

Scottish Combinatorics Meeting 2016: Report

The 2nd Scottish Combinatorics Meeting was held at the University of Glasgow on 26th and 27th April 2016. This event was the second in what is intended to become an annual series, following the success of the first SCM in 2015. In 2015, all of the invited speakers were based in the UK, but this year we invited three high profile speakers from elsewhere in Europe (Michael Fellows and Frances Rosamond from the University of Bergen, and Marthe Bonamy from the University of Bordeaux), all of whose talks were very well received.

A total of 51 delegates (18 from SICSA member departments) attended either all or part of the event; while the majority of these came from Scottish universities, a number also travelled from south of the border and even from outside the UK (including delegates from Iceland, France, Germany and Norway). Once again, the attendees spanned many disciplines: in addition to researchers based in mathematics, statistics and computer science departments we also welcomed colleagues from the Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation at the University of Glasgow, and from the Strathclyde Business School.

Eighteen of those attending were students (including several keen undergraduates from the Universities of Glasgow and Stirling), and four of these took the opportunity to give short presentations on their work; these covered many different topics in combinatorics, from the highly abstract to the more applied.

The schedule was planned so as to allow significant time for informal discussions among the participants, and I personally discussed two possible future research collaborations with other delegates; I am sure that many other participants established useful new connections as well. The funding received from SICSA made it possible to provide a light lunch for all delegates in the mathematics department, which increased the scope for discussions between participants, as well as allowing us to include more talks while still starting and finishing at times that made it feasible to attend as day trips from many Scottish universities.