Dissertation Progress: This summer consisted of studying for the qualifying exam and looking for an RTG advisor. Since I realized that this RTG advisor may very well turn out to be my PhD thesis advisor, I spent much time talking to various people from different departments. I emailed about seven professors asking them about their areas of research. Some of them responded that they were too busy for an RTG with me. Others invited me to visit them. I visited with three professors. I talked with Tim Secomb, Dr. Montfort, and Juan Restrepo. In the end I decided to work with Restrepo on a project involving the shallow water wave equations (which involves finding how ocean waves crash into a shore). I hope that after that project with him I will be able to work on Computational Cell Blood Dynamics with him as well as perhaps doing an independent study with Dr. Secomb on the topic to try and get a biological background on the issue.

List of Courses: I took no courses during the summer but studied for the applied math PhD qualifying exam. My score on that test was a PhD pass.

List of Seminars or Talks: I gave no talks during the summer.

Research Papers: I wrote no papers during the summer.

Activities in Fostering Interactions: I participated in some study seminars for the qualifying exam (one that was just grad students and two others led by PostDocs) but cannot think of any other activities that I did that might foster interactions.