DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Students, Faculty, Staff, and Alumni,

I am pleased to announce that I have accepted the position as Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. I believe that this is an exciting time for the department, and I am looking forward to working with all of you to continue our success.

The Department has a long history of excellence in teaching and research, and I am committed to maintaining and enhancing these strengths. We have a vibrant community of students, faculty, and staff who are dedicated to our mission of education and scholarship.

As Chair, my top priority will be to support our faculty in their research and teaching activities. I will work closely with the department chair and other faculty members to identify new opportunities for funding and collaboration. I will also be involved in the recruitment of new faculty members and in the development of our graduate programs.

I am excited to be a part of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and look forward to working with all of you in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Jim Albert, Chair

Arjun Gupta

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INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR ARJUN GUPTA BY WAI NING

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Department Chair: Jim Albert

Undergraduate Coordinator: Hanfeng Chen

Assistant to the Dean: Greg Bacci

OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY WEBSITE: www.bgsu.edu

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It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. As a faculty member, I am committed to providing you with the best possible education and research opportunities. I believe that this is an exciting time for the department, and I am looking forward to working with all of you to continue our success.

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INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR ARJUN GUPTA BY WAI NING

As an educator and an academic leader, what are your top priorities and goals for the department? What do you hope to accomplish in the next year?

As a researcher and a mentor, what are your biggest achievements and how do they contribute to the field of statistics?

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Jim Albert received the prestigious Founders Award from the American Statistical Association (ASA). “The Founders Award is the American Statistical Association’s highest recognition for distinguished service and leadership within the association and the statistical science profession,” and ASA President David R. Morganstein. Albert was honored “for outstanding leadership and efforts in statistical education and relationship-building between academia and industry; for service as editor of The American Statistician and the Journal of Quantitative Analysis of Sport; for professional activities as association editor of several ASA journals; for chairing and participating in numerous ASA committees and councils devoted to statistical education, research statistics and two sports statistic; and for heightening interest in statistics through the use of sports examples and applications presented.”

“BGSU Mathematics Competitions 2015”
On Saturday March 21st, 2015, the Department of Mathematics hosted the 3rd Annual BGSU Mathematics Competition. The winners of this edition were: Kelcie Coffey, Linda Li (for the beginners section), Rieuwert Blok, Elmas Irmak, Mihai Staic and Wei Ning.

Daria Filippova, Irina Franke, Robert Kelvey and Mihai Staic. This year the competition was organized by: Aleska Coffey, Donna Jeffers (for the beginners section), Rameen and McLane Jeffers (for the beginners section), Rameen and Statistics hosted the 49th edition of the Spring Topology and Dynamics Conference. Between May 14 and 16 2015, Department of Mathematics and Statistics hosted the 49th Spring Topology and Dynamics Conference. The conference, May 14-16 2015, Bowling Green OH. These are five year grants designed to applications presented.

Stephen Stackhouse (DMA, Mathematics, 1971) is Director of Learning and Development in Vertex, Inc., West Chester, Pennsylvania. He attended the local high school and is a true Falcons fan. The location rotates among US companies of countries including China, Israel, Canada, Singapore, USA, India, Germany, and Austin. John Chen was an invited speaker, Vaideep Prabha chaired a session, and Jingke Cui presented a novel method in the conference.

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“BSGU Mathematics Competitions 2015”

De September 21st 2015, the department hosted the Third Edition of the “BSGU Mathematics Competitions.” The winners of this edition were: Katice Coffey, Lindsey Liu and Mollie Leff, for the beginner section; Roxanne Sales, Chris Barnes and Jennifer Rudy (for the advanced section). This year the competition was organized by Delia Filipovas, Ina Franta, Robert Feitlove and Mike Stacx.

William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition

On December 6th, 2015, seven BGSU students participated to the 78th edition of the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition. The last score among BGSU students was obtained by David David (80 points) and Maryland C (54 points) who placed in the top 36% among all participants. The second best result among BGSU students was obtained by Benjamin Zauski (double major Statistics and Mathematics) who placed in the top 30% among all participants. The second best result among BGSU students was obtained by Benjamin Zauski (double major Statistics and Mathematics) who placed in the top 30% among all participants.

4th Spring Topology and Dynamics Conference

Between May 16th and 18th, 2015, Department of Mathematics and Statistics hosted the 4th edition of the Spring Topology and Dynamics conference. This is an international national conference, the location rotates among US universities. The conference had support from NSF ($43,000 grant) and sponsorship from CAS and Department of Mathematics and Statistics. There were 107 registered participants from all over the world. The local organizers were: Rehan Ali, Erin Ivar, Mike Stacx and Margaret Be.

Professors Awarded Collaboration Grant

Professors Koo Los and Marghieh Ghanbarzadegan have each been awarded a Collaboration Grant from the Simons Foundation. FY 2015 Collaboration Grant. The grants were awarded to support the ongoing research of Professor Alex Izzo and Dr. Xiangdong Xie. The grants will provide funding for professors Izzo and Xie to travel to work with their collaborators and to invite other mathematicians to BGSU. A total of $2.7 million in funding will be distributed over five years across 39 universities.

Falcons gathered in an international Statistics conference in Hyderabad, India

BSGU alumna Kaushalya Chakravarty (Chair of the Statistics Department at the University of California - Riverside) and Vijaykumar Phadke (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Software Productive, LLC) at BGSU faculty John Chae at the 78th International Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures in Hyderabad, India.

John Chae received the prestigious Founders Award from the American Statistical Association (ASA)

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was named Distinguished Teaching Professor at the 2015 Spring Topology and Dynamics Conference. He retired from Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.

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has been named the 2015 Distinguished Researcher in Mathematics for Outstanding Contributions to Mathematical Sciences for these categories: Excellence in Education, Excellence in Research, and Excellence in Service.

