The Quaternion

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The Newsletter of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Student News

The USF Chapters of the Mathematical Association of America and Pi Mu Epsilon honor society met biweekly over pizza this last year, where they heard presentations by faculty and students. Math club members attended the 2015 MAA Suncoast Meeting at Florida Polytechnic University on December 4 and the 2016 MAA Florida Section Meeting on February 26 & 27 at St. Leo University. **Lukas Nabergall** made a presentation on *Patterns and Distances for Double Occurrence Words* at the Section Meeting. During that year, **Nicole Hudson** served as President of the Math Clubs, and **Anjanet Loon** as Vice President.

Sixteen students were inducted into Pi Mu Epsilon in April: **Corinne Barnes**, **Nathan Callihan**, **Anthony Cilluffo**, **Jennifer Cuartas**, **Kevin Dennis**, **Grace Gardner**, **Jennifer Gronek**, **Nicole Hudson**, **Carrie Ann Jessell**, **Elizabeth Loisel**, **Angelica Lim**, **Kevin Martinez**, **Michael Putnam**, **Benjamin Stortenbecker**, **Allison Talley**, and **Xiaoqi Wen**. Many attended the Pi Mu Epsilon Banquet. Last year, the president of the USF Chapter of Pi Mu Epsilon was **Andres Saez** and the vice president was **Kara Heuer**.

In addition, **Benjamin Stortenbecker** and **Lukas Nabergall** were this year's Outstanding Scholars:

Mr. Stortenbecker then presented his paper on *Electron Jamming through Spectral Theory* at the 2016 Pi Mu Epsilon National Meeting in August.

Meanwhile, **Brian Hunter Jackson** won $ 10,000 at the third annual *Healthcare Innovation Competition* for a proposal to manage disease pathology using cloud-based computer analysis.

During summer and fall, 2015, and spring, 2016, sixty student received their BAs: **Zuhair Al-Abbasi**; **Connor Alkhatib**; **Dylan Allen**; **Corinne Barnes**, *Summa Cum Laude*; **Christopher Bello**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Sarah Branthoover**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Shannon Cunningham**, *Magna Cum*

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Laude; **Terri Davis**; **Rahul Dudhat**; **Timothy Freeman**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Ricky Godinez**; **Isamar Gonzalez Torres**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Johnathan Gray**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Jennifer Gronek**; **Alexander Hagen**, *Cum Laude*; **Hayley Hall**; **Mehrez Hannachi**, *Cum Laude*; **Suzzanne Harmon**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Ryan Hatter**; **Jamie Heath**, *Cum Laude*; **Kristine Heburn**; **John Heise**, *Cum Laude*; **Ryan Hensel**; **Derek Hicks**; **Donald Hood**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Tyler Iorizzo**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Brian Jackson**; **Katherine Japour**; **Denys Kukushkin**, *Summa Cum Laude*; **Melissa Kurtz**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Faith Martin**, *Summa Cum Laude*; **Roger Matthews**; **Wenjun Meng**, *Summa Cum Laude*; **Edward Mitchell**; **Laura Mockensturm**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Erik Newhard**; **Erica Nunn**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Jamie Pardasie**; **Ashley Parisi-Goldblatt**; **Jackson Pawson**; **Edwin Peguero**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Allen Pennington**; **Minh Pham**, *Summa Cum Laude*; **Daniel Reinhard**, *Cum Laude*; **Julia Rich**; **Freida Rivera**; **Ricardo Romeu-Kelly**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Luis Sanabria**; **Samantha Sayers**; **Matthew Sherlip**; **Tooba Siddiqui**; **Amber Sierra**; **Kierstin Simmons**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Benjamin Stortenbecker**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Erika Tate**; **Elizabeth Toth**, *Magna Cum Laude*; **Alisa Vasserman**, *Summa Cum Laude*; **Richard Warner**, *Summa Cum Laude*; **Jeffrey Winny**, *Cum Laude*; and **Bruce Wong**.

Twelve students received MAs: **A. K. M. Bashar**; **Wei Chen**, *Analysis of Rheumatoid Arthritis Data Using Logistic Regression and Penalized Approach* under **Dan Shen**; **Gregory Churchill**; **Jeremy Kerr**, *On the Number of Colors in Quandle Knot Colorings* under **Mohamed Elhamdadi**; **Shanna Lindemeyer**; **Josiah Park**, *Generalized Phase Retrieval: Isometries in Vector Spaces* under **Boris Shekhtman**; **Jonathan Spiewak**, *Leonard Systems and their Friends* under **Brian Curtin**; **Yue Sun**, *Resonant Solutions to (3+1)-Dimensional Bilinear Differential Equations* under **Wen-Xiu Ma**; **Hongliang Wang**; **Tae Hyon Whang**; **Yun Yun**; **Xiaochuang Zhao**, *Ensemble Learning Method on Machine Maintenance Data* under **Dan Shen**.

And three students received PhDs: **Joy D'Andrea**, *A Statistical Analysis of Hurricanes in the Atlantic Basin and Sinkholes in Florida* under **Rebecca Wooten**; **Venkateswara Mudunuru**, *Modeling and Survival Analysis of Breast Cancer: A Statistical, Artificial Neural Network, and Decision Tree Approach* under **Lesław A. Skrzypek**; and **Vindya Pathirana Arachchilage**, *Nearest Neighbor Foreign Exchange Rate Forecasting with Mahalanobis Distance* under **Kandethody Ramachandran**.