American Mathematical Society Centennial Fellowship

Invitation for Applications for Awards for 2016-2017
Deadline December 1, 2015

Description: The AMS Centennial Research Fellowship Program makes awards annually to outstanding mathematicians to help further their careers in research. The number of fellowships to be awarded is small and depends on the amount of money contributed to the program. The Society supplements contributions as needed. At least one fellowship will be awarded for the 2016-2017 academic year. A list of previous fellowship winners can be found at www.ams.org/profession/prizes-awards/ams-centennial-fellow.

Eligibility: The eligibility rules are as follows. The primary selection criterion for the Centennial Fellowship is the excellence of the candidate’s research. Preference will be given to candidates who have not had extensive fellowship support in the past. Recipients may not hold the Centennial Fellowship concurrently with another research fellowship such as a Sloan or NSF Postdoctoral fellowship. Under normal circumstances, the fellowship cannot be deferred. A recipient of the fellowship shall have held his or her doctoral degree for at least three years and not more than twelve years at the inception of the award (that is, received between September 1, 2004, and September 1, 2013). Applications will be accepted from those currently holding a tenured, tenure track, postdoctoral, or comparable (at the discretion of the selection committee) position at an institution in North America. Applications should include a cogent plan indicating how the fellowship will be used. The plan should include travel to at least one other institution and should demonstrate that the fellowship will be used for more than reduction of teaching at the candidate’s home institution. The selection committee will consider the plan, in addition to the quality of the candidate’s research, and will try to award the fellowship to those for whom the award would make a real difference in the development of their research careers. Work in all areas of mathematics, including interdisciplinary work, is eligible.

Deadline: The deadline for receipt of applications is December 1, 2015. The award recipient will be announced in February 2016 or earlier if possible.

Application information: Find Centennial information and the application form via the Internet at www.ams.org/ams-fellowships. For paper copies of the form, write to the Membership and Programs Department, American Mathematical Society, 201 Charles Street, Providence, RI 02904-2294; prof-serv@ams.org; 401-455-4096.

—AMS announcement

AMS Congressional Fellowship

The AMS, in conjunction with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), will sponsor a Congressional Fellow from September 2016 through August 2017. 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 requiring scientific and technical input. The fellowship is designed to provide a unique public policy learning experience, to demonstrate the value of science-government interaction, and to bring a technical background and external perspective to the decision-making process in the Congress. An AMS Fellowship Committee will select the AMS Congressional Fellow. The fellowship stipend is US$76,378 for the fellowship period, with allowances for relocation and professional travel and a contribution toward health insurance. Applicants must have a PhD or an equivalent doctoral-level degree in mathematics by the application deadline. For information and to apply, go to bit.ly/AMSCongressionalFellowship. The deadline for applications is February 15, 2016.

—Anita Benjamin
AMS Washington Office

AMS-AAAS Mass Media Summer Fellowships

The AMS provides support each year for a graduate student in the mathematical sciences to participate in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows Program. This summer fellowship program pairs graduate students with major media outlets nationwide, where they
will research, write, and report on science news and use their skills to bring technical subjects to the general public.

The principal goal of the program is to increase the public’s understanding of science and technology by strengthening the connection between scientists and journalists to improve coverage of science-related issues in the media. Past AMS-sponsored fellows have held positions at National Public Radio, Scientific American, Voice of America, The Oregonian, the Chicago Tribune, and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

Fellows receive a weekly stipend of US$500, plus travel expenses, to work for ten weeks during the summer as reporters, researchers, and production assistants in newsrooms across the country. They observe and participate in the process by which events and ideas become news, improve their ability to communicate about complex technical subjects in a manner understandable to the public, and increase their understanding of editorial decision making and of how information is effectively disseminated. Each fellow attends an orientation and evaluation session in Washington, DC, and begins the internship in mid-June. Fellows submit interim and final reports to AAAS. A wrap-up session is held at the end of the summer.

Mathematical sciences faculty are urged to make their graduate students aware of this program. The deadline to apply for fellowships for the summer of 2016 is December 15, 2015. Further information about the fellowship program and application procedures is available online at www.aaas.org/programs/education/MassMedia or applicants may contact Dione Rossiter, Director, AAAS Mass Media Science & Engineering Fellows Program, 1200 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005; telephone: 202-326-6645; email: drossite@aaas.org. Further information is also available at www.ams.org/programs/ams-fellowships/media-fellow/massmediafellow and through the AMS Washington Office, 1527 Eighteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036; telephone: 202-588-1100; email: amsdc@ams.org

—AMS Washington Office

AMS Epsilon Fund

The AMS Epsilon Fund awards grants to summer mathematics programs that support and nurture mathematically talented high school students in the United States. The deadline to apply for funding for summer 2016 programs is December 15, 2015. Applications are now taken online at MathPrograms.org (www.mathprograms.org). For more information about the program and updated application information, go to www.ams.org/programs/education/epsilon/emp-epsilon. For more information contact the AMS Membership and Programs Department by email at prof-serv@ams.org or by telephone at 800-321-4267, ext. 4060.

