

PART 2

Institute Name

University of Regina

What is your vision for the conference?

Our vision is to unify mathematics students across the country by providing them with an opportunity in public speaking on their selective mathematical research topics and also by giving them an occasion to socialize with current and future Canadian mathematicians. We also believe that CUMC is significant for encouraging participants to enhance their mathematical research. Apart from focusing on research, our vision of a successful CUMC is one that has a significant number of lectures in French, as well as English, and includes a panel for women in mathematics.

Which aspects of the CUMC do you think work particularly well and would continue to be included in your iteration of the conference?

Academic Aspects:

At the 2015 conference, we felt that the structure of the “student talk” schedule worked better than previous years. Giving only 20 minute time slots allowed the organizers to only schedule 3-4 talks each time slot. This gave everyone the opportunity to attend more talks and have a chance to pick their desire talk to attend. We are going to follow their example and adopt the idea of restricting talks to 20 minutes.

Moreover, every year we see the keynote speakers as a valuable and independent part of CUMC. It is very helpful to have professionals from the mathematical areas introducing various research areas and providing participants with further motivation for mathematical research. We already have available keynote speakers from our department and we will be using departments’ connections to invite a few other well-known speakers from other institutions across the country.

We also appreciate the “Women in Math” discussion panel, which encourages women to pursue mathematics and creates conversation for everyone to learn and get involved in gender diversity in Mathematics.

We also feel that the bilingual structure of the conference is important and will include this structure in CUMC 2016. We will have a French translator for our announcements and all information will be in English and French, including on our CUMC website.

Social Aspects:

We feel that the social activities from past two iterations were fun and important for making new connections among new students.

We would like to continue the trend from previous years of providing participants with conference T-shirts in a unique color which creates a unification among the conference members. Organizing committee members and volunteers will wear different color t-shirt from participants

and we observed that it worked very well in previous CUMC events. Like every year we will also arrange gift packages.

In CUMC 2015, we particularly liked the opening Banquet event where the organizers divided us into random groups in order to help us socialize. We will definitely strive to have similar plans for generating interactions between students at an early stage of the conference.

We also enjoyed the closing Banquet which included very impressive food selections which wrapped up the conference in a great taste. In general, we will host an opening banquet and a closing banquet similarly to previous years, to encourage socializing.

Also, the evening events, such as the boat party in 2014, were an unforgettable experience. These events created a lot of socializing opportunities between participants. We support the idea of organizing as many social events as we can, and we will be holding at least one event in the Lazy Owl which is university bar/club. We will also arrange a kayaking/canoeing outing in Wascana Lake near the university, as well as a cinema under the stars for one evening, and a double-decker bus tour through Wascana.

Which aspects of the CUMC would you improve upon and how? Are there any new ideas that you would like to bring to the conference?

We would like to improve upon few CUMC aspects. The first aspect that we would like to improve upon is navigation. It was very difficult to navigate the University of Alberta because there were not enough posters across campus to follow and there weren't enough volunteers to guide students. If we host CUMC, we will have more volunteers and more posters, to help us run this event smoothly. Also, the events/lectures throughout the day were at various buildings which led to a lot of travel time between events. The University of Regina is a small university that is almost entirely connected, which will make it easier for students to navigate and cut down on travel time.

We also noticed that there was nobody to contact for immediate response, or the information was not easily accessible during the conference. Our organizing committee came up with an idea to have at least one of the members make their personal contact information (emails and phone numbers) available to the participants for immediate response. This will enable participants to contact us anytime and anywhere regarding any concerns, comments, and emergencies.

Apart from concentrating on volunteers and contact information, we will also improve on website availability and advertisement. This will attract more people to come and join us in celebrating mathematics. We have one organizing committee member who will solely be responsible for the website and social media connections. We will start working on our website soon and it will be viewable starting January 2016. This will give all the students enough time to think and make a decision on their visit to University of Regina.

Apart from having students' talks for 20 minutes, we are also planning to expose students to various research topics in mathematics as well as providing them with more research tools. To improve this research element, our workshops and discussion panels will provide students with

research tools which will guide them how to start their own research on their chosen topics. Workshops and discussion panels will be hosted by our professors who will expose students to mathematical research topics and discuss them with their research topics of their own respective mathematical fields. This will motivate new students on how the professors do their research and will be exposed on their mathematical lives. This will also help CMS as a whole, because new students will start researching and potentially publish papers and articles in future.

As mentioned earlier in the application, we will have few keynote speakers. One of the keynote speaker will be in French. This will emphasize on the bilingual aspect of the conference. This will also be encouraging to other French speaking students and professors across the country to attend and to present their own talks in French.

What are your proposed dates for the conference and why?

We are planning to have the conference dates from July 6th to July 10th 2016. We choose to have these dates because this will give students enough time to finish their course work from spring semester and also two of the days are on the weekend so students won't have to miss five full days of work.

What are the unique aspects of your proposed conference location (institution, city, etc), that would add to the conference experience and why?

The capital city of the Canadian province of Saskatchewan is Regina. It is located on the Trans-Canada Highway midway between Winnipeg, Manitoba and Calgary, Alberta. In 2014, Regina was named the 3rd best Canadian mid-sized city (9th best overall) in which to live by MoneySense magazine.

Wascana Centre is a great place for a picnic and has a series of fun playgrounds, a pool, and a splash park. We will be able to kayak, canoe, and possibly have a barbeque in the park.

The RCMP Depot and Heritage Centre are located right here in Regina. We are the home of the RCMP as cadets come home here to train to be members. The MacKenzie Art Gallery is Saskatchewan's largest public art gallery, offering original exhibitions of contemporary and historical art from Saskatchewan, Canada and around the world.

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics is a well-known research department across Canadian universities and in Canadian Mathematical Society. University of Regina, compared to other institutes across Canada, is a small-sized university. The size will be beneficial to the CUMC event to find any locations is very convenient. Participants will not get lost on campus, as there will be navigators in almost every hallway. Another advantage of being a small size university is that every faculty member is well-known across campus which creates a unity among them.

University of Regina, has a lot of things to offer such as the lazy owl, which is the university club where we are planning to have a night party for one evening. We will offer campus tours and probably lab tours to all interested students.

How will you do your best to ensure the conference attracts as many attendees as in the past or more?

We believe that attracting attendees is the key success to CUMC or in any other event. In the past internal events, we have attracted students across campus by emailing societies, departments, and faculties. We will also start emailing all the institutes across the country and request them to email to their own students which will make them aware of 2016 CUMC event. We will add more elements in promoting CUMC which will hopefully draw more undergraduates. We will update our CUMC website early in the year and continue updating website prior to the event. We will post all the events on the social media websites that we will offer during the week which will enable students to see it and get excited. Lastly, we will ensure all of our information, on social media, in emails, etc., are in English and French.