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important, and visionary interdisciplinary program of undergraduate study in the mathematical sciences. We extend our thanks and appreciation for all of Randy's efforts over the past five years.

- Jim Burke from the Department of Mathematics has been appointed the new Program Director. Jim's area of expertise is optimization: theory, computation, and practice. He is an advocate of interdisciplinary research and holds adjunct appointments in the departments of Applied Mathematics and Bioengineering.

In addition to maintaining the strong academic program that has been established, the most significant challenge facing the program leadership is to provide a sound financial foundation. Currently the program is sustained by annual gifts of \$2000 each from the Departments of Applied Mathematics, Mathematics, and Statistics. This annual budget of \$6000 goes to offset partially teaching release time for the Program Director. The program has no permanent funding and no funds for student advising, research activities, course development, or student awards, nor does it have funding for the more mundane costs such as program brochures, photocopying, postage, and website maintenance. For the moment, the Department of Mathematics has stepped forward to provide the necessary additional funding and services to keep the program afloat. However, maintaining permanent funds for the program is essential to its continued vitality and growth. Given the outstanding nature of this program and its growing importance to the University and the State, we are very optimistic that creative solutions to this problem will be found. The program is very appreciative of all contributions to its *Friends of ACMS Fund*. This fund contains the only discretionary money for the program. It is hoped that this fund will eventually be able to provide student awards and support for student research. In the past, this fund has been sustained by faculty contributions. However, it now has zero balance, so any contribution will have an immediate impact and will be warmly received. For further information, please contact Mary Sheetz in the Department of Mathematics ((206)543-1150. sheetz@math.washington.edu).

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

Each year in the spring the Department hosts an honors luncheon in honor of its outstanding undergraduates. At the honors luncheon in May, the following awards were announced:

Freshman honors, to the student with the best record in our freshman honors calculus sequence: Michael Byerly.

Sophomore honors, to the student with the best record in our sophomore honors calculus sequence: Sam Coskey.

The Gullickson Scholarship, which is awarded each year to a junior major, was given to Marc Blunk.

The Putnam Award goes each year to the student who makes the best score on the Putnam Examination. (This is an examination taken one autumn Saturday by students all across the country. The national winner receives a generous fellowship for graduate study at Harvard.) Timothy Hu received the award for having scored highest among the UW participants.

In addition to these awards to continuing students, our outstanding graduating seniors are honored for their distinguished work:

Among those receiving the BA, seniors Lisa Behmer and Chris Nelson both in the Teacher Preparation program, were at the top of their class.

Among those in the Comprehensive BS program, Julie Rowlett graduated first in her class.

The student with the best record in the Standard BS program was Ryan Card.

We congratulate these fine students for their distinguished achievements and wish them well in their further work.

