

Association for Symbolic Logic

Business Office: Box 742, Vassar College 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: asl@vassar.edu WWW: http://www.aslonline.org

ASL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2001

- In Memoriam: Maurice Boffa. Maurice Boffa died of lung cancer on May 29, 2001, at the age of 61, among his friends, in Brussels, Belgium. Since 1973, he was Professor of Mathematical Logic at Mons-Hainaut University. He also held a part-time position at the Free University of Brussels, where he had been a student of Georges Papy. He played a fundamental role in the development of mathematical logic in Belgium; the seminar in Brussels that he created and animated brought together most French speaking Belgian logicians. Many of the current Belgian logicians were his students. His wide ranging research interests included set theory, model theory, automata theory, and group theory, although he perhaps exercised his greatest influence in work dealing with Quine's New Foundations. Boffa's life revolved around mathematics, which he loved to discuss, but he also took great pleasure in playing jazz piano, collecting books on varied subjects, and having a beer or glass of red wine with his friends. His wife Michelle and he formed a couple well-known for their hospitality. He had a very clear mind that showed in the questions he asked, in his lectures, and in his numerous concisely written papers.
- In Memoriam: Walter Felscher. Walter Felscher was born October 12, 1931 in Brandenburg and died on December 12, 2000. He studied mathematics at the Free University of Berlin and received his doctoral degree in 1956. He became a lecturer at the University of Freiburg, where he performed his habilitation, and held a research position at Dalhousie University from 1969 to 1971. In 1971 he was appointed to the Chair of Logic, Foundations, and History of Mathematics at the University of Tübingen, first in the Mathematics Department and later in the Department of Computer Science, a position he held until his retirement. Felscher, one of the outstanding logicians in Germany, engaged himself in a broad range of activities. To illustrate, he chaired or co-chaired no less than 21 conferences on logic, set theory, and universal algebra at the Mathematics Institute of Oberwolfach. His interests shifted over the years from set theory and model theory to proof theory and the logic of arithmetic. Yet one can identify as an underlying theme in his work the emphasis of the adjective "mathematical" in mathematical logic, or more precisely the application of algebraic methods to logic. Much of his work is published in his various books. His main legacy is surely the three volumes, Lectures on Mathematical Logic (Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, 2000), which go back to his lectures in the early 1960's. These contain a complete and admirably concise view of logic, both with respect to technical detail and historical comment.
- In Memoriam: Alfred Horn. Alfred Horn was born February 17, 1918, on the Lower East Side of New York City and died on April 16, 2001. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of California, Berkeley in 1946 and came to UCLA in 1947, where he spent his entire career until his retirement in 1988. Horn published 35 papers, mostly in the areas of lattice theory and universal algebra. He was an algebraist and a logician, with an uncanny talent to focus on fundamental notions and problems. In a 1962 paper he formulated the so-called Horn Conjecture in linear algebra that was proved in 1998 by a UCLA mathematician. In his 1951 paper, "On sentences which are true of direct unions of algebras," he described Horn sentences and Horn clauses, which form the basis for logic programming and earned him a permanent place in the mathematical and computer science literature. He is remembered by generations of his students and colleagues as an effective, kind, and modest teacher who gave brilliant lectures and mentored many graduate students.
- The 2001 ASL Election. At the end of this year the ASL will elect a Secretary-Treasurer, two members of the Executive Committee of the Council, and two members of the Council. All terms are for three years beginning January 1, 2002. The ballot will be sent to all ASL members with the November Newsletter. The 2001 Nominating Committee has nominated Charles I. Steinhorn (Vassar) for Secretary-Treasurer, Paul C. Eklof (UC

Irvine) and Theodore A. Slaman (UC Berkeley) for the Executive Committee positions, and Zoé Chatzidakis (Paris VII) and Toniann Pitassi (Toronto) for the Council positions. The Nominating Committee consisted of John Burgess, Chi Tat Chong, Neil Immerman, Julia Knight, Peter Koepke, Dirk van Dalen, and Carol Wood (Chair).

