Remembering Dr. Clarence F. Stephens, Sr.
Letter from President Esterberg

We are saddened to share the loss of a longtime faculty member who left a deep and lasting legacy both here at SUNY Potsdam and across the nation. Mathematics Professor Emeritus Dr. Clarence F. Stephens Sr. passed away at the age of 100 on March 5, 2018. A contingent of SUNY Potsdam math faculty members, emeriti and alumni traveled to attend Dr. Stephens' memorial service.

Dr. Stephens was a truly extraordinary individual. He was the ninth African-American ever to receive a Ph.D. in mathematics, and also served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Dr. Stephens went on to serve on the faculty first at Prairie View A&M University and then Morgan State University. He was awarded a Ford Fellowship to study at Princeton University's Institute for Advanced Study alongside Dr. Albert Einstein in 1953. In 1962, he joined SUNY Geneseo's mathematics department as chair, before later accepting a position at SUNY Potsdam in 1969, where he served as professor and chair until his retirement in 1987.

Dr. Stephens is perhaps best remembered for bringing about the “Potsdam Miracle,” in which under his guidance, the College graduated a large number of accomplished math students. Many of those students were from underrepresented backgrounds and a significant number went on to graduate study. Over the years, he was presented with three honorary doctorates in recognition of his achievements, including one from SUNY. In 1983, he was inducted into the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, as part of the Living History Project, recognizing black Americans in the sciences.

Dr. Victoria Klawitter, chair of the department, was kind enough to share remarks made by the Rev. Dr. Nancy E. Lowmaster at Dr. Stephen’s funeral. I was deeply touched by her words, and feel compelled to share them. Reflecting on the conversations that she had had with Dr. Stephens over the years, Rev. Lowmaster said:

“Clarence told stories of the places that he had taught, and of the students who had grown in confidence and in maturity as they mastered the language called... calculus. He remembered their names; he knew the trajectory of their careers; their success delighted him. And over the course of our many visits, and through Clarence’s rich stories, I began to understand the profound gift that
this man so gently shared – the gift of pushing back boundaries to create inviting spaces: spaces into which those around him were welcomed, nurturing spaces where others could flourish.”

What a moving tribute to a truly remarkable person. As educators and scholars, we should all aspire to create such spaces for our students to flourish and grow. I hope you will take the time to read more about Dr. Stephens’ life and legacy. The Mathematical Association of America has published a biography of him, and you may read an article about his legacy written by a recent alumna on our website. His obituary may be found here.

In conjunction with the College’s bicentennial, we dedicated a plaque honoring Dr. Stephens in Carson Hall—a small but important reminder of the impact and influence that he has had on our campus. If you haven’t yet, please consider taking a moment to visit and reflect. Dr. Stephens is an inspiration to us all.

Sincerely, Kristin G. Esterberg, Ph.D., President

In memory of Dr. James C. Magee, Sr.

Dr. James C. Magee, Sr. PhD, passed away after a brief illness on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at his home surrounded by his loving wife and family along with his brother, Robert, and his wife, Darby.

James was raised in Gouverneur, NY. He obtained a Bachelors degree from St. Lawrence University and he went on to receive a Masters of Education from Harvard University, a Masters of Mathematics from Notre Dame University, and Doctorate of Mathematics from Clarkson University. James started his career as a professor of Mathematics at St. Thomas Aquinas Priory in Rhode Island and retired after 35 years teaching at SUNY Potsdam.

Jim was first and foremost a family man who liked nothing better than having all of his seven children at home at the same time.
2017-2018 Mathematics Department Faculty

Angelynn Alvarez, PhD, University of Houston
Assistant Professor

Joel Foisy, BA, Williams College; PhD, Duke Univ.,
Professor; AMS, MAA

Chair
Victoria Klawitter, BS, Univ. of Bucharest; MA, PhD,
Univ. of Michigan; Professor; AMS; AWM; MAA

Cheryl Chute Miller, BS, John Carroll Univ.; PhD,
Wesleyan Univ.; Professor, AMS; ASL; AWM; CMS; MAA

Helen Bush, Secretary 1
Mathematics

Sean LaPlante, Adjunct Instructor

Laura Person, BS, MA, PhD, Univ. of California-Santa Barbara,
Professor; AMS; AWM; MAA

Harold Ellingsen, BS, MS, PhD, Virginia Tech,
Assoc. Professor

Jason Howald, B.S., M.A., Miami Univ. of Ohio; Ph.D.,
Univ. of Michigan; Assoc. Professor

