

**Submittee:** Barbbara Csima

**Date Submitted:** 2012-10-09 11:24

**Title:** Two Weeks at WATERLOO - A Summer School for Women in Math

**Event Type:** Summer-School

---

**Location:**

University of Waterloo

---

**Dates:**

August 12-25, 2012

---

**Topic:**

This was a summer school for 16 outstanding female undergraduate mathematics students. Two mini-courses were offered, Introduction to elliptic curves, taught by Prof. Matilde Lalin (U. Montreal) and Introduction to math biology, taught by Prof. Gail Wolkowicz (McMaster U.).

---

**Methodology:**

The courses met four days each of the two weeks. As part of the courses, the students worked in small groups on a research project. Three guest lectures by prominent women mathematicians were given, including one public lecture, and one lecture was given by a pair of women working in industry. Tours were made to meet with female mathematicians in industry at IBM, Manulife and Maplesoft. The students also visited the Fields Institute.

---

**Objectives Achieved:**

The purpose of the workshop was to encourage and inspire talented women students to continue their studies in mathematics and to consider graduate work in mathematics. The students reported that the school was a worthwhile experience. The majority indicated that they were more interested in graduate school now than they had been before. Many told us how much they enjoyed meeting and doing mathematics with other women students and instructors. They found it helpful to hear the life stories and different career paths of women mathematicians.

---

**Organizers:**

Csima, Barbara, Department of Pure Math, University of Waterloo; Hare, Kathryn, Department of Pure Math, University of Waterloo; Frigon, Marlene, University of Montreal; Laba, Izabella, University of British Columbia; Pramanik, Malabika, University of British Columbia.

---

**Speakers:**

Lalin, Matilde, University of Montreal, Mini-course "Introduction to elliptic curves" // Wolkowicz, Gail, McMaster University, Mini-course "Introduction to math biology" // Dean, Charmaine, Western University, Public lecture "Historical Trends in Forest Fires: Assessing Insurance and

Health Effects" // Benkart, Georgia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Guest lecture, "Ladies of the Rings" // Gordon, Julia, University of British Columbia, Guest lecture "The strange world of p-adic numbers"

---

**Links:**

---