Additional nominations may be made by petition signed by 10 or more ASL members; such petitions should be sent to the ASL Secretary-Treasurer (address above) before November 15, 2001. In a contested election, each candidate has the opportunity to make a 100-word statement to be distributed with the ballot.

• 2001 Sacks Prize. The Sacks Prize, for the best doctoral dissertation in mathematical logic, will be awarded for the seventh time in December, 2001. This prize was established to honor Professor Gerald Sacks of MIT and Harvard for his unique contribution to mathematical logic, particularly as adviser to a large number of excellent Ph.D. students. The Prize became an ASL Prize in 1999; the Fund on which the Prize is based is now administered by the ASL and the selection of the recipient is made by the ASL Committee on Prizes and Awards. The Sacks Prize will consist of a cash award plus five years free membership in the ASL.

Students who complete their degrees (equivalent to the American doctoral degree) between October 1, 2000, and September 30, 2001, are eligible for the Prize this year. This is an international prize, with no restriction on the nationality of the candidate or the university where the doctorate is granted. Nominations should be made by the thesis adviser, and consist of: name of student, title and 1–2 page description of dissertation, date and location where the doctorate was awarded, letter of recommendation from the adviser, and an electronic copy of the thesis in .ps form, or the address of a web site from which an electronic copy in .ps, .dvi, or .pdf form can be downloaded; an independent second letter of recommendation is strongly encouraged. Nominations should be sent to the Committee Chair, Andreas Blass; TeX or PostScript files, sent by email to ablass@umich.edu are preferred. Correspondence should be addressed to Andreas Blass, Department of Mathematics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1109. Nominations must be received by September 30, 2001.

Those wishing to contribute to the Sacks Prize Fund may send contributions to the ASL office (ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA); all such contributions are tax-deductible within the USA.

• Wilkie elected Fellow of the Royal Society. Alex J. Wilkie, Professor of Mathematical Logic at the University of Oxford, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. The May 14, 2001 announcement reads: "Wilkie has combined logical techniques and differential-geometric techniques to establish fundamental Finiteness Theorems for sets definable using the exponential function, and more general Pfaffian functions. The results, going far beyond those obtained by conventional methods, have already had striking applications to Lie groups."

ASL MEETINGS

• Student Travel Awards: The 2002 ASL Annual Meeting and the 2002 ASL European Summer Meeting. The ASL will make available modest travel awards to graduate students in logic and (for the European Summer Meeting only) to recent Ph.D.'s so that they may attend the 2002 ASL Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, or the 2002 ASL European Summer Meeting in Münster, Germany; see below for information about these meetings. To be considered for a Travel Award, please (1) send a letter of application and (2) ask your thesis supervisor to send a brief recommendation letter. The application letter should be brief (one page) and should include (1) your name, (2) your home institution, (3) your thesis supervisor's name, (4) a one-paragraph description of your studies and work in logic, (5) your estimate of the travel expenses you will incur, (6) (for citizens or residents of the USA) citizenship or visa status, and (7) (voluntary) indication of your gender and minority status. Only modest grants will be possible, partially covering travel costs and perhaps some of the living expenses during the meeting. Women and members of minority groups are strongly encouraged to apply. In addition to funds provided by the ASL, this program of travel grants is supported by a grant from the US National Science Foundation; NSF funds may be awarded only to students at US universities and to citizens and permanent residents of the USA. Air travel paid for using NSF funds must by on a US airline. For both meetings, application by email is encouraged; put "ASL travel application" in the subject line of your message.

For the 2002 ASL Annual Meeting, applications and recommendations should be received before the deadline of March 15, 2002, by the Program Chair: Theodore Slaman, Department of Mathematics, University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, California 94720, USA; email: slaman@math.berkeley.edu.

For the 2002 ASL European Summer Meeting, applications and recommendations should be received before the deadline of April 1, 2002, by the Organizing Committee: Institut für Mathematische Logik und Grundlagenforschung, Logic Colloquium 2002, Einsteinstrasse 62, D-14849 Münster, Germany; email: lc2002ms@math.uni-muenster.de.

