

# A SLICE OF $\pi$

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS

VOLUME 18

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## CRISTA ARANGALA PROMOTED



Congratulations to Crista Arangala who was promoted to Professor of Mathematics this year! In addition to being a scholar and a popular professor, Crista has made a name for herself at Elon through her work with the Periclean Scholars from 2008 to 2014. She served as the mentor for the Periclean class of 2011 and has served as associate director of the Periclean program. For the past six years, she has taken classes to

India and Sri Lanka during Winter Term. These classes create traveling science exhibits, which are taken to elementary schools in these countries.

Last year Arangala served as a Fulbright Scholar in Sri Lanka holding a semester-long teaching position at the University of Colombo, where she introduced inquiry-based learning in the classroom and continued partnerships related to the Elon Traveling Science Museum.

Arangala was recently selected by the MAA to mentor a research team at Elon as part of the 2015-16 PIC (Preparation for Industrial Careers in Mathematical Sciences) Program. This program prepares mathematical sciences students for industrial careers by engaging them in research problems that come directly from industry. These experiences are designed to better prepare them for the demands that accompany non-academic jobs.

Arangala's new lab textbook titled *Exploring Linear Algebra: Labs and Projects with Mathematica* was published by Chapman and Hall/CRC in November.

She received degrees from Allegheny College, Pennsylvania, and the University of Cincinnati. Since coming to Elon in 2000, she has mentored more than 25 students in undergraduate research projects, many of which are related to applied linear algebra. Arangala is very interested in inquiry learning both in and outside of the classroom. She serves as the department's experiential learning coordinator.

## JEFF CLARK HONORED BY MAA



At the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America conference on March 14, 2015, Jeff Clark received the 2015 Distinguished Service Award in recognition for his many contributions to the organization and to mathematics in general. He was particularly noted for promoting undergraduate participation in the association's meetings. Colleagues noted in nomination letters that Clark leads by example and "is committed to the idea of professional service."

Clark served as the section's North Carolina state director from 1997-2000 and as the section's webmaster from 2003-2010. He has published more than a dozen articles and books with a lengthy list of presentations at sectional meetings, Mathfest, the Joint Mathematics Meetings, and the International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics. In March, he presented a talk at the International Conference on Technology in Collegiate

Mathematics in Las Vegas titled "Using Technology in Numerical Analysis." He also presented "A Topology of Subdivision for the Real Numbers" at Mathfest last August in Portland Oregon. His article on the interactive construction of small LR(1) grammars appeared in the Fall 2014 issue of *Missouri Journal of Mathematical Sciences*.

Over the past 17 years, Clark has supervised 25 undergraduate projects and currently serves as chair of the University Curriculum Committee. Congratulations to his son, David, who recently became an Eagle Scout. David has graduated from high school this year and will attend Stony Brook University-SUNY in the fall.

## OUR MATH MOM RETIRES



Bernice Foust, beloved program assistant for the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and for the Department of Computing Sciences, is retiring this year after 16 years at Elon. Foust joined the department in 1999 after years of working at Alamance Community College.

Foust's outgoing, friendly personality has endeared her to the faculty in Duke building. She made the reception area on the second floor a gathering place for students and faculty. The coffee was always ready and the supply cabinet was always fully stocked. Foust worked with the university decorator to create an attractive lounge area and, in general, made the whole area a welcoming place.

Foust was a real asset by assisting in the mountains of paperwork, planning events, arranging for interviews, and relieving the faculty of many clerical duties. She often worked late hours to finish urgent projects. Her files were so completely organized that she could find paperwork instantly. She recruited and trained student workers over the years. She didn't just assign them tasks but tried to make them part of our extended family. She was the person with the answers about procedures, forms and contacts.

When the department recruited new faculty, Foust was responsible for making hotel and plane reservations, reserving interview rooms, and seeing that the candidates were escorted to their

appointments. These interviews have proceeded in a flawless manner due to her efforts.

Foust was a professional in every sense of the word. She was a role model for all of us. Not only has she been proficient in performing all the jobs to make the program run smoothly, but she has been also there for us during times of happiness (marriages, babies, etc.) and during times of grief (deaths in the family).

