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# Mathematics People

## Eisenbaum and Kaspi Awarded Itô Prize

NATHALIE EISENBAUM of the University of Paris VI and HAYA KASPI of the Technion Israel Institute of Technology have been awarded the 2011 Itô Prize for their joint paper “On permanent processes”, published in *Stochastic Processes and Applications* **119**, no. 5 (2009), pp. 1401–1415. The prize honors the memory and celebrates the legacy of Professor Kiyosi Itô and his vast and seminal contributions to probability theory. The winning article was selected by the editorial board of the journal and consists of a monetary award of US\$5,000.

—Bernoulli Society announcement

## Daubechies Awarded 2011 Kilby Medal

INGRID DAUBECHIES of Duke University has been awarded the 2011 Jack S. Kilby Signal Processing Medal by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). She was recognized “for her pioneering contributions to the theory and application of wavelet transforms, which have revolutionized audio, image, and video devices and communications systems.”

—From a Duke University press release

## MAA Awards Presented

The Mathematical Association of America (MAA) presented several awards at its Summer MathFest in Lexington, Kentucky, August 4–6, 2011.

The Carl B. Allendoerfer Awards are given for articles of expository excellence published in *Mathematics Magazine*. They carry a cash award of US\$500. The awardees for 2011 are GENE ABRAMS and JESSICA K. SKLAR, “The graph menagerie: Abstract algebra and the mad veterinarian”, *Mathematics Magazine* **83**, no. 3 (2010), pp. 168–179; and CURTIS D. BENNETT, BLAKE MELLOR, and PATRICK D. SHANAHAN, “Drawing a triangle on the Thurston model of hyperbolic space”, *Mathematics Magazine* **83**, no. 2 (2010), pp. 83–99.

The Trevor Evans Awards are presented to authors of exceptional articles that are accessible to undergraduates and published in *Math Horizons*. The amount of the cash award is US\$250. The awardee for 2011 is LAWRENCE BRENTON, “The adventures of  $\pi$ -man: Measuring the universe”, *Math Horizons* **17**, no. 4 (2010), pp. 12–15.

The Lester R. Ford Awards are given for articles of expository excellence published in *The American Mathematical Monthly*. The award carries a cash prize of US\$250. The recipients for 2011 are: JAMES T. SMITH, “Definitions and nondefinability in geometry”, *American Mathematical Monthly* **117**, no. 6 (2010), pp. 475–489; MARVIN JAY GREENBERG, “Old and new results in the foundations of elementary plane Euclidean and non-Euclidean geometries”, *American Mathematical Monthly* **117**, no. 3 (2010), pp. 198–219; MARK A. CONGER and JASON HOWALD, “A better way to deal the cards”, *American Mathematical Monthly* **117**, no. 8 (2010), pp. 686–700; ALEXANDER BORISOV, MARK DICKINSON, and STUART HASTINGS, “A congruence problem for polyhedra”, *American Mathematical Monthly* **117**, no. 3 (2010), pp. 232–249; AARON ABRAMS and SKIP GARIBALDI, “Finding good bets in the lottery, and why you shouldn’t take them”, *American Mathematical Monthly* **117**, no. 1 (2010), pp. 3–26.

The George Pólya Award is given for articles of expository excellence published in the *College Mathematics Journal*. It carries a cash award of US\$500. The 2011 honorees are JONATHAN K. HODGE, EMILY MARSHALL, and GEOFF PATTERSON, “Gerrymandering and convexity”, *The College Mathematics Journal* **41**, no. 4 (2010), pp. 312–324; and JOHN MARTIN, “The Helen of geometry”, *The College Mathematics Journal* **41**, no. 1 (2010), pp. 17–27.

The Merten M. Hasse Prize is designed to be an encouragement to younger mathematicians to take up the challenge of exposition and communication by recognizing a noteworthy expository paper appearing in an MAA publication. The prize carries a cash award of US\$1,000. The 2011 awardees are ALISSA S. CRANS, THOMAS M. FIORE, and RAMON SATYENDRA, “Musical actions of dihedral groups”, *The American Mathematical Monthly* **116**, no. 6 (2009), pp. 479–495.