Blair Madore, BA Math, MSc Mathematics, PhD, Univ. of Toronto;
Assoc. Professor; AMS; MAA

Cornelia Yuen, B.S., Univ. of California-Berkeley; M.A., Ph.D., Univ. of Michigan;
Assoc. Professor

AMS = American Mathematical Society
AMTNYS = Association of Mathematics Teachers of New York State
ASL = Association of Symbolic Logic
AWM = Association for Women in Mathematics
MAA = Mathematical Association of America
NCTM = National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
Letter from the Chair, Dr. Klawitter

Greetings from the Mathematics Department!

It’s hard to believe another year has gone by and it’s time for the annual newsletter. And no matter how hard we try to get an early start, Helen and I, it seems we always end up getting the newsletter done just in time for the Holidays.

2017-2018 has been a productive and somewhat eventful year for the mathematics department. It was filled with lots of activities, much joy brought by celebrations of achievements and graduations, and deep sadness at the passing of two valued and dear emeriti faculty, Dr. James Magee and Dr. Clarence F. Stephens.

As in life, there were new beginnings as well. We welcomed our newest colleague, Dr. Angelynn Alvarez, who had started as an Assistant Professor on a tenure-track position in fall 2017. We are excited she had joined our department. Our faculty had a busy and successful year, continuing to dedicate many hours beyond the call of duty to sustain our program and students. Dr. Harold Ellingsen published *Intuitive Calculus*, a textbook the department uses in Integrated Calculus, Dr. Laura Person was named Distinguished Honors Professor of the Year, and Dr. Joel Foisy received the President’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities. More details and faculty highlights can be found in the next pages.

As you might know, our institution continues to face significant financial stress and lower enrollments. Various measures were taken to bring down the budget deficit and curtail spending of state dollars. Department budgets were slashed and everything is being questioned. I had to strongly advocate for the the BA/MA program and its great value to our campus delivered for a minimal cost. Although the program is not in immediate danger of deactivation, its future may not be as secure as we would like.

This fall, SUNY Admin. introduced a new travel policy requiring our campus to produce massive amounts of justification when funding from state monies is requested. The policy affects any faculty travel with students, such as attendance to conferences. The process is onerous and it essentially makes impossible for faculty to travel for professional development or take students to conferences without support from Foundation accounts.

Fortunately, the mathematics department can support students and faculty in professional activities. This is why I send a huge THANK YOU to all our donors. Thank you! We are truly grateful for your gifts and donations. We are very careful with our spending and we use your donations to enhance our students’ learning and experiences. We will continue to take students to conferences, organize events, and bring speakers!

A few days ago around Thanksgiving, on a walk, I began thinking of the people I know who are truly happy. Initially, my list was very short. But then, many bright faces came to mind as I remembered my students, their enthusiasm, enjoyment of friendships and family, learning, service, and hobbies (is anyone growing orchids?). I don’t know for sure if they are truly happy, but thinking of them I felt happy. Working with students, watching them realize their potential, and seeing them confidently join a complex world that needs them, makes our jobs truly worthwhile. Congratulations to all our recent and past graduates! We are incredibly proud of you and we miss you. I hope you stay in touch and let us know how you are doing. We would love to hear from you.

Happy Holidays!

Victoria
Dr. Joel Foisy presented with Presidents Award for Excellence

Dr. Joel Foisy received the President’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities in May 2018. Dr. Foisy is recognized nationally and internationally as an expert in his research area. He has given numerous invited talks at conferences on his research in the area of *intrinsically linked graphs*, an area of mathematics that combines the fields of *graph theory* and *knot theory*. His work impacts the students of the College by showing them the beauty of mathematics, and by giving them a path to scholarship during their undergraduate years.

At the ceremony President Kristin Esterberg stated that “Those receiving 2018 President’s and Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence have shown the highest levels of service to the College, through their outstanding accomplishments, and their devotion to teaching, scholarship and professional service. I am proud to recognize their extraordinary talents and the mark they have made on the SUNY Potsdam campus”.

A video of Dr. Foisy receiving his award can be found at the following link:
https://www.facebook.com/helen.bush.5/videos/10215907619504416/

Congratulations Dr. Foisy on a well-deserved honor.

Welcome to Dr. Angelynn Alvarez

The Mathematics Department welcomes Dr. Angelynn Alvarez as an Assistant Professor in August 2017.