—AMS announcement

*NSF Graduate Research Fellowships

The National Science Foundation’s Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master’s and doctoral degrees at accredited US institutions. The NSF welcomes applications from all qualified students and strongly encourages underrepresented populations, including women, underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities, to apply for this fellowship.

Fellows benefit from a three-year annual stipend of US$34,000, along with a US$12,000 cost-of-education allowance to the institution for tuition and fees, opportunities for international research and professional development, and the freedom to conduct their own research at any accredited US institution of graduate education they choose.

The deadline for full proposals in the mathematical sciences is October 30, 2015. For further information, visit the website www.nsfgrfp.org.

—From NSF announcements

Research Opportunities for US Graduate Students in Asia and Australia

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is sponsoring a summer research program in Australia, China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, New Zealand, and Singapore for US graduate students during the summer of 2016. The East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes (EAPSI) provide US graduate students in science and engineering with firsthand research experience in the aforementioned countries; an introduction to the science and science policy infrastructure of the respective locations; and orientation to the culture and language. The primary goals of EAPSI are to introduce students to East Asian and Pacific science and engineering in the context of a research laboratory and to initiate personal relationships that will better enable them to collaborate with foreign counterparts in the future. The institutes last approximately eight weeks (ten weeks in Japan) from June to August and are administered in the United States by the NSF.

Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents. They must be enrolled at US institutions in a research-oriented master’s or PhD program (including joint degree programs) in fields of science or engineering research and

*The most up-to-date listing of NSF funding opportunities from the Division of Mathematical Sciences can be found online at: www.nsf.gov/dms and for the Directorate of Education and Human Resources at www.nsf.gov/dir/index.jsp?org=ehr. To receive periodic updates, subscribe to the DMSNEWS listserv by following the directions at www.nsf.gov/mps/dms/about.jsp

—AMS announcement
education that are supported by the NSF and that also are represented among the potential host institutions. International travel will be provided, and each awardee will receive a stipend of US$5,000. The deadline for full proposals is November 12, 2015. Proposers are required to prepare and submit all proposals for this announcement/solicitation through the FastLane system. For further information see the program page at


—From an NSF announcement

Call for Nominations: Alan T. Waterman Award

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is soliciting nominations for the 2016 Alan T. Waterman Award. The award recognizes an outstanding young researcher in any field of science or engineering supported by the NSF. The award consists of a US$1,000,000 grant over a five-year period for research at the institution of the recipient’s choice. The deadline for nominations is October 23, 2015. Nominations must be submitted electronically using NSF’s FastLane system at

https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/ honawards/. For more details about the award, see


—From an NSF announcement

Jefferson Science Fellows Program

The Jefferson Science Fellows (JSF) program at the US Department of State is intended to involve the American academic science, technology, and engineering communities in the formulation and implementation of US foreign policy. Each fellow will spend one year at the US Department of State or the US Agency for International Development (USAID) for an on-site assignment in Washington, DC, that may also involve extended stays at US foreign embassies and/or missions. Each fellow will receive a stipend of up to US$50,000 to cover living expenses for one year. An additional US$10,000 is awarded for travel associated with the fellows’ assignments at the US Department of State/USAID. Following the fellowship year, the Jefferson Science Fellow will return to his or her academic career but will remain available to the US Department of State for short-term projects. The deadline for applications is November 2, 2015. The JSF program is administered by the National Academies and is supported through a partnership of the US science, technology, and academic communities, professional scientific societies, and the US Department of State. For further information, email jsf@nas.edu, telephone 202-334-2643, or see the website

sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/Jeffer-
son/PGA_046612.

—From a National Academies announcement

AAUW Educational Foundation Fellowships and Grants

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has programs for supporting women students and scholars at various stages of their careers: American Fellowships, Career Development Grants, International Fellowships, International Project Grants, and Selected Professions Fellowships. The latter fellowships support women students in areas in which women’s participation has traditionally been low, including computer/information sciences and mathematics/statistics.

For further information about the fellowships, application procedures, and deadlines, visit the website

www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-
and-awards/(or tinyurl.com/apmcdfng). For more information call 202-785-7700, email connect@aauw.org, or call the customer service center at 800-326-2289.

