

# Curriculum Vitae

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*or*

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December 8, 2011

## **Position.**

Associate Professor of Mathematics, USF–Tampa

## **Education.**

University of California at Los Angeles

Ph.D. awarded in Fall, 1986

M.A. awarded in Spring, 1982

Field: Mathematical Logic

Specialty: Abstract Recursion and Descriptive Complexity

Dissertation Advisor: Yiannis N. Moschovakis

Dissertation: *Simple and Simultaneous Recursive Fixed Points*

Oberlin College

B.A. awarded in Spring, 1980

Major: Mathematics

## **Fields.**

Mathematical Logic & Theoretical Computer Science:

Finite Model Theory

Computational and Descriptive Complexity Theory

Combinatorics:

Combinatorial (& Logical) Game Theory

Finite and Infinite Ramsey Theory and Extremal Graph Theory

Random Graph Theory, and Probabilistic Methods and Random Processes

Geometry:

Polyhedral / Combinatorial Geometry, Tilings, Tessellations and Theoretical Crystallography

Computational Geometry and Computer Implementations  
Mathematics Education and Mathematical Philosophy

**Annotations.**

Knowledge of the computer languages C, ForTran, LisP, Maple and Pascal

**Vocations.**

USF–Tampa

Associate Professor of Mathematics, Acad. Yrs. 1992-

Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Acad. Yrs. 1986-1992

**Activities.**

Member, American Mathematical Society

Member, Association for Computing Machines

Member, Institute for Combinatorics and its Applications

Member, Mathematical Association of America

Member, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics

**Courses Taught:**

- *Lower division.* Basic Statistics, Calculus I, Calculus II, Calculus III, College Algebra, College Trigonometry, Elementary Calculus II, Engineering Calculus III, Finite Mathematics, Precalculus Trigonometry
- *Upper division.* Bridge to Abstract Mathematics, Differential Equations, Discrete Mathematics, Early History of Mathematics, Elementary Number Theory, Introduction to Probability, Modern Geometry, Problem Solving using Pascal or C, Set Theory, Vector Calculus
- *Graduate level.* Advanced Linear Algebra, Advanced Set Theory, Combinatorics I, LISP: programming with Algebraic Applications, Mathematical Logic and Foundations I, Mathematical Logic and Foundations II, Probability Theory I, Probability Theory II, Theory of Computing

and various Selected Topics courses.

**Technical Journal Publications**

*Some restrictions on simple fixed points of the integers*

**J. Symb. Logic** **54:6** (1989), 1324–1345.

*Parametrization over inductions with a bounded number of variables*

**Ann. Pure & Appl. Logic** **48** (1990), 103–134.

*When is arithmetic possible?*

**Ann. Pure & Appl. Logic** **50** (1990), 129–151.

*A Ramseyian theorem for products of trees*

**J. Comb. Th.–A** **57:1** (1991), 68–75.

*Eventual Periodicity and One-Dimensional Queries*

**Notre Dame J. Formal Logic** **33:2** (1992), 273–290.

*On the complexity of deadlock-free programs on a ring of processors*

(with W. E. Clark & W. R. Stark)

