# University of Michigan Mathematics Department Newsletter

## **FACULTY**

Earlier this year, **Professor Trachette Jackson received a \$2.5M grant from the National Cancer Institute**, part of the National Institutes of Health. Her project "Multi-scale Computational Models Guided By Emerging Cellular Dynamics Quantification For Predicting Optimum Immune Checkpoint And Targeted Therapy Schedules" is one of the larger single PI grants awarded to a UM mathematician. In her project, she hopes to develop predictive methods for optimizing immunotherapy and targeted molecular therapies. This type of information would lead to a more robust understanding of the mechanisms that enable different drugs to work well together and improve the ability to combine promising anticancer agents for clinical trials. The recent LSA Magazine included a nice **article** on her work.





Congratulations Professor Bhargav Bhatt who was named to the 2021 class of Fellows of the American Mathematical Society.

**New Postdoc:** Sunita Chepuri, Combinatorics, Parekh IBL is a fall 2020 postdoc who was unfortunately omitted from the October newsletter.



In September, 2020, **Professor Emeritus James S. Milne** published the book Elliptic Curves 2nd Edition through World Scientific Publishing. Additional information on this book is available on their <u>website</u>

## GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE

#### **BERKAN YILMAZ**

Berkan Yilmaz entered the Mathematics Ph.D. program in 2018. Berkan appreciates the support of his parents, as well as his mentors, both



former and current. Berkan enjoys learning languages and has for as long as he can remember. Berkan has been to New York City. He loves "how standing in the middle of Times Square makes one feel like a toy soldier." Berkan enjoys watching biopics about mathematicians and scientists. Berkan loves history and listens to university lectures whenever he finds the time. We are so glad to have Berkan

### **Upcoming Colloquia:**

Tuesday, 11/24 at 4:00 p.m.

**Speaker:**: David Rowe, Mainz University

Title: Emmy Noether: Mathematician Extraordinaire

Wednesday, 12/2 at 4:00 p.m.

**Speaker:** Josselin Garnier, Ecole Polytechnique, France

Title: Passive imaging and communication

Tuesday, 12/8 at 4:00 p.m.

**Speaker:** Norbert Schappacher, Université de Strasbourg **Title:** *How did the 1930s reshape global mathematics?* 

Tuesday, 12/15 at 4:00 p.m.

**Speaker:** Tatiana Toro, University of Washington

Title: TBA

## Michigan Center for Applied and Interdisciplinary Mathematics (MCAIM) Has Launched Two New Seminar Series This Fall!

The <u>MCAIM Colloquium</u> features speakers presenting their research highlights in mathematics and interdisciplinary areas. There will be four talks per semester.

The <u>MCAIM Graduate Seminar</u> features Ph.D. students in mathematics and applied areas presenting their work at the level of a colloquium talk. This seminar will meet weekly. It will be followed by discussions and a social event. In the fall 2020 and winter 2021. Bernardo Bianco Prado, Jorge Arce, Rishi Sonthalia are the student organizers for these seminars. Each year, MCAIM will invite students to organize this seminar series.

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### **DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION**

The Women in Math Career Panel was held November 6 in conjunction with the Career Conference. The five participating panelists were from Baidu USA, Burns & Wilcox, Maxar Technologies, Citadel, and Reddit. The panel discussion had a fluid number of participants, and averaged 12-15 students who were also participating in the Math Career Conference. The students were able to ask questions of the panelists and engage in direct discussions about establishing a career using their degree. The general topics covered during the panel were about the panelists' educational background and career path, typical day at work, how they use their mathematics education at UM in their roles, the skills and attributes important for their role, favorite parts and challenges about their job, and general career advice for the students.

You may have missed **Black In Math Week** this year but there is always next year. **Mathematics Librarian Samuel Hansen** shared that the week of November 8th was **#BlackInMathWeek** on Twitter. You can follow **@Black-InMath**. Tuesday was **Black in Math Media Day** and Monday's topic was **#ILookLikeAnMathematician**. Samuel's podcast Relatively Prime was taken over for the week by two of the organizers of **#BlackInMathWeek**, Noelle Sawyer and Michole Enjoli (PhD candidate in Math Education at UM School of Education), for an episode on Black students in mathematics and math education featuring Brea Ratliff and Jose Vilson. You can check it out at: <a href="https://relprime.com/bimw/">https://relprime.com/bimw/</a>



#### **STAFF**

## Thank you Christina Certo, Undergraduate Program Coordinator

for organizing a successful career conference. The Department of Mathematics held its *first ever* virtual Career Conference on Friday November 6. This is the 24th year of the conference, and over 15 companies and graduate programs came and participated. Many of our company visitors are UM Mathematics alums who appreciated the chance to catch up with our faculty and recruit our students. There were over 200 student participants, and due to the new format, we were able to collect more data and share electronic documentation with the participating companies. We hope you'll join us for next year's conference!

In October, Madeline Inglis joined the Mathematics staff as the Undergraduate Assistant in the Student Services office. Here she shares a bit about herself:

Before coming to Math I was the Program Assistant for the Department of Sociology for two years, where I performed curriculum maintenance and graduate admissions support. I have a BA in Health and Society (Public Health) from Beloit College in Wisconsin. I enjoy reading, puzzling, watching home improvement shows, and playing with my 7 month old puppy, Olive! She is a black lab mix that I adopted from the Huron Valley Humane Society in June. I am so excited to



be a part of the Math Department, and look forward to working more closely with students and faculty! Working remotely has sadly limited my contact with students, faculty, and staff but I am hoping in the coming semester to be able to connect with everyone in new and creative ways!



Congratulations to Michael Keogh, a Math Lecturer in the Comprehensive Studies Program, who with his wife welcomed their son Elias. Elias came into the world on October 28 weighing 7 lbs 5 oz and was 20 inches in height.