Foust also made significant contributions to the university. She ably served as secretary to Academic Council for several years. She provided secretarial support for the Elon College Fellows program. Her complex duties with the Fellows involved keeping records of nearly 200 students at any given time, communicating with students, keeping financial records of each student's spending on research funding and travel grants, updating and producing the Elon College Fellows handbook, overseeing the Elon College Fellows web page, producing the Senior Celebration booklet, assisting with the planning and set up for the many Elon College Fellows events. She served on the Black Excellence Award Banquet Committee and the University Safety Committee. It is no surprise that she was recognized as Staff Member of the Year in 2010.

Foust's husband, Tony, retired from GE several years ago. Her daughter, Jessica Alston, is a 2011 graduate of Elon. Last Halloween, Foust celebrated the birth of her first grandbaby, Chase. She looks forward to spending more time with the family in retirement. Her immediate plans are to do some home improvements and to travel.

With a heavy heart, we say goodbye to Foust and wish her a long and happy retirement.

## MOURNING THE LOSS OF ROBIN RUSSELL



The department has been mourning the passing of Robin Russell who died suddenly in her sleep on March 28, the night of her 47th birthday. She was the wife of Associate Professor Alan Russell. They lived in the faculty apartment in Colonnades E as part of Alan's service as faculty director of the Colonnades Neighborhood. Robin worked at the Elon University Bookstore and is remembered there for her humor, warmth and kindness. She was heavily involved in the activities related to the Colonnades neighborhood. She worked tirelessly to organize ice cream parties and other events in the Colonnades. She wanted to support the students and make them feel at home.

Robin was born in Mobile, Alabama and grew up in Longs, South Carolina. She graduated from Presbyterian College where she met Alan. They have one daughter, Michelle, who is a junior in high school.

Condolences may be sent to Alan Russell at Campus Box 2320, Elon, N.C. 27244. Memorials may be made to the Chaplain's Emergency Fund of Elon University, Attention: Jan Register, Campus Box 2960, Elon, NC 27244.

## NEW FACULTY MEMBERS



Aaron Trocki joined the department last fall to provide instruction in Calculus I and Geometry for K-8 Teachers. Before moving to North Carolina in 2003, he completed his Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics at Judson College and his Master of Arts in Teaching Secondary Mathematics at Western Illinois University. In May, he completed his Ph.D. in Mathematics Education at N.C. State University. Trocki recently had two publications: "Analyzing and Writing Dynamic Geometry Tasks" in *Mathematics Teacher: Research to Teaching* and "Launching a Discourse-Rich Mathematics Lesson" in *Teaching Children Mathematics*. Trocki is working with the Mathematics Education Committee at Elon to create and refine content courses for pre-service mathematics teachers. He is also contributing to the development of a Master in Teaching Mathematics degree at Elon. He is originally from Chicago, Illinois and enjoys spending time reading, watching foreign

films, running, hiking and playing disc golf. His wife, Maren, buys specialty groceries for The Fresh Market headquartered in Greensboro. As a result, they travel to look at food with their latest trip during spring break to Barcelona.



As a visiting assistant professor, Kristen Mazur joined the department last fall after spending a year as a visiting assistant professor at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from Lafayette College and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. Mazur's current research focuses on applying geometric methods to the science of voting in an agreeable society. Last June, Mazur was chosen as a 2014-2015 Project NExT fellow, a national program of the Mathematical Association of America dedicated to training recent mathematics Ph.D. recipients for careers as teacher-scholar-mentors. Mazur joins five other members of the department who have been Project NExT fellows. She presented a poster at the Student Undergraduate Research Forum on the Elon campus titled "The Mathematics of Agreement Voting in Multi-Dimensional Societies." In addition to teaching, Mazur enjoys ultimate

Frisbee, hiking, and most other outdoor activities. In June she will marry David Allison, who is doing post doctorate work at the UNC Lineberger Cancer Center.

## Gerry Francis Retires

After 41 years of service to the University, Senior Vice President Gerry retired in May. Francis came to Elon as an assistant professor in the math department in 1974. During his tenure, he was promoted to associate professor and then to professor, serving as department chair from 1977-1983. He received the Daniels-Danieley Award as Elon's most outstanding teacher and the North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics' outstanding leadership award.

