

Robert M. Corless is the Scientific Director of the Ontario Research Centre for Computer Algebra.

Rob did his honours undergraduate degree in math and computer science, graduating in 1980. He did his M.Math at Waterloo in 1982 in Applied Mathematics. When he took his first course there from Keith Geddes, there was no such thing as Maple. By the end of his second course from Keith Geddes, there was.

Rob got his PhD at UBC in 1987 in Mechanical Engineering, using REDUCE to solve a flow-induced vibration model by perturbation with the method of multiple scales. He joined Applied Mathematics at Western right after his PhD; his first summer in London, Ontario resulted in four papers using computer algebra (Maple, muMath, CAMAL, and Reduce) with David Jeffrey and they have been writing together ever since.

Rob got tenure in 1993, became full professor in 1998, and Distinguished University Professor in 2006. He has written over 175 papers, many for ACM Communications in Computer Algebra, of which he was editor from 1996 to 1999. Rob was Chair of ACM Sigsam from 1999 to 2003. His book *Essential Maple* (Springer) continues to be used (though a third edition is frequently requested). His most recent book, *A Graduate Introduction to Numerical Methods* (2013, Springer) has been reviewed by Alex Townsend (Cornell) in *SIAM Reviews* in the December 2016 issue (<http://epubs.siam.org/doi/abs/10.1137/16N974231>) and blogged about by Nick Higham (<https://nickhigham.wordpress.com/2015/11/17/>). The book was placed on The ACM Notable Book list in 2013.

Rob was a friend and co-author of Jon Borwein for over twenty years. Their joint works included the highly-cited "Emerging Tools in Experimental Mathematics"; an unusually highly-cited (!) book review of NJA Sloane and Plouffe's *Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences*; joint editorial work on *The Proceedings of the Organic Mathematics Workshop 1995* (which, owing to the vision of Jon and his brother Peter, was far ahead of its time); and a forward look at mathematics online in the "Digitally Activated Mathematics for a Brave New World Wide Web" article. Rob has one last joint work with Jon, submitted after Jon died: *Gamma, Factorial, and Psi* (now under revision for the *American Mathematical Monthly*).

In May 2016, Rob was awarded a 1st dan black belt in Yoshinkan Aikido.

Rob is now working on a new book "Introduction to Computational Discovery" with his PhD student Eunice Chan, and of course continuing to work on *The Lambert W* book with David Jeffrey.