Dr. Angelynn Alvarez graduated in May 2016 with a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Houston in Houston, Texas. Her research interests lie in the field of *complex differential geometry*, where she studied local geometric quantities (such as curvature) to understand the global topological structure of complex manifolds.

After graduating with a Ph.D., she became a Visiting Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, Connecticut where she was a member of the Topology and Geometry Research Group. Due to her passion for teaching and mentoring and having colleagues at SUNY Potsdam with similar mathematical interests, Dr. Alvarez came to Potsdam as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in August 2017. She currently lives in Potsdam, New York with her fiancé, Cameron. When not doing mathematics, she likes to travel, cook, watch movies, and enjoy the great outdoors in North Country.
Faculty Highlights

Angelynn Alvarez served as a Summer Orientation Advisor and her paper "On projectivized vector bundles and positive holomorphic sectional curvature" with G. Heier & F. Zheng was set to appear in Proc. Am. Math. Soc.. She gave several talks at various meetings that included San Diego, CA, St. Louis, MO, and West Point Milatary Academy, NY. Dr. Alvarez was inducted into the Pi Mu Epsilon Honors Society in April 2018. She attended the Fall and Spring meeting of the Seaway Section of the Mathematical Association of America.

Harold Ellingsen’s book, *Intuitive Calculus I The Two-Semester Course* was used by instructors of Math 141 and 142. Dr. Ellingsen served on the Graduate Advising Committee and as an alternate in the Faculty Senate for the math department. He attended a BA/MA student's weekly seminar on cryptography. Dr. Ellingsen submitted the note "A Fresh Look at Highly Composite Numbers" to the American Mathematical Monthly in July 2018. He also contributed a project to the NSF REU application.

Joel Foisy gave a contributed talk on *Intrinsically Linked Directed Graphs*, at the Hudson River Undergraduate Mathematics Conference in April 2018. His article *Intrinsically Knotted and 4-Linked Directed Graphs, J. Knot Theory Ramifications* with Thomas Fleming, has recently appeared in the Journal of Knot Theory and Its Ramifications and he also submitted *Graphs that are minor minimal with respect to dimension*, with Thomas Giardina (REU 2015) to Involve. Dr. Foisy received the 2018 SUNY Potsdam President’s Award for Excellence, Scholarship and Creative Activities.

Jason Howald piloted a new course "The Math of Machine Learning," an exciting and timely blend of computer science and math. He also helped to design and propose a minor in Applied Mathematics. Both of these efforts help our department adapt our curriculum to the 21st century.

Victoria Klawitter continues to serve as Mathematics Department Chair. She is a member of the Arts and Sciences Council, Council of Chairs and Program Directors and the Provost’s Taskforce on Academic Revisioning. Dr. Klawitter co-chaired the Graduate Affairs Committee and served as a member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. She attended and represented SUNY Potsdam at the funeral services of Dr. Clarence Stephens with Dr. Madore and Dr. Miller. She attended the Fall and Spring meeting of the Seaway Section of the Mathematical Association of America. She gave a presentation at CCI in the Spring 2018 on Mathematics Pedagogy.

Blair Madore completed revisions and additions for BARRON’S GRE math workbook, fourth edition which is forthcoming in the Fall of 2018. He attended the Fall and Spring meeting of the Seaway Section of the Mathematical Association of America, presented at the AMTNYS Fall meeting in Buffalo, NY and the Mathematics Competition and Conference of Northern New York at Clarkson University. Dr. Madore led two sessions for the SOAR program on the history of the area as the group hiked the Red Sandstone trail. He plans on working on a book on Meso-American mathematics and would like to study Spanish further to support his work in Mexico.

Cheryl Miller worked on the second edition of her textbook, *Essentials of Modern Algebra*, expected to be published around December 2018. She attended the Fall and Spring meeting of the Seaway Section of the Mathematical Association of America. She served as Vice and Program Chair at the MAA Seaway Section Meetings and was chosen to serve as MAA Seaway Section “Chair Elect” for 2018-2019.

Laura Person was named Favorite Professor of the Department of Mathematics. Dr. Person was also voted by the honors students as the 2018 Distinguished Honor Professor of the Year. She was a participant in the Graduate Seminar “Algebraic Topology" by student Joseph Santantasio in the Fall and Spring. She taught a SOAR course on Knot Theory. She attended the Associated Colleges of the St. Lawrence Valley’s 2017 Teaching Effectiveness Conference; "The Brain, the Professor, and Teaching Strategies," at SUNY Canton. Dr. Person continues to serve as Math Lab Coordinator and Calculus Coordinator.

