Nominations sought for the 2013 AustMS Medal

The Medal Committee for the 2013 Australian Mathematical Society Medal is now seeking nominations and recommendations for possible candidates for this Medal, which will be awarded to a member of the Society, under the age of 40, for distinguished research in the mathematical sciences.

For further information, please contact (preferably by email) the Chair of the 2013 Medal Committee, Professor J.A. Filar, School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics, Flinders University, GPO Box 2100, Adelaide 5001, South Australia (jerzy.filar@flinders.edu.au). Nominations should be received by 30 April 2013.

The other three members of the 2013 Medal Committee are Professor S.O. Warnaar (Outgoing Chair), Professor K.A. Smith-Miles (Incoming Chair) and Dr A. Hassell (one year).

Visit www.austms.org.au/AMSInfo/medal.html for a list of past AustMS Medal winners.

Rules for the Australian Mathematical Society Medal

1. There shall be a Medal known as 'The Australian Mathematical Society Medal'.

2. (i) This will be awarded annually to a Member of the Society, under the age of 40 on 1st January of the year in which the Medal is awarded, for distinguished research in the mathematical sciences. The AustMS Medal Committee may, in cases where there have been significant interruptions to a mathematical career, waive this age limit by normally up to five years.

   (ii) A significant proportion of the research work should have been carried out in Australia.

   (iii) In order to be eligible, a nominee for the Medal has to have been a member of the Society for the calendar year preceding the year of the award; backdating of membership to the previous year is not acceptable.

3. The award will be approved by the President on behalf of the Council of the Society on the recommendation of a Selection Committee appointed by the Council.

4. The Selection Committee shall consist of three persons each appointed for a period of three years and known as 'Incoming Chair', 'Chair' and 'Outgoing Chair' respectively, together with a fourth person appointed each year for one year only.

5. The Selection Committee will consult with appropriate assessors.

6. The award of the Medal shall be recorded in one of the Society's journals along with the citation and photograph.

7. The Selection Committee shall also prepare an additional citation in a form suitable for newspaper publication. This is to be embargoed until the Medal winner has been announced to the Society.

8. One Medal shall be awarded each year, unless either no one of sufficient merit is found, in which case no Medal shall be awarded; or there is more than one candidate of equal (and sufficient) merit, in which case the committee can recommend the award of at most two Medals.

Nominations Sought for the 2013 Gavin Brown Prize

The 2013 Gavin Brown Prize Selection Committee is now seeking nominations and recommendations for possible candidates for this prize. This year the award will be for a publication in statistics, including probability. In 2014 it will be for a publication in pure mathematics and in 2015 for one in applied mathematics. Thereafter the prize will rotate between these three areas in a three-year cycle.

Each award will be for a single article, monograph or book consisting of original research, and published in the six calendar years preceding the year of the award.

To be eligible for the award of the Gavin Brown Prize, a publication must have at least one author who meets the following conditions:

(i) he/she must be a member of the Society, and must have been a member of the Society for the calendar year at the time of publication of the paper (backdating of membership is not allowed);

(ii) he/she must be normally resident in Australia, and must have been normally resident in Australia at the time when the research was carried out.

In the case of publications with multiple authors, the prize will be shared by all authors. The existence of authors who do not meet the conditions above will not preclude this award, although the Selection Committee may take it into account in assessing the achievement of the author(s) who do meet those conditions.

The Selection Committee may deem a publication ineligible if an author has previously received an award from the Australian Mathematical Society for a body of research which included the publication in question.

A publication may be nominated for the award by any member of the Society who is not an author of that publication.

Nominators should provide a brief (1–2 pages) summary of what makes the nominated publication important and original, with appropriate references to prior or subsequent work in the field. These should be sent by email to the Chair of the selection committee, and all nominations should be received via email by 30 April 2013.

The Selection Committee may consult with appropriate external assessors.

For further information, please email the Chair of the 2013 Gavin Brown Prize Selection Committee, Professor P.G. Hall, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, The University of Melbourne, Victoria 3010 (halpstat@ms.unimelb.edu.au).

The Prize will be announced at the 57th AustMS annual meeting held at the University of Sydney, NSW, 30 September to 3 October 2013.

The other members of the 2013 AustMS Gavin Brown Prize Selection Committee are:

Outgoing Chair:	Professor A.P. Bassom
Incoming Chair:	Professor N.S. Trudinger
One-year member:	Professor P. Solomon
One-year member:	Professor T. Speed

Special Interest Meetings

Applications for funding to support special interest meetings are now considered twice a year, at the start of June and the start of December. For 2012 and 2013, closing dates are 1 December 2012, 5 June 2013 and 4 December 2013.

