Ascending to the Profession

Steve Hurder

Director of Undergraduate Studies
Mathematics, Statistics, & Computer Science
University of Illinois at Chicago
www.math.uic.edu/∼hurder

The Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science at UIC

1. Offers undergraduate degrees in <u>Pure Mathematics</u>, <u>Mathematical Computer Science</u>, <u>Statistics and Operations Research</u>, and <u>Mathematics Teaching</u>

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4. Faculty have received multiple recognitions:
   - 10 UIC University Scholar Awards
   - 14 Sloan Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow Awards
   - 7 NSF Career Awards
   - 5 UIC Award for Excellence in Teaching Awards
   - 6 UIC Silver Circle Awards (Cal Kafka 5 time winner!)
   - 2 UIC Distinguished Professor Awards
   - 2 LAS Distinguished Professor Awards
   - 3 AMS Centennial Fellowship Awards

The Math Experience at UIC

Math is Gateway to Sciences; What is Gateway to Math?

- Common Core Curriculum – *Calculus I, II, III*, for all Majors

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- ASCEND Helping Students – *Emerging Scholars Program*

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- Excellent choice for Undecided students who enjoy MSCS courses

ASCEND Math in Fall and Spring

Help at the beginning:

- Emerging Scholars Program
    - ▶ Offers intensive workshops in a cooperative learning environment
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    - ▶ Open to all UIC students and carries one hour of credit. Priority given to ASCEND Scholars

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- Mathematical Sciences Learning Center
  - ▶ Walk-in Tutoring in Math (Monday–Friday 8 AM to 6 PM)
  - ▶ Comfortable setting with TA and peer tutoring
  - ▶ All levels of mathematics tutoring available for gateway courses
  - ▶ Laptops are available for use in the MSLC (on wireless network)

The Math Experience at UIC

Math Learning Center in 430 SEO

Research Experiences for Undergraduates

Special Projects & Research Opportunities with MSCS Faculty

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- Generally pursued after completion of core courses - after second or third year of studies
- *Almost all students* who participate end up going on to graduate studies in Math, Statistics or Computer Science

Research Experiences for Undergraduates

Our undergraduate majors also participate in national Summer REU programs. Recent examples from summer 2008 & 2009 include:

- Research Experiences for Undergraduates in Medical Informatics at DePaul University
- Women and Mathematics at Princeton University
- Study Analysis and Geometry at Princeton University
- Arithmetic of L-functions at Park City Math Institute, Utah
- SMALL Undergraduate Research Project at Williams College, Massachusetts
- Analysis of Particle Detectors at Paul Scherrer Institute, Switzerland, part of CERN Project

Excellent motivation for graduate study, and career choices.

Undergraduate Math Club

The Math Club has been a part of the Department for more than 10 years.
Activities include:

- Meets each Wednesday at 4 PM in 300 SEO
- Refreshments are always served!
- Presentations by fellow students (grad & undergrad)
- Presentations/Lectures by Faculty (pizza is served)
- Putnam Competition Problems Practice Sessions (during Fall)
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- Facebook page, "UIC Math Club" under Student Groups

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Planning by students (for 2009-10): Natalie Krzyzanowski (President), Monika Aggarwa (Vice-President), Edgar Colin (Secretary), Anna Putyra (Treasurer)
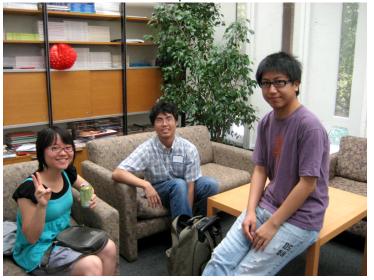
The Math Experience at UIC

Math Club Members Never Miss Tea

Math Club presentation by Professor Kashcheyeva

Off to Graduate School at University of Wisconsin, Madison