

From the Colleges

Bates College (reporter **Bonnie Shulman**) This year **David Haines** is acting chair of the department, as **Peter Wong** takes a yearlong sabbatical. **John Rhodes** is returned from his sabbatical. We are all proud of **Warren Johnson**, who received a Lester R. Ford Award at Mathfest. The Math Council, our student activities group, is organizing a trip to Portland to see a production of the play "Proof" by David Auburn.

Framingham State College, MA (reporter **Sarah Mabrouk**) **Julie Levandosky** joined the Mathematics Department at Framingham State College in Fall 2003. Before coming to Framingham, she was the Szego Assistant Professor of Partial Differential Equations at Stanford University. Julie earned her Ph.D. and her Sc.M. at Brown University and her B.S. at the University of Massachusetts - Amherst. **Michelle Capozzoli** joined the Mathematics Department at Framingham State College in Fall 2002. Before coming to Framingham, she worked at Bristol-Myers Squibb as a Biostatistician in the Non-Clinical Department. Michelle earned her Ph.D. and her M.S. from the University of New Hampshire and her B.S. from Bridgewater State College.

Keene State College, NH (reporter **Ockle Johnson**) **Dick Jardine** was promoted to Associate Professor, and **Ockle Johnson** received the 2003 New Hampshire Council of Universities and Colleges Excellence in Education award for college and university teaching.

Mount Holyoke College (reporter: **Margaret Robinson**) Mount Holyoke has hired **Jessica Sidman**, PhD 2002 from Michigan Univ, for a tenure track job. Last year we hired **Jillian McLeod**, PhD 2002 from Howard Univ, also tenure track. This year we will be hosting the **Hudson River Undergraduate Mathematics Conference** on April 3, 2004. The Keynote speaker will be **Nancy Kopell** from Boston University. The web site for the Hudson River conference is:
<http://www.skidmore.edu/academics/mcs/hrumc.htm>.

Providence College (reporter **Frank Ford**) Providence hired **Wataru Ishizuka** who completed his Ph.D. at the University of Kentucky in Partial Differential Equations. He is a NEXt Fellow this year.

Rhode Island College (reporters **Fred Harrop** and **Helen Salzberg**) Dr. **Al Cuoco**, Center Director for the Educational Development Corporation (EDC), will give the first Smith Lecture on Thursday, November 20, 2003. This talk honors Dr. **Arthur Smith**, who died on February 11, 2003, and who had taught at RIC for 38 years. He is greatly missed by all who knew him. All are welcome to attend. Dr. **David Abrahamson** has won the 2003—2004 Paul Maixner Distinguished Teaching Award in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Dr. **Lisa Humphreys** will be giving the Christie Lecture at the MAA Northeastern Section Meeting at Wellesley College this November. Dr. **Mariano (Rod) Rodrigues** is on the Editorial Panel of *The Math Teacher*. The Rhode Island College Mathematics and Computer Science is pleased to announce that it has hired two outstanding faculty members this year--Dr. **Donna Christy** and Dr. **Peter Andreozzi**. Dr. **James Bierden** intends to retire at the end of this academic year.

St. Michael's (reporter **George Ashline**) In April of 2003, the Vermont Alpha Chapter of Pi Mu Epsilon was installed at St. Michael's College. Fifteen student and five faculty charter members were inducted at that time. One of the student charter members, **Tristan Hauser**, gave the Pi Mu Epsilon supported talk "Relative Consistencies of Geometries" at this summer's Boulder Mathfest. Professor Emeritus **Vincent Naramore** passed away in July 2003. He will be especially remembered for his wit, his activity in polling, and his many years of teaching the Geometry course.

Salem State College (reporter **Mary Platt**) **Maura Murray** organized an NSF sponsored workshop for college faculty at Salem State College June 15 - 21, 2003. **Judy Walker**, from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, taught the workshop entitled "Some Current Problems in Coding Theory". Fifteen participants came from all over the country and by the end of the week they produced rough drafts of classroom modules to use with their classes. **Julie Belock** from Salem State will present a paper, 'Gaming Simulations in Probability' at the 16th Annual International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics, which will be held in October in Chicago.

