

## **The 2008 East Coast Combinatorial Conference**

The East Coast Combinatorial Conference actively stimulates research in discrete mathematics in Atlantic Canada. This annual conference is held at the conclusion of the university term to initiate summer research and collaboration. This support is of particular importance for the many Atlantic region researchers at smaller institutions who strive for successful and valued research. Due to its relative low cost (in time and money) for faculty and students, its established traditions, and its relative informality, this conference provides an excellent environment for interaction and collaboration.

The purpose of this conference is to:

- Support and bring together researchers in discrete mathematics in Atlantic Canada encouraging the sharing of ideas and problems.
- Highlight the major theoretical advances and applications in the area along with the development of new tools.
- Encourage active participation for graduate students providing exposure to new talent.

This year's conference was by all reports a success. Funded by AARMS and the Dean of Science at St. Francis Xavier University, over thirty researchers were in attendance, including representatives from each of the Atlantic Provinces. Speakers were given an opportunity to present a 25-minute lecture on their current research. In addition there were three special guest researchers from diverse geographical regions (Ernie Cockayne, William Kocay and Jason Brown) presenting hour-long talks. Thirteen graduate and undergraduate students attended. St Francis Xavier University provided local information and conference programs for all those in attendance.

The conference's steering committee would like to thank the AARMS for their generous support. A financial summary is given below.

Item	Expense	Income
<b>Guest Speakers</b>		
William Kocay	\$1,141.95	
Ernie Cockayne	\$1,393.34	
Jason Brown	\$177.09	
<b>Student Support</b>		
Student Transportation from Halifax, Food and Lodging	\$971.39	
<b>Food and Supplies</b>		
Coffee Breaks	\$477.90	
<b>Funding</b>		
AARMS		\$2981.67
Dean of Science, St Francis Xavier		\$700.00
Registration fees		\$480.00
<b>Total</b>	\$4161.67	\$4161.67