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Alicia Canton is a visiting scholar from the University of Madrid, Spain. (Analysis.)

Elchanan Mossel and Christopher Umans, who are employed by Microsoft in Redmond, are jointly teaching a graduate course in coding theory in the Department. Dr. Mossel received his PhD in 2000 from Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Dr. Umans received his PhD from UC Berkeley in 2000. They are Lecturers.

The following three persons are Visiting Professors in the Department in connection with the Community College Educators Sabbatical Program, the new program that brings faculty from community colleges in the state to the department for visits during their sabbatical leaves. They are Ted Coskey (South Seattle Community College), Marina Frost (Clark Community College), and Dale Hoffman (Bellevue Community College).

## **GRADUATE STUDENTS RECOGNIZED IN THE SECOND ANNUAL GRADUATE AWARDS CEREMONY**

The Mathematics Department lounge filled with students, staff, faculty and friends of the department on November 8, 2001 for the second annual Graduate Awards Ceremony held to recognize outstanding graduate students. In addition to recognizing students who received fellowships or awards during the past year, the Ceremony gave an opportunity to announce the recipients of this year's Excellence in Teaching and Academic Excellence awards.

**Excellence in Teaching Awards:** These awards recognize Teaching Assistants for outstanding teaching performance in undergraduate mathematics courses. Each award includes a \$1000 supplementary stipend. This year's awardees, chosen by the TA Advisory committee based on student and faculty feedback, were:

- Joan Lind, a fourth-year PhD student in complex analysis,
- Peter Littig, a fourth-year PhD student in algebraic topology.

**Academic Excellence Awards:** The Graduate Program Committee chose the recipients of Academic Excellence Awards on the basis of students' performance in the core graduate courses and PhD qualifying exams during 2000-2001. One award consisted of a VIGRE fellowship. Seven of the eight awards included a supplementary stipend of \$1000. They were funded by endowments created by three former faculty members, Carl B. Allendoerfer, Z. William Birnbaum and Edwin Hewitt. (Allendoerfer was department chair from 1951 to 1962. Birnbaum, who served the University as an active and emeritus faculty member from 1939 until his passing late last year, is widely recognized for his contributions to probability and statistics. Hewitt is well known for his work in real and harmonic analysis.) A list of the eight recipients, their current areas of interest and the awards they received follows.

- Matthew Blair, second year student, inverse problems and numerical analysis, Allendoerfer award.
- Yeongcheon Baek, second year student, optimization, Allendoerfer award.
- Sunil Chebolu, second year student, algebraic topology, Hewitt award.
- Kris Kissel, second year student, partial differential equations, Hewitt award.
- David Maxwell, second year student, analysis, Hewitt award.
- Karl Schwede, second year student, algebraic geometry, VIGRE fellowship.
- Pablo Shmerkin, first year student, fractal geometry, Birnbaum award.
- Michal Skokan, second year student, partial differential equations, Allendoerfer award.

**VIGRE fellowships:** These awards are funded by a joint grant to the UW Departments of Applied Mathematics, Mathematics and Statistics from the VIGRE (Vertical Integration Grants for Research and Education) program of the National Science Foundation. Each award provides fellowship support, without teaching duties, during two academic quarters and the summer. This year's VIGRE fellows in the Department of Mathematics are:

- Tristram Bogart, first year student from Oberlin College,
- Rebekah Hahn, fifth year student, studying algebraic topology with Steve Mitchell,
- Matthew Kahle, first year student from Colorado State University,
- Peter Littig, fourth year student, studying algebraic topology with Steve Mitchell,
- Keir Lockridge, third year student, studying algebraic topology with Ethan Devinatz,
- Daniel Meyer, fourth year student, studying complex analysis with Steffen Rohde,
- Karl Schwede, second year student, studying algebraic geometry,
- Michael Van Opstall, fourth year student, studying algebraic geometry with Sándor Kovács.

**GK-12 Fellowship:** This fellowship is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation. It enables the recipient to augment her studies with K-12 educational work. This fellowship is held by

- Theresa Anderson, a second year student.

**Graduate Opportunity Fellowships:** These fellowships are funded by the Graduate Opportunity Program of the University of Washington, for the purpose of bringing outstanding women candidates into the PhD program. Each award provides Research Assistant support for two or three quarters. This year's recipients are:

- Tracey Marsh, first year student from the University of California, Berkeley,

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