Notices

OF NIGERIAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

PROF. ADEGOKE OLUBUNMO

PROF. CHIKE OBI

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DR (MRS) TEMI O OLUYO

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Submissions

NMS Notices hereby calls on lovers and users of mathematics as well as members of NMS to send in articles and letters for publication in editions of NMS Notices to give live to it and spice up the content with our collective ideas. Such submissions, sent to *nms.notices@yahoo.com*, shall be treated on first come first served basis.

About the Cover Page

ADEGOKE OLUBUNMO

Adegoke Olubunmo was born into a royal family on April 19, 1923 at Orin-Ekiti Nigeria. He attended Wesley College, Ibadan in 1938 and obtained the Higher Elementary Certificate in 1941.

He proceeded to Fourah Bay College, Freetown, Sierra Leone where he graduated B.A. (Dunelm) in 1950. Adegoke then went to King's College, University of Durham, Newcastle upon Tyne, England, where he obtained MA (Dunelm) degree in 1952 and Ph.D (Dunelm) degree in 1955.

He took a job in the Department of mathematics, University College, Ibadan on returning to Nigeria in 1955. He eventually rose to the position of Professor of Mathematics. He was the first Nigerian Professor of Mathematics.

Professor Olubummo was active in the planning and the establishment of the Nigerian Mathematical Society. Due to his immense contributions in Mathematical Sciences, he was elected as the first president of the Nigerian Mathematical Society in 1980 and he served the Maximum 4 years as president.

CHIKE OBI

Chike Obi was born on 7th April, 1921 in Zaria, Nigeria. He was named Chukwunwike Obi, Chukwunwike was later shortened to Chike.

Chike has his early education at St. Patricks School, Zaria and Secondary education at Christ the King College Onitsha. He earned the secondary education certificate in 1939.

Chike Obi entered Yaba Higher College in June 1940 as a science teacher in training. He took and passed the intermedicate B.Sc. London in 1942. He received the B.Sc and M.Sc degrees of the University of London in 1944 and 1946 respectively. On 21st June 1950 he obtained a Ph.D degree in mathematics from Cambridge University. He was the first Nigerian to receive a Ph.D in mathematics.

On returning to Nigeria in 1951, he was appointed a lecturer in the Department of Mathematics of University College, Ibadan. After his release from prison in 1970, University of Lagos appointed him as an associate Professor of Mathematics and later in the same year, a full Professor of Mathematics (when the results of the assessment of his papers were received). He retired as an emeritus Professor of Mathematics in 1985.

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The Nigerian Mathematical Society was inaugurated in February 1980. The main objective of the Society is to promote mathematical research and its applications.

Time flies! It is now 30 years since the society was inaugurated and we are celebrating the thirty years of its existence. We should review the progress: our achievements and failures. Our journal remains very strong. Papers in the journal assessed for quality by Mathematical Reviews. The German National Library keeps a copy for reference.

Nigerian Mathematical Society represents Nigeria in International Mathematical Union (IMU). Recently, our Professor A.U. Afuwape was nominated by us and accepted as a member of a committee of IMU. We have an agreement with the American Mathematical Society (AMS) which entitles us to be members of AMS. Some have utilized the advantage.

The Nigerian Mathematical Society now publishes Notices, we have a website and the list of our financial members is on the internet. Moreover, we have started to award prizes in (a) Algebra (b) Analysis and Applied Mathematics Other areas are receiving attention.

Couldn't we do more? I believe we can and I am challenging you to come up with innovative ideas at this conference.

Happy 30th Anniversary

Professor R.O. Ayeni

EDITORIAL DESK

We are once again back with another edition of our Notices of NMS, the very first in the year 2010. Between the last edition and this new one are numerous events within and outside the mathematical community of NMS. It was Pythagoras who years back defined the study of mathematics as a means to understanding all relationships in the natural world. As part of our quest to search and research into our natural world, we gathered at the University of Ilorin June 23 2009 for yet another Conference of NMS to discuss members' research results and hold our AGM among others. That event was a huge success and we must thank all members for making it so. It was the outcome of our joint efforts that metamorphosed to the success.

The Editorial Team of our Notices is yet to receive inputs from members based on our request in the last edition. We must at this juncture give kudos to the likes of Professor R.O.Ayeni and Professor S.S.Okoya for their contributions to the previous editions as well as this current one. Their gesture should be emulated by all members.

NMS notices still welcomes Adverts in the categories acceptable by the Editorial board for publishing in our subsequent editions.

In this edition, the normal updates of Membership listing and information concerning members' success stories in academic and professional fronts are served in grand styles.

Dr (Mrs) Temi O. Oluyo
Editor

DOCTORAL DEGREES CONFERRED 2009-2010

RECENT DOCTORAL THESES

(a) AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA NIGERIA
Title of Doctoral Thesis

S/n	Name	Title	Year
1	AJIBADE, Abiodun Olusegun	A study of some flow problems in the presence of heat and mass transfer.	2009

(b) LADOKE AKINTOLA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, OGBOMOSO
Title of Doctoral Theses

S/n	Name	Title	Year
1	DUROJAYE Mary Oziohu	Reaction kinetics model of polymerization in the presence of material diffusion.	2010
2	AJALA Olusegun A	Some effects of variable viscosity on Magneto-Hydrodynamics (MHD) flow of Newtonian and Non Newtonian fluids between two parallel plates.	2010

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(NMS 2009)

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(A)   Promotion to Professor

The Assistant Secretary, Dr. Ninuola Akinwande of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science Federal University of Technology, Minna has been promoted to the position of Professor of Mathematics.