Cornelia Yuen continues to serve as the faculty advisor of the honorary mathematics society Pi Mu Epsilon. She organized the induction of the new members and the induction event in April 2018. She served as Chair of the Mathematics Departmental Committee and was a member of the Ad-Hoc committee “Exploring the Math Major”.

MAA Seaway Meetings

Our Math Department students and faculty regularly participate in the Mathematical Association of America Seaway Section conferences each semester. Four faculty and three students attended the fall meeting, October 20-21, 2017 at SUNY Broome.

Faculty in Attendance: Victoria Klawitter, Cheryl Miller, Blair Madore, Angelynn Alvarez and fiancé Cameron Williams. Students in Attendance: Toni Wahl, Sarah Janus, Jasper Toman-Yih

The program chair for this conference was our own Dr. Miller. The Potsdam highlight of the conference was the invited lecture by our own Dr. Mary Helander (CS/MATH ‘83) at the time a senior research scientist at IBM TJ Watson Research Laboratory. Her presentation “Ties that Bind and Bridges to Nowhere” told us about some fascinating research into the relative importance of just one link in a network. Dr. Helander not only presented at the conference but was very generous with her time with our students.

The best part of a conference is meeting new people and seeing old friends. In addition to Dr. Helander we were lucky enough to spend time with Jon Doane (BA/MA‘16) and Becky Doane (’17) and their new daughter Elowen.

Four faculty and five students attended the spring meeting, April 13-14, 2018 at SUNY Brockport.

The program chair for the meeting was our own Dr. Cheryl Miller. She organized an excellent collection of experiences including several presentations by MAA president Deanna Haunsperger. Some Potsdam related highlights are a remembrance of Dr. Clarence F. Stephens led by Dr. Klawitter, a Math Trivia and Jeopardy contest led by Dr. Madore, and a talk from former Potsdam faculty member Ahmad Almomani, now a professor at SUNY Geneseo. The banquet speaker was Eugenia Chang, the well-known mathematician, pianist and author of popular mathematics books “Baking Pi”, “Beyond Infinity” and the forthcoming “Thinking Better: The Art of Logic in an Illogical World”. Her presentation was so fascinating that several of our students immediately expressed interest in attending graduate school to study Category Theory like Dr. Cheng!

Faculty in Attendance: Victoria Klawitter, Cheryl Miller, Angelynn Alvarez, Blair Madore
Students in Attendance: Toni Wahl, Sarah Janus, Garret, Tyler Trey Simmons, Sal, Paul, Tanner Wilson.
AMTNYS Conference

SUNY Potsdam was well represented at this year’s Association of Mathematics Teachers of New York State Conference. Among the 600 attendees were two faculty members, two students and a number of alumni from the College.

Associate Professor of Mathematics Dr. Blair Madore and Professor of Secondary Education Dr. Peter Brouwer ’86 both attended the AMTNYS Conference, along with two secondary math education students, Odessa Hoyt '17 and Sara Janus '17.

Hoyt and Janus were able to attend a number of professional development sessions alongside other college students, K-12 teachers and college faculty members. In particular, they both took part in a session led by AMTNYS President Michael Siuta on how to prepare for interviews. The students were also presented with new graphing calculators from Texas Instruments.

Madore presented a session titled "One of These Things is Not Like the Other," about attributes and geometry for teachers in grades Pre-K through Grade 6. The presentation was originally developed with math department Chair Dr. Victoria Klawitter and Becky Duprey ’97, a clinical faculty member in the Department of Childhood Education.

One attendee at Dr. Madore's session was Scott Schaefer ’97 of Honeoye Falls Lima Central School District, who studied history at SUNY Potsdam, went on to earn a Master of Science in Teaching degree in elementary education and is now a Kindergarten teacher. Schaefer said he hoped to deepen his geometrical knowledge, because he is very interested in providing a high quality of math and geometry instruction for his students.

