

## **IPC 2010 Session Abstracts**

### **Race Issues in Mathematics (Friday, March 19, 10:30 – 11:30 am)**

#### **Fitting into the Culture of Graduate Programs**

*As a graduate student, we can often feel out of place, isolated, or as if we do not belong. This session will discuss strategies to help you survive and thrive in the critical first few years of a doctoral program. The panelists will discuss a range of topics including strategies including ways to make social and networking connections within and outside of your graduate program, and the importance of choosing an advisor and maintaining healthy advisor-advisee relationships.*

#### **Negotiating and Improving the Race and Gender Divide in the Workplace**

*In this session the panelists who have worked in various industry settings will discuss how women of color retain their identities while actively participating in their working environments. The panel will also give their thoughts on how to move up the career ladder as a woman in a male dominated industry. Issues of addressing intolerant colleagues and developing supportive policies will be discussed as strategies for negotiating change in the workplace.*

#### **Retaining and Mentoring Young Women of Color**

*Good mentoring is key for the success of young women of color in both academia and industry. In this session the panelists will discuss how to mentor women from underrepresented groups and from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds within the mathematical sciences. They will give special attention to mentoring women who are first generation college students and/or who come from socially disadvantaged backgrounds.*

### **“If I Had to do it Over Again” (Friday, March 19, 2:15—3:00 pm)**

*Panel Discussion: Each of our paths has influenced who we are and what we know. But if we had the luxury of knowing what we know now, would we have made the same decisions? Panelists at different points in their career will discuss some of the benefits and pitfalls of the career choices they have made and whether they indeed would make the same choices again.*

### **“Nuts and Bolts” (Friday, March 19, 4:15—5:45 pm)**

#### **Selecting the Graduate Program for You**

*Selecting the appropriate graduate program can make all the difference between succeeding and failing in your graduate studies. This session will explore the advantages and potential pitfalls of this process. What should you consider when applying? How do you identify supportive departments? How do you put together a solid graduate application? How do you find financial resources? This session aims to equip undergraduate students with essential information to identify the right graduate programs for them.*

#### **How to Write Grants**

*Grant writing and funding is crucial for many individuals in both academia and in non-profit organizations. The goal of this session is to provide specific information on how to write a research and program related grants by offering important information on essential considerations for putting together a successful grant application.*

### **Entrepreneurship in the Mathematical Sciences**

*Most people think of mathematicians as academics in a traditional college classroom environment. However, there are actually many avenues by which mathematicians can utilize their skill set. The panelists in this session will share the vital steps and resources that are needed to successfully start such enterprises as businesses, non-profits, summer research programs, and more.*

### **Professional Development Sessions (Saturday, March 20, 10:30—11:30 am)**

#### **How to Write Successful Fellowship and Scholarship Applications**

*In this session fellowship and scholarship writing will be discussed. Panelists that have served for nationally reviewed scholarship and fellowship programs will share what the reviewers expect, how they make their selections, and the requirements for making successful submissions. This session offers an excellent opportunity to de-mystify the process and gain valuable insights for students' future fellowship and scholarship submissions.*

#### **Professional Grant Opportunities**

*This session will be devoted to offering information about funding resources available for faculty. In this informative session we are honored to have panelists representing two of the biggest national funding agencies who have extensive experience in the entire grant process, from review to awarding grants and evaluating existing funded programs. In this session each panelist will speak about his or her programs and the funding resources that are available.*

#### **Summer Fun Programs**

*The panelists in this session are invited for two purposes: (i) to inform students of different mathematics summer program opportunities that they might qualify for and (ii) to give students a perspective of what to expect in such programs. Panelists include all levels of summer program participants: students of summer programs, graduate students who have assisted with these programs, and faculty who have taught or led research groups in summer programs.*

#### **Negotiating and Self Promotion**

*In this session we will explore strategies for job negotiation that are often overlooked. In this panel a group of scholars at various levels of professional development will speak about the critical nexus of negotiation and job selection. How did they negotiate with their institution to enact their particular vision? What would they do differently? This workshop will discuss items to negotiate including salary, start-up funds, research and programming assistance, course releases, staff support, and more.*

### **Having the Lives We Want (Saturday, March 20, 3:15—4:15 pm)** **Balancing College Pressures**

*The demands we feel as a student are not limited to classroom pressure. We need to have a social life and participate in community activities that matter to us. We may also need to find space for our own familial responsibilities and/or earn money at the same time. Although no single strategy works for everyone, panelists will share some of their means of managing the enjoyable chaos that is being a student.*

**Prioritizing Work and Life Commitments** *We typically learn from our mentors about how to be successful in our particular area of academia. If we are lucky, we will learn something about how to handle the mix of work, home life, and other interests. One thing we have learned over the years is that there is no “right way” to balance different parts of your life. This session will address issues related to this balancing act and hopefully give everyone new ideas for creating space for all the pieces of their lives.*

**Motherhood and Mathematics**

*Some of us will choose to embark on the endeavor of child bearing and rearing at some point in our careers. When is the best time to have children? Is there a best time? Can I have a successful career while being a nurturing mother? We discuss how to the choice of motherhood can affect our careers in both academia and industry.*

**Being LGBT in Mathematics**

*There are many facets of our lives to negotiate, and the particular challenges of being LGBT in a predominantly heterosexual world can add to the complexity. The goal of this session is to provide an environment where these particular issues can be discussed.*

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**For High School Students: What you can do with a math degree?**

*A common misconception about a bachelor’s degree in mathematics is that it can only lead to teaching. In today’s society, this is definitely not the case! A mathematics degree is highly attractive to financial agencies, technology companies, and many other institutions. The panel will discuss these and other options for your mathematics degree.*