- 2001-02 ASL Winter Meeting (with Joint Mathematics Meetings). January 8-9, 2002, San Diego, California. This meeting will take place in conjunction with the Joint Mathematics Meetings, which will be held January 6-9, 2002. Invited speakers include M. Benedikt, J. Clemens, R. Downey, S. Goncharov, M. Grohe, L. Libkin, P. Rothmaler, M. Vardi, and M. Zeman. The Program Committee members are G. Hjorth (Chair), C. Miller, J. Remmel, and V. Vianu. There also will be a jointly sponsored AMS/ASL Special Session organized by S. Thomas on "Set Theory and Classification Problems." Abstracts of contributed talks submitted by ASL members will be published in The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic if they satisfy the Rules for Abstracts (see below). Abstracts must be received by the deadline of September 28, 2001, at the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: asl@ vassar.edu. A preregistration form and hotel information for this meeting are included in this Newsletter mailing.
- 2002 ASL Spring Meeting (with APA). March 26–30, 2002, Seattle, Washington. This will be a joint meeting with the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association during its annual meeting. The focus of the ASL meeting is "Predicativity: problems and prospects," for which the invited speakers are J. Avigad, S. Feferman, and G. Hellman. The Program Committee members for the ASL meeting are G. A. Antonelli and P. Mancosu (Chair). Abstracts of contributed talks submitted by ASL members will be published in The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic if they satisfy the Rules for Abstracts (see below). Abstracts must be received by the deadline of November 10, 2001 (note the date change), at the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: asl@vassar.edu. For further information, contact P. Mancosu by email at mancosu@socrates.berkeley.edu.
- 2002 ASL Annual Meeting. June 1–4, 2002, Las Vegas, Nevada. The members of the Program Committee are G. Cherlin, D. Dubose, W. Goldfarb, J. Larson, A. Scedrov, and T. Slaman (Chair). The Local Organizing Committee includes D. Burke, D. Dubose (Chair), and J. Mourad. Abstracts of contributed talks submitted by ASL members will be published in The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic if they satisfy the Rules for Abstracts (see below). Abstracts must be received by the deadline of February 15, 2002, at the ASL Business Office: ASL, Box 742, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12604, USA; Fax: 1-845-437-7830; email: asl@vassar.edu.
- 2002 ASL European Summer Meeting (Logic Colloquium '02). August 3-10, 2002, Münster, Germany. Invited speakers include J. Avigad, A. Beckmann, T. Carlson, R. Constable, K. Dosen, M. Gitik, V. Halbach, B. Khoussainov, S. Lempp, T. Pitassi, T. Scanlon, R. Schindler, P. Speissegger, and K. Tent. Tutorials will be offered by L. Beklemishev, S. Cook, O. Lessmann, and S. Thomas. Special sessions in computability theory, non-monotonic logic, and set theory also are planned. The members of the Program Committee are K. Ambos-Spies, S. Buss, Z. Chatzidakis, A. Kechris (Chair), P. Koepke, P. Komjath, M. Lerman, V. McGee, W. Pohlers, M. Rathjen, K. Segerberg, and B. Zilber. The members of the Organizing Committee are M. Burghardt, J. Diller, P. Koepke, B. Löwe, M. Möllerfeld, W. Pohlers (Chair), and A. Weiermann. Abstracts of contributed talks submitted by ASL members will be published in The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic if they satisfy the Rules for Abstracts (see below). Abstracts—hard copy or email—should be received before the deadline of May 1, 2002 at the official meeting address: Institut für Mathematische Logik und Grundlagenforschung, Logic Colloquium 2002, Einsteinstrasse 62, D-48149 Münster, Germany; email: 1c2002ms@math.uni-muenster.de. Further information also may be obtained by visiting the meeting web site, http://www.math.uni-muenster.de/LC2002.