(B)   Visits of Prominent Mathematicians

When on Wednesday, May 5th, 2010, news filtered into Mathematics Department, Obafemi Awolowo University that the acting Head of Department, Dr S.O Ajadi has announced the arrival of Professor Vladimir Vershinin, an academic icon and erudite scholar from University Montpellier, France, the next volunteer arranged to visit the Department by Professor S.S Okoya; students and members of staff of the department were overwhelmed with joy.

The outpour of emotion from the students and the staff was not only because of Prof Vershinin is the first volunteer from Europe to visit the Department nor the fact that he would be the second of such volunteers since the inception of the Department's linkage with the Developing Countries Strategy Group (DCSG) of the international Mathematical Union (IMU), but the fact that his arrival effectively signified the end of a nightmarish struggle to have him around since march 2009.

Students and staff of the Department had to endure the struggle which stalled our visitor's arrival; characterised by an apparent ASUU strike, after their negotiations with the Federal Government resulted to a stalemate and probably a deliberate refusal of the Nigeria consulate in France to grant him a visa.

It is gratifying that the visitor's accommodation at the university Chalet, feeding and other necessary materials to make his stay hitch free were provided by the University. Also the Department is grateful to the University of the Management for providing funds the Department of the Educational Technology of the Institution for the video coverage of the lectures for documentary which will be provided for the students free of charge. It is hoped that this unique opportunity will enable this students to play back the video to clarify missed points after the departure of Professor Vladimir Vershinin.

Professor Vershinin, during his visit gave lectures and tutorials to second and third year undergraduate students as well as a postgraduate student in the Department of Mathematics. He is an illustrator and communicator of exactness, an excellent teacher; explaining to details the basic concepts of Algebra. Not a few students believe that the success of the forth coming Harmattan 2009/2010 examinations depends largely on their readiness to operate the rules of exactness and the universal symbols on which Mathematics is pivoted, and that the price of academic success encompasses hard work, preparedness and discipline. It is evident that

those who pay this price aren't lucky but are eventually rewarded. The member of the Management committee for Algebra, Dr T.G Jaiyeola (Chairperson), Mr. Ogundiran and Dr.G. Akinbo played vita roles during the scientist's stay, pledging their full commitments to build on the immense impact of Professor Vershinin's visit.

The visiting scientist had an eventful three- week stay ranging from intensive lecture periods of five hours (including tutorials) every week day to a relaxing weekend of fun. He also delivered Departmental and Faculty seminars. Midway into Professor Vershinin's visit, the Head of Department, Professor S.S Okoya returned from his visit to Institute for Mathematics and Its Application, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, U.S.A to resume duties and continue the programme as scheduled.

The visit was wrapped up on Monday, 24th May 2010 with a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Obafemi Awolowo University, Professor Michael O. Faborode, in his office. Professor Vershinin dressed in Yoruba native attire thanked the Vice-Chancellor for the hospitality and warm reception. The Vice- Chancellor handed him a parting gift. Later that day, a send forth party organized by the Department in honour of Professor Vershinin was held at the New Mathematics Building. Gifts and a plaque to commemorate the visit were heartily presented to our distinguished guest by the Dean, Faculty of Science, Professor V.O Olarewaju and also by other guests in attendance. Professor Vershinin in his closing remarks said that he has made new friends and experienced the joy that comes with assisting others. Finally, before his departure, memorable photographs were taken. Professor Vershinin departed Nigeria on Tuesday, 25th May 2010 for France.

(c)   Prizes Of Nms
The award of best Ph.D Thesis for mathematics for the year 2009-2010 has been awarded to Dr. Ajibade, Abiodun Olusegun of the Department of Mathematics, Ahamdu Bello University, Zaria.
The title of the thesis is: A study of some flow problems in the presence of heat and mass transfer.

(d)   Death Of Nms Members
Dr. U. Makarfi of the Department of Mathematics, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria has died. He was a member of the Society for 29 years.

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

(i)   The National Mathematical Centre and the Nigerian Mathematical Society organized the first meeting of Heads of the departments of mathematics in Nigeria Universities from September 27 to September 30, 2009. It was well attended.
(ii)   The Nigerian Association of Mathematical Physics will hold the 2010 Colloquium at Osun State University of from November 2 5, 2010 Further information is

obtainable from the Editor-in-Chief Professor John A.O. Idiodi of the Department of Physics, University of Benin, Benin-City: idiodi@myway.com.

(iii) There will be a summer school at ETH in Zurich, on Sparse Tensor discretizations of high dimensional problems.