—From AAUW website

Opportunities from the Simons Foundation

The Simons Foundation Division for Mathematics and Physical Sciences is offering opportunities for funding for two programs: Targeted Grants in Mathematics and the Physical Sciences and the Simons Symposia. The targeted grants are intended to support high-risk projects of exceptional promise and scientific importance on a case-by-case basis. The deadline is rolling. More detailed information can be found at the website

https://www.simonsfoundation.org/funding/funding-
opportunities/mathematics-physical-sciences/
targeted-grants-in-mps/. The Simons Symposia program brings together mathematicians, theoretical physicists, and theoretical computer scientists to interact and collaborate in symposium series that focus on one topic or tightly connected group of topics. The first meetings in the new set of series will start in the winter or spring of 2017, and the deadline for applications is November 6, 2015. For more information, see

https://www.simonsfoundation.org/funding/
funding-opportunities/mathematics-physical-
sciences/simons-symposia/?utm_source=MPS+Funding+
Announcements+List&utm_campaign=2125f82bec-
August_2015_MPS_Announcement7_14_2015&utm_
medium=email&utm_term=0_85ad70bfde-
2125f82bec-389375833(tiny URL: tinyurl.com/ pylgf9e).

—From a Simons Foundation announcement
AMS Department Chairs Workshop

The annual workshop for department chairs will be held a day before the start of the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Seattle, Washington, on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, from 8:00 am to 6:30 pm. This one-day session for mathematical sciences department chairs is organized in a workshop format so as to stimulate discussion among attendees. Sharing ideas and experiences with peers creates an environment that enables attending chairs to address departmental challenges from new perspectives.

Workshop leaders will be: Matthew Ando, chair, Department of Mathematics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; William “Bus” Jaco, head, Department of Mathematics, Oklahoma State University; Krista Maxson, vice president for academic affairs at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma and former chair of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Shawnee State University; and Judy Walker, chair, Department of Mathematics, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Past workshop sessions have focused on a range of issues facing departments, including planning and budgeting, personnel management, assessment, outreach, faculty development, communications, student learning, and departmental leadership.

The workshop registration fee of US$100 is in addition to and separate from the Joint Meetings registration. Those interested in attending can register at bit.ly/1JrL954 by December 18, 2015. For further information, contact the AMS Washington Office at 202-588-1100 or by email at amsdc@ams.org.

—Anita Benjamin
AMS Washington Office

AWM Essay Contest

To increase awareness of women’s ongoing contributions to the mathematical sciences, the Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) and Math for America are cosponsoring an essay contest for biographies of contemporary women mathematicians and statisticians in academic, industrial, and government careers.

Each essay will be based primarily on an interview with a woman currently working in a mathematical sciences career. This contest is open to students in the following categories: Grades 6–8, Grades 9–12, and College Undergraduate. At least one winning submission will be chosen from each category. Winners will receive a prize, and their essays will be published online at the AWM website. Additionally, a grand prize winner will have his or her submission published in the AWM newsletter.

The deadline for the 2016 AWM Essay Contest is January 31, 2016. AWM is also currently seeking women mathematicians to volunteer as the subjects of these essays. For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, contact the contest organizer, Heather Lewis, at hlewis5@naz.edu. See https://sites.google.com/site/awmmath/home for complete information.

—AWM announcement

Free Grant-Writing Workshop Offered

The AMS, in conjunction with the National Science Foundation Directorate for Education and Human Resources (NSF-EHR), is pleased to offer a FREE workshop titled “Writing a Competitive Grant Proposal to NSF-EHR.” This grant-writing workshop will be held on Monday, January 4, 2016, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Seattle, Washington.

Workshop Goals:
- To familiarize participants with current direction/priorities in EHR
- To familiarize participants with key EHR education research and development programs
- To consider common issues of competitive proposals
- To prepare participants to write a competitive proposal

Topics covered will include: discussion of key programs in EHR, the merit review process and merit review criteria, discussion of scenarios—short passages drawn from proposals in the EHR portfolio designed to stimulate discussion about strengths and weaknesses of a proposal, and the opportunity to discuss possible proposal ideas with program officers.

This free workshop is open to all interested participants. The deadline for registration is December 18, 2015. To register, see the website bit.ly/1uUq9hU.

—Anita Benjamin
AMS Washington Office

News from AIM

The American Institute of Mathematics (AIM) is accepting applications for two scientific programs: Focused Workshops and SQuaREs.