Southern Connecticut State University (reporter **Ross Gingrich**) The Mathematics Department at Southern Connecticut State University moved into a new set of offices last Spring. It is now located in a new addition to Engleman Hall, moving from temporary offices in another part of the same building. With the move the Math Department has picked up some new facilities, including a reading room/library and a department computer lab. The 25 machines in the computer lab can be booted either to a Windows operating system or a Linux operating system. In news about people, **Michael Meck** retired after more than 30 years, and **J. Philip Smith** was named the interim president of Southern. Phil is a former chair of the Mathematics Department and most recently was Vice President for Academic Affairs.

UMass-Boston (reporter **John Lutts**) We hired a new Ph.D. from Yale named **Steve Jackson** (jackson@math.umb.edu) who works in representation theory for classical group. He is also interested in math education and tutoring. We tried to hire an applied mathematician in biology for the second year in a row but we were unsuccessful. **Geza Schay** is working on a probability and statistics text book – two volumes. It would be of great help to our computer science majors who must take a semester of probability and statistics combined for the ACS accreditation program. **John Lutts** has been put in charge of math tutoring here. This is a sizable operation that tries to help students in the elementary Math and CS courses (up to Calculus II and the first two programming courses in cs.) We currently have 16 tutors involved and expect to service over a 1000 students during the coming academic year. He and **Dennis Wortman** hope to help out this October through March with students at **TechBoston** getting them ready to tackle the MCAS math exam. (This is a new school in Boston for which students are randomly drawn from the city schools; it has a focus on technology and it one of three schools now occupying the old Dorchester HS building.) Finally, UMass/Boston is hoping to hire a senior person either in applied statistics or applied mathematics and will be recruiting soon.

Westfield State College, MA (reporter **Phil Hotchkiss**) Westfield State has two new hires: **Dr. Edward Welsh**, who received his PhD from Duke University in 2003, and **Dr. Parag Mehta**, who received his PhD from New Mexico State University in 2003. **Phil Hotchkiss** was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor, and Professor **Andrew Kim** retired in December 2002.

Williams College (reporter **Ed Burger**) Williams hired two new assistant professors. The first hire is **Kris Tapp** who received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania and has taught at Haverford College, was a VIGRE Postdoctoral Fellow at SUNY Stony Brook and comes most recently from a Keck postdoctoral position at Bryn Mawr College. Tapp's research area is differential geometry. The second hire is **Allison Pacelli** who comes from Brown University where she received her Ph.D. and where she has been a Teaching Fellow. Pacelli's research area is algebraic number theory.

Yale University (reporter **George Seligman**) Yale has two new Professors: **Yair Minsky** (formerly of Stony Brook) and **Mikhail Kapranov** (formerly U. of Toronto), and two new Adjunct Professors: **Alex Lubotsky** (Hebrew Univ., Jerusalem) and **David Sattinger** (formerly Utah State Univ.) Visiting Professors this year are: Hillel **Furstenberg** from Hebrew Univ., Jerusalem, during the fall term, 2003, and **Ivan Penkov** from UC-Riverside during the fall term, 2003, as well as two Visiting Lecturers: **Alexei Kazarnovskii-Kroll** and **Olivier Schiffmann**, also during the fall term, 2003. This year's Gibbs Assistant Professors are: **Tsachik Gelander**, **Angela Gibney**, **Harald Helfgott**, **Yosi Keller**, and **Daniel Krashen**. A major conference in group theory in honor of **Walter Feit** is to take place at Yale Oct. 30 - Nov. 2. Information is available at the website of Ronald Solomon, of Ohio State. **Walter Feit** plans to retire at the end of calendar 2003, as do **Richard Beals** and **Ilya Piatetski-Shapiro**. The Chair of the Department is **Gregory Margulis**; the Director of Graduate Studies (Math) is **Roger Howe**; the Director of Graduate Studies (Applied Math) is **Steven Zucker**; the Director of Undergraduate Studies (Math) is **Andrew Casson**; and the Director of Undergraduate Studies (Applied math.) is **Joseph Chang**, (**Zucker's** base is computer science and electrical engineering; **Chang's** is statistics)