If funding is being sought from both AustMS and AMSI, a single application should be made at www.amsi.org.au/component/content/article/881.

If funding is not being sought from AMSI, please use the application form available at www.austms.org.au/Special+Interest+Meetings and send it to the Secretary, Associate Professor Peter Stacey, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, La Trobe University, Victoria 3086 (Secretary@austms.org.au).

News from the Annual General Meeting

The Society's 56th Annual Meeting was held recently at the University of Ballarat. The Director, Associate Professor David Yost, his team of local organisers and the Program Committee, led by the Vice-President (Annual Conferences) Professor Ruibin Zhang, were responsible for a very successful conference.

The following matters from the meeting are provided here for the information of those who could not attend. The draft minutes of the AGM will be placed in the members' section of the Society's website.

(1) Council has conferred Honorary Membership of the Society on Professor M.G. Cowling FAA FAustMS, in recognition of his outstanding work for the Society and for mathematics in Australia, in particular as Editor of the Bulletin and of the Journal.

(2) The George Szekeres Medal for 2012 was awarded to Emeritus Professor Ross Street of Macquarie University and Professor Neil Trudinger of the Australian National University.

(3) The Australian Mathematical Society Medal for 2012 was awarded to Associate Professor Anthony Henderson of the University of Sydney and to Dr Stephen Keith of the Macquarie Group.

(4) The Gavin Brown Prize for 2012 was not awarded.

(5) The 2012 B.H. Neumann Prize was awarded to Imam Tashdid ul Alam of the Australian National University for his talk entitled 'The interplay between discrete holomorphicity and integrability in the Z_N model'.
Five student talks were given honourable mentions. These were talks by Karem Elgindy (Monash University), David Hartley (Monash University), Yi Huang (University of Melbourne), Saba Majeed (University of South Australia) and Stephen Sanchez (University of New South Wales).

(6) The Early Career Workshop, organised by Stephan Tillmann, Natalie Thamwattana and Guillermo Pineda-Villavivicencio on 22–23 September, was a great success. The workshop next year will be held from 28–29 September.

(7) It was confirmed that the fifty-seventh Annual Meeting of the Society in 2013 will be held at the University of Sydney from Monday 30 September to Thursday 3 October 2013, with Associate Professor L. Paunescu as Director. It was provisionally determined that the 58th Annual Meeting of the Society will be held at the University of Melbourne from Monday 8 December to Friday 12 December 2014, jointly with the New Zealand Mathematical Society as the 8th Australia–New Zealand Mathematics Convention, with Dr P. Norbury as Director.

(8) Council resolved to change the method of providing financial assistance to students attending the Society's annual conference. The new scheme will be based on that successfully operated for several years by ANZIAM. Instead of a fixed cap on the amount provided to an individual student, Council will set a budget and will establish a three-member panel to determine allocations to individuals. The budget for 2013 has been set at $12 000.
The scheme includes the requirement that students complete a short (two-page) application for funding, in which they need to put together a budget for all of their expenses and indicate other sources of funding apart from AustMS. Furthermore, it is a requirement that students present a talk at the conference for which they are funded.

(9) Council has approved the creation within the Society of the Women in Mathematics Special Interest Group.

(10) While proceeding with constitutional changes to facilitate a broader range of free student members, Council has resolved to make free membership available to any honours or graduate student in mathematics, statistics, computer science, physics or mathematical finance, enrolled at an Australian institution. Such membership shall be available for six years of study, subject to annual confirmation of eligibility by the student. In addition, in exceptional circumstances and on the recommendation of an ordinary member of the Society, free membership will be available to an undergraduate student of mathematics enrolled at an Australian institution.

(11) Council decided to discontinue the Society's Program Review Scheme.

(12) Council approved funding to continue the Lift-off Fellowships for a further three years, at the current funding rate of up to $35 000 a year to support up to seven fellowships.

(13) Council resolved to allocate up to \$6000 to share equally with AMSI in the support of up to three Society members to attend the 2014 International Congress of Mathematicians, with the understanding that this could lead to leadership roles in a future bid to host the Congress.

(14) Council has resolved to continue its membership of AMSI for a further three years.

Peter Stacey
AustMS Secretary
E-mail: P.Stacey@latrobe.edu.au

Peter Stacey joined La Trobe as a lecturer in 1975 and retired as an associate professor at the end of 2008. Retirement has enabled him to spend more time with his family while continuing with some research and some work on secondary school education. He took over as secretary of the Society at the start of 2010.