The faculty members were able to connect with a number of alumni at the conference. Jillian Folino ’08 teaches at Indian River High School in Philadelphia, N.Y., and presented a session on her math club, which got its start thanks in part to support from SUNY Potsdam’s math department and a grant from the association’s Dolciani Fund. Kim Loucks ’77 and his wife, Carolyn Hirst-Loucks, of Teaching and Learning Connected, presented an interactive session, "Seriously Fun Mathematics with Dice." Will Hardin ’03, now a math teacher at Granville Junior/Senior High School, gave two technology-related presentations, "Going Google in a High School Math Classroom," and "Using Desmos Activities to Engage High School Students."

In addition, Madore and Brouwer also met with SUNY Potsdam graduates Chelsea Connors ’16, Vivian Fischer Lisi ’11, Maggie Flynn Loney ’05, Alicia Salmon ’14, Jodie Munger Tiernan ’06 and Jeffrey White ’04.
TEA Time

The math department hosts a tea, every Thursday from 3:30-4pm. Students and faculty congregate for tea and light snacks. This informal event has led to some surprisingly deep mathematical discussions as well as some general frivolity. Of course, it deepens the relationships between faculty and student, a hallmark of our department.

Dr. Mary Helander has been a frequent guest in our department, sometimes just to enjoy tea time with faculty and students. This kind of opportunity for students to learn about real world job and research opportunities is invaluable.

Another alumnus who visited for tea time this year was Jeff White, who is currently a district math coach in Salamanca, NY. He was able to share his experiences as math teacher in North Carolina, as well as for the Department of Defense in Kentucky and Germany.

Other alumni interested in visiting are encouraged to contact the chair, Dr. Victoria Klawitter (klawitv@potsdam.edu)

Mathematics Conference & Competition of Northern New York (MCCNNY)

This student math conference took place at Clarkson on October 28, 2017. It is organized by math faculty from the four colleges (Dr. Foisy and Dr. Madore from SUNY Potsdam, Jesse-Clarkstone (BA/MA year???) from SUNY Canton, Dr. Guangming Yao from Clarkson and Dr. Dan Look from SLU).

In addition to excellent keynote speakers, Tom Garrity (Williams College) and Ben Galluzo (Shippensburg), there are student presentations and posters, and a math trivia/Jeopardy contest organized by Dr. Madore.

This year four of Dr. Madore’s problem seminar students gave expository presentations based upon research articles they had read for his class. They were:

- Blake Gregory - *Special Sequences of Composite Integers*
- Alexandra Davis – *When is a Polynomial a Composition of other Polynomials?*
- Leesa Iserea – *Boggle Logic Puzzles*
- Matthew Coupal – *A Tiling of the Plane with Triangles*

Some of the Conference Participants 2017
January 8-20, 2018 Dr. Madore and I traveled to Mexico with 11 students for the course Math 130. After arriving in Mexico City we traveled by a bus provided by our friends from Universidad Autonoma del Estado de Hidalgo (UAEH) to Pachuca in the state of Hidalgo. Our first night we had dinner at the awesome restaurant shown here. The food was wonderful everywhere we went! During the 12 days of the trip participants met many fellow students from UAEH, forming friendships that will last. Most importantly, the trip helps everyone learn, not only about mathematics, but also that the people everywhere are the same!

A special treat during the trip was a visit to the Lucia Libre (Mexican Wrestling). The famous wrestler El Santo was born in Tulancingo, Hidalgo, not far from where we were staying. The students and faculty had a lot of fun one evening cheering for the wrestlers and their wild moves.

While learning about the history of mathematics around the world, we visited many archaeological sites including Huapalcalco, Tula, Teotihuacan, and the Templo Mayor. The picture shown here is the Pyramid of the Sun at Teotihuacan. If you look very closely you can see people standing on top for a bit of perspective. We ended with a day trip to the National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City, the best collection of Mesoamerican artifacts and history that exists. Students even learn to translate the date on a Mayan stella.

We come home tired, but it is an experience that everyone enjoys. Hope to be back in Mexico soon!

Dr. Cheryl Chute Miller
We want to hear from you for our Math Dept. Newsletter! Please email us at MathNews@potsdam.edu. Tell us what you are up to and include a picture. We look forward to hearing from you!

