Careers in Mathematics

Panel of Distinguished Speakers

Gary Green (Aerospace Corporation)

Gary Green was awarded mathematics degrees from the University of Idaho (B.S.), Michigan State University (M.S.), and The Pennsylvania State University (PhD). Following his graduation from Penn State, he taught in the California State University system. In 1974, he took a position at The Aerospace Corporation, a Federally Funded Research and Development Center whose primary function is to assist in all phases of military space. During his tenure at Aerospace, Mr. Green has worked on launch vehicle simulation and development, satellite visibility and proximity, space system performance and threat analysis, and satellite-based navigation and geolocation. Although retired from full time employment at Aerospace, he continues as a part time retiree casual working on selected problems and provides outreach to the academic community. He also conducts a mathematics enrichment program for elementary students.
Russina Sgoureva (Farmers Insurance Group)

Russina Sgoureva received her B.S. and Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from the California Institute of Technology. After graduating from Caltech, Ms. Sgoureva joined McKinsey & Company as a management consultant. She worked on a broad variety of consulting projects between 1998 and 2001, and in 2002 she moved into a line management position with Progressive Insurance. At Progressive, Ms. Sgoureva had P&L responsibility for the Personal Auto business in a number of Western states, including CA, AZ, NV, OR, AK and HI. In 2007, Ms. Sgoureva joined Farmers Insurance as Regional Vice President in charge of the California Auto product management team, and in 2012 she also assumed responsibility for Farmers Home in California. Ms. Sgoureva is one of the founding members of the Farmers Womens’ Leadership Network, and has supported a number of community outreach organizations.

Benny Sudakov (UCLA)

Benny Sudakov received his B.S. in mathematics in 1990 from the Georgian State University in Tbilisi (USSR), and his M.S. (1993) and Ph.D. (1999) from Tel Aviv University (Israel). He held faculty appointments at Princeton University and the Institute for Advanced Study before moving to UCLA in 2007, where he was the David Saxon Presidential Term Chair in Mathematics (2007-2011) and is currently a professor of mathematics. He was a recipient of the prestigious Sloan Fellowship and NSF CAREER Award, and was an invited speaker at the 2010 International Congress of Mathematicians. Professor Sudakov received numerous grants and fellowships, supervised six Ph.D. students, authored over 140 publications, and serves on the editorial boards of eight journals. He is a distinguished mathematician, who is considered one of the world’s utmost authorities on Combinatorics and its applications to Computer Science.

Thomas Werne (NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory)

Thomas Werne received his B.S. in Mathematics and Electrical Engineering and Masters of Electrical and Computer Engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. For the last five years, he has been working at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory as an electrical engineer. His work is largely involved with design of software and digital electronics for scientific instruments flown on NASA aircrafts. Many of the projects he works on require detailed mathematical analysis for algorithms and applications of a variety of mathematical modeling techniques.

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Monday, December 3 at 5:30 pm in Parents Room at the CMC Athenaeum