CIRCULARS/LETTERS

(a) American Mathematical Society

AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP 2008-2010

List of all AMS members in Nigeria that were paid through the Desk of the Treasurer NMS between years 2008-2010 are below:

PAID For 2010

1. Ayeni Reuben Olafenwa (Professor), LAUTECH, Ogbomoso.
2. Eze, Christopher Daniel, University of Nigeri ,Nsukka.
3. Jayeola, Temitope Gbolahan (Dr), Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.
4. Obiokar Vera (Mrs) , University of Nigeria ,Nsukka
5. Okoya Samuel Segun (Professor),Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.
6. Osileke, Mica Okwuchukwu (Professor), University of Nigeria ,Nsukka,
7. Idoko, Valentine Ifeanyi, Frderal University of Technology, Akure.

PAID For 2009

1. Abraham Ochoche, Federal University of Technology Minna.
2. Adepoju Jerome A (Professor), University of Lagos, Lagos.
3. Adesina Olufemi Adeyinka(Dr),OAU, Ile-Ife,Nigeria
4. Agwu Nwojo Nnanna, American University of Nigeria, Yola.
5. Apere, Clement Adedayo P.O. Box 19919, Ikeja, Lagos
6. Areo, Emmanuel Adegbemiro,(Mr),FUTA, Akure.
7. Ayeni, Rueben Olafenwa (Professor), LAUTECH, Ogbomoso.
8. Ekhaguere, Godwin O.S (Professor), University of Ibadan, Ibadan.
9. Ekwueme, Cecilia Olunwa, University of Calabar, Calabar.
10. Ireka, Ikenna Ebubechukwu (Mr) ,OAU, Ile- Ife.
11. Jaiye'la, Temitope Gbolahan (Dr), OAU, Ile- Ife.
12. Makinde, Deborah Olufunmilayo (Mrs), OAU, Ile- Ife.
13. Oduwale, Adewale Oladipo (Dr), University of Benin, Benin City.
14. Okolie, Stanley Adiele Madonna University, Elele, Rivers State.
15. Okoya Samuel Segun (Professor), OAU, Ile-Ife.
16. Olatayo, Timothy Olabisi, Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago- Iwoye.
17. Olatinwo, Memudu Olaposi (Dr) OAU, Ile-Ife.
18. Oparaji, Nicholas Chinedu, Alvan Ikoku College of Education,℅ Mrs B.C Oparaji,

Owerri.

19. Osilike, Micah Okwuchukwu (Professor), UNN, Nsukka.
20. Oyediran, Oyelami Benjamin (Dr), National Mathematical Centre, Abuja.
21. Oyetunji, Bamidele Sunday (Dr), Petroleum Training Institute, Effurun Warri.
22. Solarin, Adewale (Professor), University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Abeokuta.
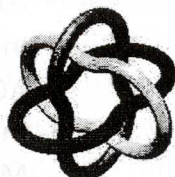23. Tejumola, Haroon O. (Professor) University of Ibadan, Ibadan.

PAID For 2008

1. Adeboye, Kayode Rufus, Federal University of Technology, Akure
2. Adegbie, Kolawole Sunday, Federal University of Technology, Akure.
3. Adeleye, Olabode Emmanuel, University of Ibadan, P.O.Box 21661, UI Post Office.
4. Ademola Adeleke Timothy (Mr), Bowen University, Iwo.
5. Adeniran Olusola John (Dr) University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.
6. Aderogba, Adebayo Abiodun (Mr), OAU, Ile- Ife.
7. Adesakin, Taiwo Johnson (Mr), OAU, Ile- Ife.
8. Ajila, Rauf Alhaji, The Polytechnic, Ibadan.
9. Akinwande, Ninuola Ifeoluwa (Dr) Federal University of Technology, Minna.
10. Alli, Sulaiman Gbolahan(Mr), The Polytechnic Ibadan.
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13. Erinle, Latifat Morenikeji, Tai Solarin Univ. Of Education, Ijebu Ode.
14. Fasasi, Yekeen Adegoke (Mr) Polytech, Oyo.
15. Kassim, Adijat Morenike , Lagos State University, Ojo.
16. Kayode, Sunday Jacob (Dr), Federal University, Akure, Ondo.
17. Kehinde, Rotimi Luke (Mr), Bowen University, Iwo.
18. Odejide, Samuel Ayodele (Mr), OAU, Ile-Ife.
19. Ogundiran, Michael Olumiyi (Mr) University of Ibadan, Ibadan.
20. Ogunlaran, Oladotun Matthew (Mr), Bowen University, Iwo.
21. Okonne, Nwabueze Laurence, Treasury Department 11th floor, UBA House 57 Marina Lagos.
22. Olabode, Bola Titilayo, Federal University of Technology, Akure.
23. Oladeji, Felicia Adetoro (Mrs), P. O. Box 7049, Secretariat Post Office, Ibadan.
24. Oladipo-Abodunwa, Omorinola Taiwo (Mrs), The Polytechnic Ibadan, Ibadan.
25. Olapade, Kehinde Akintayo, OAU, Ile-Ife.
26. Olorunsola, Samson Adebayo, University of Ado- Ekiti, Ado- Ekiti.
27. Olurode, Kehinde Adam (Mr), OAU, Ile- Ife.
28. Oluyo, Temitayo, Olabisi (Mrs), Ladoke Akintola Univ. of Technology, Ogbomoso.
29. Omolafe, Babatope, Federal University of Technology, Akure.
30. Oyekan, Ezekiel Abiodun, (Mr), Bowen University, Iwo.
31. Rufai, Odutayo Raji (Mr), Lagos State University, Ojo Lagos.
32. Salawu, Isiaka Ayinla (Mr), The Polytechnic, Ibadan.
33. Shehu, Yekini, University of Ibadan Nsukka.
34. Udo, Mfon Okon (Mr), Cross River University of Technology, Calabar.
35. Ukpera, Awar Simon (Dr), Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.
36. Uwanta, Ime Jimmy (Dr), Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto.