The Math Department has a Facebook Page, please join us for the latest news and events. Look for SUNY Potsdam Mathematics Department Page or https://www.facebook.com/groups/359219453788/

Congratulations to our 2017-2018 Mathematics Major Graduates

Graduates:

John Barstow, David Bullock, Jade Bestami, Samantha Bruck, Robert Cameron, Bradley Cech, Matthew Coupal, Alexandra Davis, Kyle Freeman, Mathew Goberdhan, Alex Gregory, Blake Gregory, Emily Haller, Odessa Hoyt, Leesa Isereau, Bryan Jaquith, Nicholas Keen, Aime Kikoma, Zaki Lindo, Alexandra Miranda, Angela Owens, Shelley Peabody, Genevieve Ruhland, Joseph Santantasio, Michael Schmidlin, William Scofield, Jada Scott, Toni Wahl
Spring 2018 Mathematics Department Awards

Department Scholars

The Department of Mathematics named four senior majors Departmental Scholars in 2018. Each of the students designated had a mathematics average of 3.50 or better and college GPA of 3.51 or better.

Recipients:  Jade Bestami
Alex Gregory
Genevieve Ruhland
Toni Wahl

Susan Portugal Statistics & Business Award

The Susan Portugal Award is awarded to a junior or senior student majoring in mathematics and minoring or pursuing a second major in business administration. This award recognizes the value of a strong mathematics background for students pursuing a career in business.

Recipient:  Macy Fraser
M.A.A.E.M Award

The Mathematics Alumni Award for Excellence in Mathematics Senior award consists of a check and a framed certificate of award. The name of each recipient is also inscribed on a plaque that is on permanent display in the Mathematics Department area. Both the check and certificate are presented at the College Honors Convocation held in the Spring. Junior and Sophomore M.A.A.E.M. awards consisting of a certificate are presented at the School of Arts & Sciences Honors Convocation. Funds for the M.A.A.E.M awards are provided by our Alumni, through the Department’s College Foundation Account, and by the Charlie Smith Mathematics Scholarship Fund.

2018 Sophomore M.A.A.E.M.

Recipients:

Julia DeTar
Paul Dougall
Joshua Lewis
Tanner Wilson

2018 Junior M.A.A.E.M.

Recipients:

Garrett Frady
&
Jasper Toman-Yih

Dr. Foisy and Garrett Frady
2018 Senior M.A.A.E.M.

Senior MAAEM
was established by alumni of the Department of Mathematics. This award is given to at least one graduating math major chosen by the faculty. Each recipient has his/her name inscribed on a plaque that is on permanent display in the department.

Recipients:
Joseph Santantasio
Toni Wahl

Vasily Cateforis Scholarship

The Vasily Cateforis Scholarship fund was established in 2004, and the first award was presented in the Fall of 2007. This award is given annually, by the Mathematics Department, to non-graduating mathematics majors, who are fully admitted into the BA/MA Program. The award is a minimum of $1000 from the Vasily Cateforis Scholarship Fund, and the ultimate, long-term goal is to reach an endowment of $100,000 for multiple scholarships. The recipients of the Vasily Cateforis Scholarship award are chosen by the Mathematics Faculty.

Recipients:
Garrett Frady
Sara Janus
Jasper Toman-Yih

Dr. Howald, Sara Janus, Garrett Frady
Clarence F. Stephens Mathematics Scholar Award

This award, established in 1987, is given annually by the School of Arts & Sciences and the Mathematics Department to the non-graduating mathematics major who, by his or her achievement in mathematics, best personifies C.F. Stephens’ vision of the mathematics student who is becoming all he or she is capable of being. The award is a check from the C.L. Smith Mathematics Scholarship Fund and SUNY Potsdam Foundation. In addition, the recipient will be designated a Clarence F. Stephens Mathematics Scholar and his or her name will be inscribed on a plaque to be displayed in Carson Hall. The recipients of the C.F. Stephens Mathematics Scholar award are chosen by the Mathematics Faculty.

Recipient: Tyler Simmons

Dr. Klawitter and Tyler Simmons

Scholarship for Excellence in the Study of Advanced Mathematics (E.S.A.M.)

This scholarship is awarded annually to recipients who excel academically in mathematics and have demonstrated an interest in attending graduate school in mathematics post-graduation. Recipients must have sophomore or junior status at the time of selection and will receive the scholarship in their junior or senior year. This scholarship, established in 2016 by an anonymous donor, was created to encourage those students who show promise and interest in attending graduate school in mathematics.

Recipient: Sara Janus

Sara Janus and Dr. Alvarez
Charlie Smith Calculus Prizes

Beginning in the academic year 1997-1998, through a grant from the San Antonio Area Foundation, pledged to donate to a fund in honor of Dr. Charles L. Smith, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Mathematics, bearing the name THE CHARLIE SMITH MATHEMATICS SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

Calculus II Spring 2017

This prize is a cash award given to the Calculus II student in the spring of the year that makes the highest score on the common final. The student(s) receiving the Calculus II Prize will be recognized at the following year’s School of Arts and Sciences Honors Convocation.

