
Mathematics Opportunities

AMS Congressional Fellowship

The AMS, in conjunction with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), will sponsor a Congressional Fellow from September 2006 through August 2007. The Fellow will spend the year working on the staff of a member of Congress or a congressional committee as a special legislative assistant in legislative and policy areas that require scientific and technical input. The fellowship is designed to provide a unique public policy learning experience, to demonstrate the value of science and government interaction, and to bring a technical background and external perspective to the decision-making process in Congress. Deadline for applications is **March 31, 2006**.

Applicants should have received a Ph.D. or an equivalent doctoral-level degree in the mathematical sciences by the application deadline. For further information see the webpage <http://www.ams.org/government/congressfellowann.html> or contact the AMS Washington office at 202-588-1100; email: amsdc@ams.org.

—AMS announcement

Program Director Positions at NSF

The Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) announces a nationwide search for a number of program director positions at the National Science Foundation (NSF).

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the NSF's overall mission: to support innovative and merit-reviewed activities in basic research and education that contribute to the nation's technical strength, security, and welfare. To discharge this responsibility requires not only knowledge in the appropriate disciplines but also a commitment to high standards, a considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, a strong

sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity.

Applicants should have a Ph.D. or equivalent training in a field of the mathematical sciences, a broad knowledge of one of the relevant disciplinary areas of the DMS, some administrative experience, a knowledge of the general scientific community, skill in written communication and preparation of technical reports, an ability to communicate orally, and several years of successful independent research normally expected of the academic rank of associate professor or higher. Skills in multidisciplinary research are highly desirable.

Qualified individuals who are women, ethnic/racial minorities, and/or persons with disabilities are strongly urged to apply. No person shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability in hiring by the NSF.

Program director positions recruited under this announcement may be filled under one of the following appointment options:

Visiting Scientist Appointment: Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting scientists are on unpaid leave status from their home institutions and appointed to NSF's payroll as federal employees. NSF withholds Social Security taxes and pays the home institution's contributions to maintain retirement and fringe benefits (i.e., health benefits and life insurance) either directly to the home institution or to the carrier. Appointments are usually made for up to one year and may be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement.

Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment: Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment with a federal agency include employees of state and local government agencies or institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, and other eligible organizations in instances in which such assignments would be of mutual benefit to the organizations involved. Initial assignments under IPA provisions may be made for a period of up to two years, with a possible extension for up to an additional two-year

period. The individual remains an employee of the home institution, and NSF provides funding toward the assignee's salary and benefits. Initial IPA assignments are made for a one-year period and may be extended by mutual agreement.

Temporary Excepted Service Appointment: Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Candidates who do not have civil service status or reinstatement eligibility will not obtain civil service status if selected. Candidates currently in the competitive service will be required to waive competitive civil service rights if selected. Usual civil service benefits (retirement, health benefits, life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Temporary appointments may not exceed three years.

For additional information on NSF's rotational programs, see "Programs for Scientists, Engineers and Educators" on the NSF website at http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opp.

Applicants should send a letter of interest and vita to Deborah F. Lockhart, Executive Officer, Division of Mathematical Sciences, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1025, Arlington, VA 22230; phone: 703-292-8870; fax: 703-292-9032; email: dlockhart@nsf.gov.

NSF is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to employing a highly qualified staff that reflects the diversity of our nation. This announcement can also be found at http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=dms0601.

—*NSF announcement*

Summer Program for Women Undergraduates

The 2006 Summer Program for Women in Mathematics (SPWM) will take place at George Washington University in Washington, DC, from July 1 to August 5, 2006. This is a five-week intensive program for mathematically talented undergraduate women who are completing their junior years and may be contemplating graduate study in mathematical sciences. Goals of this program are to communicate an enthusiasm for mathematics, to develop research skills, to cultivate mathematical self-confidence and independence, and to promote success in graduate school.

Sixteen women will be selected. Each will receive a travel allowance, campus room and board, and a stipend of US\$1,500. The deadline for applications to be received is **March 1, 2006**. Early applications are encouraged. For further information contact the director, Murli M. Gupta, email: mmg@gwu.edu; telephone: 202-994-4857; or visit the program's website at <http://www.gwu.edu/~spwm/>. Application material may be printed from the website.

—*Murli M. Gupta, George Washington University*

International Mathematics Competition for University Students

The Thirteenth International Mathematics Competition for University Students (IMC) will be held July 20–26, 2006, at Odessa I.I. Mechnikov National University in Odessa, Ukraine. The competition is coorganized by University College London and the Odessa I.I. Mechnikov National University, with sponsorship from D. E. Shaw & Co.

Participating universities are invited to send several students and one teacher each. Individual students are welcome. The competition is intended for students completing their first, second, third, or fourth years of university education and will consist of two sessions of five hours each. Problems will be taken from the fields of algebra, analysis (real and complex), and combinatorics. The working language will be English.

Deadline for registration is **May 31, 2006**. For more complete information, see the website <http://www.imc-math.org> or contact John E. Jayne, Department of Mathematics, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, United Kingdom; telephone +44-20-7679 7322; fax +44-20-7419 2812; email: j.jayne@imc-math.org. If you would like a copy of the competition poster, please send your request with postal address to j.jayne@imc-math.org.

—*From an IMC announcement*

Call for Nominations for Information-Based Complexity Prize

The Prize for Achievement in Information-Based Complexity is awarded every year for work done in a single year, in a number of years, or over a lifetime. The work can be published in any journal, in a number of journals, or in monograph form.

The prize consists of US\$3,000 and a plaque. The deadline for nominations is **March 31, 2006**. However, a person does not need to be nominated to win the award. For more information, contact Joseph Traub at traub@cs.columbia.edu.

—*Joseph Traub, Columbia University*

Project NExT: New Experiences in Teaching

Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) is a professional development program for new and recent Ph.D.s in the mathematical sciences (including pure and applied

mathematics, statistics, operations research, and mathematics education). It addresses all aspects of an academic career: improving the teaching and learning of mathematics, engaging in research and scholarship, and participating in professional activities. It also provides the participants with a network of peers and mentors as they assume these responsibilities. Each year, about sixty faculty members from colleges and universities throughout the country are selected to participate in a workshop preceding the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) summer meeting, in activities during the summer MAA meetings and the Joint Mathematics Meetings in January, and in an electronic discussion network. Faculty for whom the 2006-2007 academic year will be the first or second year of full-time teaching (post-Ph.D.) at the college or university level are invited to apply to become Project NExT Fellows. The application deadline is **April 17, 2006**. For more information, see the Project NExT website, <http://archives.math.utk.edu/projnext/>.

Project NExT is a program of the MAA. It receives major funding from the ExxonMobil Foundation, with additional funding from the Dolciani-Halloran Foundation, the American Mathematical Society, the Educational Advancement Foundation, the American Statistical Association, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Texas Instruments, the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators, the Association for Symbolic Logic, and the Greater MAA Fund.

—Christine Stevens, Project NExT