It was observed that some members paid to the Treasurer-NMS (by cash or through the bank) but did not fill the AMS form online. Their money is still being held on the account of NMS. Such category of persons should please get across to the treasurer through these e-mail addresses: ssokoya2003@yahoo.com.it or sokoya@oauife.edu.ng

(b)   International Mathematical Union

International   **Mathematical Union**

June 12, 2010
IMU AO Circular Letter 5/2010

To: IMU Adhering Organizations
From: Martin Grötschel, IMU Secretary

IMU Bulletin No. 57, December 2009

Dear colleagues,
IMU Bulletin No. 57 reporting about the IMU activities in 2009 has been completed. You can find a PDF version of the Bulletin in the attachment. A printed copy will be sent by ordinary mail to all Adhering Organizations.
Bulletin No. 57 is also available on the IMU Web server at
http://www.mathunion.org/publications/bulletins/archive/.

Sincerely,
Martin Grötschel
IMU Secretary

IMU Executive Committee (EC)

Person nominated	Position	Country of residence	Nominator(s)
Persons nominated and selected by the Nominating Committee			
Ingrid Daubechies	IMU President	US	Lovász
Martin Grötschel	IMU Secretary	Germany	Incumbent
Christiane Rousseau	IMU Vice President	Canada	AO, Canada
Marcelo Viana	IMU Vice President	Brazil	Incumbent; AO
			Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Chile
Manuel de León	EC Member-at-Large	Spain	Incumbent; AO Spain
Yiming Long	EC Member-at-Large	China	AO, China
Tetsuji Miwa	EC Member-at-Large	Japan	AO, Japan
Cheryl E. Praeger	EC Member-at-Large	Australia	Incumbent; AO Australia
Claudio Procesi	EC Member-at-Large	Italy	Incumbent
Vasudevan Srinivas	EC Member-at-Large	India	AO, India
John Francis Toland	EC Member-at-Large	UK	AO, UK
Wendelin Werner	EC Member-at-Large	France	Seshadri

6 Members-at-Large to be elected

Person nominated	Position	Country of residence	Nominator(s)
Persons nominated but not selected by the Nominating Committee			
Nassif Ghoussoub	IMU President	Canada	AO, Canada
Alejandro Adem	EC Member-at-Large	Canada	AO, Canada
Étienne Ghys	EC Member-at-Large	France	AO, France
Pekka Koskela	EC Member-at-Large	Finland	AO, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden
S. Varadhan	EC Member-at-Large	US	AO, US

Membership of IMU Committee

We nominated Professor A.U. Afuwape as a member of the Committee of International Mathematical Union. Our nomination was approved.

ICM 2010 Hyderabad, India

International Mathematical Union

The International Mathematical Union is a non-governmental and non-profit scientific organization devoted to promoting the development of mathematics across the world. IMU is a member of the International Council for Science ICSU.

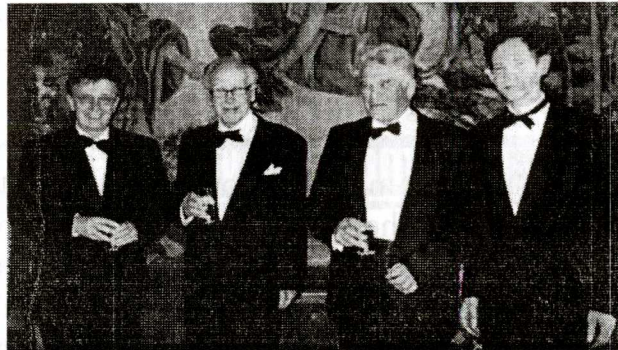The objectives of the International Mathematical Union are:

To promote international cooperation in mathematics.

To decide on the location and assist the organization of the International Congress of Mathematicians that takes place every four years.
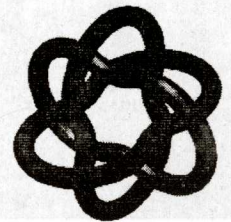
To support other international scientific meetings or conferences.

To acknowledge outstanding research contributions to mathematics by awarding scientific prizes.