• Rules for Abstracts. The rules for abstracts of contributed talks at ASL meetings (including those submitted "by title") may be found at WWW: http://www.aslonline.org/asl/meetings/aslmeet.html# XXX282. Please note that abstracts must follow the rules as set forth there; those which do not conform to the requirements will be returned immediately to the authors submitting them. Revised abstracts that follow the rules will be considered if they are received by the announced deadline.

ASL SPONSORED MEETINGS

- Fourth International Symposium on Theoretical Aspects of Computer Software (TACS 2001). October 29–31, 2001, Sendai, Japan. The themes of this conference include: theoretical aspects of the design, semantics, analysis, and implementation of programming languages and systems; logics of programs; calculi and models of concurrency and parallel computation; theories of mobile computation and system security; categories and types in computer science; formalisms, methods, and systems for program specification, verification, synthesis, and optimization; and constructive, linear, and modal logics in computer science. The General Chair of the conference is T. Ito. The Program Committee members are Z. Ariola, C. Fournet, J. Garrigue, M. Hagiya, R. Harper, M. Hasegawa, N. Heintze, M. Hofmann, Z. Hu, N. Kohayashi (Co-Chair), M. Odersky, C. Palamidessi, B. Pierce (Co-Chair), F. Pottier, A. Scedrov, N. Shankar, I. Stark, and M. Tatsuta. For further information, visit the conference web site: http://tacs2001.ito.ecei.tohoku.ac.jp/tacs2001.
- Seventeenth Annual IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science (LICS). July 22-25, 2002, Copenhagen, Denmark. This conference is part of the 2002 Federated Logic Conference (FLoC'02). For further information, visit http://floc02.diku.dk.

NEW BOOKS AND JOURNALS (Also see http://www.aslonline.org.)

- Systems and Software Verification: Model-Checking Techniques and Tools. Authors: B. Berard, M. Bidoit, A. Finkel, F. Laroussinie, A. Petit, L. Petrucci, and Ph. Schnoebelen (Springer-Verlag, 2001, ISBN 3-540-41523-8), WWW: http://www.springer.de/cgi-bin/search_book.pl?isbn=3-540-41523-8.
- Introduction à la Logique: Théorie de la démonstration. Authors: R. David, K. Nour, and C. Raffalli (Dunod, 2001, ISBN 2 100048929), WWW: http://www.dunod.com/pages/ouvrages/ficheouvrage.asp?Pro_Code_GPE=44892.
- Fine Structure and Class Forcing. Author: S. D. Friedman. (de Gruyter Series in Logic and its Applications, Volume 3, 2000, 221 pp., hardcover, ISBN 3-11-016777-8, \$84.95 US), WWW: http://www.degruyter.de/highlights/friedman.html or http://www.degruyter.de/hmath.html.
- The Logic of Knowledge Bases. Authors: H.J. Levesque and G. Lakemeyer (MIT Press, 2001, ISBN 0-262-12232-4), WWW: http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/ default.asp?sid=46D32867-2417-4748-A8D8-5703D333C4AC&ttype=2&tid=4408.
- Structural Proof Theory. Authors: S. Negri and J. von Plato (Cambridge University Press, 2001, ISBN 0-521-79307-6), WWW: http://uk.cambridge.org/philosophy/catalogue/0521793076/.
- New Journal: Journal of Mathematical Logic. The *Journal of Mathematical Logic* provides an important forum for the communication of original contributions in all areas of mathematical logic and its applications. For a detailed description of the journal or to request a complimentary copy, visit http://ejournals.worldscientific.com/jml/jml.html.
- New Journal: Theory and Practice of Logic Programming (TPLP). Published bimonthly beginning January 2001 by Cambridge University Press. This journal was founded by the former editors of the *Journal of Logic Programming (JLP)* who in November 1999 collectively resigned to found *TPLP*. In the period from the *JLP* inception in 1984 until 1999, its price per page increased by the staggering amount of 314%. For further information, visit http://uk.cambridge.org/journals/tlp/.