**J. Parallel & Dist. Comp.** **16** (1992), 67–71.

- Some Ramsey theory in boolean algebra for complexity classes*  
**Z. math. Logik Grund. Math.** **38** (1992), 293–298.
- Deterministic versus nondeterministic transitive closure*  
 (with E. Grädel)  
**Inform. & Comp.** **119:1** (1995), 129–135.
- The dimension of the negation of transitive closure*  
**J. Symb. Logic** **60:2** (1995), 392–414.
- Dimension versus Number of Variables, and Connectivity, Too*  
**Math. Log. Qtrly** **41** (1996), 111–134.
- Pebble games and the fine structure of least fixed point logic*  
**Inf. & Comp.** **122:2** (1995), 201–220.
- Hierarchies in transitive closure logic, stratified Datalog, and infinitary logic*  
 (with E. Grädel)  
**Ann. Pure & Appl. Logic** **77** (1996), 169–199.
- An application of spanning trees to  $k$ -point separating families of functions*  
 (with W. E. Clark & B. Shekhtman)  
**Proc. London Math. Soc.** **58:2** (1998), 297–310.
- A splitting inequality*  
**The Ramanujan J.** **2** (1998), 511–519.
- First Order Zero-One Laws for Random Graphs on the Circle*  
**Random Struct. Alg.** **14** (1999), 239–266.
- MSO zero-one laws on random labelled acyclic graphs*  
**Discrete Mathematics** **254** (2002), 331–347.
- Introducing Random Trees*  
**Research on Language and Computation** **1** (2003), 203–226.
- An Anti-Ramsey Theorem on Posets*  
**Bulletin of the ICA** **38** (2003), 84–100.
- On the Structure of Random Unlabelled Acyclic Graphs*  
**Discrete Mathematics** **277** (2004), 147–170.
- Guarded Quantification in Least Fixed Point Logic*  
**J. Logic, Language and Information** **13** (2004), 61–110.
- Threshold Functions for Random Graphs on a Line Segment*  
**Combinatorics, Probability and Computing** **13** (2004), 373–387.
- When is Betweenness Preserved?*  
 (with X.-D. Hou)  
**Rocky Mountain J. Mathematics** **38:1** (2008), 123–137.
- Complexity Classes for Self-Assembling Flexible Tiles*  
 (with N. Jonoska)  
**Theor. Comp. Sci.** **410:4-5** (2009), 332–346.
- On Stoichiometry for the Assembly of Flexible Tile DNA Complexes*  
 (with Ana Staninska and Natasha Jonoska)  
**Natural Computing** **10:3** [2010; 20DOI: 10.1007/s11047-009-9169-1] (2011), pp. 1121 - 1141.

*Crystal Engineering using a “Turtlebug” Algorithm, a de novo approach to the design of binodal metal-organic frameworks*

(with W. E. Clark, M. Eddaoudi, L. Wojtas & M. Zaworotko)

**Crystal Growth & Design**, 16 August 2011 (Communication), DOI 10/ 1021/ cg200172j.

### Other Academic Journal Publications

*A University’s Dilemma in the Age of National Security*

(with Sherman Dorn)

**Thought & Action, Fall 2005** (National Education Association, Fall 2005), 163 – 177.

*A Metaphor for Mathematics Education*

**Notices of the American Mathematical Society** (April, 2007), 499 - 502.

*Is Logic Necessary?*

**Logica Universalis 4:2** (2010), 241-254.

### Manuscripts under Review

*Generating Graphs Using Automorphisms*

Submitted for publication.

*Periodic Euclidean Graphs on Integer Points*

Submitted for publication; draft posted at ArXiv.org as arXiv:1105.2328.

### Conference Publications

*Deterministic versus nonDeterministic Transitive Closure*

(with E. Grädel)

**7th IEEE Symposium on the Foundations of Computer Science (LICS’92)**  
Santa Cruz, CA; June, 1992.

*Hierarchies in Transitive Closure Logic, Stratified Datalog, and Infinitary Logic*

(with E. Grädel)

**33rd IEEE Symposium on the Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS’92)**  
Pittsburgh, PA; October, 1992.

*Zero-One Laws for Gilbert Graphs*

**11th IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science (LICS’96)**

New Brunswick, NJ; July, 1996.

*Game Representations of Complexity Classes*

**European Summer School on Logic, Language and Information**

Helsinki, Finland; August, 2001

*Expectation and Variance of Self-Assembled Graph Structures*

(with N. Jonoska & A. Staninska; S. Staninska presenting)

**11th International Meeting on DNA Computing**

London, Canada; May, 2005

*A Computational Model for Self-assembling Flexible Tiles*

(with N. Jonoska; N. Jonoska presenting)

**4th International Conference on Unconventional Computation**

Sevilla, Spain, October 2005

Proceedings LNCS 3699; ed. by Cristian S. Calude, Michael J. Dinneen, Gheorghe Paun, Mario J. Prez-Jimnez, Grzegorz Rozenberg; pp. 142 – 156

