Postdoctoral Opportunities

Career Day presentation
November 10, 2012
What is a postdoc?

- This is usually a 1-3 year position involving a combination of teaching and research duties, but emphasizing research.
- Typically you will have a mentor.
- It can be an invaluable opportunity to learn your way around a new research area.
- Group I and many Group II departments will expect postdoctoral experience these days.
Major Research Institutes

- Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA), University of Minnesota
- Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI), UC Berkeley
- Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics (IPAM), UCLA
- Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI) NC State
Major Research Institutes

- Courant Institute, NYU
- Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton
- Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences, Toronto
- Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS), UBC
- Institute for Computational and Experimental Research in Mathematics, (ICERM) Brown
Look ahead

- These places often do not have permanent faculty
- Each year, or even each semester there is a program in some specific area
- These are known and announced several years in advance
Departments with teaching postdocs

- University of Chicago, L. E. Dickson Instructor
- University of Wisconsin, Van Vleck Visiting Assistant Professor
- University of Michigan, T. H. Hildebrandt Assistant Professorship
- Yale University, Gibbs Assistant Professor
- MIT, Moore Instructorships in Mathematics
- etc.
Smaller, more focused research centers

- Center for Scientific Computation and Mathematical Modeling, University of Maryland
- Mathematical Biosciences Institute (MBI), Ohio State
- National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS) University of Tennessee
Government work
(quasi-academic)

- National Laboratories, such as Los Alamos
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- US Census Bureau
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Other possibilities

- **National Science Foundation Postdocoral Fellowships** – go wherever you want if you are good enough!
- VIGRE programs
- Other departments will have postdoctoral opportunities on a more random, irregular and maybe informal basis
- Overseas
Recent ISU Math Postdocs

- University of Wisconsin
- IMA
- Syracuse University
- University of Iowa Medical School
- Florida State University
- University of Connecticut
- University of Edinburgh (UK)
- UC San Diego
- Jackson Labs
- University of Waterloo (Canada)
How to improve your chances

- GET INVOLVED
- Attend Workshops
- Present talks, posters at conferences
- Look for graduate student opportunities and programs
- The more OUTSIDE people you meet the easier it is get a good outside letter of recommendation
- It’s all about who you know (or your advisor knows)