Mathematics Opportunities

NSF CAREER Program Guidelines Available

The guidelines for the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) are now available on the World Wide Web. The program solicitation number is 05-579. Information is available at `http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf05579`. The deadline for submission of proposals is **July 21, 2005**.

—From an NSF announcement

ADVANCE: New NSF Program to Increase Women's Participation

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has instituted the ADVANCE Program in an effort to increase the representation and advancement of women in academic science and engineering careers.

In 2005–2006 the program will support three types of projects. Leadership Awards will support the efforts of individuals, small groups, or organizations in developing national and/or discipline-specific leadership in enabling the full participation and advancement of women in academic science and engineering careers.

Institutional Transformation Awards will support transformational efforts in academic institutions intended to increase participation and advancement of women scientists and engineers in academe. These awards support innovative and comprehensive programs for institution-wide change.

Partnerships for Adaptation, Implementation, and Dissemination Awards support the analysis, adaptation, dissemination, and use of existing innovative materials and practices that have been demonstrated to be effective in increasing representation and participation of women in academic science and engineering careers.

The NSF is seeking proposals from both men and women for creative strategies to realize the goals of the ADVANCE Program. Members of underrepresented minority groups and individuals with disabilities are especially encouraged to apply. Proposals that address the participation and advancement of women from underrepresented minority groups are encouraged.

The deadlines for proposals are as follows: for Leadership Awards, **July 15, 2005**; for Institutional Transformation Awards, **July 22, 2005**; for Partnerships for Adaptation, Implementation, and Dissemination Awards, **January 27, 2006**. For further details see `http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5383`.

—From an NSF announcement

Call for Nominations for Sloan Fellowships

Nominations for candidates for Sloan Research Fellowships, sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, are due by **September 15, 2005**. A candidate must be a member of the regular faculty at a college or university in the United States or Canada and must be at an early stage in his or her research career. For information write to: Sloan Research Fellowships, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, 630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2550, New York, NY 10111-0242; or consult the foundation's Web page: `http://www.sloan.org/programs/fellowship_brochure.shtml`.

—From a Sloan Foundation announcement

Call for Nominations for the ICTP/IMU Ramanujan Prize

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), in conjunction with the International Mathematical Union (IMU), is seeking nominations for the first annual Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians from Developing Countries. Researchers under forty-five years old who work in any branch of the mathematical sciences are eligible. The prize carries a $10,000 cash award and a travel and subsistence allowance to deliver a prize

lecture at the ICTP. The deadline for receipt of nominations is **July 31, 2005**. For further information see `http://www.ictp.trieste.it/~sci_info/awards/Ramanujan/Ramanujan.html`.

—From an ICTP announcement

News from the Clay Mathematics Institute

The Clay Mathematics Institute (CMI) announces a program of small workshops, generally ten to twenty persons, to be held at its One Bow Street offices in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The aim is to bring a small set of researchers together quickly, outside the usual grant and application cycle, when this is likely to result in significant progress. An application submitted three months before the workshop is sufficient. Funding for at least ten people is available for each workshop.

CMI, located on Massachusetts Avenue five blocks from the Harvard Square subway station, offers excellent space and facilities for workshops. There is a hotel across the street, bed and breakfasts within easy walking distance, and a great variety of nearby restaurants and cafes.

The first of these workshops, organized by Haynes Miller (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and Jack Morava (Johns Hopkins), was held March 11 to 13 on the subject "Operads and the Goodwillie Calculus".

See `http://www.claymath.org/workshops` for further information.

—CMI announcement

NSF Launches Math Website

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has added to its website a special section called "Mathematics: An Overview of NSF Research". Separate from the Web pages of the NSF's Division of Mathematical Sciences, the new section provides accessible, nontechnical explanations of some of the mathematical sciences research topics sponsored by the NSF. Among the topics discussed are managing and modeling complexity, pattern recognition, and the "double-bubble" problem. There is also an interactive feature focusing on fractal geometry. The URL for the main page is `http://www.nsf.gov/news/overviews/mathematics/index.jsp`.

—Allyn Jackson

Special Meetings in the Mathematical Sciences

The Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) of the National Science Foundation (NSF) has long supported conferences, workshops, and similar activities that aim to widely disseminate scholarly work, reveal and plan new directions and opportunities for research, and engage and encourage students and junior scientists early in their careers. To emphasize such opportunities for mathematical scientists, especially opportunities that go beyond what ordinary conferences might provide, the DMS has revised its conference solicitation. The new announcement, NSF 05-540, is called "Conferences, Workshops, and Special Meetings in the Mathematical Sciences". In this solicitation the DMS invites proposals of two types: (1) regular conference, symposia, and workshop proposals; and (2) proposals for special meetings, which comprise longer-term or larger-scale activities that more widely engage and connect the mathematical sciences community, such as special research years or semesters, multi-institutional regional meetings, and "summer schools".

As in the past, regular conference proposals are submitted to the cognizant DMS programs according to those programs' usual deadlines or target dates. These proposals normally request funding in the range of $5,000 to $25,000, although awards of up to $50,000 have occasionally been made. Their duration is normally for one year.

What we wish to emphasize here is the opportunity for special meetings. Proposals for special meetings are submitted to the cognizant DMS programs but at a distinct, common deadline. Special meetings proposals may request funding of any amount and for durations of up to three years, but most awards are expected to be in the range of $50,000 to $150,000 per year. This is not a change in the sort of proposals that the DMS is willing to accept or to fund. But it is an invitation to the mathematical sciences research community to pursue more ambitious ideas than the usual conference mechanism might accommodate.

The deadline for the next Special Meetings competition is **October 18, 2005**. Later competitions will have deadlines of the fourth Thursday in August each year. For more information about this opportunity, see the website `http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=11701&org=DMS`.

—DMS announcement