Focused Workshop Program: AIM invites proposals for its focused workshop program. AIM’s week-long workshops are distinguished by their specific mathematical goals. This may involve making progress on a significant unsolved problem or examining the convergence of two distinct areas of mathematics. Workshops are small in size, up to twenty-eight people, to allow for close collaboration among the participants. Researchers may apply to attend an upcoming AIM workshop. Each workshop supports several participants through an open application process. A list of upcoming workshops is available at www.aimath.org/workshops/upcoming/

SQuaREs Program: AIM also invites proposals for the SQuaREs program: Structured Quartet Research Ensembles. This program brings together groups of four to six researchers for a week of focused work on a specific research problem, returning for up to three consecutive years. Applications are submitted online; the deadline for
Mathematics Research Communities 2016

The AMS invites mathematicians just beginning their research careers—those who are close to finishing their doctorates or have recently finished—to become part of Mathematics Research Communities (MRC), a unique and successful program that builds social and collaborative networks through which individuals inspire and sustain each other in their work. Women and underrepresented minorities are especially encouraged to participate. Supported by the National Science Foundation, the structured program engages and guides all participants as they start their careers. Those accepted into the program will receive support for the summer conference and will be partially supported for their participation in the Joint Mathematics Meetings that follow in January 2017. The summer conferences of the MRC are held at Snowbird Resort, Utah, where participants can enjoy the natural beauty and a collegial atmosphere. The program also includes discussion networks by research topic and a longitudinal study of early career mathematicians.

Four conferences will be held in summer 2016 on the following topics:

- **Week 1a: June 5–11, 2016** — Lie Group Representations, Discretization, and Gelfand Pairs. Organizers: Bradley Currey, Saint Louis University; Gestur Olafsson, Louisiana State University; Gail Ratcliff, East Carolina University.
- **Week 1b: June 5–11, 2016** — Character Varieties: Experiments and New Frontiers. Organizers: Sean Lawton, George Mason University; Christopher Manon, George Mason University; Adam Sikora, State University of New York at Buffalo.
- **Week 2: June 12–18, 2016** — Algebraic Statistics. Organizers: Mathias Drton, University of Washington; Elizabeth Gross, San Jose State University; Serkan Hosten, San Francisco State University; David Kahle, Baylor University; Sonja Petrovic, Illinois Institute of Technology.
- **Week 3: June 19–25, 2016** — Mathematics in Physiology and Medicine. Organizers: Dan Beard, University of Michigan; Brian Carlson, University of Michigan; Adam Mahdi, University of Oxford; Mette Olufsen, North Carolina State University; Johnny Ottesen, Roskilde University.

Individuals who are one to two years prior to receiving their PhDs are welcome to apply. The MRC program is open to those who are US citizens, as well as to those who are affiliated with US institutions. A few international participants may be accepted. All participants are expected to be active in the full MRC program. Detailed instructions and the online application will be available on November 1, 2015. Applications are due no later than March 1, 2016.

Situated in a beautiful, breathtaking mountain setting, Snowbird Resort provides an extraordinary environment for the MRC. The atmosphere is comparable to the collegial gatherings at Oberwolfach and other conferences that combine peaceful natural ambience with stimulating meetings. MRC participants have access to a range of activities, such as a tram ride to the top of the mountain, guided hikes, swimming, mountain bike tours, rock climbing, plus heated outdoor pools. More than a dozen walking and hiking trails head deep into the surrounding mountains. Participants also enjoy the simpler pleasures of convening on the patios at the resort to read, work, and socialize. In the evenings colleagues enjoy informal gatherings to network and continue discussion of the day’s sessions over refreshments. Within a half hour of the University of Utah, Snowbird is easily accessible from the Salt Lake City International Airport. For further information on Mathematics Research Communities visit the website [www.ams.org](http://www.ams.org) or contact T. Christine Stevens at ams-mrc@ams.org.

Mathematical Sciences Research Institute Spring Workshops, 2016, Berkeley, CA

With funding from the National Science Foundation, the National Security Agency, and the Clay Mathematics Institute, the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) will hold four workshops on Differential Geometry during the spring of 2016.

Established researchers, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students are invited to apply for funding. It is the policy of MSRI to actively seek to achieve diversity in its workshops. Thus, a strong effort is made to remove barriers that hinder equal opportunity, particularly for those groups that have been historically underrepresented in the mathematical sciences. MSRI has a resource to assist visitors with finding childcare in Berkeley. For more information, please contact Sanjani Varkey at sanjani@msri.org.

The workshops are as follows:

- **January 18–22, 2016** — Introductory Workshop: Modern Riemannian Geometry [https://www.msri.org/workshops/703](https://www.msri.org/workshops/703)
- **May 2–6, 2016** — Geometric Flows in Riemannian and Complex Geometry [https://www.msri.org/workshops/705](https://www.msri.org/workshops/705)

—MSRI announcement