

Besides talks, there was also a poster competition for students and young researchers, and prizes were awarded according to conference participants' vote. Further details of the program, as well as some photographs from the event, can be found at

<http://www.maths.nuigalway.ie/conferences/gig14/>

The organizers, Sejong Park and Alexander Rahm, are grateful to NUI Galway (Registrar's Office and The Millennium Research Fund) and the Irish Mathematical Society for financial support of the conference.

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WOMEN IN MATHEMATICS DAY IRELAND (WIMDI) 1 MAY 2014, NUIG

The National University of Ireland, Galway, in conjunction with the NCE-MSTL (UL) and MACSI (UL), hosted the 5th Women in Mathematics Day, Ireland. This free event took place on the 1st May 2014 in the School of Education, NUI Galway. The day included presentations and discussions by women active in mathematics, mathematics education and industry, and at a variety of career stages. The aim of the event was to bring together those passionate about mathematics and to demonstrate the variety of opportunities available to those engaged in mathematics/mathematics education. It was an opportunity to hear some inspirational talks and to informally chat to others at different career stages. While this is an occasion particularly for women active in mathematics to get together, men are certainly not excluded from this event!

Keynote speakers on the day include Dr. Patricia Eaton (Stranmillis University College, Belfast) and Dr. Fiona Blighe (Science Foundation Ireland). Dr. Eaton challenged us with deep questions such as what makes a mathematician, a question she struggled with herself when linking her two areas of passion pure mathematics research and mathematics education research. Her resolution emphasized that all of us involved in mathematics have a responsibility of passing on what is vitally important to the next generation and a responsibility

to ensure that mathematics teaching is the best that it can be. Dr. Blighe shared her journey from being a physics researcher to pursuing a career in supporting research funding, demonstrating the diversity of career options available in STEM. Prior to joining SFI, Dr. Blighe was Programme Manager for the Centre for Women in Science and Engineering Research (WiSER) in Trinity College Dublin where she managed initiatives to provide direct support to women researchers and academics in Science, Engineering and Mathematics in TCD. Her valuable insights and experiences were particularly illuminating for those in the transition between education phases and career changes. The day also provided an opportunity for post-graduate and in-career professionals to share their research and stories, while gaining valuable feedback on their work. Dr. Norma Bargary (UL) shared her research on common functional principal components analysis of human movement data; Maria Ryan (St. Patrick's College, Thurles) discussed her project development in relation to mathematics anxiety and the mature student; C^* -algebras of real rank zero are exchange rings was the topic of Linda Mawhinney's (QUB) presentation; and Rebecca Campbell (Allstate NI) described her life as a data scientist in the insurance industry. All talks were engaging and stimulating, demonstrating the caliber of work being undertaken and the diverse opportunities available to people with mathematical skills and knowledge. The day concluded with a discussion on how to progress the organization and develop WIMDI further, with some very positive ideas and initiatives being proposed.

The organizers were grateful for financial support from the School of Education, NUI Galway, the National Centre for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and Learning (NCE-MSTL, UL), the Mathematics Applications Consortium for Science and Industry (MACSI, UL), and the Irish Mathematical Society whose funding was used to provide travel bursaries for postgraduate students.

For further information please see

<http://www.conference.ie/Conferences/index.asp?Conference=371>

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