. He enjoys playing and watching all sports and spending time with family and friends.

Purdue University Calumet: TYLER R. BILLINGSLEY. Billingsley is doing research involving polynomial factoring in computer algebra systems and plans to attend graduate school to study pure math.

—Elaine Kehoe

Project NExT Fellows Chosen

Six mathematicians have been selected as AMS Project NExT fellows for the 2012–2013 academic year. Their names, affiliations, and areas of research are: EMILY BRALEY, Duke University, algebraic geometry and combinatorics; STEVE BUTLER, Iowa State University, spectral graph theory; NEIL EPSTEIN, George Mason University, commutative algebra; JOEL LOUWSMA, University of Oklahoma, geometric group theory; KATHERINE MORRISON, University of Northern Colorado, algebraic coding theory; BLERTA SHTYLLA, Mount Holyoke College, applied mathematics.

Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) is a professional development program for new and recent Ph.D.'s in the mathematical sciences (including pure and applied mathematics, statistics, operations research,

and mathematics education). It addresses all aspects of an academic career: improving the teaching and learning of mathematics, engaging in research and scholarship, and participating in professional activities. It also provides the participants with a network of peers and mentors as they assume these responsibilities. The AMS provides funding for a number of the fellowships.

—Aparna Higgins, Director, Project NExT

MSC/SKOS—The New Implementation of the MSC as a Linked Open Dataset

Mathematical Reviews and Zentralblatt MATH collaborate in developing and maintaining the Mathematics Subject Classification (MSC). The MSC is used by their services, and generally in the mathematics profession and related fields, to organize the mathematics literature. The current version, MSC2010, is the result of a careful public revision process, culminating in its public release in January 2010. Now we are pleased to announce MSC2010 availability as a Linked Open Dataset, a modernized form following the standard called SKOS (Simple Knowledge Organization System) of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). SKOS is one of the newer standards set out for the developing Semantic Web and is based on RDF (Resource Description Framework). The new MSC/SKOS version results from the effort to make the MSC more available to the Semantic Web movement and on the Internet. It will be maintained as the authoritative source of the MSC, from which other forms may be derived, and will be available as linked data at `http://msc2010.org/resources/MSC/2010/MSC2010`. This is a large authority file in XML form. For other forms of the data perhaps more suitable for special applications, see `http://msc2010.org/resources/MSC/2010/info/`.

The MSC/SKOS preserves the contents of MSC2010. It offers a new format better suited to the Semantic Web and adds authoritative translations into Chinese, Russian, and Italian. In addition, there are cross-references to earlier MSC versions and to some other mathematics classification systems, such as the Dewey system. It is expected that similar information will be added, in ways made possible by the new format, as a result of ongoing efforts to improve the MSC.

Comments about the MSC in general can be submitted through a Web form at `http://msc2010.org/feedback` or by email to `feedback@msc2010.org`. All information concerning MSC is shared fully by Mathematical Reviews and Zentralblatt MATH.

—Graeme Fairweather, Executive Editor, Mathematical Reviews
Gert-Martin Greuel, Editor-in-Chief, Zentralblatt MATH

Free Grant Writing Workshop Offered

The American Mathematical Society, in conjunction with the National Science Foundation Directorate for Education & Human Resources (NSF-EHR), is pleased to offer a FREE workshop entitled "Writing a Competitive Grant Proposal to NSF-EHR". This grant writing workshop will be held prior to the start of the Joint Mathematics Meetings on Monday, January 7, 2013, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina Hotel.

Workshop Goals:

· Familiarize participants with current direction/priorities in EHR

· Familiarize participants with key EHR education research and development programs

· Consider common issues of competitive proposals

· Prepare participants to write a competitive proposal

Topics covered will include: discussion of key programs in EHR; the merit review process and merit review criteria; discussion of scenarios—short passages drawn from proposals in the EHR portfolio designed to stimulate discussion about strengths and weaknesses of a proposal; and the opportunity to discuss possible proposal ideas with program officers.

This free workshop is open to all interested participants who have registered by December 14th at `http://www.ams.org/profession/RSVPForm.NSF-EHRGrantWritingWorkshop2013.pdf`

—from the AMS Washington Office

Deaths of AMS Members

Steve A. Corning, of Lombard, Illinois, died on June 4, 2012. Born on May 16, 1956, he was a member of the Society for 6 years.

James A. Jenkins, of St. Louis, Missouri, died on September 16, 2012. Born on September 23, 1923, he was a member of the Society for 67 years.

Banwarilal Sharma, professor, University of Allahabad, India, died on September 26, 2012. Born on May 20, 1935, he was a member of the Society for 40 years.

Cleon R. Yohe, professor, Washington University, died on June 26, 2012. Born on July 8, 1941, he was a member of the Society for 47 years.