
For Your Information

Departments Coordinate Job Offer Deadlines

For the past thirteen years the American Mathematical Society has led the effort to gain broad endorsement for the following proposal:

That mathematics departments and institutes agree not to require a response prior to a certain date (usually early in February of a given year) to an offer of a postdoctoral position that begins in the fall of that year.

This proposal is linked to an agreement made by the National Science Foundation (NSF) that the recipients of the NSF Mathematical Sciences Postdoctoral Fellowships would be notified of their awards, at the latest, by the end of January.

This agreement ensures that our young colleagues entering the postdoctoral job market have as much information as possible about their options before making a decision. It also allows departmental hiring committees adequate time to review application files and make informed decisions. From our perspective, this agreement has worked well and has made the process more orderly. There have been very few negative comments. Last year, one hundred fifty-six mathematics and applied mathematics departments and four mathematics institutes endorsed the agreement.

Therefore, we propose that mathematics departments again collectively enter into the same agreement for the upcoming cycle of recruiting, with the deadline set for Monday, February 4, 2013. The NSF has already agreed that it will complete its review of applications by January 25, 2013, at the latest and that all applicants will be notified electronically at that time.

The American Mathematical Society facilitated the process by sending an email message to all doctoral-granting mathematics and applied mathematics departments and mathematics institutes. The list of departments and institutes endorsing this agreement was widely announced on the AMS website beginning November 1, 2012, and is updated weekly.

We ask that you view a proposed updated version of last year's formal agreement at <http://www.ams.org/employment/postdoc-offers.html> along with **last year's list** of adhering departments.

Important: To streamline this year's process for all involved, we ask that you notify Ellen Maycock at the AMS (ejm@ams.org) **if and only if:**

(1) your department is not listed and you would like to be listed as part of the agreement; or

(2) your department is listed and you would like to withdraw from the agreement and be removed from the list.

Please feel free to email us with questions and concerns. Thank you for your consideration of the proposal.

—Donald McClure, AMS Executive Director
Ellen Maycock, AMS Associate Executive Director

New PIMS Headquarters

The University of British Columbia (UBC) headquarters for the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) has moved to a new state-of-the-art, centrally located facility on the fourth floor of the brand new Earth Sciences Building (ESB) at UBC.

This impressive building is centrally located at UBC's Point Grey Campus, and PIMS's new space includes a reception area, offices for administration, offices for up to twenty-four visitors and postdoctoral fellows, and lab workspace for ten graduate students. It also boasts a dedicated video-conferencing room and a spacious lounge. In addition, an array of classrooms throughout the building is available for PIMS seminars and workshops.

The \$75 million ESB is home to Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences, Statistics, PIMS, and the dean's office of the Faculty of Science. It is the largest panelized wood building and the largest application of cross-laminated timber in North America. The building uses over 1,300 tons of British Columbia-sourced and engineered cross-laminated timber.

The ESB was made possible by generous investments from the British Columbia government, partners in the minerals industry, UBC Science alumnus Ross Beaty, and the Canada Wood Council.

PIMS looks forward to welcoming all members of the mathematical sciences community to our new site!

—PIMS announcement