

---

# For Your Information

## Hambleton Appointed New Director of Fields Institute

The Fields Institute, after an exhaustive search and application process, has appointed Dr. Ian Hambleton, Britton Professor of Mathematics at McMaster University, as the new director of the Institute. The outgoing director, Dr. Walter Craig, will continue

until June 30, 2015, and will assist in the transition. Dr. Hambleton will officially become the new director on July 1, 2015.

Dr. Hambleton received his doctorate from Yale University in 1973 and was an L. E. Dickson Instructor at the University of Chicago before joining McMaster University, where he has served as chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics for three terms, was active in university affairs as president of the McMaster Faculty Association, and was several times elected to the senate and board of governors. He is a prominent mathematician with more than seventy-five published articles in leading international journals and whose research in geometry and topology connects to a broad range of mathematics. His distinguished record of scholarship has been recognized by a high level of National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) funding for almost forty years, supporting an extensive program of graduate and postdoctoral training. He was a member of the School of Mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton for two years and a visiting professor for three years at the Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in Bonn, in addition to numerous other visiting positions at major mathematical centers.

“The position of director at Fields is an exciting challenge. Walter’s contributions to Fields have been outstanding, and I look forward to building on his accomplishments and those of all the past directors,” said Dr. Hambleton.

The Director Search Committee was chaired by former Fields director Dr. Edward Bierstone, who said that “despite the very short search period, we were fortunate to have several excellent candidates, including Ian, with great ideas for advancing the mission of the Fields Institute. This is a testimony to the Institute’s stature in the mathematical world. I am delighted that Ian has accepted the Institute’s offer and that he is able to begin this summer.”

Dr. Craig is very pleased at the selection of Dr. Hambleton as his replacement after he decided to step down for health reasons. “The Fields Institute is one of the top mathematical sciences research institutes in the world, and certainly one of the most active ones,” he said. “It is very much due to the intellectual investment by the community into Institute events and programs, as well as the engagement of our staff. I am very sad to have to step down, but pleased on the other hand that Ian will be taking on the directorship. I have full confidence in his scientific judgement and his administrative skills.”

The Fields Institute is an international center for research and training in all areas of the mathematical sciences and their applications. Every year its programs attract more than 4,000 participants from around the world. The Institute is supported by the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the US National Science Foundation, and a growing list of partner universities and corporations in Canada, the United States, and Europe.

—Adam Zarboni  
Communications Officer  
The Fields Institute