

University of Michigan Mathematics Department Newsletter

Commencement

The Mathematics Undergraduate Commencement will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, April 30 (please note, this time is changed from 3 p.m. to ensure we can use Degyworld for the viewing party). We will also be hosting a second live viewing party for international students at 10 p.m. on the same day (this will be via Zoom).

The AIM/Math/Quant MS and PhD Virtual Commencement Ceremony will be at 9am EST on Friday, April 30 with a Virtual Reception following.



**HOPE EVERYONE HAD A GREAT
ST. PATRICK'S DAY!**

[Charlie Doering's grandson, Charles Alexander (Arlo)]

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

SINE-AMIIBL JOINT WORKSHOP

March 26, 2021 3-5 p.m. ET

Developing Mindsets for Math with Appreciative Teaching Approaches

Shoulda, Woulda, Coulda: Moving Beyond Failure and Actively Cultivating a More Equitable Academy

Tuesday, March 30, 4 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Registration required: [Click here to register.](#)

Undergraduate Student Advisory Council (UGSAC) Formed

The Mathematics UGSAC was established in response to a need for student voices to be more included in the development and improvement of the departmental culture. The group, headed by honors student Faye Jackson and faculty advisor Sarah Koch, will give a voice to students who wish to contribute and provide suggestions to the Math Department with respect to climate issues like DEI and broader department culture. Furthermore, the committee will provide feedback on how certain programs are working for or against students in order to foster the desired culture of the Math Department. The group has provided an [interest form](#) to join their email group. They also provide a [form for providing feedback](#).

Giving Blueday Success!

The department received gifts from 68 individuals on March 10. That qualified us for a \$1000 bonus for being one of the top 10 departments in LSA as far as number of donors. Our total amount raised was \$8686. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Upcoming Colloquia:

- 4/6 Emily Riehl, Johns Hopkins University
- 4/13 Adrian Ioana, UC San Diego
- 4/14 Sheperd S. Doeleman, Harvard University
- 4/20 Nicolas Addington, University of Oregon

Upcoming Defenses:

- Xin Zhang** Date: 3/24/2021, 3:00 p.m. Completed
- Rishi Sonthalia** Date: 4/5/2021, 2:00 p.m. [Zoom link](#)
- Konstantinos Tsouvalas** Date: 4/7/2021, 1:00 p.m. [Zoom link](#)
- Yuxin Wang** Date: 5/10/2021, 2:00 p.m. [Zoom link](#)
- Yuchen Liao** Date: 5/19/2021, 3:00 p.m. TBA
- Can Chen** Date: 5/20/2021, 2:00 p.m. [Zoom link](#)
- Farrah Yhee** Date: 5/28/2021, 12:30 p.m. [Zoom link](#)



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Faculty

March is WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!

The women of U of M Math Department are doing GREAT THINGS!

MATH PODCAST!

Professor Trachette Jackson created the Podcast titled [Developing Data-Driven Mathematical Models to Study Cancer](#) as part of the MICHIGAN MINDS SPECIAL SERIES: WOMEN IN STEM. It was promoted as part of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.



SARAH KOCH NAMED THURNAU PROFESSOR

Associate Professor Sarah Koch has been named a [2021 Arthur Thurnau Professor](#). Thurnau Professors are recognized for their extraordinary contributions to undergraduate education. Thurnau Professors demonstrate a strong commitment to teaching and learning, excellence and innovation in teaching, and dedication to working effectively with a diverse student body.



Alexander Perry Awarded Sloan Fellowship

Assistant Professor Alexander Perry has been awarded a [2021 Sloan Research Fellowship](#). The Sloan Research Fellowships seek to stimulate fundamental research by early-career scientists and scholars of outstanding promise. These two-year, \$75,000 fellowships are awarded yearly to 126 researchers in recognition of distinguished performance and a unique potential to make substantial contributions to their field. Alex is being recognized for his work in Algebraic Geometry.

Alex Wright Receives 2021 MCA Prize

Assistant Professor Alex Wright has received the 2021 MCA Prize from the Mathematical Council of the Americas. The MCA Prize recognizes excellence in mathematical research. There will be a prize ceremony at the [Mathematical Congress of the Americas](#) which takes place virtually in July 2021.