In 1983 he joined the administrative ranks as dean of Academic Affairs and in 1984 was promoted to the position of vice president and dean of Academic Affairs. In 1994 Francis became provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. His extraordinary vision as provost led to the establishment of the Elon School of Law, the implementation of the four-hour course credit system, and the move to the Southern Athletic Conference and then to the Colonial Conference. In 2009 he became Elon's first-ever executive vice president. In January 2011, in recognition of Francis' many contributions to Elon, the trustees named the Gerald L. Francis Center in his honor.



Francis has served as the chair of visiting site committees for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). In 1994 he was named a member of the SACS's Executive Committee, and he received the outstanding service award from SACS in 2001. He was a site review team member for the American Bar Association in 2010 and 2012. He was chair of the Provost's Council for the Associate of New American Colleges from 2001-2010. In the local community Francis has served as board chair of United Way of Alamance County and as an alderman for the Town of Elon. Francis will continue to promote excellence in education by serving on an advisory committee for the Alamance Burlington School System. In summary, Francis' legacy at Elon will merit several chapters in Elon's history books. He will always be remembered for playing a key role in Elon's rise to prominence. Under Francis' leadership, Elon has risen in the national rankings, is recognized as a model for engaged learning, is a leader in undergraduate research, has an outstanding study abroad program, and has achieved certification for all schools including Phi Beta Kappa for the College of Arts and Sciences. The list goes on and on.

He is outgoing, friendly, and loved by all. Francis lives in Burlington with his wife, Laine. His daughter, Kristen, her husband and three grandchildren live nearby.

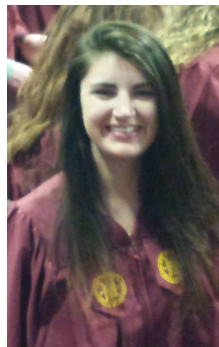
## SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS

Congratulations to our 24 graduating seniors. Many have already made plans for exciting careers or graduate studies after graduation.

**Jessie Brown** will pursue a doctorate in human genetics from Vanderbilt University with full funding. **Erin Donahue** has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in biostatistics at Virginia Commonwealth University. **Madeline Edwards** will pursue a graduate degree at the University of New Hampshire. **Colby Kelner** plans to attend medical school at Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine. **Maggie Macdonald** will start graduate school at Emory University in the fall in the political science department. **Chase Barbee** plans to work for Hunt Scanlon Media where he will be involved with the company's marketing initiatives. **Daniel Borgia** interned at J.P. Morgan last summer and will work there after graduation. **Natalie Ecker** will work at Depository Trust and Clearing Operation. **Allison Fox** has accepted employment in Charlotte at Wells Fargo in the securities division. **Julia Finneyfrock** will teach at the Cannon School in Charlotte, which is one of the top private schools in the Charlotte area. **Christine Keneally** interned at Ernst and Young and will work there following graduation on an integrated audit team. **Shannon Madaio** plans to work for the National Republican Congressional Committee as a data mining analyst. **Nicole Miles** will work at United Technologies Corporation in the financial leadership program. **Jamie Morin** plans to teach for Teach for America in Washington State at Tacoma Middle School. **Stephanie Stanglin** plans to teach at Hampton High School in Virginia. **Sarah Neuhauser** has a teaching fellowship in Time Plan, the United Kingdom's version of Teach for America.

