

Report

Event: Science Atlantic Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science Conference
Date: October 18-20, 2013
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Overview of the Conference

The Science Atlantic Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science Conference was held at UPEI on the third weekend of October 2013. The conference began on Friday at noon with student competitions in both Mathematics and Computer Science. A Pizza Party for competition participants followed this. On Friday evening, the Blunden Lecture was given by Dr. Anthony Bonato, Ryerson University who spoke on “Six Dimensions of Separation in Social Networks”.

Saturday’s program consisted of two plenary talks, undergraduate talks in mathematics and computer sciences, as well as contributed talks. A total of 18 undergraduate mathematics talks were given. The undergraduate student talks were judged, and prizes were given to the top three talks, with the top prize going to Matthew van Bommel of Acadia University. In the computer science, there were six undergraduate talks, with the award for best talk going to William Herring of the University of Prince Edward Island. In the contributed talks sessions, there were eight mathematics talks, and three computer science talks, all given by graduate students. As for plenary talks, the Sedgwick Lecture was given by Dr Lila Kari who spoke on “Are you smarter than a cucumber?; How to measure and visualize species’ relatedness”, and the Field Lecture was given by Dr Mark Glickman who spoke on “Rating the Chess Rating System”. Saturday’s activities concluded with a conference banquet, where winners for best talks, as well as competition winners were honoured.

On Sunday, as special AARMS session in Graph Theory was held. The AARMS Graphs and Games collaborative research group hosted this session. A separate report on this session’s activities has been submitted to AARMS.

The conference was a very successful event. The plenary lectures were exceptional, and the students benefitted from the fact that even though the lectures were categorized as mathematics, computer science and statistics, respectively, they were all very multi-disciplinary. There was also a common theme in that analysis of large data sets was important in all three researchers’ work. The talks gave students a great insight into the current state of research in these areas.

Attendance

The total attendance for the conference was 181. There were 119 undergraduate students, and 62 other participants (faculty, graduate students, etc.) All participants were from the Atlantic Provinces.

Final Budget

Expenses

Invited Speakers	Travel and Accommodations	\$3,686.95
	Gifts for Speakers	\$227.40
Food Services	Pizza Party	\$471.93
	Reception	\$2588.66
	Coffee Break Friday	\$327.74
	Coffee Breaks Saturday	\$1,457.81
	Coffee Break Sunday	\$152.84
	Banquet	\$4,461.52
Printing and Supplies		\$1,444.64
Student Support		\$5,000.00
Total		\$19, 819.49

Revenues

Sponsors	Dean's Office	\$1,000.00
	Department of Mathematics and Statistics	\$250.00
	Department of Computer Science and Information Technology	\$250.00
	Science Atlantic	\$3,000.00
	Bell Aliant	\$1,000.00
	CMS Student Committee (STUDC)	\$500.00
	Pearson Education	\$250.00
	Nelson Education	\$250.00
	AARMS	\$4,000.00
Registration		\$9,359.33
Total		\$19,859.33

Note that the line item "Registration" includes both registration fees and banquet ticket sales.