
Mathematics People

Manin Receives Cantor Medal

The Deutsche Mathematiker Vereinigung (DMV, German Mathematical Society) has awarded the 2002 Georg Cantor Medal to YURI MANIN of the Max-Planck-Institut für Mathematik, Bonn. The citation notes Manin's "outstanding findings in algebra, algebraic geometry, number theory, and mathematical physics" and says that his work "is highly influential, inspiring mathematicians all over the world."

Previous recipients of the Cantor Medal are Karl Stein (1990), Jürgen Moser (1992), Erhard Heinz (1994), Jacques Tits (1996), and Volker Strassen (1999).

—From a DMV announcement

Lam Lay Yong Receives May Medal

The 2001 Kenneth O. May Medal for outstanding contributions to history of mathematics was officially awarded to LAM LAY YONG of the Department of Mathematics of the National University of Singapore during the International Congress of Mathematicians in Beijing in August 2002. Lam was honored for her many books and publications on the history of Chinese mathematics. As a result of her extensive scholarship and writing, she has brought the many historic accomplishments of Chinese mathematicians to the attention of audiences around the world, especially to those who do not speak or read Chinese.

Kenneth O. May (1915–1977) was the founding chair of the International Commission on History of Mathematics and the founding editor of the international journal *Historia Mathematica*. Born in the United States, he studied mathematics at the University of California at Berkeley but spent most of his career teaching history of mathematics at the University of Toronto, Canada. When he died, the Institute for History of Science and Technology at the University of Toronto and the International Commission on

History of Mathematics decided to honor his memory with an international prize to be awarded every four years to scholars who had made significant lifetime contributions to the history of mathematics. The award consists of a certificate and a medal cast in bronze.

Previous recipients of the Kenneth O. May Medal are: Dirk J. Struik and A. P. Youschkevitch (1989), Christoph J. Scriba and Hans Wussing (1993), René Taton (1997), Ubiratan D'Ambrosio (2001).

—Joseph Dauben, on behalf of the International Commission on History of Mathematics

NSF CAREER Awards

Six mathematicians have been honored by the Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) of the National Science Foundation (NSF) in fiscal year 2001 with Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) awards. The NSF established the awards to support promising scientists, mathematicians, and engineers who are committed to the integration of research and education. The grants run from four to five years and range from \$200,000 to \$500,000 each.

The CAREER grant awardees and the titles of their grant projects are: ANDREW BELMONTE, Pennsylvania State University: Macromolecular Fluid Flow: Experiments, Equations, and Education; BRIAN CONRAD, University of Michigan: Galois Representations and Modular Forms; YURY GRABOVSKY, Temple University: Macroscopic Properties of Heterogeneous Media and Development of the Applied Mathematics Curriculum; MARINA VANNUCCI, Texas A&M University: Some Applications of Wavelets in Statistics; CHRISTOPHER WOODWARD, Rutgers University: Symplectic Geometry, Physics, and Algebraic Combinatorics; and YUHONG YANG, Iowa State University: Adaptive Regression for Dependent Data by Combining Different Procedures.

—From NSF announcement

ONR Young Investigators Awards Announced

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) has announced the awarding of 26 grants in the 2002 ONR Young Investigator Program competition. Two individuals in the mathematical sciences received awards. They are STEVEN M. SEITZ of the University of Washington and SCOTT D. STOLLER of the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Seitz will do research on the plenoptic reconstruction of time-varying scenes. Stoller's research will focus on checking critical software for concurrent, distributed, open, secure systems.

The Young Investigator Program supports basic research by exceptional faculty at U.S. universities who have received Ph.D.'s or equivalent degrees within the preceding five years. Grants to their institutions provide up to \$100,000 per year for three years. The funds may be applied to a variety of research costs, including salary, graduate student support, laboratory supplies, and operating costs. Young Investigators are selected on the basis of prior professional achievement, the submission of a meritorious research proposal, and evidence of strong support by their respective universities. The program supports outstanding research in a wide range of science and engineering fields that are critical to the evolution of a first-rate Navy and Marine Corps.

—From an ONR announcement

Barkhudaryan Awarded Emil Artin Junior Prize

The 2002 Emil Artin Junior Prize in Mathematics has been awarded to ARTUR BARKHUDARYAN of Yerevan State University, Armenia. Barkhudaryan was chosen for his paper, joint with Věra Trnková, "Some universal properties of the category of clones", published in *Algebra Universalis* 47 (2002), 239–66.

Established in 2001, the Emil Artin Junior Prize carries a cash award of US\$500 and is presented annually to a student or former student at an Armenian university who is under the age of thirty-five for outstanding contributions to algebra, geometry, topology, and number theory—the fields in which Emil Artin made major contributions. The previous awardee was Vahagn Mikaelian (2001).

The prize committee consisted of A. Basmajian, Y. Movsisyan, and V. Pambuccian.

—Artin Prize Committee announcement

About the Cover

This month's cover has been lifted from the "road map" of two-generator groups at the end of the book *Indra's Pearls*, reviewed in this issue (see pages 38–44). It is essentially just a sample of the marvelous collection of images done for the book, a landmark in mathematical graphics, by David Wright in collaboration with David Mumford.

Roughly speaking, the correspondence between infinite words and limit points becomes more complicated in proceeding from left to right. David Wright tells us, "The Road Map isn't intended be a classification of the possible changes that happen, but mostly a summary of the journey that we take in exploring the changes that can happen to limit sets... Every image in the Road Map appears somewhere in the book except for the very first one (far left top on the cover). That is because to be able to draw a generalized dust we had to advance beyond the correspondence between limit points and infinite words (Chapter 5) and the general parametrization of free two-generator groups (Chapter 8). But by that point we had set our focus pretty much on quasifuchsian groups, and did not return to general Schottky groups. Still I thought in one picture to show how complicated the dust limit sets can be. In general it is quite difficult to prove that such a group is a generalized Schottky group (i.e., to find explicit Schottky curves) and at the same time it is difficult to prove that there is not some pair of generators for which the Schottky curves are genuinely circular."

Wright's webpage <http://klein.math.okstate.edu/kleinian/> has a copy of the original road map and other illustrations from the book.

—Bill Casselman
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