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# Call for Topics for 2000 Conferences

## Call for Proposals for the Year 2000 Joint Summer Research Conferences *Be part of World Mathematical Year 2000!*

The AMS-IMS-SIAM Joint Summer Research Conferences have been a lively and meaningful series for more than 6,000 participants. For over fifteen years these conferences have played a vital role in disseminating information to researchers and students, spanning the breadth of the mathematical sciences.

In your area of research,

- are there new trends?
- what impact will new developments have on other disciplines?
- is there an advantage to bringing together those from related disciplines to work on a common problem?
- are there junior scientists who would benefit by exposure to an area of current research and who could work closely with leaders in the field?
- can you communicate clarity and focus and provide direction for future research efforts?

The Joint Summer Research Conferences welcome proposals from mathematicians, either singly or in groups, for conferences to take place in the summer of 2000. Individuals willing to serve as organizers should be aware that the administrative efforts of the sponsoring societies will be at their disposal for many of the logistical details of the management of the conference, thus making it possible for the organizers to focus on the scientific aspects of their conference.

- An associate executive director at the AMS will prepare the grant application(s) to appropriate federal funding agencies and do follow-up correspondence until grant funds for partial participant support have been secured.

- The professional conference coordinators in the AMS office will provide full support and assistance before, during, and after the conference, thereby freeing the organizers to concentrate on providing a high-quality program. They will also secure the site and all related goods and services.
- It is not mandatory that proceedings of each conference be published; however, there are opportunities to publish with one of the sponsoring societies. A member of the Organizing Committee must be willing to serve as editor of the proceedings.

Conferences usually emulate the scientific structure of those held at Oberwolfach, although this structure is flexible. The proposals to be selected will represent diverse areas of mathematical activity, with emphasis on areas currently especially active. Conferences generally run for one week with forty-five to sixty-five participants. Two- and even three-week conferences are possible.

All proposals must include (1) the names and affiliations of proposed members and the chair of the Organizing Committee; (2) a two- to four-page description addressing the focus of the topic, including the importance and timeliness of the topic, and estimated attendance; (3) a list of the recent conferences in the same or closely related areas; (4) a tentative list of names and affiliations of the proposed principal speakers; and (5) a list of likely candidates who would be invited to participate and their current affiliations. Organizers are encouraged to make a strong attempt to include women, underrepresented minorities, and junior scientists in their proposals.

Recent conferences held in 1998 at Mount Holyoke College were *q-Series, combinatorics, and computer algebra*; *Quantum cohomology*; *Geometric group theory and computer science*; *Mathematical methods in inverse problems*

*for partial differential equations; and Nonlinear pde's, dynamics and continuum physics.* The 1999 series, to be held at the University of Colorado, Boulder, includes *From manifolds to singular varieties; Computability theory and applications, Homotopy methods in algebraic topology; Wave phenomena in complex media; Groupoids in physics, geometry and analysis; Differential geometric methods in the control of partial differential equations; and Structured matrices in operator theory, numerical analysis, control, signal and image processing.*

Do you see being a conference organizer as part of your future? Think about preparing your proposal soon! Proposals will be considered by the AMS-IMS-SIAM Committee on Joint Summer Research Conferences in the Mathematical Sciences. Members of this committee are willing to provide guidance on the preparation of proposals. The committee is listed at <http://www.ams.org/meetings/srcscomm.html>. A recent example of a well-prepared proposal is also included on this Web site.

Start working on your proposal soon! **The deadline for receipt of all proposals is February 1, 1999.** The committee will make decisions on the slate of the year 2000 conferences in early spring 1999. Don't be left out of this significant activity as the mathematical world prepares for its future.