Calendar of other meetings appears on a separate sheet

- International Workshop on Relational Methods in Computer Science (Relmics 6). October 16–21, 2001, Oisterwijk, The Netherlands. Topics include: relational, cylindric, fork, and Kleene algebras; relational proof theory and decidability issues; relational representation theorems; relational semantics; applications to programming, databases, and analysis of language; and computer systems for relational knowledge representation. For further information, contact the Program Chair: H. de Swart, Section Logic and Analysis of Language, Department of Philosophy, Tilburg University, P.O. Box 90153, 5000 Le Tilburg, The Netherlands; telephone: (+31) 13 466 24 15/29 85; Fax: (+31) 13 466 28 92; email: H.C.M.deSwart@kub.nl; http://cwis.kub.nl/~fsw_2/fww/home/swart/rmcs.htm.
- Workshop on Model Theory. October 25–27, 2001, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. The members of the Program Committee are E. Casanovas, F. Delon, P. Dellunde, R. Farré, and M. Ziegler. Students and young researchers are especially encouraged to attend. Partial funding might be available. For further information, contact E. Casanovas (email: casanova@mat.ub.es), P. Dellunde (email: pilar.dellunde@uab.es), or R. Farré (email: farre@ma2.upc.es), or visit http://www.imub.ub.es/events/wmt/index.html.
- The Logic of Soft Computing. November 19-24, 2001, Gargnano (BS), Italy. Soft computing is a term employed in information technologies to refer to a synthesis of methodologies from fuzzy logic, neural networks, and evolutionary algorithms. Topics of this workshop include mathematical and logical foundations of soft computing, theory and techniques of fuzzy control, algebraic semantics of many-valued logic, proof theory, and automated deduction for many-valued logic. The members of the Scientific Committee are M. Baaz, P. Hájek, and D. Mundici. For further information, send email to B. Gerla at gerlab@dsi.unimi.it or visit http://homes.dsi.unimi.it/~mundici/SCFL/logsofcom.
- 16th IEEE International Conference on Automated Software Engineering. November 26-29, 2001, San Diego, California. The IEEE International Conference on Automated Software Engineering brings together researchers and practitioners to share ideas on the foundations, techniques, tools, and applications of automated software engineering technology. Several of the topics of the conference are of interest to logicians. For further information, visit http://ase.informatik.uni-essen.de.
- Seventeenth International Conference on Logic Programming (ICLP'01). November 26-December 1, 2001, Paphos, Cyprus. This conference will be held this year in conjunction with the Seventh International Conference on Principle and Practice of Constraint Programming (CP-2001). Topics include all areas of logic programming including theory, implementation, language issues, environments, and applications. ICLP'01 Workshops to be held on the last day of the conference, December 1, 2001, include ones on: Computational Logic in Multi-Agent Systems (CLIMA-01; http://research.nii.ac.jp/~ksatoh/clima01.html), and Specification, Analysis and Validation for Emerging Technologies in Computational Logic (SAVE 2001; http://www.disi.unige.it/person/DelzannoG/save.html). For additional information about ICLP'01, visit http://www.cs.ucy.ac.cy/iclp2001.
- Methods For Modalities 2 (M4M-2). November 29-30, 2001, Institute for Logic, Language and Computation, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. This is the second in a biannual workshop series that aims to bring together researchers interested in developing proof tools and reasoning methods for modal logic broadly conceived. The deadline for the submission of papers is October 12, 2001; they should be sent by email to m4m@science.uva.nl. For further information, visit http://www.science.uva.nl/~m4m.
- A Ruthfest: Conference in Honor of Ruth Marcus. November 30-December 2, 2001, UCLA, Los Angeles, California. The speakers include K. Fine, T. Parsons, and J. Jarvis Thomson. For more information, visit http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/phil/ruth.html.
- Eighth International Conference on Logic for Programming, AI, and Reasoning (LPAR'2001). December 3-7, 2001, Havana, Cuba. The Co-Chairs of the Program Committee are R. Nieuwenhuis and A. Voronkov. The members of the Organizing Committee are L. Garcia, R. Nieuwenhuis, and A. Voronkov. For further information, visit http://www.lsi.upc.es/~roberto/lpar2001.html.