To encourage and support other international mathematical activities considered likely to contribute to the development of mathematical science in any of its aspects, pure, applied,

IMU President László Lovász and former Presidents Lennart Carleson, Ludwig Faddeev, and John Ball - Oslo, May 22, 2007

or educational.IMU was founded in 1920 and reborn after World War II in 1951. Detailed information about IMU, its history, and its activities can be found at IMU's website www.mathunion.org.

A valuable history source is the book by Olli Lehto, *Mathematics Without Borders: A History of the International Mathematical Union*, Springer-Verlag, 1998.

International Congress of Mathematicians ICM

The first ICM took place in Zurich, Switzerland in 1897. The ICM 2010 in Hyderabad, India is No. 26 in what has become the foremost series of mathematical gatherings worldwide. IMU considers the organization of the ICMs as its most important activity. An ICM should reflect what is going on in mathematics in the world at that time, present the best work of all mathematical subfields and different regions of the world, and thus point to the future of

mathematics. The invited speakers at an ICM are carefully selected by an outstanding program committee which is supported by section panels. They are mathematicians of the highest quality who are able to present current research to a broad mathematical audience. The proceedings of all International Congresses have been digitized and they will be made freely available during 2010. The book of Guillermo Curbera, *Mathematicians of the world, unite!*, AK Peters, 2009, provides a lively historical perspective of the ICMs.

IMU Prizes

The scientific prizes awarded by IMU are deemed to be the highest distinctions in the mathematical world. The opening ceremony of an ICM is the appropriate occasion to present these awards: Fields Medals (two to four medals are given since 1936), the Rolf Nevanlinna Prize (since 1986), the Carl Friedrich Gauss Prize (since 2006), and the Chern Medal Award (awarded for the first time in 2010).

The Fields Medal, front and back - photographs by Stefan Zachow

The Fields Medal recognizes outstanding mathematical achievement. The Nevanlinna Prize honors distinguished achievements in mathematical aspects of information science. The Gauss Prize is awarded for outstanding mathematical contributions that have found significant applications outside of mathematics. The Chern Medal honors an individual whose lifelong achievements in the field of mathematics warrant the highest level of recognition. For the Fields Medals (often referred to as the Nobel Prize of mathematics) and the Nevanlinna Prize a special age rule applies according to which a candidate's fortieth birthday must not occur before January 1st of the year of the Congress at which these prizes are awarded. For further information, see www.mathunion.org/general/prizes. IMU also strongly supports the Abel Prize and nominates members of the Prize Committee. It plays a similar role with respect to the Ramanujan Prize for young mathematicians working in developing countries which is funded by the Niels Henrik Abel Memorial Fund and awarded by the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste.

IMU Membership and General Assembly

The International Mathematical Union has no individual members. Its *Members* are countries. Each Member country is represented through an *Adhering Organization*, which may be its principal academy, a mathematical society, its research council or some other institution or association of institutions, or an appropriate agency of its government. The

Member countries adhere to different groups ranging from group I to V. The higher the number of the group, the more votes the country has and the more dues it pays. These dues finance almost all the activities of IMU.

A country starting to develop its mathematical culture and interested in building links to mathematicians all over the world is invited to join IMU as an *Associate Member*. For the purpose of facilitating jointly sponsored activities and jointly pursuing the objectives of the IMU, multinational mathematical societies and professional societies can join IMU as *Affiliate Member*. At present IMU has 68 Members, 4 Associate, and 3 Affiliate Members. Every four years the IMU membership gathers in a *General Assembly* (GA) which consists of delegates appointed by the Adhering Organizations, together with the members of the Executive Committee. All important decisions are made at the GA, including the election of the officers, establishment of commissions, the approval of the budget, and changes of the statutes and by-laws.

The Fields Medal, front and back - photographs by Stefan Zachow

Publications

Every two months IMU publishes a short electronic newsletter, IMU-Net, that aims to improve communication between IMU and the worldwide mathematical community by reporting decisions and recommendations of IMU and highlighting issues that are under discussion. In addition, IMU-Net reports on major international mathematical events and developments, and on other topics of general mathematical interest. Everyone can read the newsletters and can subscribe at www.mathunion.org/imu-net. IMU Bulletins are published annually, see www.mathunion.org/publications/bulletins/archive/, with the aim to inform IMU's membership about the Union's current activities. This includes reports about important decisions, budget, and other administrative and organizational issues.

Organization and Executive Committee

The International Mathematical Union is administered by an Executive Committee (EC) which, in accordance with the IMU Statutes and subject to the direction and review of the members, conducts the business of the Union.

IMU Executive Committee (2007-2010), Abel Prize Ceremony - Oslo, May 22, 2007

The EC consists of the *President*, two *Vice-Presidents*, the *Secretary*, six *Members-at-Large*, all elected for a term of four years, and the *Past President*. The EC is responsible for all policy matters and for such tasks as choosing the members of the ICM Program Committee and various prize committees. The EC meets physically for two days once a year and carries out most of its business by e-mail.

IMU Commissions and Committees

Mathematical Education: IMU keeps close contacts to mathematics education through its International Commission on Mathematical Instruction (ICMI). This comission is organized similar to IMU with its own Executive Committee and General Assembly.

