2009 Award for an Exemplary Program or Achievement in a Mathematics Department

The Award for an Exemplary Program or Achievement in a Mathematics Department was established by the AMS Council in 2004 and was given for the first time in 2006. The purpose is to recognize a department that has distinguished itself by undertaking an unusual or particularly effective program of value to the mathematics community, internally or in relation to the rest of society. Departments of mathematical sciences in North America that offer at least a bachelor's degree in mathematical sciences are eligible. For the first three awards (2006–2008), the prize amount was US$1,200. After an endowment by an anonymous donor in 2008, the amount became US$5,000 starting with the 2009 prize.

The award is presented by the AMS Council acting on the recommendation of a selection committee. For the 2009 award, the members of the selection committee were: Steven A. Bleiler (chair), Amy Cohen, William B. Jacob, and Michael E. Moody.

The previous recipients of the award are Harvey Mudd College (2006), the University of California, Los Angeles (2007), and the University of Iowa (2008).

The recipient of the 2009 Award for an Exemplary Program or Achievement in a Mathematics Department is the THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN. What follows is the selection committee's citation.

Citation

The Department of Mathematics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is granted the 2009 Award for Exemplary Program or Achievement in a Mathematics Department.

For well over a decade, the Department of Mathematics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has been at the forefront of efforts to increase the representation of women in the profession, has improved the mentoring and early career training of students, and has achieved a national leadership position in the mathematical education of teachers, all while concurrently growing its doctoral program in both size and national profile.

The effect on the profession of the department's efforts is evidenced by its continuing organization of outreach programs and conferences such as All Girls/All Math; the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics; and Nebraska IMMERSE, a summer bridge program for students from non-Ph.D.-granting colleges accepted into a mathematics graduate program at a U.S. university. The department has forged a strong partnership with its counterparts in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Teaching Learning and Teacher Education, and through its participation in the Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate. The department has made substantial contributions to the national dialog on graduate education.

The Society is pleased to recognize the Department of Mathematics' highly successful integrated approach to its multiple missions of research, teaching, and education outreach through this award.