*Flexible versus Rigid Tile Assembly*

(with N. Jonoska; G. McColm presenting)

**5th International Conference on Unconventional Computation**

York, England, September 2006

Proceedings LNCS 4135; ed. by Cristian S. Calude et al; pp. 139 – 151

*Describing Self-assembly of Nanostructures* (with N. Jonoska)

Villiam Geffert, Juhani Karhumki, Alberto Bertoni, et al., **SOFSEM 2008: Theory and Practice of Computer Science** (Proc. LNCS 4910, Nový Smokovec, Slovakia, 2008), 66 – 73.

### Other Publications

*The Sentries*

**Palm Prints** (University of South Florida, December, 2001), 11.

*Broken Bonds*

**Palm Prints** (University of South Florida, December, 2002), 40.

*Coffee*

**Wordsmith 14** (Tampa Writer's Alliance, 2003), 52.

*Jihad*

**Wordsmith 14** (Tampa Writer's Alliance, 2003), 87.

*Gift of the Rivers*

**The New Floridian 1:1** (Dec. 2005 & Jan. 2006), 12.

*Teach Meaningful Work, Not Test Skills*

**The Lakeland Ledger**, June 26, 2006.

*Tall Grass*

**Wordsmith 18** (2007; winner, Tampa Writer's Alliance 2006 Writing Contest: 3rd place for fiction), 81 - 84.

*Return of the Trees*

**The Pepper Tree: A Literary Magazine** (Feb., 2007), 18 - 19.

*The Importance of Color*

**The Pepper Tree: A Literary Magazine** (Nov./Dec., 2007), 9.

*Abandoning Education*

**The Tampa Tribune** (July 13, 2008), Views 1.

*FNANO 2008 Report # 1: Nanoscience Prize*

**ISNSCE Newsletter** (September 2008), 2 - 3.

*FNANO 2008 Report # 3: Nanomathematics*

**ISNSCE Newsletter** (September 2008), 5 - 7.

*Florida Economics 101: Tapping Federal Stimulus Dollars to Invest in Re-Educating the Workforce and Reinforcing a Weak Educational System Will Help Ensure a Stronger Future for the State*

**The Tampa Tribune** (March 8, 2009), Views 1, 5.

*Figuring Out the Pattern of Math: In ways great and small, our lives and the world are built on the foundation of mathematics*

- The Tampa Tribune** (April 5, 2009), Views 1, 5.  
*Bring back unions, keep the middle class*  
**The Tampa Tribune** (May 16, 2009). Views 1, 5.  
*The Plain of Good and Evil*  
**Shelter of Daylight**, ed. by Tyree Campbell (Sam's Dot Publishing, April, 2009), 60 – 66.  
*Math gene debate not adding up: It looks as if the disparity between male and female performance was a result of culture*  
**The Tampa Tribune** (August 29, 2009), Views 1, 5.  
*From baseball to the census: Statistics tell us what's going on*  
**The Tampa Tribune** (April 11, 2010), Views 1, 5.  
*Florida struggles to keep good teachers: Attacking job security won't work when tough conditions and inadequate pay make attrition a major problem*  
**The Tampa Tribune**, (July 24, 2010), Views pp. 1, 5.  
*Because it was there*  
**The Pepper Tree: A Literary Magazine** (Oct. Nov. & Dec. 2010), p. 5.  
*WikiLeaks: Where have we heard this before?*  
**The Tampa Tribune** (Dec. 28, 2010), <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2010/dec/28/MEOPINO2-wikileaks-where-have-we-heard-this-before/news-opinion-commentary/>  
*For Love*  
**Jupiter XXXI: Aitne** (Jan., 2011), pp. 20 – 26.  
*Education for the 21st Century Requires Willing Minds*  
**The Tampa Tribune** (Feb. 24, 2011), Metro p. 13.  
*Meeting challenges involves understanding complexities*  
**The Tampa Tribune** (April 6, 2011), Metro p. 11.  
*Getting ahead by not going along*  
**The Tampa Tribune**, (June 5, 2011), Views & News p. 1.  
*Are we becoming a can't do nation?*  
**The Tampa Tribune**, (October 22, 2011), Metro p. 15.