Our majors have been prolific presenters at local and national conferences this year. **Robin French '15**, **Nicole Soltz '17** and **Sarah Zierhoffer '15** presented their summer undergraduate research projects at Elon's SURE poster session last July. **Robin French '15**, **Nakhila Mistry '14** and **Nicole Soltz '17** joined two faculty members **Jeff Clark** and **Chad Awtrey** to present at MathFest 2014 in Portland, Oregon. Sophomore statistics major, **Jenny Faig '17**, presented an original analysis of baseball data at StatFest in Raleigh, N.C. last September. Four students presented at the Regional Mathematics and Statistics Conference last November at UNC-G in Greensboro. **Erin Donahue '15** spoke on "Looking at Kurtosis: Is my data normal?" **Maddie Edwards '15** gave two talks. Her talk "Identification of Transcription Factor Programs under Methylation Control during Brain Development" was based on research conducted last summer at an REU at Virginia Tech. Maddie's other talk "Derivative Sign Patterns for Infinitely Differentiable Functions in Three Dimensions" was based on her current research. **Robin French '15** presented her talk "A new algorithm for Galois groups of quintic polynomials." **Nicole Soltz '17** was awarded the Outstanding Student Presentation by an Undergraduate for her presentation "Counting Roots and Galois Groups." Robin and Nicole also presented the same talks at the sectional meeting of the American Mathematical Society's meeting in November at UNC-G. Robin, mentored by Professor **Chad Awtrey** talked about "A new algorithm for Galois groups by quintic

polynomials" at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Antonio last January.



**Maddie Edwards** presented her research on derivative sign patterns at the Southeastern Section of the MAA conference in Wilmington NC in March. She received the Walt and Susan Patterson Prize for her research in the field of real analysis in mathematics. The Patterson Prize is awarded to the outstanding undergraduate student presentation given at the meeting. At the same MAA conference, **Peter Jakes '17** presented "Degree 6 polynomials and their solvability by radicals," and Nicole Soltz presented "Counting roots and Galois groups. In April **Sarah Zierhoffer '15** presented her honors thesis research at the NCTM national conference in Boston.

**Chad Awtrey**, assistant professor, and math majors **Brett Barkley '15**, **Jeremy Guinn '14** and **Mackenzie McCraw '14** published their research article, "Resolvents, masses, and Galois groups of irreducible quartic polynomials" in the *Pi Mu Epsilon Journal* last summer. Recent graduates **Chris Shill '14** and **Erin Strosnider '14** each co-authored an article with **Awtrey** based on research conducted during the 2013-2014 academic year. Both articles appeared in the book, *Collective Mathematics and Statistics Research*. **Awtrey** and mathematics majors **Nicole Miles '15**, **Chris Shill '14** and Honors Fellow **Erin Strosnider '14** published a research article titled "Degree 14 2-adic fields" in a recent issue of *Involve*, a professionally-refereed journal that publishes high-quality research results obtained by students and their mentors.

Congratulations to **Erin Donahue '15** and **Mary Macdonald '15** on their recent induction into Phi Beta Kappa. **Lauren Johnson '15**, **Mary Macdonald '15**, and **Nicole Miles '15** are members of Phi Kappa Phi. At a recent dinner to celebrate our majors, **Nicole Miles** and **Mary Macdonald** received the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award in Mathematics. **Erin Donahue** received the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award in Statistics and **Stephanie Lobaugh '16** received the Outstanding Experiential Learning Award in Statistics. New inductees into Pi Mu Epsilon, the national mathematics honorary, include **Taylor Cesarski '16**, **Erin Clough '16**, **Erin Donahue '15**, **Robin Baldwin French '15**, **Eric Goding '16**, **Alexis Goslen '16**, **Amy Heaton '16**, **Peter Jakes '16**, **Ben Kaiser '16**, **Paul Kantlehner '16**, **Jacob Kelner '15**, **Ann Le Houillier '15**, **Stephanie Lobaugh '16**, **Jaime Morin '15**, **Timothy Pattison '16**, and **Sara Rodgers '16**.

Two statistics majors are participating in the Summer Institute for Training in Biostatistics: **Allie Stone '16** at the University of Iowa and **Stephanie Lobaugh '16** at the University of Pittsburgh. **Sebastian King '16** has a summer internship at Elon working with **Laura Taylor**, associate professor. **Katie Armstrong '16** has an internship with CISCO this summer. **Carolyn Wright '16** will be an intern doing statistical analysis at Michael Andrews Audio Visual Services in New York, N.Y.

