
For Your Information

Ramanujan Prize Established

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) and the International Mathematical Union (IMU) have announced the establishment of the Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians from Developing Countries. The prize will be awarded annually for the highest mathematical achievement by young researchers (under forty-five years old) from developing countries who conduct their research in a developing country. Work in any branch of the mathematical sciences is eligible for the prize. The prize is worth \$10,000 and is supported by the Niels Henrik Abel Memorial Fund. The initial prize is expected to be awarded in 2005. For further information, see the ICTP website at <http://www.ictp.it>.

—From an ICTP announcement

Departments Coordinate Job Offer Deadlines

A group of mathematical sciences departments has adopted an agreement to coordinate deadlines for acceptance of postdoctoral job offers. The purpose is to ensure that applicants do not have to make decisions about job offers before the results of the National Science Foundation (NSF) postdoctoral fellowship competition are announced. The agreement applies only to offers of postdoctoral positions and not tenure-track positions, and only to applicants who are less than two years past the Ph.D.

The departments have agreed not to require these applicants to decide about a job offer before Monday, February 7, 2005. The NSF has agreed to notify postdoctoral fellowship recipients no later than Monday, January 31, 2005. The list of participating departments, together with additional information, may be found on the Web at <http://www.ams.org/employment/postdoc-offers.html>.

—Allyn Jackson

Lalonde Named Director of CRM

François Lalonde, professor in the Mathematics and Statistics Department of the Université de Montréal, was named director of the Centre de Recherches Mathématiques (CRM) on September 14, 2004. Lalonde has been a member of the CRM since 1991.

A member of the Royal Society of Canada, Lalonde enjoys a well-established scientific reputation in the international community. From 1996 to 2000 he directed the Institut des Sciences Mathématiques (ISM), a consortium of six Québec universities (Université de Montréal, McGill University, Université du Québec à Montréal, Concordia University, Université Laval, and Université de Sherbrooke). In this capacity he improved the visibility of the ISM by putting in place measures furthering the standing of Montréal, and the province as a whole, as a North American center of excellence in mathematical research and training.

Lalonde was also the founder and director of the Centre Interuniversitaire de Recherche en Géométrie Différentielle et en Topologie (Interuniversity Research Center in Differential Geometry and Topology), which gathers together the best geometers and topologists from UQAM, McGill, and Concordia Universities.

A mathematician and physicist by training, Lalonde holds a Doctorat d'État (1985) from Orsay Center in Paris in the field of differential topology. He was a Killam Research Fellowship recipient (roughly equivalent to an American Guggenheim) in 2000–2002. Lalonde holds the only Canada Research Chair in Symplectic Geometry and Topology.

Founded at the Université de Montréal in 1969, the CRM was the first mathematics research institute established in Canada (it is now joined by The Fields Institute in Ontario and the Pacific Institute for Mathematical Sciences in western Canada). In 1984 the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) conferred on the CRM the status of national research center. The main funding sources of the CRM are NSERC, the Québec Natural Sciences Research Council (FQRNT), and five sponsoring Québec

universities (principally Montréal, but also McGill, UQAM, Concordia, and Laval).

The CRM runs an annual thematic program as well as shorter programs and workshops. Courses aimed at graduate students and postdoctoral fellows wishing to specialize in new areas are usually part of the thematic programs. There are many well-established mathematicians around the world who have furthered their research and training at the CRM.

The CRM has over 150 members and postdoctoral fellows, and it welcomes numerous visiting researchers each year. The activities of the center encompass basic research in mathematics as well as several fields of application. The majority of the members are part of eight thematic laboratories (or research groups). The research projects pursued by the CRM's members are of world-class caliber. The CRM's membership is the lifeblood of research in mathematics in the province of Québec.

The CRM has a well-established collaboration with the publishing wing of the AMS. Since 1992 the AMS has published the CRM Monograph Series and the CRM Proceedings & Lecture Notes.

—*From a CRM announcement*

Correction

The August 2004 issue of the *Notices* carried an article called “Has the Women-in-Mathematics Problem Been Solved?” On page 781 the article discussed efforts at Carnegie Mellon University to encourage women in computer science. The article erred in saying that the university had reoriented the admission criteria for its Ph.D. program in computer science. The reorientation occurred in the undergraduate program.

—*Allyn Jackson*

Correction

In the feature article “Lévy Processes—From Probability to Finance and Quantum Groups” (December 2004) there is an error in line 4 in the left hand column of page 1323. In the final expression, $\lambda q(dy)$ should be replaced by $\nu(dy)$ so that both integrals in the total expression are with respect to the same measure.

—*David Applebaum*