### Presentations

- Restrictions on simple fixed points of  $\mathbf{N}$*   
 WinterConference, Association for Symbolic Logic  
 Anaheim, CA; January, 1984.  
*When is recursion necessary?*  
 UCLA logic conference  
 Los Angeles, CA; January, 1988.  
*Applications of monotone induction to computer science*  
 4th SIAM Conference in Discrete Mathematics  
 San Francisco, CA; June, 1988.  
*Finite automata and one-dimensional inductions*  
 Winter Conference, Association for Symbolic Logic  
 Los Angeles, CA; January, 1989.  
*The predictability of random events*

- 15th MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
Tampa, FL; December, 1990.
- Ramsey Theory on Products of Posets*  
22nd Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory,  
Computing  
Baton Rouge, LA; February, 1991.
- Fixedpoint Logics Defined by Pebble Games*  
865th Meeting of the AMS  
Tampa, FL; March, 1991.
- The Great Barrier Reef of Computer Science*  
16th MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
St. Petersburg, FL; December, 1991.
- Games Logicians Play*  
23rd Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory,  
Computing  
Boca Raton, FL; February, 1992.
- About the partition relation on infinite posets*  
872nd Meeting of the AMS  
Tuscaloosa, AL; March, 1992.
- Pebble games defining logical queries*  
NSF-INRIA Workshop on Databases and Finite Model Theory  
San Diego, CA; June, 1992.
- Least Fixed Point Logic on Chain-Like Structures*  
Dagstuhl-Seminar 9323 on Semantics of Programming Languages and Algebra  
Dagstuhl, Germany; June, 1993.
- P, NP, and all that**  
18th MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
Venice, FL; December, 1993.
- Games and Truth*  
19th MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
St. Petersburg, FL; December, 1994
- Weak Threshold Functions*  
26th Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory,  
Computing  
Boca Raton, FL; March, 1995.
- A General View of Weak Threshold Functions*  
7th Conference on Random Structures and Algorithms (RANDOM'95)  
Atlanta, GA; May, 1995.
- Zero-One Laws for First Order and Least Fixed Point Logics*  
DIMACS Workshop on Logic and Random Structures  
New Brunswick, NJ; November, 1995.
- Reality, Fiction, and Probability*  
20th MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
Tampa, FL; December, 1995.
- Pebble Games and Zero-One Laws*

- DIMACS Workshop on Descriptive Complexity and Finite Models  
Princeton, NJ; January, 1996.
- Matching, Majorization, and Thresholds*  
8th SIAM Conference on Discrete Mathematics  
Baltimore, MA; June, 1996.
- Teaching Mathematics as a Liberal Art*  
21st MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
Bradenton, FL; December, 1996.
- Zero-One Laws for Homogeneous Models of Random Graphs*  
28th Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory,  
Computing  
Boca Raton, FL; March, 1997.
- Models of Random Graphs*  
Biannual Aachen-Freiburg-Mainz Seminar on Finite Model Theory  
Aachen, Germany; April, 1997
- The Mathematics of Databases*  
22nd MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
St. Petersburg, FL; December, 1997.
- Quantification with Pointers*  
Endliche Modelltheorie, Mathematisches Forschungsinstitut Oberwolfach  
Oberwolfach, Germany; February, 1998.
- On the evolution of random structures*  
Joint SIAM/Discrete Mathematics Conference  
Toronto, Canada; July, 1998.
- Going by the book*  
23rd MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
Brandon, FL; December, 1998.
- Combinatorial games in finite model theory*  
Logic and Cognitive Workshop at the University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; April, 1999.
- The Zen of Mathematics Homework*  
MAA Florida Section  
Tampa, FL; March, 2000
- Splitting and Weak (Coarse) Thresholds*  
28th Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory,  
Computing  
Boca Raton, FL; March, 2000.
- Weak Thresholds in the Evolution of Random Structures*  
SIAM Conference on Discrete Mathematics  
Minneapolis, Minnesota; June, 2000.
- Random Trees*  
European Summer School on Logic, Language and Information  
Birmingham, England; August, 2000
- Of induction and recursion*  
25th Suncoast MAA meeting