Recipient: Alex Hofler

Calculus I Fall 2017

This prize is a cash award given to the Calculus I student in the fall of the year that makes the highest score on the common final. In the event of ties, each high scorer shall receive the same (undiminished) cash prize.

Recipient: Christian Verfenstein

Susan Dewitt Kaiser Award

The Susan DeWitt Kaiser Award is given to the graduating mathematics major who has the highest academic average on record prior to the May graduation, who will also graduate with teacher certification, and who has also completed all academic years at Potsdam. The award was established in 1986 by the family and friends of the late Susan DeWitt Kaiser, mathematics teacher, class of 1967.

Recipient: Alexandra Davis

Pi Mu Epsilon Sr. Award

This is given by Pi Mu Epsilon to a graduating senior for outstanding achievement in mathematics and for the promotion of scholarly activity in mathematics.

Recipient: Toni Wahl
About our Awards Recipients:

Alexandra Davis (Susan Dewitt Kaiser Award) grew up in the small-town of Croghan, NY and is majoring in Mathematics Education and Dance. In the fall, Alex plans to get a job teaching in a middle school and continue working with her dancers. Alex is looking forward to her career in teaching as well as getting her masters.

Julia DeTar (MAAEM – Sophomore) is from Saranac Lake, NY. She loves studying math here at Potsdam. After graduating, she plans to pursue a master's degree and then a PhD in hopes of becoming a college professor.

Paul Dougall (MAAEM – Sophomore) is dual major in Music Business and Mathematics and a dual minor in Business Administration and Computer Science. He is from Schenectady, New York. Paul is anticipating acceptance into the BA/MA program in mathematics at the end of this semester, he is still unsure of whether he wants to try to enter the job market or go for his PhD in statistics or data science after graduation.

Garrett Frady (MAAEM – Junior, Vasily Cateforis Scholarship) is from Plattsburgh, New York. He is currently a double major with Mathematics and Computer Science. This is the end of his first year in the BA/MA program and looks forward the second year. Garrett plans on pursuing the fields of Math and Computer Science.

Macy Fraser (Susan Portugal Statistics and Business Award) is from St. Regis Falls and is going into her Junior year of college here at SUNY Potsdam with majors in Business Administration, Math, and Math Education. She plans to become a math teacher at the high school level with her own certified public accounting business on the side.

Sara Janus (Vasily Cateforis Scholarship, ESAM) is a junior mathematics, secondary education and psychology major from Long Island. She is in her first year of the BA/MA program. Sara is a member of Pi Mu Epsilon, Kappa Delta Pi (education honor society) and Phi Kappa Phi. She served as Vice President of the Math Alliance last year. She is currently looking into furthering her mathematics education and is looking into PhD programs to attend upon graduating next year.

Joshua Lewis (MAAEM – Sophomore) is a double major in math and computer science and is from Westmoreland, New York. His plans are unsure at this time.

Joseph Santantasio (MAAEM – Senior) is a BA/MA student in the mathematics department and is double-majoring in computer science. He is originally from Orange County, New York. After graduating, he plans to pursue a PhD in mathematics. He feels eternally grateful to the entire math department at Potsdam for helping him discover and nurture his love for mathematics.

Tyler Simmons (Clarence F. Stephens Mathematics Scholarship) is from Brooklyn, New York and is very thankful for the opportunity to join the Mathematics major at SUNY Potsdam. He is very appreciative for the support from his family. Tyler currently owns a tutoring service, and, in the future, he plans on being an actuary while owning his own companies.

Jasper Toman – Yih (MAAEM – Junior, Vasily Cateforis Scholarship) is from New York City is a double major in Mathematics and Computer Science. He is currently in the BA/MA program in Mathematics. Jasper is considering a career in Computer Science and possibly Graduate Study in a Mathematics related field.

Toni Wahl (Pi Mu Epsilon Award, MAAEM – Senior, Dept. Scholar) is from Clayton, NY. Currently at SUNY Potsdam she is double majoring in Mathematics and Biology and will be graduating this Spring. After graduation she plans on going to California for the summer and then she plans to do internships for a year and attend graduate schools after that.