Henry L. Alder Awards for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Mathematics Faculty Member carry a cash award of US\$1,000. The 2011 awardees are ALISSA CRANS, Loyola Marymount University; SARAH EICHHORN, University of California Irvine; and SAM VANDERVELDE, St. Lawrence University.

—From an MAA announcement

## O'Brien Named Jefferson Fellow

TIMOTHY O'BRIEN of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Loyola University, Chicago, has been named a Jefferson Science Fellow for 2011–2012. He obtained his Ph.D. in statistics from North Carolina State University. His current research focuses on robust optimal experimental designs whereby practitioners are provided the means to efficiently conduct their research studies with the lowest cost. He also teaches short courses worldwide on statistical consulting, statistical design, environmental and biomedical methods, and modeling of diverse systems and phenomena. He helped establish the undergraduate bioinformatics program at Loyola and has won numerous teaching awards. As a Peace Corps volunteer in Benin, he taught mathematics (in French), and he has twice received William J. Fulbright scholarships to consult, teach, and do research at Chiang Mai University in Thailand. Additionally, he has studied, taught, or conducted research in approximately thirty countries outside the United States and regularly provides technical assistance to researchers at U.S. and international universities and organizations, including Partners in Health, Statisticians WithOut Borders, and the Infectious Disease Institute in Kampala, Uganda.

The Jefferson Science Fellows (JSF) program at the U.S. Department of State is intended to involve the American academic science, technology, and engineering communities in the formulation and implementation of U.S. foreign policy. Each fellow spends one year at the U.S. Department of State or the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) for an on-site assignment in Washington, D.C., that may also involve extended stays at U.S. foreign embassies and/or missions. The JSF program is administered by the National Academies and supported through a partnership of the U.S. science, technology, and academic communities, professional scientific societies, and the U.S. Department of State.

—From a National Academies announcement

## 2011 Dirac Medals Awarded

ÉDOUARD BRÉZIN of the École Normale Supérieure, Paris; JOHN CARDY of the University of Oxford; and ALEXANDER ZAMOLODCHIKOV of Rutgers University have been awarded 2011 Dirac Medals by the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP). According to the prize citation, they were honored “in recognition of their independent pioneering work on field theoretical methods to the study of critical phenomena and phase transitions; in particular for their significant contributions to conformal field theories and integrable systems. Their research and the physical implications of their formal developments have had important consequences in classical and quantum condensed matter systems and in string theory.”

The ICTP awarded its first Dirac Medal in 1985. Given in honor of P. A. M. Dirac, the medal is awarded annually on Dirac's birthday, August 8, to an individual or

individuals who have made significant contributions to theoretical physics and mathematics. The medalists also receive a prize of US\$5,000. An international committee of distinguished scientists selects the winners from a list of nominated candidates. The Dirac Medal is not awarded to Nobel laureates, Fields Medalists, or Wolf Foundation Prize winners.

—From an ICTP announcement

## China Girls' Olympiad

Eight high school girls from the United States have all won medals in the 2011 China Girls' Mathematical Olympiad (CGMO). The competition was held in Shenzhen in southern China's Guangdong Province. On the U.S. team, DANIELLE WANG of Campbell, California, and VICTORIA XIA of Vienna, Virginia, were awarded gold medals; JULIA HUANG of Saratoga, California, was awarded a silver medal; and REBECCA BURKS of Los Altos, California, CHRISTINA CHEN of Newton, Massachusetts, SARAH HERRMANN of La Jolla, California, ELAINE HOU of Seffner, Florida, and HAOTIAN (TIFFANY) WU of Sugar Land, Texas, were all awarded bronze medals. The students' participation was sponsored by the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) for the fifth consecutive year.

