PhD graduate Glen Wheeler wins an Alexander Von Humboldt Fellowship

Recently completed PhD student Glen Wheeler has been awarded a prestigious Humboldt Fellowship, to be taken up with Prof. Dr. rer. nat. habil. Hans-Christoph Grunau at the Otto-von-Guerick-Universität Magdeburg in Germany. Glen completed his PhD thesis in pure mathematics at the University of Wollongong within the three year timeframe and the fellowship award was based on the groundbreaking work contained in the thesis and very strong referee reports. As his application was ranked in the top level of those received, Glen received the maximum length fellowship of two years, preceded by an intensive two month German language fellowship.

Glen completed honours in pure mathematics in 2006, with a thesis supervised by Professors Graham Williams and Rod Nillsen. He subsequently obtained an Australian Postgraduate Award to support his PhD studies in higher order geometric heat flows, supervised by Dr. James McCoy and Professor Graham Williams. The following year he obtained a DAAD scholarship enabling him to collaborate with leading experts in his research area in Germany and, after a successful trip, he was twice invited back to Germany, fully funded, where he presented his work at specialist conferences and workshops and continued his research. In particular, it was an extremely rare honour for Glen as a PhD student to present at the specialist workshop "Ricci flow and the Poincaré Conjecture" at the Mathematisches Forschungsinstitut Oberwolfach.