Tanner Wilson (MAAEM – Sophomore) is from Parishville, NY and is currently a Mathematics Major and a minor in Political Science. He seeks to pursue a PhD in Mathematics.
Pi Mu Epsilon
National Honorary Mathematics Society
New York Phi Chapter
Chartered April 8, 1970
The officers and members of New York Phi Chapter, Pi Mu Epsilon welcome into membership the following eleven inductees:

2017-2018 PME Officers

President …. Alexandra Miranda
Vice President …. Bradley Cech
Secretary ………... Heidi Kreckel
Treasurer …………. Toni Wahl
Faculty Sponsor …. Dr. Cornelia Yuen

2017-2018 PME Speaker–Suprabha Baniya

Suprabha Baniya is an Assistant Professor of Economics at Clark University. She received her Ph.D. degree in Economics from Purdue University in 2017, and her B.A. in Economics and a B.A./M.A degree in Mathematics from SUNY Potsdam in 2012. Her research interests focus on the trade effects of transportation infrastructure in the presence of global production linkages using both econometric and computable general equilibrium models. In the near future, she intends to focus on international trade in conjunction with economic geography. She is currently teaching international economics at both the undergraduate and Ph.D. levels.

She is currently coauthoring a research project at the World Bank, which investigates the trade effects of the Belt and Road initiative of China using both econometric and GIS analysis. This summer, she will be conducting a research project on the impact evaluation of infrastructure reforms in the CAREC region using a CGE analysis at the Asian Development Bank.

2018 Inductees:

Angelynn Alvarez ……….. Potsdam, NY
Victoria Brownell …………. Mexico, NY
Matthew Cameron…………. Brackney, PA
Allison Cranmer……………. Fairport, NY
Paul E. Dougall ………… Schenectady, NY
Macy Fraser ………….. St. Regis Falls, NY
Nicholas Keen ………….. Gouverneur, NY
Beatriz Dolores Ortiz………. Canton, NY
Tyler T. Simmons ……….. Brooklyn, NY
Nicholas P. Sundberg… Beaver Falls, NY
ASSOCIATION OF MATHEMATICS TEACHERS OF NEW YORK STATE (A.M.T.N.Y.S.) AWARDS

In the Spring of 1992 the Department established the AMTNYS Membership Award to encourage prospective teachers of mathematics.

To be eligible for the award students must be juniors or seniors who have completed at least four courses in the Potsdam College mathematics major (or their equivalent) with an average of at least 3.25 in all mathematics courses taken (transfer grades in mathematics courses will be included in this average). In addition, the students must have declared a major in one of the mathematics teacher certification programs of the School of Professional Studies.

**New Members:** Victoria Brownell, Alexandra Davis, Joshua Parker, Nicholas Sundberg, Jennifer Wilcox

Members of the AWM are chosen from a list of junior and senior women math majors with a Math GPA of 3.3 or higher.

**New Members:** Samantha Bruck, Allison Cranmer, Alexandra Davis, Leesa Isereau, Sara Janus, Heidi Kreckel, Alexandra Miranda, Genevieve Ruhland, Jada Scott, Sherilyn Tejada-Martinez, Rachael Venne, Toni Wahl

The MAA Institutional Membership is in recognition of high academic achievement as a student at our college. These recipients are recognized at the spring Honors Convocation of the School of Arts and Sciences and are presented with a certificate and their annual dues will be paid by our Mathematics Department.

**New Members:** Samantha Bruck, Matthew Cameron, Bradley Cech, Matthew Coupal, Allison Cranmer, Alexandra Davis, Paul Dougall, Alex Gregory, Leesa Isereau, Luke Latimer, Joshua Parker, Genevieve Ruhland, Michael Schmidlin, William Scofield, Brandon Short, Joseph Small, Nicholas Sundberg, Sherilyn Tejada-Martinez, Rachel Venne, Toni Wahl
In recognition of their high academic achievement as a graduate student at our college, the following student’s dues will be paid by the Mathematics Department:

Jade Bestami, Sebastian Durham, Garrett Frady, Mathew Goberdhan, Sara Janus, Heidi Kreckel, Joseph Santantasio, Jasper Toman-Yih

Mathematics Department Awards Ceremony 2018
We wish to thank all the alumni, faculty and friends of our Mathematics Department who contributed to the Annual Fund (restricted to the Math Department) for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018. Your contributions serve our students and program in several important ways. Thank you!

**Contributions to Our Department**

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