

FINAL REPORT
SIAM WORKSHOP:
FOCUS ON DIVERSITY 2001

The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) held a workshop focused on underrepresented minorities---graduate and undergraduate students, postdocs, and recent Ph.D.s---in the mathematical and computational sciences on July 11, 2001, as part of the SIAM Annual Meeting in San Diego, California.

The workshop was intended to accomplish several goals:

- to provide workshop focused on careers for and retention of minority students in the mathematical and computational sciences;
- to bring together a mixture of people from different levels of professional experience, ranging from undergraduate students to senior scientists in an informal setting in order to share career experiences and options;
- to provide an opportunity for minority graduate students, postdocs, and recent Ph.D.s to present their research at an international meeting;
- to expose undergraduate students to the many professional opportunities resulting from graduate degrees in science and mathematics;
- to encourage undergraduate and graduate students to speak frankly with each other about personal issues and experiences associated with pursuing a scientific career.

WORKSHOP ORGANIZERS

The co-chairs of the 2001 Diversity Workshop were:

Fern Hunt, National Institute of Science and Technology and
Juan Meza, Sandia National Laboratories.

FOCUS on DIVERSITY 2001
PROGRAM

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

5:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Field Trip to the San Diego Supercomputing Center

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Automatic Detection of Binding Sites in Protein Sequences through Singular Value Decomposition
Rachel Vincent, Rice University

A Socially Transmitted Disease: Teacher Qualifications and Dropout Rates
Nicolas Crisosto, University of California, Berkeley

Cyclic Codes and their Primitive Idempotents
Louis Beaugris, University of Iowa

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FOCUS on DIVERSITY 2001
PROGRAM (continued)

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Lunch and Informal Discussion with Guest Mathematicians and Scientists

3:15 PM - 5:15 PM

Plastic, Metal and Ceramic High Aspect Ratio Microstructure Fabricated from LIGA

Mold Inserts

Marcela Gonzales, University of California, Berkeley

ALFISHES: A Size-Structured and Spatially-Explicit Model for Predicting the Impact
of Hydrology on the Resident Fishes of the Everglades Mangrove Zone of Florida Bay
Jon Cline, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Robust Empirical Likelihood Confidence Intervals

Nancy Glenn, Rice University

Global Continuation in Higher Order Elasticity

Anita Marenco, Cornell University

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

I.E. Block Community Lecture and Reception

Lecturer: Steven Strogatz

Title: Small World Networks

7:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Interactive Session on Careers: Food for Thought

Further detail, including a photo of the student speakers can be found at
<http://csmr.ca.sandia.gov/~meza/siamdd/background.html>

OUTCOME

Attendance at Diversity Day 2001, including students, speakers and invited guests, was 65. The student talks were very well done and led to much discussion about research and mentoring. The visit to the San Diego Supercomputing Center was a successful innovation. It was popular enough to require two busloads of participants. The highpoint of the program was once again the evening interactive discussion among students on career issues.