Call for Proposals for AMS Special Sessions  
for the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Seattle, WA, January 6—9, 2016

Michel L. Lapidus, Associate Secretary responsible for the AMS program at the 2016 Joint Mathematics Meetings, solicits proposals for Special Sessions for this meeting (to be held from Wednesday, January 6 through Saturday, January 9, 2016 in Seattle, WA). Each proposal must include:

1. the name, affiliation, and e-mail address of each organizer, with one organizer designated as the contact person for all communication about the session;
2. the title and a brief (two or three paragraphs) description of the topic of the proposed special session;
3. a sample list of speakers (along with their institutions) whom the organizers plan to invite. (It is not necessary to have received confirmed commitments from these potential speakers.)

Organizers are strongly encouraged to consult the AMS Manual for Special Session Organizers at: www.ams.org/meetings/specialsessionmanual.html, especially section 4.d, which describes speaker selection.

Proposals for AMS Special Sessions should be sent by e-mail to Prof. Lapidus (lapidus@math.ucr.edu) and must be received by the deadline for organizers, April 2, 2015. Late proposals will not be considered [with the possible exception of special sessions explicitly associated with (and approved by) one of the plenary lectures/invited addresses at the meeting]. No decisions will be made on Special Session proposals until after the submission deadline has passed.

Special Sessions will in general be allotted between 5 and 10 hours in which to schedule speakers. To enable maximum movement of participants between sessions, organizers must schedule each speaker for either a) 20-minute talk, 5-minute discussion and 5-minute break; or b) 40-minute talk, 10-minute discussion and 10-minute break. Any combination of 20-minute and 40-minute talks is permitted, but all talks should begin and end at the scheduled time. (In particular, all the talks should start on the hour or half-hour, except on the first afternoon when special sessions must begin at 2:15pm and hence, talks will start on the quarter or third-quarter hour).

There is only a finite amount of space available for Special Sessions on the AMS program. Because of the large number of high-quality proposals expected, not all proposals may be accepted. Please be sure to submit as informative a proposal as possible for review by the Program Committee. We aim to notify organizers whether their proposal has been accepted by May 2, 2015. Specific additional instructions will then be given to the contact persons of the accepted special sessions, shortly after that deadline.