

Boston University (Emma Previato): BU has a new tenure-track faculty member, Richard Pollack who specializes in Number Theory. **Emma Previato** will be directed two undergraduate symposia last spring and the web sites are still available. For the African-American Mathematics: Successes and Challenges (February 2004) symposium, see <http://math.bu.edu/people/ep/AFRAMATH/> and for the Research by Undergraduates in Mathematics Boston University (RUMBUS 2004), see <http://math.bu.edu/people/ep/RUMBUS04/>. Also, BU is a partner in the Focus on Mathematics program (see <http://focusonmath.org/>). This is a \$10 million NSF grant for a training program for math teachers and involves high schools in the Boston area, WPI, Lesley University, and UMass-Lowell as well as BU. Finally, the web section "News" on the site <http://math.bu.edu/> contains news of BU's students. At the moment, it contains articles on Grad student Karen Yeats winning the Morgan Prize in Phoenix, Undergraduate Michael Coleman receiving a Joint Mathematics Meeting Poster Award, the Focus on Mathematics Program launching, and Prof. **Bob Devaney** winning the Metcalf Award.

Bowdoin College (Jim Ward): Bowdoin has lost one (temporarily) and gained one: Associate Professor **Adam B. Levy** has been appointed as an associate dean of academic affairs (for three years), and **Mark J. Rhodes** has arrived this fall as a Visiting Assistant Professor.

Framingham State College, MA (Sarah Mabrouk) : **Joyce Cutler** was awarded tenure effective September 1, 2003. **Sarah Mabrouk** was awarded tenure effective September 1, 2004. **Thomas Koshy's** text "Fibonacci and Lucas Numbers with Applications", published in August 2001, won the Association of 2001 American Publishers Best New Book in Mathematics and Statistics Award. Tom's new book "Discrete Mathematics and Applications" was published in December 2003 and is dedicated in memory of Kenneth J. Preskenis. We have established a scholarship in memory of **Kenneth J. Preskenis** who taught at Framingham State College for over twenty-five years. Please contact **Thomas Koshy**, the Chair of the Kenneth J. Preskenis Scholarship Committee, or any member of the Committee, **Joyce Cutler**, **Walter Czarneck**, or **Sarah Mabrouk**, if you would like more information about the Preskenis Scholarship or if you would like to make a contribution to the scholarship fund.

Keene State College, NH (Ockle Johnson): **Dick Jardine** was awarded tenure. **Karen Stanish** had a baby girl, Michelle Elizabeth, in July.

Massachusetts Maritime Academy (Frank Battles): Professor **Eugene McCarthy** retired after teaching mathematics at the Academy since 1982. Prior to coming here, he had taught at Boston State College for many years. Dr. **Muge Kanuni**, who came to the Academy after completing her Ph.D. at UConn, left us to return to Turkey. Dr. **Raul Aguilar** joined the faculty here this fall. He had previously taught at Rhode Island College.

Plymouth State College, NH (Ted Giebutowski): **Paul Estes** retired in June, and **Ted Giebowski** will retire in December

St. Michael's College (George Ashline): One major news item for the SMC mathematics department is that in conjunction with our college's Centennial, we sponsored a Mathematics Department Centennial Celebration on 9/25/04. The celebratory events included a lecture by

Brian Adams, '99 (currently a Ph.D. candidate at North Carolina State) on "Using Mathematics to Explore HIV Treatment Strategies, Smart Materials, and More", induction of new members into our Pi Mu Epsilon chapter, and a panel on "Careers in Mathematics" in which eight of our alumni participated. For the event, we also created and distributed a timeline highlighting the evolution of the department, and exhibited several posters detailing student/faculty research efforts.

Salem State College, MA (Mary Platt): The Mathematics Department is offering a new program: Master of Arts in Teaching- Middle School Mathematics. This 39 credit hour program will serve middle school teachers who already have an appropriate provisional certification with advanced standing or initial license, and who wish to complete a master's degree program to become eligible to apply for professional licensure. See the web site <http://www.salemstate.edu/math/grad/msm.pdf> for more information

Yale University (George Seligman): As of Jan. 1, 2004, we experienced four senior retirements: **Richard Beals**, **Walter Feit**, **Benoit Mandelbrot**, **Ilya Piatetski-Shapiro**. **Walter Feit's** retirement, sadly, was followed by his death, July 29. **Shizuo Kakutani**, who retired in 1981, died on August 17, 2004. There

are no new senior appointments to report, although a number of offers are or have been in the works. Senior visitors/adjunct professors include **Steven Gelbart (to 11/15/04)**, **David Spielman (academic year)**/ **Michael Frame**, **Alex Lubotsky (spring term)**, **Gil Kalai (fall)**, **David Sattinger**. **New Gibbs Assistant Professors are: Baris Coskunuzer, Alma Marian, Jose Rodrigo**. For the first time, the Department has used an online placement test for placement of freshmen in the calculus sequence. One of the optional answers amounted to "I don't know how to answer this question." Students could take the test before arriving on campus, but in any case before classes began. In addition to placement, the test served to identify students who might benefit from extra tutoring from the very start. One interesting outcome has been that the number of freshmen starting with third-semester calculus has fallen, while second-semester calculus has grown. Early test results from the third-semester course show a marked improvement over last year. The testing program was devised by

Michael Frame and Roger Howe, and more information could be gotten from either of them. (Roger Howe is on leave this fall, so perhaps it might be better to contact Michael Frame.)