Developing Countries: A significant percentage of IMU's budget, including grants received from individuals, mathematical societies, foundations, and funding agencies, is spent on activities for developing countries. Starting from 2011, this will be done through the newly created Commission for Developing Countries (CDC).

History of Mathematics: The International Commission for the History of Mathematics (ICHM) is operated jointly by the IMU and the Division of the History of Science (DHS) of the International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS).

Information and Communication: The Committee on Electronic Information and Communication (CEIC) advises IMU on matters concerning mathematical information, communication, and publishing.
IMU Executive Committee (2007-2010),
Abel Prize Ceremony - Oslo, May 22, 2007

Commission fo Developing Countries - CDC

IMU's recently formed Commission for Developing Countries CDC brings together all of IMU's historical and current initiatives in support of mathematics and mathematicians in the developing world "under one roof". In particular, it incorporates into its portfolio the work of IMU's **Commission on Development and Exchanges CDE**. For the last thirty years, the Commission on Development and Exchanges has been receiving applications and awarding grants for:
Research travel by mathematicians based in developing and economically disadvantaged countries.
Mathematics conferences organized in developing and economically disadvantaged countries.
CDE's mission also included supporting research partnerships and in some cases longer term cooperation with regional centers. Since 1998, CDE has supported a total of 349 applications in the above-mentioned categories. More details are available at www.math.ohio-state.edu/~imu.cdc/cde/ .
In addition, in the last 8 years, IMU has gradually increased its attention to the needs of colleagues in the developing world. It established the **Developing Countries Strategy Group - DCSG** to develop new programs and to raise the funds to support them. Beside

direct IMU funding, DCSG receives generous continuing support from the Norwegian Niels Henrik Abel Memorial Fund. The work of DCSG also becomes a part of the portfolio of the Commission for Developing Countries. Some DCSG initiatives:

Mathematics in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities

Funded by the John Templeton Foundation, IMU/DCSG has released a report "Mathematics in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities" on the current state of mathematics in Africa and on opportunities for new initiatives to support mathematical development. This report can be downloaded at www.mathunion.org/fileadmin/IMU/Report/Mathematics_in_Africa_Challenges___Oppo rtunities.pdf.

African Mathematics Millennium Science Initiative

AMMSI is a network of mathematics centres in sub-Saharan Africa that organizes conferences and workshops, visiting lectureships and an extensive scholarship program for mathematics graduate students doing PhD work on the African continent. DCSG support has most recently focused on the AMMSI scholarship program, which needs continuing international funding to maintain its vital work of providing the continent with its next generation of mathematical leadership. More details can be found at the AMMSI website www.ammsi.org.

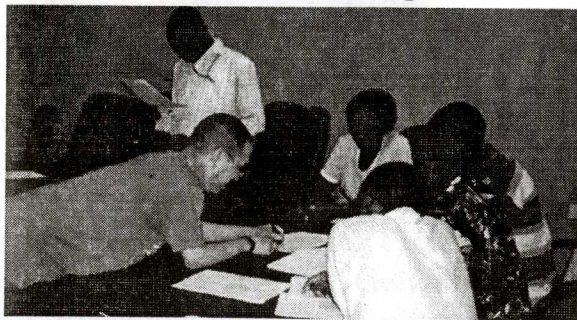# Mentoring African Research in Mathematics

DCSG assisted the London Mathematical Society in founding the Mentoring African Research in Mathematics MARM program, which supports mathematics and its teaching in the countries of sub-Saharan Africa via a mentoring partnership between mathematicians in the United Kingdom and African colleagues, together with their students. It focuses on cultivating longer-term mentoring relations between individual mathematicians and students.

More details are available at the MARM website www.lms.ac.uk/grants/MARM.html.
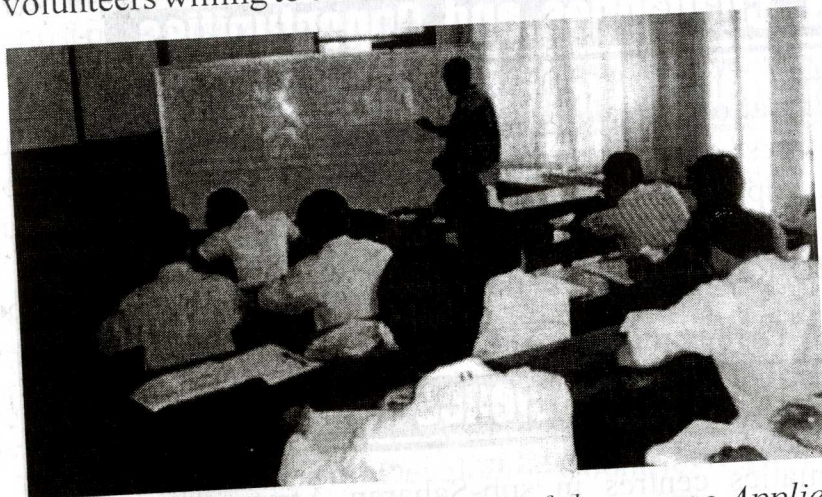
Volunteer Lecturer Program