## JAKES SELECTED AS LUMEN SCHOLAR

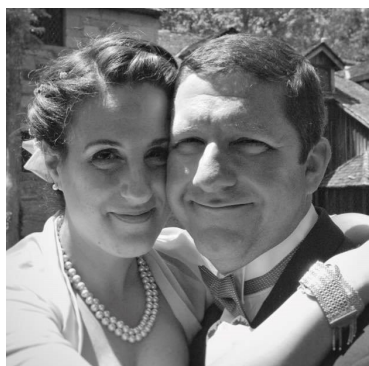
**Peter Jakes '17** has been selected as one of 15 2015 Lumen Scholars. His project is titled "Opening new avenues in STEM research and education: Increasing Accessibility for Solving Higher Degree Polynomials with Galois Groups." Chad Awtrey, assistant professor, will serve as Jakes' mentor.

The Lumen Prize is Elon's premier award that comes with a \$15,000 scholarship to support and celebrate the recipients' academic achievements and research proposals. Lumen Scholars will work closely with their mentors over the next two years to pursue and complete their projects. Efforts traditionally include course work, study abroad, research both on and off campus, internships locally and overseas, program development, and creative productions and performances.

## APPLIED MATHEMATICS MAJOR AND MINOR CHANGES

This spring the University Curriculum Committee approved changes to the mathematics and applied mathematics major and minor requirements. This effort led by **Karen Yokley**, associate professor, will make the program clearer for both students and advisors. The changes make both BA degrees and both BS degrees similar in structure and allow students to wait until their junior year to decide on a pure or applied math major. Under previous catalogs, this decision had to be made earlier. Majors in applied math must now take Math 343 (Mathematical Modeling) with a prerequisite of Linear Algebra. The name of one of the BA majors will be changed from Mathematics with a Concentration in Applied Mathematics to a major in Applied Mathematics. The applied math minor has been deleted to create one, more flexible minor for students interested in either pure or applied math.

## FACULTY UPDATES



**Lisa Rosenberg** was married on May 24th to Greer Ducker at Castle McCulloch in Jamestown N.C. Ducker is a financial advisor with Edward Jones. They will live in Summerfield, N.C.

**Jan Mays** is a first-time grandmother. Her daughter, Emily who lives in

Christiansburg, Va., gave birth to a daughter on September 19th. Mays is serving as the Coordinator of Secondary Math Licensure, and she supervised six student teachers last year.

**Chad Awtrey** received a national award for undergraduate research mentoring from the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR). This award aims to honor an early career mathematician or computer scientist for their success in mentoring undergraduate students in research. Since joining Elon University in 2010, Awtrey has mentored 14 undergraduates on 19 research projects. His students have published seven papers in quality research journals and have given 21 presentations at various national and regional venues. He serves as the advisor to Pi Mu Epsilon, the mathematics honorary, and he is one of nine members of the national council of PME. He is the business manager of the PME Journal and keeps current a data base of 9000 subscribers.

**Skip Allis** has served as the chair of Academic Council for the past year.

**Excel Lee** is designing a Moodle website to help students with their actuarial exam preparation.

**Alan Russell** received a \$5,000 grant for a Writing Excellence Initiative. His research is titled "Encouraging an Ethic of Writing for K-8 Mathematics Teachers."

**Karen Yokley** presented two paintings of mathematical art work at the 2015 Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Antonio. The



conference featured an exhibition of mathematical artwork of various media, and Yokley's paintings "Bubble Spiral" and "Pinwheel" were both included. Artistic works submitted for consideration in the exhibition are subject to a refereed process, and works are selected for inclusion based on mathematical content, esthetic appeal, medium, craftsmanship, innovation, and originality.

## NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNI

**William Torbert '70** received his master's degree from Old Dominion University and is the President of Torbert Data Systems, Inc. in Chesapeake, Va.

**Lynne Davis '71** received her Master's degree from UNC-G and then taught for a few years at North Carolina A&T University. Then she worked at IBM in development and project management. After her retirement from IBM, she worked as a consultant for LabCorp, AT&T, and Burlington Mills. She also taught part time at Elon. She enjoys playing tennis with her three grandchildren.

**Rex Scott '76** is the Chief Operating Officer of First Bank headquartered in Southern Pines, N.C. He is living in Sanford and enjoying watching his two grandsons grow up.

