History of Harlan C. Miller

Professor Emeritus Harlan C. Miller, who was chairman of the department until her retirement in 1966, died in April 1981. In her honor the Harlan C. Miller Lecture Series in Mathematics was inaugurated in the spring of 1982. The Trammell Crow Family Foundation provided initial funding.

Dr. Miller completed her B.A. degree at Wellesley College in 1916, her M.A. degree at Columbia University in 1930 and her Ph.D. at the University of Texas in 1941. She was a member of the American Mathematics Society, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, American Association of University Women, American Association of University Professors and the Texas State Teachers Association.

After her Ph.D., she taught at Winthrop College and North Texas State University for one year each before joining the faculty at Texas Woman’s University, where she spent the rest of her academic career. She was active in University administration there, serving as Director of Mathematics. She helped direct Lida K. Barrett toward studying with R. L. Moore. She directed the graduate work of J.R. Boyd, who later developed the Moore-style mathematics program at Guilford College.

Former Lecturers Include:

Dr. Lida K. Barrett, Professor of Mathematics and Assoc. Provost of Northern Illinois University; Dr. Richard Anderson, Boyd Professor, Emeritus of Mathematics at Louisiana State University; Dr. Mary Ellen Rudin, Grace Chisolm Young, Professor of Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin; Dr. Gail Young, Visiting Professor of Mathematics at the University of Wyoming; Dr. Thomas P. Kehler, Exec. Vice President, Intelligorp, Mountain View, California; Dr. Meg Lewis, Vice President, Product Groups, Future Computing Inc.; Dr. Henry Pollak, Assistant Vice President for Mathematical Communications and Computer Science Research of Bell Communications Research; Dr. Robert Greenwood, Emeritus Professor of Mathematics, University of Texas; Dr. Shirley Hill, University of Missouri; Dr. Florence Fasanelli, George Washington University; Dr. Solomon Garfunkel, Executive Director, COMAP, Inc.; Dr. Joan Leitzel, Division Director, National Science Foundation; Dr. Mona Cheri and Dr. Wayne Zimmermann, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Texas Woman’s University; Dr. Madeleine Long, National Science Foundation; Dr. Margaret Cozzens, National Science Foundation; Dr. Rose Marie Smith, National Science Foundation and Texas Woman’s University; Sheila Tobias, author of Overcoming Math Anxiety; Dr. Robert L. Devaney, Dynamical Systems, Boston University; Dr. Evelyn Granville, Visiting Professor, University of Texas; Dr. Gertrud Kraut, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, University of Texas; Dr. Rose Marie Smith, retired Chair and Professor of Mathematics, Department of Mathematics, Texas Woman’s University; Dr. Ralph Grimaldi, Professor of Mathematics at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology; Annigentutta R. Johnson, Senior Earth Science Engineer, NASA; Cindy Boyd, Walt Disney Mathematics Teacher of the Year; Julie Spicer England, Vice President of Texas Instruments Inc.; Gloria Araiza Young, NASA Space Flight Controller; Dr. Cathy Seeley, President, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics; Dr. Deanna Haunsperger, Vice President, Mathematical Assoc. of America; Dr. Marcy Cook, Master Educator, Author; Dr. Isabel Darcy, University of Iowa; Dr. Frances Thompson, Professor of Mathematics, Texas Woman’s University; Dr. Scott Warren, Assistant Professor-Learning Technologies, University of North Texas; Dr. Robert M. Panoff, Founder and Executive Director of Shodor; Dr. Sheila Tobias Author and Consultant; Brian Lukoff, Educator, Research, Statistician, Engineer, and Technology Designer; Brigadier General Bernard Skoch; Jacqueline Weilmuenster.
Dr. Alicia Prieto-Lagarica is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Youngstown State University. She received her PhD from the University of Texas at Arlington in August 2012. Her research interests focus on applications of mathematics to biology and the social sciences, especially in upsaling discrete individual based models to population level continuous models. Some of her projects include: infection control on medical implants, mathematical modeling of bone creation and metabolism, sleep and thermoregulation, and cell movement in multiscale systems.

Prieto-Lagarica established and organized a speaker series for National Hispanic Heritage month at YSU that brought two speakers to the university in both 2013 and 2014. Prieto-Lagarica co-organized a Scientific Symposia during the 2014 SACNAS national conference titled "Young Latinas in Math and Computer Science." Together with two collaborators, Prieto-Lagarica obtained an MAA Tensor SUMMA grant, which brings minority mathematician speakers to three different universities.