

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

# VIGRE Funding Report

(due 30 days after semester of support)

Semester/Summer and Year:

Spring 2009

Name:

List the graduate courses you have taken this semester (including independent studies), your grades, and the instructors:

Course	Title	Grade	Instructor
<input type="text" value="Math 511B"/>	<input type="text" value="Algebra"/>	<input type="text" value="A"/>	<input type="text" value="Joshi"/>
<input type="text" value="Math 523B"/>	<input type="text" value="Real Analysis"/>	<input type="text" value="B"/>	<input type="text" value="Wehr"/>
<input type="text" value="Math 534B"/>	<input type="text" value="Topology/Geometry"/>	<input type="text" value="A"/>	<input type="text" value="Pickrell"/>
<input type="text" value="Math 596G"/>	<input type="text" value="Research Tutorial Group"/>	<input type="text" value="A"/>	<input type="text" value="Kennedy"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

List the title, date and location of any talks you have given, either here or elsewhere:

If you are working on your dissertation, include a one paragraph description of your research progress. If you have not yet begun dissertation research, describe your progress toward finding a dissertation topic and advisor and beginning that research.

List publications, if any.

Check all activities you completed during the funded period:

Academics:

- Independent Study
- Oral Comprehensive Exam
- Commence Thesis Research
- Conference attendance
- Conference participation
- Complete PhD

Professional development and outreach:

- AP Calculus Visit
- High School Workshops
- Undergraduate Research Project
- Undergraduate Research Seminar
- Super TA
- Mentoring junior graduate students for the qualifying exams
- RTG (help organize)
- Research Seminar (help organize)

Other (please specify)

Attach a brief statement about your academic progress and professional development during the period of support.

## VIGRE FUNDING REPORT PART II

DUSTY HINKEL

After a fall semester that kept me busier than I had anticipated, I took a lighter course load for the spring. Having extra time and energy, I went to more colloquium talks, sat in on the Complex Analysis class for much of the semester, began going to the Number Theory seminar, and attended the Arizona Winter School. I really enjoyed the talks at the Winter School. The experience reaffirmed my interest in Number Theory and has made me look forward to attending more math conferences. In the months since the conference, I've been spending more time thinking about and reading about topics in Number Theory.

Going into this semester, I wanted to spend more attention on Algebra than I had spent during the fall. I feel that I greatly improved my understanding and appreciation of ring theory and Galois theory this semester. (And learning about covering spaces in Topology/Geometry had the welcome effect of giving me a better intuition for groups.) I'm happy with the progress I made and with how much I learned this semester.