The Volunteer Lecturer Program VLP of IMU/DCSG identifies

Dr. Nakamaye and students of the course Topology, Real and Functional Analysis at Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, in March, 2009.

mathematicians interested in contributing to the formation of young mathematicians in the developing world. The Volunteer Lecturer Program maintains a database of mathematician volunteers willing to offer month long intensive courses at the advanced undergraduate or

Dr. Alex Mogilner and students of the course Applied Mathematics and Modeling at the National University of Laos in August 2009.

graduate level in degree programs at universities in the developing world. IMU also seeks applications from universities and mathematics degree programs in the developing world that are in need of volunteer lecturers, and that can provide the necessary conditions for productive collaboration in the teaching of advanced mathematics. Finally, VLP pays travel and living expenses of the volunteer lecturers.
Details and application instructions are available at *www.math.ohio-state.edu/~imu.cdc/vlp/.*

Support for the work of ICMI in the developing world

DCSG periodically offers support to the International Commission on Mathematical Instruction for its programs, exhibits and workshops in emerging countries, especially in Asia and Africa. (More details at the ICMI website www.mathunion.org/icmi/).
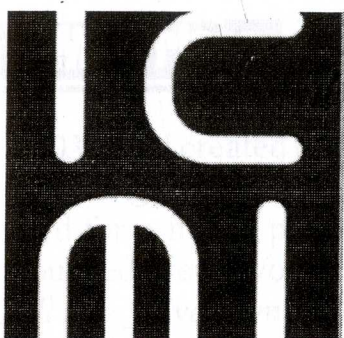
Financial Support for the International Congress of Mathematicians 2010

Every four years, DCSG also administers the IMU program offering travel support to mathematicians based in developing countries to attend the International Congresses of Mathematicians.

Dr. Nakamaye and students of the course Topology, Real and Functional Analysis at Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, in March, 2009.
Dr. Alex Mogilner and students of the course Applied Mathematics and Modeling at the National University of Laos in August 2009.

ICMI is a forum to promote reflection, collaboration, exchange and dissemination of ideas and information on all aspects of the theory and practice of contemporary mathematical education, from primary to university level. Furthermore ICMI provides a link between educational researchers, curriculum designers, educational policy makers, teachers of mathematics, mathematicians, mathematics educators and others interested in mathematical education around the world. For all information on ICMI see www.mathunion.org/icmi home.

ICMI initiates appropriate activities, publications and other programmes designed to further the development of a quality mathematical education for all, and to secure public appreciation of mathematics. It is also charged with the conduct of IMU's activities on mathematical or scientific education. In the pursuit of its objectives, ICMI cooperates with various thematic and regional groups outside its own structure. It supports AFRICME (Africa Regional Congress of ICMI on Mathematical Education), CIAEM (Inter-American Conference on Mathematical Education), EARCOME (East Asia Regional Conferences in Mathematics Education), and EMF (Espace Mathématique Francophone). ICMI publishes a bimonthly email newsletter, ICMI News (see website to subscribe).

Amongst other activities, the ICMI Studies are regarded as significant events. New studies are initiated more or less annually: a theme is chosen, and a discussion document generated. There follows a time for contributions, an invitational conference which works towards producing a book on the "state of the art" of mathematics education in that area. See the ICMI website for past and on-going studies.

ICMI and IMU currently collaborate on two projects. The Pipeline Project attempts to gather and analyse data on the "pipeline" of students and graduates in the mathematical sciences on a worldwide basis. The Klein Project, inspired by Felix Klein's book *Elementary Mathematics from an Advanced Standpoint*, aims to produce a book and web-resources to help upper secondary teachers make connections between the mathematics they teach and the contemporary field of mathematics. The main output, a book, will be simultaneously published in several languages. A series of Klein meetings is being held to allow wide contribution to this project.

Historical Note

ICMI was established in 1908 at the International Congress of Mathematicians held in Rome with the initial mandate of analysing the similarities and differences in the secondary school teaching of mathematics among various countries; this comparative study ultimately became a massive six-year project producing 187 volumes, containing 310 reports from eighteen countries. The founding President was the German mathematician Felix Klein (18491925), and the first Secretary-General was Henri Fehr from Switzerland, one of the co-founders of L'Enseignement Mathématique, a journal which was adopted as the commission's official organ.

After interruptions of activity around the two World Wars, ICMI was reconstituted in 1952 and then became an official commission of IMU.

ICMI Executive Committee (2010-2012), first meeting, April 2010

Mathematics education held a place at the International Congresses of Mathematicians in a section initially called "Teaching and History of Mathematics" it was in this section at the 1900 ICM in Paris that David Hilbert gave his talk "Mathematical problems". As the history of mathematics later acquired a section of its own, the name changed to "Mathematics Education and Popularization of Mathematics", reflecting the broader nature of the field. Over time, as the needs and complexity of mathematics education grew, ICMI developed its own strong community and this community elected directly its Executive Committee for the first time at the ICMI General Assembly of 2008. The status as a Commission of IMU, however, remains. More basic historical information on ICMI can be found in Olli Lehto's book mentioned previously. On the occasion of the Symposium held in Rome in March 2008 to celebrate the centennial of ICMI, a website on the history of the Commission was launched: www.icmihistory.unito.it

International Congress on Mathematical Education-ICME

A major responsibility of ICMI is the quadrennial International Congress on Mathematical Education (ICME). This entails selecting the host country, appointing an International Programme Committee (IPC), and overseeing progress of the congress preparations. The practical and financial organisation of each ICME is the responsibility of a Local Organising Committee.