**Angela Leonard '89** has worked at IBM since 1989. Her current job role is Software Support Planner for the IBM Systems Storage Business Unit. Her husband, David, is the Alamance County Fire Marshal - Emergency Management Coordinator. Her son, Ryan, has completed a history degree from UNC-Pembroke and is working on a Music Education degree. Her daughter, Kirsten, graduated from Alamance Christian School in May and will pursue a degree in nursing in the fall.

**Peter Lindstrom '94** received a 2015 Elon College Distinguished Alumni Award in April for his accomplishments in the natural, mathematical, and computing sciences. He serves as project leader at the Center for Applied Scientific Computing at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. He is also the editor-in-chief for the Elsevier journal *Graphical Models* and has published extensively in field of scientific visualization and data compression.

**Igor Pavlov '94** has been using machine learning algorithms to design optimal systematic trading strategies at Jefferies, Inc. in New York.

**Rose Cordero Prey '01** was elected to the partnership of her law firm this year. Her son, Nate, turned one year old and is just learning to walk.

**Ray Singletary '01** was recently named the Mathematics Supervisor (K - 12) for Loudoun County Public Schools in Loudoun County, Va.

**Jeanette Olli Mokry '03** was married on June 27, 2014, to Gilbert Mokry, and they are currently living in Chicago. She received tenure at Dominican University in River Forest, Ill. where she is an associate professor and director of Mathematics Foundations.

**Brian Hooper '06** and his wife are moving into a new house in Sun Valley near Charlotte, and they are expecting a baby in September. He celebrates his five-year work anniversary this year at Harris Teeter as an Operations Analyst. He is also an assistant scoutmaster with a troop whose goal is to bring scouting into lower income neighborhoods for those who might not be able to afford it.

**Kristin Mandella Cowell '07** married Robbie Cowell in May 2014 at Early Mountain Vineyard and enjoyed honeymooning in Fiji. She received her master's degree in Engineering Management from Penn State last May. Kristin and Robbie purchased a house in January 2014 and have been decorating it. They are expecting their first child in early September. Kristin is working as an operations research/cost analyst at the Naval Center for Cost Analysis. If any recent graduates are moving to the D.C. area and are interested in a cost position with the government, please contact Kristin.

**Laura Callinan '08** is a biostatistician at Yale University in the Department of Psychiatry. Laura and her husband welcomed their first child in November 2014.

**Cindy Goodson Blanchard '10** will graduate with a Master's degree in Mathematics from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in August. She is completing her fifth year of teaching at Central High School in Knoxville, Tenn. and was nominated by her colleagues as one of Central High School's Teachers of the Year.

**Joe Simmons '10** taught math at Eastern Alamance High School for a year and married Lindsay Eversole '10 in 2011. He completed a master's degree in physics at N.C. State University. In 2013 he started a new career in electrical engineering as a Test Engineer in the Clocks And Signal Synthesis Group of Analog Devices located in Greensboro, N.C. Joe and his wife live in Greensboro where she is an admissions counselor at Greensboro College. They are expecting their first child in October.

**Jaime Speiser '10** graduated with a M.S. in Statistics from The Ohio State University in 2012. She is currently a Ph.D. Biostatistics student at the Medical University of South Carolina. Recently, she published two papers on her machine learning research for a rare disease setting. In February 2015, she received the Lester R. Curtin Award from the American Statistical Association, which recognized her for potential for success as a health statistician.

**Sam Jennings '11** teaches AP Statistics and Math 2 at South Brunswick High School in Southport, N.C. He is working on a Master's in Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction at UNC-Wilmington. He is getting married in October.

**Amanda Ketner '11** is moving this summer to Nashville, Tenn. to pursue a Master's in International Education. She brought her students to Elon from Woods Charter School in Chapel Hill last fall to hear Pulitzer Prize-winners Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, whose book inspired Ketner to create a chapter of Girls Learn International at the school.

**Courtney Whalen '12** is working with GEICO in Washington D.C. as a Data Scientist. She writes machine learning algorithms and develops predictive models to solve various business problems.

**Emily Buehler '13** lives in Hokkaido, Japan and teaches English in elementary and middle schools with the JET Program. In August she will move to Manchester, England to begin a one-year master's program in Social Science Research Methods and Statistics at the University of Manchester.