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was an invited speaker at the 2015 Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures in Hyderabad, India.

Mary Elizabeth Cameron
(Ph.D., Bioinformatics, 2008)
was an invited speaker at the 2015 Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures in Hyderabad, India.

Stephen Stackhouse
(AM, Mathematics, 1967)
was an invited speaker at the 2015 Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures in Hyderabad, India.

Shihai Lu
(Ph.D. in Statistics, Fall 2014)
was an invited speaker at the 2015 Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures in Hyderabad, India.

Yang Liu
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Mihai Staic
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INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR ARJUN GUPTA by Wei Ning

Dean Jim Albert recently interviewed Professor Gupta at the end of his 39-year career at BGSU. As a Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, and one of the founding members of the department, he leaves behind a legacy of contributions that are sure to be missed by all who knew him.

WK: My trajectory was book research projects and by my doctoral students, and my educational success. All of their nature is their own evolution, but I believe the department is a maker of change.

AR: My first step was to get involved in statistical education and research. I was encouraged to get involved in the department and programs nationally and internationally.

WK: You have been awarded for almost forty years, and you have made significant contributions to the mathematics that you have taught for decades. What has helped you in the subject and your evolution as a teacher?

AR: The key to this step was not only the mathematics but also the hungry academic interest and the more rigorous nature of the student. I have always been very supportive of such initiatives.

AR: My legacy is my work, books, students, and my contributions to the department and the university.

WK: What changes in statistics or research trends do you think have made significant contributions to the mathematics that you have taught for decades?

AR: The biggest change has been in the ease of statistical computations. Nowadays, big data is one of the biggest changes we have seen in the last 15 years. It requires us to collaborate closely with other fields.

WK: You have directed over 26 doctoral students in the past 39 years. What have you learned from your students, and how have they impacted your teaching and research?

AR: We have had 26 PhD programs and over 400 bachelor’s, master’s, and full-time graduate students. You have learned from your students, and how have they impacted your teaching and research?

WK: You have been involved in many conferences and workshops in the past 39 years. What have you learned from the attendance and presentation at these conferences?

AR: I always appreciate my doctoral students for their hard work in researching and presenting at conferences.

WK: What is your advice for future students looking to pursue a career in statistics?

AR: It is completely an accidental event that I took on the position as Chair in 2004. For the university, it was a tremendous opportunity to continue working with an important department.

WK: You have contributed to the department and programs nationally and internationally.

AR: Work hard. Make sure you to learn languages well. English, computing, and calculus. Take more courses in your major. You can follow the development of statistical education in various ways. It is completely an accidental event that I took on the position as Chair in 2004. For the university, it was a tremendous opportunity to continue working with an important department.

WK: Behind teaching graduate courses, you also have taught undergraduate courses. What do you most enjoy from teaching graduate courses?

AR: I prefer the most tractable mathematical problems. Today, I prefer to teach them to university students and do not teach undergraduate courses.

WK: What is the most challenging part of teaching graduate courses?

AR: I prefer the most tractable mathematical problems. Today, I prefer to teach them to university students and do not teach undergraduate courses.

WK: What is the most enjoyable part of teaching graduate courses?

AR: I prefer the most tractable mathematical problems. Today, I prefer to teach them to university students and do not teach undergraduate courses.

WK: What is the best part of teaching undergraduate courses?

AR: I prefer the most tractable mathematical problems. Today, I prefer to teach them to university students and do not teach undergraduate courses.

WK: What is the biggest moment for you as a teacher?

AR: I prefer the most tractable mathematical problems. Today, I prefer to teach them to university students and do not teach undergraduate courses.

WK: What is your legacy going to be?

AR: As an educator and researcher, you should first do research to have an unyielding interest and then work hard to publish your results. This is my belief.

WK: What changes in statistical education and consulting research trends do you think have made significant contributions to the mathematics that you have taught for decades?

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INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR ARJUN GUPTA by Wei Ning

Professor Wei Ning recently interviewed Professor Arjun Gupta at the end of his 39 year career at BGSU.

Interview Questions:

Q: What are your long-term plans after retirement?
A: I will spend more time with my children and grandchildren and travel around the world.

Q: What have been your expectations and outcomes of student learning?
A: The Department is committed to adapting to the collective bargaining agreement (CBA). We are in the process of reviewing any documents in accordance with the agreement. This includes new or revised procedures, policies, and guidelines to ensure that all students are treated in an equitable and consistent manner.

Q: What are some of your favorite memories or highlights of your career at BGSU?
A: Some of my favorite memories include the times when my Ph.D. students stood out for me as highlights. These moments are not just a single moment in time, but a series of events that have contributed to my future research or career development.

Q: Have you been involved in any significant conferences or seminars?
A: I have been involved in numerous conferences and seminars, including the Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle, on August 12, 2015. These events have provided me with the opportunity to meet fellow statisticians, exchange ideas, and learn about the latest research trends and developments.

Q: What are your plans after retirement?
A: I will focus on my personal interests and hobbies, including travel, reading, and spending time with my family.

Q: What are your expectations for the future of your department and the university?
A: I believe the department and the university will continue to grow and thrive, and I am confident that the next generation of students will continue to benefit from the excellent education and opportunities available.

Q: What advice do you have for students interested in pursuing a career in statistics?
A: For students interested in pursuing a career in statistics, I recommend taking as many courses as possible to gain a broad understanding of the field. It is also important to develop strong analytical and problem-solving skills, as these are highly valued in both industry and academia.

Q: What are some of the challenges you have faced in your career?
A: There have been many challenges along the way, but I have always found ways to overcome them and continue to pursue my passion for statistics.

Q: What are your plans after retirement?
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