Launched in 1969 at the initiative of ICMI President Hans Freudenthal (19051990), the ICMEs have been held since then in leap years. Successive ICMEs have been held in Lyon, Exeter, Karlsruhe, Berkeley, Adelaide, Budapest, Québec, Sevilla, Tokyo, Copenhagen, and Monterrey.

They usually attract 3000-5000 participants, and the programme includes nearly forty Topic Study Groups, thirdy Discussion Groups and sixty Regular Lectures, with nine plenary sessions including reports from Survey Teams asked to review particular aspects of mathematics education.

ICME-12 will be held in Seoul, South Korea, in July 8-15, 2012, www.icme12.org. The Chair of the IPC is Sung Je Cho. Bids are currently open for ICME-13 in 2016. Starting with

ICME-8, a special ICME Solidarity Fund, built by setting aside some ten percent of the total amount collected through the registration fees, has provided grants in order to support and increase congress participation from less affluent regions of the world.
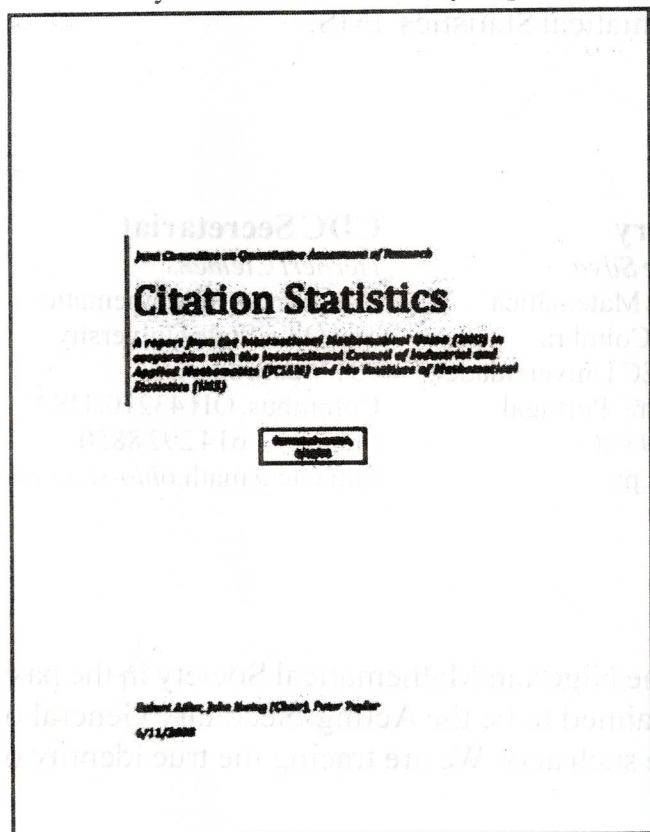
ICMI Prizes

In 2003 ICMI created two awards in mathematics education research: the Felix Klein Award, for lifelong achievement in mathematics education research, and the Hans Freudenthal Award, for a major programme of research on mathematics education. These awards are announced every two years and formally conferred at the opening ceremonies of ICMEs.
ICMI Executive Committee (2010-2012), first meeting, April 2010

History of Mathematics

To encourage the study of the history of mathematics and to promote a high level of historically and mathematically sophisticated scholarship in this field, IMU and the

Cover of the "Citation Statistics" report, produced in collaboration with ICIAM and IMS

Division of the History of Science (DHS) of the International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS) jointly operate The International Commission for the History of Mathematics (ICHM), see www.unizar.es/ichm.

Information and Communication

The IMU EC established in 1998 the **Committee on Electronic Information and Communication CEIC** with a very broad mandate to advise IMU on matters concerning mathematical information, communication, and publishing. Among CEIC's major achievements are its reports Best Practice Recommendations on Information and Communication, see www.mathunion.org/ceic/Publications/Recommendations/recommendations.pdf, Some BestPractices for Retrodigitization, see www.mathunion.org/ceic/Publications/retro_bestpractices.pdf, Digital Mathematics Library: A Vision for the Future, see www.mathunion.org/ceic/Publications/dml_vision.pdf. An outgrowth of the CEIC activities is the report on impact factors and other bibliometrics, *Citation Statistics*, see www.mathunion.org/fileadmin/IMU/Report/CitationStatistics.pdf, released in cooperation with the International Council for Industrial and Applied Mathematics ICIAM and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics IMS.

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Warning

Several people have impersonated officers of the Nigerian Mathematical Society in the past. The latest is one Professor Moses Adio who claimed to be the Acting. Secretary General of NMS. These 419 people should desist from the such acts. We are tracing the true identity of the last impostor.