Saint Petersburg, FL; December, 2000

*Ramsey numbers on posets (of boolean algebras)*  
 Horizons in Combinatorics  
 Nashville, Tennessee; May, 2001

*Of Calculus and Cold Water*  
 26th Suncoast MAA meeting  
 Venice, FL; December, 2001

*Weak Thresholds for Gilbert Graphs*  
 30th Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory,  
 Computing  
 Boca Raton, FL; March, 2002.

*The Mathematics of ‘When Will It Happen.’*  
 Globalization Research at USF  
 Tampa, FL; September, 2002

*Logics of Many Worlds*  
 27th MAA Suncoast Meeting  
 Lakeland, FL; December, 2002

*How Sharp is Immerman’s Theorem?*  
 Finite Model Theory 2003  
 Bedlewo, Poland; March/April, 2003

*What are grades for, anyway?*  
 28th Annual Meeting of the Suncoast Region of the Florida Section of the MAA  
 Tampa, Florida; December, 2003

*Modelling the Evolution of Random Structures*  
 SIAM Conference in Discrete Mathematics  
 Nashville, Tennessee; June, 2004

*The Problems with Reality*  
 29th Annual Meeting of the Suncoast Region of the Florida Section of the MAA  
 Clearwater, Florida; December, 2004

*What’s this about weak thresholds? The evolution of random structures*  
 12th International Conference on Random Structures and Algorithms  
 Poznan, Poland; August, 2005

*When does it happen?*  
 30th Annual Meeting of the Suncoast Region of the Florida Section of the MAA  
 Sarasota, Florida; December, 2005

*Two Hundred Algebra Students (Oh My)*  
 31st Annual Meeting of the Suncoast Region of the Florida Section of the MAA  
 Brandon, Florida; December, 2006

*What is Really “Real”? A Metaphor for Skeptical Realists*  
 USF Science in Humanities – Humanities in Science – Human Scientists Conference  
 Tampa, Florida; March, 2007

*Algebraic Descriptions of Complex Geometric Shapes*  
 1024th (Regional) Meeting of the American Mathematical Society: Special Session  
 on Computational and Combinatorial Aspects of Tiling and Substitutions

Charlotte, North Carolina; March, 2007

*Guarded Quantification*  
 2007 Annual Meeting of the Association for Symbolic Logic  
 Gainesville, Florida; March, 2007

*Formalizing Nanostructure Description*  
 (with N. Jonoska; G. McColm presenting)  
 4th Conference on Foundations of Nanoscience  
 Snowbird, Utah, April 2007

*Of Birds, Bugs, and Crystals*  
 32nd Annual Meeting of the Suncoast Region of the Florida Mathematics Association  
 of America  
 St. Petersburg, FL, December 2007

*What is a Crystal?*  
 Pi Mu Epsilon Induction Banquet  
 Jacksonville, FL, April 2008

*Thresholds and Achlioptas Games*  
 Thirty-Ninth Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory,  
 and Computing  
 Boca Raton, March 2008

*A Formal Crystal Description System*  
 (with W. E. Clark & M. Eddaoudi; G. McColm presenting)  
 5th Conference on Foundations of Nanoscience  
 Snowbird, Utah, April 2008

*Tales of the Math Gene*  
 33rd Annual Meeting of the Suncoast Region of the Florida Mathematics Association  
 of America  
 St. Leo, Florida, December 2008

*Using a Net Generator to Survey Crystal Nets*  
 (with M. Eddaoudi & M. Zaworotko; G. McColm presenting)  
 6th Conference on Foundations of Nanoscience  
 Snowbird, Utah, April 2009

*The Geometry of Blueprints of Crystals*  
 34th Annual Meeting of the Suncoast Region of the Florida Mathematics Association  
 of America  
 Polk State College, Florida, December 2009

