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SIAM Activity Group on Dynamical Systems J. D. Crawford Prize Awarded

June 7, 2007 – The 2007 SIAM Activity Group on Dynamical Systems J. D. Crawford Prize was awarded May 28 to Dr. Andrew Stuart, Professor of Mathematics at the University of Warwick. The prize was awarded at the biennial SIAM Conference on Dynamical Systems, held this year at Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort in Snowbird, Utah from May 28 through June 1. The award consists of a plaque, a certificate and a cash prize.

Dr. Stuart accepted the prize for his outstanding contributions to the fields of stochastic ordinary and partial differential equations, including mathematical theory, algorithm development and the application of stochastic differential equations to physical models and the dynamics of inertial partials in random fields. The award especially recognizes his penetrating analysis of sample paths of stochastic differential equations conditioned on observations and its application to problems involving Kalman-Bucy filters.

The SIAM Activity Group on Dynamical Systems (SIAG/DS) John David Crawford Prize was established in 2000 and is awarded every two years for recent outstanding work on a topic in nonlinear science as evidenced in a recent publication. The term “nonlinear science” is used in the spirit of the SIAG/DS meetings; specifically, it includes dynamical systems theory and its applications as well as experiments and computations/simulations.

Members of the selection committee for the 2007 award were: Tasso Kaper (Chair), Peter Ashwin, Dwight Barkley, Andrea Bertozzi, and Edgar Knoboch.

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Dr. Stuart obtained his Ph.D. from Oxford University in 1987 and held postdoctoral positions at both Oxford and MIT. He has held permanent academic positions at the University of Bath and Stanford University. At Warwick, he helped to found the Centre for Scientific Computing and was Director from 2005-2007. Dr. Stuart's current research programs are focused on algorithms for sampling probability measures defined on spaces of functions, and on parameter estimation of diffusion processes; applications include data assimilations, molecular dynamics and signal processing.

John David Crawford (1954-1998) received his doctorate in Physics from the University of California at Berkeley in 1983 and was a Professor in Physics at the University of Pittsburgh from 1990. His research centered on collisionless plasmas and on pattern formation (particularly in the Faraday surface wave experiment) where he made fundamental contributions. John David served as a co-organizer on the 1995 Dynamical Systems SIAG meeting; the SIAG/DS honors his memory with the establishment of this prize.

The SIAM Activity Group on Dynamical Systems provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and information between mathematicians and applied scientists whose work involves dynamical systems. The goal of this group is to facilitate the development and application of new theory and methods of dynamical systems. The techniques in this area are making major contributions in many areas, including biology, nonlinear optics, fluids, chemistry, and mechanics. This activity group supports the web portal DSWeb, sponsors special sessions at SIAM meetings, organizes a biennial conference, and awards biennial prizes.

SIAM is an international community of over 11,000 individual members, including applied and computational mathematicians, computer scientists, and other scientists and engineers. The Society advances these fields by publishing a series of premier journals and a variety of books, and producing a wide selection of conferences. More information about SIAM is available at www.siam.org.

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