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Title: the 5th G. J. Butler Conference on Differential Equations and Population Biology

Event Type: Conference-Workshop

Location:

University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

Dates:

July 25-30, 2011

Topic:

This conference in the memory of a late UofA colleague, Geoffrey James Butler, followed four highly successful previous such conferences.

Methodology:

In keeping with an excellent tradition of the G. J. Butler conferences, this year's conference was very successful in promoting and supporting participation of graduate students and young researchers. Twenty-four graduate students and postdocs have presented their research at the conference - a clear indication of the bright future of these research fields. The organizers would like to acknowledge the financial support from the PIMS for the student participation.

Objectives Achieved:

The conference was opened on July 25, 2011 by Dr. Lorne Babiuk, the Vice President for Research of the UofA. Professor Philip Maini of the University of Oxford gave the first plenary talk on 'Modelling aspects of tumour growth,' to kick off the scientific program. During the course of 6-day program, there were 60 research presentations covering many cutting-edge topics on ODEs, PDEs, FDEs, abstract dynamical systems, and on mathematical modeling in ecology, epidemiology, physiology, cell biology, systems biology, immunology and other medical applications. The conference was highly successful in bringing together researchers from two interconnected disciplines, promoting and nurturing scientific exchange and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Scientific Highlights:

The Canadian Applied Math Quarterly (CAMQ) will publish the proceedings of the 5th G. J. Butler Conference. It is only fitting that the proceedings will be dedicated to the 70th birthday of Herb Freedman, one of the founders of the G. J. Butler Conference series.

Organizers:

The local organizers of the 5th G. J. Butler Conference are Herb Freedman, Michael Li and Hao Wang of the University of Alberta.

Speakers:

Professor Jianhong Wu of York University was this year's Butler Speaker, and gave three Butler Memorial Lectures, titled "Insights from nonlinear dynamics of delay differential equations on disease spread and pattern recognition" Previous Butler Speakers were Professors Paul Waltman, Jean Mahwin, Jack Hale, and Gail Wolkowicz. The following people have given one-hour keynote lectures at the conference: Arno Berger (Alberta), Gerda de Vries (Alberta), Yang Kuang (Arizona State), Yuan Lou (Ohio State), Philip Maini (Oxford), Hildebrando Rodrigues (Brazil), Shigui Ruan (Miami), Yasuhiro Takeuchi (Japan), Horst Thieme (Arizona State), Wendi Wang (China), Gail Wolkowicz (McMaster), Yingfei Yi (Georgia Tech),

Links:**Comments / Miscellaneous:**

There were 74 registered participants from across Canada and all of the world, among them were 60 speakers. // In addition to its scientific programs, the conference has organized many social activities to further facilitate exchange of scientific ideas and networking among participants. Many of the participants enjoyed their first tour of the West Edmonton Mall during a break from the scientific program. All participants enjoyed the food and wine at the conference banquet while admiring the historical surrounding at the Fort Edmonton Park. //