—From an MSRI announcement

## Norrie Everitt (1924–2011)

Professor William Norrie Everitt, FRSE, died on July 17, 2011, at age eighty-seven. He will be remembered as a leading British mathematical analyst who contributed to differential equations, linear operators, spectral theory, inequalities, and special functions. He had been a member of the AMS since 1959.

Norrie was born June 10, 1924, in Birmingham. In 1944 he graduated with first-class honours in electrical engineering from the University of Birmingham. In 1947, while serving in the U.K. armed forces, he suffered a fractured spine. After being told he might never walk again, he climbed the Matterhorn at age twenty-five. He entered Oxford (Balliol College) in 1949 to study mathematics and received his D.Phil. under the supervision of E. C. Titchmarsh in 1955.

Norrie was an eminent authority on the spectral theory of differential equations. He generalized the Hardy-Littlewood-Pólya inequality to yield the HELP inequality (E for Everitt), which is intimately connected with spectral theory. Norrie helped set up the SLEIGN2 program, a computer code to calculate eigenvalues of Sturm-Liouville problems. He also edited the translation of Naimark's *Linear Differential Operators*, a book that has had a profound influence on Western mathematical analysis. These are only glimpses of his manifold contributions.

Norrie began his mathematical career at the Royal Military College of Science in Shrivenham (1954–1963). From 1963 to 1982 he was the Baxter Professor of Mathematics in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the

University of Dundee, serving twice as head of the department (1963–1967, 1977–1980). It was during his Dundee years that he demonstrated his organizational skills in running the Dundee Conferences on Differential Equations. In 1982 Norrie returned home as Mason Chair and head of the Department of Mathematics at the University of Birmingham. He remained head until his retirement in 1989 and stayed as an honorary Senior Research Fellow until September 2009. Norrie was an excellent mentor during his career; he supervised thirteen Ph.D. students and guided many young mathematicians throughout the world.

Norrie was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (1966) and served as president of the Edinburgh Mathematical Society (1970–1971) and as vice president of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (1970–1973). In 1978 he was part of the U.K. delegation to the International Mathematical Union in Helsinki. He made several trips behind the Iron Curtain to ensure that the flow of mathematical ideas continued between the East and West. Norrie was a

keen student of opera, British history, literature, poetry, trees, films, railroad history, and the American West and was an excellent after-dinner speaker. He had remarkable teaching and blackboard skills. Norrie began writing his well-prepared lectures in the upper left-hand corner of the board and ended his talks, on time, with his customary period (.) in the lower right-hand corner. As technology evolved, Norrie adapted and skillfully delivered Beamer-type presentations.

Norrie is survived by his wife, Kit; two sons, Charles (Father Gabriel, OSB) and Timothy; and two granddaughters, Sophie and Lucy. Norrie was a dear friend who will be greatly missed by all who knew him. A full obituary of Norrie Everitt is expected to appear in a forthcoming issue of the *Bulletin of the London Mathematical Society*.

—Desmond Evans (Cardiff University),  
Tomas Johansson (University of Birmingham),  
and Lance Littlejohn (Baylor University)

# Mathematics Opportunities

## American Mathematical Society Centennial Fellowships

*Invitation for Applications for Awards for 2012–2013*  
**Deadline December 1, 2011**

*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. One fellowship will be awarded for the 2012–2013 academic year. A list of previous fellowship winners can be found at <http://www.ams.org/profession/prizes-awards/ams-awards/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, 2000, and September 1, 2009). 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 reductions 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.

*Grant amount:* The stipend for fellowships awarded for 2012–2013 is expected to be US\$79,000, with an additional expense allowance of about US\$7,900. Acceptance of the fellowship cannot be postponed.

*Deadline:* The deadline for receipt of applications is **December 1, 2011**. The award recipient will be announced in February 2012 or earlier if possible.

*Application information:* Find Centennial information and the application form via the Internet at <http://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](mailto:prof-serv@ams.org); 401-455-4105.

—AMS announcement

## 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 2012 programs is **December 15, 2011**. Applications are now taken online at [MathPrograms.org](http://www.MathPrograms.org) ([http://www.](http://www.MathPrograms.org)