

## SPRING AWARDS CEREMONY

On May 30, awards were presented by various faculty members to eight undergraduate and three graduate students in the department. The awardees received checks and certificates; in addition, the undergraduates received books. The awardees were Samar Hassouneh (outstanding student, honors calculus), Jeff Giansiracusa (outstanding student, honors advanced calculus), Thomas Carlson (Gullicksen Award for outstanding junior), Tarn Adams (outstanding senior, Pure Math), Paul Limont (outstanding senior, Math Sciences), Richard Cutts Peaslee (outstanding senior, Liberal Arts), Leslie Chen (outstanding senior, Teacher Preparation), Timothy Hu (outstanding performance, Putnam Examination), Avanti Athreya, Assad Ebrahim, and Shane Horner (all for excellence in teaching).

The department extends its congratulations to all of these students for their fine work.



*Pictured l-r:* Jeff Giansiracusa, Assad Ebrahim, Avanti Athreya, Tarn Adams, Thomas Carlson, Timothy Hu, Richard Cutts Peaslee, Leslie Chen, Paul Limont.  
*Not pictured:* Samar Hassouneh, Shane Horner.

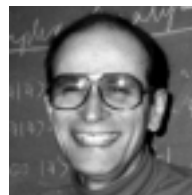
## RETIREMENTS

Professor Jack Segal retired from the Department at the end of Autumn quarter, 1999, with the title of Professor Emeritus of Mathematics. Jack received his doctorate from the University of Georgia in 1960 and joined our faculty in September of the same year. His mathematical research was in geometric topology. He served the Department as chair from September, 1975, through June, 1978. He was also Acting Chair during the summers of 1987, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1997.

A reception honoring Jack upon his retirement was held on May 30, 2000, at the Faculty Club. Sibe Mardešić of the University of Zagreb, one of Jack's co-authors, spoke about working with and knowing Jack. Professor Ed Curtis and Jack's brother also spoke at the dinner that followed the reception.

A second retirement from the Department was that of Professor Branko Grünbaum at the end of Winter Quarter, 1999, at which time he also became Professor Emeritus of Mathematics. Branko studied in Yugoslavia and Israel and received his doctorate from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 1958. He taught at the Hebrew University and at Michigan State University before joining our department in 1966. He is widely known for his work in geometry and combinatorics. He was a Guggenheim fellow, is a Corresponding Member of the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences, and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences.

Professor Grünbaum was one of the honorees at the Klee-Grünbaum Geometry Festival held in Ein Gev, Israel, in June, which is discussed in another article in this Newsletter.



*Jack Segal*



*Branko Grünbaum*

## PRIZES

### Clay Institute Offers Millenium Prizes

The Clay Mathematics Institute, headquartered in Boston, has announced prizes of one million dollars for the solution of each of seven mathematical problems. The prizes were announced on May 24, 2000, in Paris at the Collège de France. The oldest of the problems is the Riemann Hypothesis, concerning the location of the zeros of the Riemann zeta function, which dates from the middle of the nineteenth century. Another old problem on the list is the Poincaré Conjecture, which concerns a possible characterization of the three-sphere. Other problems are newer, *e.g.*, the problem "P vs. NP," which is a problem from contemporary theoretical computer science. None of the problems are easy; the solver of any one of them will have, in addition to a million dollars, an assured niche in the history of mathematics. The prizes have been widely reported in the international press as well as on radio and television. Full details of the prizes are available at the Clay Institute's website: <http://www.claymath.org>.

### Faber and Faber offers Goldbach prize

The English publishing house Faber and Faber is offering a prize of one million dollars for a solution of the Goldbach Conjecture. This conjecture, which is 250 years old, states that every even integer is the sum of two primes. The conjecture has been verified for numbers up to 400 trillion. Details of the prize are available at Faber's website: <http://www.faber.co.uk>.