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The George Washington University

Department of Mathematics

**SUMMER PROGRAM FOR WOMEN IN MATHEMATICS**  
**13<sup>TH</sup> REUNION THURSDAY, JAN 5, 2012**  
**1:00- 4:00 PM**

**BACK BAY BALLROOM D, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR SHERATON, BOSTON**

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## PROGRAM

**1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Introductions, Shared Experiences, Follow up**

**2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Memorial for Joyce Macabea (SPWM 1996)**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Participant Presentations**

2:30 *Taking the limit of the spectrum of random matrices*

Diane Holcomb, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI (SPWM 2007)

2:50 *A Numerical Method for the Elastic Contact Problem*

Sarah King, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC (SPWM 2006)

**3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Informal get-together, Networking**

## ABSTRACTS

**Speaker:** Diane Holcomb (graduate student, University of Wisconsin at Madison)

**Title:** Taking the limit of the spectrum of random matrices.

**Abstract:** A random matrix is simply a matrix with random entries. These entries can be determined in a variety of ways, each entry could be chosen independently according to some distribution, or the matrix could be chosen according to some measure on a chosen set of matrices. I'll introduce a class of matrices for which we have a great deal of information about the eigenvalues. Given this information what type of limiting behavior can we observe? As the size of our matrix grows to infinity, we can look at several different limits of the eigenvalues. We'll take a brief look at two different types of limits we could consider and look at some of the more interesting results that have been found.

**Speaker:** Sarah King (graduate student, North Carolina State University)

**Title:** A Numerical Method for the Elastic Contact Problem

**Abstract:** We present a numerical method for solving the elastic contact problem in two dimensions. The Signorini contact problem is a variational problem that minimizes the elastic deformation energy subject to the contact inequality, i.e., the normal displacement at a given point of the boundary bounded above by an obstacle function. The Coulomb friction problem is a minimization of the deformable energy with a  $L^1$  term at the boundary. We approximate these variational formulations with a multi-moment scheme which involves the use of the function values as well as the gradient values at nodes. We then apply the Primal-Dual active set method on these discretizations to form solutions. Finally we combine the solutions to the Signorini and Coulomb friction problems to solve the full contact problem.

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**SUMMER PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS EXPECTED TO ATTEND BOSTON REUNION**

1995	Karen Stanish	2009	Jennifer Berg
1998	Anna Varvak	2010	Brittany Baker
1998	Emily Dryden	2010	Jacqueline Stone
1998	Julia Bergner	2010	Jane Rieck
2003	Abra Gail Brisbin	2010	Jennifer Garbett
2004	Jennifer C. Leahy	2010	Kathryn A. DeJong
2004	Kate Kearney	2010	Stephanie Bobo
2004	Rachel Thomas	2011	Amanda Clemm
2004	Veronica Bloom	2011	Amanda Snedegar
2005	Fatima Mahmood	2011	Amy Baker
2006	Ilanit Helfand	2011	Caitlin Hult
2006	Lisa Basile	2011	Cynthia Wu
2006	Liyang Diao	2011	Elizabeth Bolduc
2006	Marina Skyers	2011	Erin Compaan
2006	Sarah King	2011	Hyesu Kim
2007	Diane Holcomb	2011	Isabel Fulcher
2007	Jaclyn Lang	2011	Jennetta George
2007	Liat Berdugo	2011	Kimberly Kesting
2008	Amy Boyter	2011	Lindsey Scoppetta
2008	Diana Hubbard	2011	Michelle Zajac
2008	Sarah Wolff	2011	Renee Russell
2009	Christina Battista	2011	Terika Harris