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Title: Prairie Discrete Math Workshop

Event Type: Conference-Workshop

Location:

University of Regina, Regina SK

Dates:

July 22 & 23

Topic:

This workshop covered a range of different areas of discrete mathematics and related areas of computer science. We invited six speakers from the prairie region, whose interests include graph theory, design theory, applied combinatorial enumeration, combinatorial algorithms, and computational learning theory.

Methodology:

Invited speakers gave one hour lectures and there were four contributed half hour lectures. Two of these were given by undergraduate students and the other two by junior researchers.

Objectives Achieved:

The main objective of the Prairie Discrete Mathematics Workshop (PDMW) is to bring together researchers in discrete mathematics in the prairie region (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta), as well as neighbouring provinces and states, with the goal of providing opportunities for networking and joint research. This objective was met in several ways. Firstly, and most obviously, the lectures served as an opportunity for attendees to learn about the research being done in near-by universities. This was important since there were several new and young researchers at this conference. In particular Dr. Gosselin and Dr. Zilles are fairly new at their respective universities, this workshop gave them a chance to show their research to colleagues. Secondly, this workshop served to strengthen ties between the math programs at the different universities. For example, the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan has started to offer graduate classes that are offered at both institutions using video conferencing. This workshop was an opportunity to discuss how this can be done for courses in discrete math. Further, Dr. Gosselin is a member of the Ph.D. committee for a University of Regina student. Dr. Gosselin and the student (and the student's supervisor) were able to talk both about the student's research and progress. Thirdly, research connections were made at this workshop (for example Dr. Meagher and Dr. Li have started a collaboration as a result of this workshop). This workshop had many graduate students (and undergraduate students) who were able to meet with more senior academics. Fourthly, this workshop was held immediately after the conference on Graphs, Designs and Algebraic Combinatorics at the University of Regina. This brought researchers from outside the prairie region to the workshop which served to promote the work being done at the prairie universities to interested academics outside the region. Finally, this event was very enjoyable and quite successful. We are working to determine the location for next year's workshop. I think that many of the participants will

attend next year's event.

Scientific Highlights:

There were six invited speakers for this conference. All the speakers were from universities in the prairie region (with the exception of Dr. Brewster from Thompson Rivers University). The talks were over two days, the first day focused more on pure mathematics and the second day was focused more on computer science. Abstracts for the talks are in the attached program and slides for most of the talks are on the website.

Organizers:

Bailey, Robert, , Mathematics and Statistics, University of Regina Fallat, Shaun , Mathematics and Statistics, University of Regina Meagher, Karen, Mathematics and Statistics, University of Regina

Speakers:

see attached program

Links:

<http://www.math.uregina.ca/~pdmw2011/>

File Uploads:

Additional Upload 1: http://www.pims.math.ca/files/final_report/PDMWprogram.pdf

Additional Upload 2: http://www.pims.math.ca/files/final_report/PDMWposter.pdf