**Jill Padfield '13** is currently teaching high school math in Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic. She is working at Cap Cana Heritage School, a private international school, where she is the only high school math teacher. She recently initiated a program to fast track some juniors to take a trigonometry elective so that

they can be in AP Calculus next year. This means that next year she will teach five subjects at once and be AP certified.

**John Antonelli '14** came back for a fifth year at Elon to play his final season of baseball. He will start a new job in the IT Technical Analyst program in Raleigh with Credit Suisse.

**Ana Saravia '14** works at RTI International as a statistician in the behavioral statistics program in the Division for Statistical and Data Sciences.

## NEW STATISTICS CLUB FORMED

A new statistics club has been formed in anticipation of evolving into the statistics honor society, Mu Sigma Rho. **Jessie Brown** served as president and led the application process. The bylaws have been written, and the club has been officially recognized by SGA. In April new officers were installed including President **Peter Jakes**, Vice President **Ann Le Houillier**, and Treasurer **Jess Weiss**. The club members want to reach out to local alumni who are in graduate school or in industry. They are planning a trip to SAS in Raleigh in the fall. The club members have participated in several departmental projects. They are getting T-shirts and Statistics Club buttons to promote awareness of the club on Campus. **Laura Taylor**, associate professor, serves as advisor. According to the application rules of Mu Sigma Rho, the club must be active on campus for a year before it can submit an application to establish a chapter of the honorary on campus. The plans are to submit the application in Spring 2016.

## TODD LEE BECOMES FACULTY FELLOW FOR TECHNOLOGY



Todd Lee, professor of mathematics, will serve as Elon's next Faculty Fellow for Technology, beginning his three-year term at the start of the 2015-16 academic year. He joined the Elon faculty in 1995. He received his Ph.D. in Mathematics (Complex Analysis) from Texas Tech University.

In 2010 Lee was awarded the Daniels-Danieley Excellence in Teaching Award, and in 2007, he was awarded the Elon College Excellence in Teaching Award. Most recently, he taught an experimental Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) class in Calculus I, embracing the use of Mathematica. This past semester, he "hyper-flipped" and modularized his Calculus II course to create a studio pedagogy course, in which the curriculum is broken into natural modules, each containing reading, videos, and online homework with instant feedback. Students work with the material, and class time is used for individual interactions with students.

Lee has served on a number of university committees, including Academic Council, Graduate Council, the President's Council on Diversity and Global Engagement, and the Emerging Technologies in Teaching and Learning Advisory Group. He co-chaired the QEP Selection committee, and next year he will chair the Promotion and Tenure Committee. In addition to Lee's teaching and service, he has authored numerous articles, presented at various conferences, and mentored many students in undergraduate research.

In announcing this appointment, Provost Steven House said, "Dr. Lee's skill set, creative approach, collegial attitude, existing partnerships across the university and with technology staff, and interest in the application of technology into teaching and learning will strongly compliment the mission and vision of Instructional and Campus Technologies." Please join us in congratulating Todd Lee.

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

Thank you so much for your donations to our department, which help us provide money for equipment and projects. We are so grateful for the following donors for school year 2014-15: Mr. and Mrs. Bobby N. Beckom, Ms. Amanda K. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Callinan, Ms. Helon A. Davis, Ms. Natalie S. Ecker, Mr. Trevor C. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Jordan Ellis, Mr. Matthew Ferretti, Ms. Amy E. Flower, Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Flower, Ms. Melissa K. Gaisser, Mr. and Mrs. Angel Garcia, Ms. Gina M. Giuricich, Ms. Amy E. Good, Dr. Erin Krupa, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lawton, Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Long, Ms. Mary G. Macdonald, Ms. Shannon M. Madaio, Mr. and Ms. Charley Mays, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. McDow IV, Ms. M. Christina Minor, Mr. Gilbert and Dr. Jeanette Mokry, Dr. Ralph O. Mueller, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Newbern, Mr. and Mrs. James Pool, Mr. Daniel J. Rapp, Mr. and Mrs. Randy See, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Strickland, Ms. Lori E. Tyler, United Technologies Corporation (UTC), Mrs. Helen F. Walton, Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Williams Jr., and Ms. Kristin N. Yanulites

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