- International Workshop on Hybrid Intelligent Systems (HIS'2001). December 11–12, 2001, Adelaide, South Australia. This workshop, held in conjunction with the Fourteenth Australian Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AI'01), is intended to bring together researchers, developers, practitioners, and users of neural networks, fuzzy inference systems, evolutionary algorithms, and conventional techniques. Several of the topics of this workshop may be of interest to logicians. For further information, visit http://his.hybridsystem.com.
- Society for Machines and Mentality. December 27-30, 2001, Atlanta, Georgia. This meeting is held in conjunction with the annual Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association. Its theme is "Computational Power and Minds." For further information, contact B. Rosmaita by email at Brian.Rosmaita@alumni.nd.edu or visit the Society's web site, http://www.dartmouth.edu/~phil/sfmm/.
- Sixth International Workshop on Deontic Logic in Computer Science (DEON'02). January 16–18, 2002, Imperial College, London, England. This workshop focuses on the logical study of normative reasoning and applications to various areas of computer science. The Co-Chairs of the Program Committee are J. Horty and A.J.I. Jones. For further information, visit http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/deon02.
- WSES Joint Conferences on Soft Computing. February 11-15, 2002, Interlaken, Switzerland. This event combines the Third World Scientific and Engineering Society (WSES) International Conference on Fuzzy Sets & Fuzzy Systems (FSFS '02), Neural Nets and Applications (NNA '02), and Evolutionary Computation (EC '02). The deadline for submission of papers to any of the individual conferences is September 30, 2001. For further information, visit: http://www.worldses.org/wses/conferences/2002/interlaken/fsfs for FSFS '02; http://www.worldses.org/wses/conferences/2002/interlaken/nna for NNA '02; or http://www.worldses.org/wses/conferences/2002/interlaken/ec for EC '02.
- 2002 Spring Topology and Dynamics Conference. March 21–23, 2002, Austin, Texas. The areas covered will include set-theoretic topology, continuum theory, dynamical systems, geometric topology, and geometric group theory. For further information, send email to: stdc2002@atlas-conferences.com.
- European Joint Conferences on Theory and Practice of Software (ETAPS 2002). April 6-14, 2002, Grenoble, France. ETAPS is a confederation of conferences and other events that has become the primary European forum for academic and industrial researchers working on topics relating to Software Science. ETAPS 2002 includes five conferences and thirteen satellite events, several of which may be of interest to logicians. The deadline for submission of proposals for demonstrations and tutorials is October 19, 2001. Further information may be obtained from the conference web site, http://www-etaps.imag.fr.
- Euro-conference in Model Theory and Applications. May 27-June 1, 2002, Ravello, Italy. Tutorials will be offered by E. Bouscaren, J. Denef, and P. Speissegger. Invited plenary speakers include: G. Cherlin, L. van den Dries, T. Gardener, E. Hrushovski, A. Macintyre, H.D. Macpherson, Y. Peterzil, A. Pillay, B. Poizat, T. Scanlon, K. Tent, F. Wagner, M. Ziegler, and B. Zilber. There will be a banquet to celebrate Angus Macintyre's 60th birthday. The Chair of the Program Committee is A. Wilkie. If you wish to receive conference announcements, contact A. Wilkie by email at wilkie@maths.ox.ac.uk. For further information, visit http://www.logique.jussieu.fr/ECMTA-02/.
- Bounded Arithmetic and Complexity Classes. June 28–29, 2002, Lisbon, Portugal. Among the main topics of this meeting are: bounded arithmetic, weak systems of analysis, extraction of numerical bounds from non-constructive proofs, and implicit characterizations of computational classes. The invited speakers include: J. Avigad, M. Hoffman, U. Kohlenbach, J. Krajíček, and T. Slaman. The deadline for submission of (extended) abstracts is March 1, 2002. For further information, contact F. Ferreira by email at ferferr@cii.fc.ul.pt or visit http://alf1.cii.fc.ul.pt/~ferferr/bscc.html.

The next Newsletter will be mailed in November, 2001. Items to be included should reach the Secretary-Treasurer before October 31, 2001.