*Periodic Graphs and Crystal Design*  
 Forty-first Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory,  
 and Computing  
 Boca Raton, March 2010

*Using Physics to Motivate Calculus*  
 35th Annual Meeting of the Suncoast Region of the Florida Mathematics Association  
 of America  
 University of Tampa, Florida, December 2010

*Humanism, Realism, and Folk Mathematics: the Case of Reticular Geometry*

MAA Session on Humanistic Mathematics; Joint Meeting of the AMS, MAA, and SIAM

New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2011

*Polyhedra and Mr. Dangerfield*

36th Annual Meeting of the Suncoast Region of the Florida Mathematics Association of America

Florida Southern College, Florida, Florida, December 2011

*Plus numerous seminars and colloquia.*

### **Continuing Web-Postings**

*Taking College Courses*

**USF Department of Mathematics Web-page:**

<http://www.math.usf.edu/~mccolm/pedagogy/>

### **Grants Awarded**

*Mathematical Sciences Research Equipment 1989*

(with K. Pothoven, PI, & M. Ismail, J. Pedersen, W. R. Stark, C. Williams)

Awarded \$ 30,000 from the NSF Mathematical Services/ Special Programs, 1989

# DMS-8905678, for research equipment

*Pebble Games and Expressibility in Finite Model Theory*

Awarded \$ 53,395 from the NSF Computer & Computation Research/ Computer Theory, 1994

# CCR-9403-463, for 3 years summer support (extended to Nov., 1998)

*USF Faculty International Travel Grant*

Awarded \$ 898 to travel to CIRM in April, 2000.

*USF Faculty International Travel Grant*

Awarded \$ 806 to travel to York in September, 2006.

### **Other Positions**

Department Graduate Program Director

1993-95

Department Publicity Chair

1995-

### **Students**

*Doctoral Students*

- Ana Staninska, jointly directed with Natasha Jonoska, 2007

*A Theoretical Model for Self-Assembly of Tiles*

*Masters Students*

- Deborah Nelson, 2000

*Beans and Pots*

- Joy D'Andrea, 2011

*Fundamental Transversals on the Complexes of Polyhedra*

*Plus service on numerous committees for doctoral and some master's students in chemistry, computer science, and mathematics*

### **Other Activities**

Conference co-organizer

15th MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
Tampa, FL; December, 1990

Conference co-organizer

20th MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
Tampa, FL; December, 1995

Conference co-organizer

24th MAA Florida Suncoast Meeting  
Tampa, FL; December, 1999

Conference co-organizer

MAA Florida Section Meeting  
Tampa, FL; March, 2000

Minisymposium organizer

SIAM Mathematical Aspects of Materials Science Meeting  
Minisymposium on Crystal Design using Discrete Structures in Geometry  
Philadelphia, PA; May, 2010

University of South Florida; service through the years:

- Regular Committees

- Member, System Faculty
- Member, USF Faculty Senate
- Member & Chair, College Faculty Development Committee
- Member & Chair, Departmental Advisory Committee
- Member, Departmental Graduate Committee
- Member, Interdisciplinary Committee
- Member, Departmental Lecture Committee
- Member & Chair, Departmental Library Committee
- Member & Chair, Departmental Publicity Committee  
(Editor, *The Quaternion* annual newsletter)

- Ad Hoc Committees

- Member & Chair, Departmental Governance Committee, 2001 & 2006 - 2007
- Member & Chair, Ad Hoc Senate Committee on Departmental Governance, 2005
- Various textbook committees

United faculty of Florida; service through the years:

- Member, FEA Delegate Assembly

- Member, UFF Senate
- Secretary, UFF/USF Chapter
- Publicity Chair, UFF/USF Chapter  
(Editor, *Uncommon Sense* and the *UFF Biweekly*)

Other activities:

- Editor, *The Life Long Writers' Newsletter*  
College of Continuing Education  
2002 - 2005
- Webmaster, *International Society for Nanoscale Science, Computation and Engineering*  
2009 - present